



Russia and Ukraine by Private Train On board The Golden Eagle Crimean Express Southbound

A Private, Historical and Cultural Tour from
Moscow to Yalta with your English-speaking guides

Day 1: Moscow

Arrival into Moscow where you'll be met and transferred to your five-star hotel located in the heart of this vibrant city for a one-night stay. You'll enjoy a welcome dinner at your hotel, whilst you meet your fellow travellers and, together, look forward to the rail voyage that lies ahead.

Day 2: Moscow

Your city tour of Moscow principally takes you to Red Square, an iconic symbol of Russia's former military and political might. Here you see an eclectic mix of fascinating architecture, such as the ornate St Basil's Cathedral with its magnificent onion-domed spires, the grandeur of The Kremlin and the sombre and evocative site of Lenin's tomb. In the late afternoon, you board the *Golden Eagle* and after settling into your modern, stylish cabins, you'll enjoy dinner in one of the beautifully designed restaurant cars as your journey begins.

Day 3: Minsk

You'll spend the morning in Minsk, capital of Belarus and enjoy a tour of this city which saw fierce fighting during World War II before rejoining the *Golden Eagle* in the afternoon as you travel across the Belarus countryside towards the Ukraine.

Day 4: Kiev

Your tour of this ancient city includes the beautifully restored Monastery of Caves, Lavra Complex which has the highest bell tower in the former USSR, the huge Mother Ukraina WWII monument and museum, a stroll along Khreshchatyk Street, Saint Sophia's Cathedral and Independence Square.

Day 5: Lvov

Breakfast is early prior to your arrival in Lvov, capital of the Western Ukraine and an ancient city that has seen many rulers. Named 'Lemberg' during Polish/Austrian rule, and again briefly during Nazi occupation, the old city, with its winding streets has survived almost untouched. Your city tour includes lunch before you re-board the train and head south.

Day 6: Kishinev

Passing over the Moldovan border during the night, spend the morning travelling through the picturesque Moldovan countryside before you arrive at lunchtime in the capital city of Kishinev. After lunch, your afternoon tour of the city includes a visit to a local winery.

Day 7: Odessa

Breakfast finds you heading south to the Black Sea, where you arrive in the elegant city of Odessa at lunchtime with its tree-lined Primorsky Boulevard featuring street cafes on the embankment and the Potemkin Steps. This Black Sea city was immortalised in Einstein's 1925 film 'Battleship Potemkin'. Nearby is the impressive Opera and Ballet Theatre.

Day 8: Balaclava

Today you arrive into Sevastopol which is home to the Russian Black Sea Fleet and is a town steeped in the history of the Crimean War and World War II, on both occasions being under siege for almost a year. You'll visit Balaclava and the Diorama depicting the World War Two battle and from there is a fine view of the valley where the Charge of the Light Brigade took place. The valley is now covered in neat rows of vines and in the middle is a white stone memorial to the infamous Charge.

Day 9: Sevastopol & Sudak

Your tour of Sevastopol this morning includes the Old Town, the Panorama (a 360-degree painting and montage depicting the siege of Sevastopol during the Crimean War) and Khersones, reputed to be the most complete ancient Greek settlement in existence, and only opened to foreigners a few years ago. In the afternoon you leave Sevastopol and travel by train to the Bakhchisarai where you'll visit the 16th century Hansaray (or Khan's) Palace and Uspensky Cave Monastery. This evening you spend your final night onboard the *Golden Eagle*.

Day 10: Feodosiya and Sudak

After breakfast you arrive in the seaside resort of Feodosiya where you'll visit the Aivazovsky Gallery before taking the spectacularly scenic coastal road to Yalta, stopping off at Sudak, a popular beachside resort on the Crimean peninsula, with a well-preserved and imposing Genoese Fortress which overlooks the town, and the centre of the Crimean viticulture industry. You'll arrive early in the evening at the Hotel Oreanda in Yalta for a 3 night stay.

Day 11, Yalta

Today there is a guided tour of Yalta including Chekhov's House and the Botanical Gardens, followed by lunch at the Swallow's Nest, a fairy-tale castle breathtakingly perched high above the sea. This restaurant is a world famous location and many world leaders have eaten here. In the afternoon, you'll take a scenic cruise along the picturesque coastline before visiting the Massandra Palace and Imperial Winery, touring the cellars (they have bottles dating back to 1775 and many bottles from the Tsars personal collection).

Day 12, Yalta

This morning you visit Alupka Palace which was built for Count Mikhail Vorontsov, former special envoy to the United Kingdom and friend of the Marlborough Family. The Palace is a strange, but attractive combination of a Scottish castle with Arabian additions. Churchill stayed here during the Yalta conference of February 1945. In the afternoon, you'll enjoy a private tour of the Tsar's Summer Palace at Livadia and the site of the Yalta conference between Stalin, Roosevelt and Churchill. A champagne reception in the grounds will be followed by a concert of chamber music and dinner in the restaurant attached to the palace.

Day 13:

Airport transfers to Simferopol Airport for guests connecting to international flights.

Please note the order of visits in the Crimea may change as some venues may need our groups to be split.

Price:

Silver Class

\$13,195.00 per person, double occupancy.
\$19,295.00 single occupancy

Gold Class

\$16,595.00 per person, double occupancy
\$23,395.00 single occupancy.

Imperial Suite

\$26,795.00 per person, double occupancy
\$37,495.00 single occupancy.

Prices are per person for the fully inclusive tour Moscow to Yalta. Air-fare is not included.

Prices are subject to change until deposit is received.

Southbound: Moscow to Yalta (2012)

April 20 – May 2

General Information:

A full passport with at least six months validity from the start of the tour is required along with a single entry Russian and Belarusian Visa.

Subject to bookings, this tour may also be operated in the reverse direction on the same dates or cancelled.

A deposit in the amount of \$2,500.00 per person is required on all Silver Class cabins, a deposit in the amount of \$3,000.00 per person is required on all Gold Class bookings and a deposit in the amount of \$5,000.00 per person is required on all Imperial Suite bookings.

The Train Tour Price Includes:

Accommodations:

Moscow

One (1) night at the Marriott Aurora or similar; Buffet Breakfast included daily.

Golden Eagle

One Silver or Gold Class Cabin or Imperial Suite for Eight (8) nights on board the Golden Eagle. Breakfast, Lunch and Dinner included daily.

Yalta

Three (3) nights at the Hotel Oreanda or similar; Buffet Breakfast included daily.

Imperial Suites:

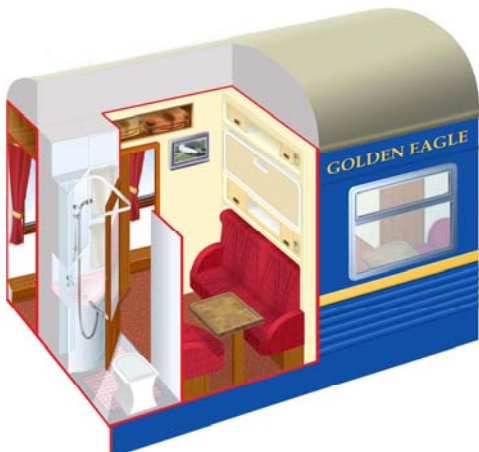
The Imperial Suites are the most spacious cabins available onboard the *Golden Eagle* measuring 120 square feet and benefit from their own large and luxurious fixed double bed as well as a dedicated lounge area with dressing table. Suite facilities include private en-suite facilities with power shower and underfloor heating, individual air-conditioning, wardrobe, DVD/CD player with LCD screen and two large picture windows. Guests will also benefit from a dedicated butler service, a selection of complimentary drinks from the premium bar list, included laundry service and room upgrades to the next available category at our selected hotels as per the itinerary.

Gold Class Cabins:



Gold Class Cars are purpose-built, new carriages designed for the 21st century to offer top-class comfort and service, which equals the best luxury trains in the world today. Each carriage has five twin compartments, all fitted with one upper berth and one lower berth that converts to a sofa seating for daytime travel. Each compartment offers 77 square feet of space and features its own private shower and toilet facilities and has a wardrobe, audio system, DVD/VCR with the latest flat, plasma screens and air conditioning with individual climate control by remote handset.

Silver Class Cabins:



The Silver Class Carriage provides complete comfort for our passengers. These newly added cabins are slightly smaller than Gold Class Cabins offering 60 square feet, but still

have modern en-suite facilities with a smaller shower area. The sleepers are modern air conditioned cars built in Germany. They are cozy and comfortable, and provide an ideal method of transport for the remote areas of Russia that you will visit. Each car has six twin compartments, all fitted with one upper berth and one lower berth that converts to a sofa seating for daytime travel.

There is ample space for luggage storage and for suitcases in a recess above the corridor area. Clothes hangers are provided and the cars are well appointed with mirrors, bedside table, reading lamps and space for the storage of small items.

The Tour Includes:

- *All meals.
- *Wine, beer and soft drinks provided with Lunch and Dinner.
- *Experienced tour representatives throughout the tour.
- *Russian Interpreters able to speak English, German, French and Italian.
- *Comprehensive off-train sightseeing program as detailed in the itinerary. Please note that all touring is with fellow-passengers at all times.
- *A doctor who travels with the train throughout the tour.
- *Complimentary tea, coffee and mineral water throughout the tour from your car attendant.

The Tour Does Not Include:

- *Travel cancellation insurance.
- *Charges of a personal nature on the train or at the hotels (laundry, telephone, bar account, etc.)
- *Visas (as required) or Excess Baggage Charges, Airport Departure Taxes, Vaccination or Medical Costs.

Options and Extensions:

Please contact Exeter International for tour extensions and options in Russia. All tour extensions are on a private customized basis.

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