

# RAIL COLLECTION

CHINA | INDIA | JAPAN | MALAYSIA | SOUTH KOREA | TAIWAN | THAILAND | VIETNAM

2025-2026

FEATURING  
CHINA'S NEW  
LUXURY TRAIN  
THE SILK ROAD  
EXPRESS!

 OUR AWARD-WINNING COLLECTION OF ESCORTED TOURS

The winner of 'Best Specialist Tour Operator' 14 years running – Globe Travel Awards

The most prestigious accolade in the travel industry



# THE WENDY WU TOURS DIFFERENCE

It's no exaggeration to say that we are entering a new golden age of train travel. High speed rail networks are shrinking the world's largest nations, new ambitious routes are linking countries, cities and remote regions like never before and luxury and vintage trains are carrying passengers in style on the planet's most scenic journeys.

Travelling by train must be the most enjoyable and immersive style of travel there is. No waiting in long queues at security and no lengthy transfers to out-of-town airports. Trains are more comfortable with space to move around and stretch your legs, which in turn makes them more social, with opportunities to chat with your fellow passengers.

Lastly and perhaps best of all, trains travel through the countries you are visiting, giving you a window into spectacular landscapes and daily life you just can't get from 35,000ft.

I am thrilled to introduce you to the Silk Road Express, a new luxury train riding in style along the legendary trading routes that used to link China with the west. The train is magnificently luxurious with opulent dining and observation cars, a stylish bar car and some of the most lavish cabins on the rails today. Our brand new Legends of the Silk Road tour is the perfect mix of adventure and luxury and promises to be the travel event of 2025.

However you choose to travel, you'll enjoy exquisitely crafted itineraries using our 25 years of experience, and will be taken care of every step of the way – we'd love you to come along for the ride.



吴玲 Wendy

Wendy Wu – Owner, Wendy Wu Tours

## OUR REPUTATION AND YOUR PEACE OF MIND

We have won our industry's 'Best Long Haul Specialist Tour Operator' award for 14 years running, we have a 5-star TripAdvisor rating, a Gold Award Feefo Accreditation and 98% of our customers would recommend travelling with us! We are also fully ABTA and ATOL-protected.

## OUR EXPERTISE

No one knows our destinations like we do, and we are passionate about sharing the best of them with you, so there is no one better to recommend the very best tours and experiences for your holiday.

## OUTSTANDING GUIDES

Our much-loved National Escorts, whose knowledge and dedication have won us the best reputation in the industry, will make your holiday with us truly extraordinary.

## EXCEPTIONAL VALUE AND INCLUSIONS

Flights, accommodation, meals, touring, trains, cruises, evening shows, amazing guides and visas... we include it all.

## VISAS MADE SIMPLE

One of our differentiating qualities is our hassle-free visa process. Our expert team will provide advice, coordinate your processing, and safely return your passports, leaving you to simply enjoy your holiday preparation.

## FANTASTIC OFFERS

We are renowned for our amazing Business Class and Premium Economy upgrades, which make your holiday all the more special, and we work with leading airlines to offer you regional departures, so travelling with us is more convenient than ever. Be sure to check our website for the latest offers.

## COMFORT & CONVENIENCE

We hand-pick comfortable hotels in great locations, have a 'seat and a half' policy on our coaches and include all meals on our Classic tours, so you can relax and enjoy your holiday with us, knowing everything is taken care of.

## AMAZING TOURS & AUTHENTIC EXPERIENCES

On tour with us, you will be immersed in culture and history through experiences such as meeting local families, learning ancient traditions and watching cultural shows. We also include delicious local meals in each region. Look out for the 'Authentic Experiences' box on each tour page!

## TIPPING MADE EASY

We will advise you how much and when to tip and our National Escorts will take care of it on your behalf.

## OUR ONLY GOAL

We are only satisfied when you come back to travel with us again and again – only then do we know that we have done a good job of serving you.

# JAPAN BY RAIL

- 21 DAYS FROM
- PER PERSON **£10,090**
- FLIGHT INCLUSIVE FROM THE UK
- ALL MEALS

## TOUR TICKLIST

- ✓ Reflect in Nagasaki & Hiroshima
- ✓ Admire Kyoto's temples
- ✓ See the snow monkeys
- ✓ Explore bustling Tokyo
- ✓ Discover Sendai & Hakodate
- ✓ Spend time in Sapporo

## PRICE INCLUDES

- 19 breakfasts, 18 lunches & 19 dinners
- International flights and current taxes
- Domestic transportation
- 3 star plus – 4 star accommodation
- Touring with guides and entrance fees
- Maximum group size of 28



Travel across Japan by bullet train

## RAIL HIGHLIGHTS

- ▶ Reliable, efficient, punctual and fast, Japan's extensive rail network is world renowned for all the right reasons.
- ▶ Trains are spotlessly clean and comfortable, with plenty of legroom.
- ▶ Get a glimpse of traditional, rural Japan as you glide through glorious countryside.



Journey through Japan by rail

## ITINERARY

### DAYS 1-2: FLY OVERNIGHT TO FUKUOKA

Fly overnight to the charming city of Fukuoka, the gateway to the island of Kyushu. Depending on your time of arrival, the rest of the day is yours to start soaking up the local culture.

### DAY 3: EXPLORE NAGASAKI

Begin the day by travelling on the limited express train to Nagasaki. Upon arrival, enjoy a stroll through the Glover Garden, an open-air museum that exhibits mansions attributed to the Scottish merchant who contributed to the modernisation of Japan. Also, visit the Oura Catholic Church and Atomic Bomb Museum before returning to Fukuoka.

### DAY 4: MIYAJIMA ISLAND

Board the bullet train to Hiroshima, located on Japan's largest island, Honshu. Upon arrival in Hiroshima, take the ferry across the Seto Inland Sea to the holy island of Miyajima. Here, visit the Itsukushima Shrine and enjoy a momiji manju cooking experience. Later, return to Hiroshima.

### DAY 5: HIROSHIMA HIGHLIGHTS

Spend the day in Hiroshima starting with a visit to the Peace Memorial Park and Museum where you will have the opportunity to pay homage to the victims of the 1945 atomic bomb. Enjoy okonomiyaki for lunch before ascending Orizuru Tower to view the city from above, followed by a stroll through the historical Shukkeien Garden.

### DAY 6: ADMIRE HIMEJI CASTLE

Depart Hiroshima by bullet train, stopping at Himeji to visit the magnificent Himeji Castle, followed by a walk through the traditional Kokoen Garden. Continue by limited express to Osaka.

### DAY 7: OSAKA & NARA DAY TRIP

Begin the day with a visit to the Umeda Sky Building, followed by lunch in the famous Dotonburi district. Later, head to Nara and explore Todaiji, a temple which houses the impressive Daibutsu, a 15-metre-tall bronze statue of Buddha. Enjoy an ink making and calligraphy class before returning to Osaka.

### DAY 8: KYOTO'S TEMPLES

Journey by road to Kyoto. Capital for 1,000 years, this enchanting city is the epitome of traditional Japan. Upon arrival, stroll through the Arashiyama bamboo forest and admire the towering thickets. Also visit Ryoanji Temple, home to Japan's best-known Zen garden, and the famous 'Golden Pavilion' Kinkakuji.

### DAY 9: TEA CEREMONY & FAN PAINTING

The day begins with a visit to Kiyomizu-dera temple in Kyoto. Next, immerse yourself in the culture and enjoy the age-old rituals of a sacred tea ceremony, Zen meditation, and try your hand at fan painting. Also explore Gion – Kyoto's famous geisha district.

### DAY 10: EXPLORE KANAZAWA

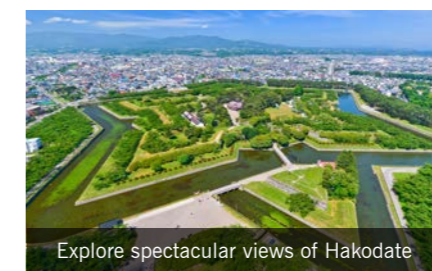
Take the limited express train to Kanazawa and upon arrival, meander your way through Kenrokuen, one of the Three Great Gardens of Japan. Also visit the Nomura Samurai House and Kunani Pottery Factory.

### DAY 11: SHIRAKAWAGO VILLAGE

Drive south towards the Alps, stopping at Inami for a sake tasting and wooden cup making. Later, admire the gassho-style farmhouses at the UNESCO-listed village of Shirakawago, famous for their steep thatched roofs that resemble 'hands in prayer'. Continue to Takayama.



Cruise Matsushima Bay in Sendai



Explore spectacular views of Hakodate

### DAY 12: DISCOVER TAKAYAMA

Spend the morning at the Miyagawa market. Also visit the Takayama Floats Museum and Takayama Jinya. Enjoy the onsen facilities at your overnight hotel.

### DAY 13: SNOW MONKEYS

Travel to Matsumoto and spend time at the Daio Wasabi Farm to see the plantations and learn about its cultivation. Continue to the town of Yudanaka and head to Jigokudani Yaen-Koen. Hike through a picturesque forested valley to the hot pools where you may see the famous Japanese macaques (snow monkeys) bathe and play before returning to Matsumoto.

### DAY 14: MATSUMOTO CASTLE

Begin the day with a visit to the magnificent 16th-century Matsumoto Castle, also known as 'Crow Castle', due to its intense black exterior. Next, head to a miso house and learn about the process of making this famous Japanese seasoning. Also visit the former post town of Naraijuku. Continue to Suwa and enjoy the onsen facilities at your hotel.

### DAY 15: MOUNT FUJI

Travel to Hakone and ascend 2,400 metres to Fuji's 5th Station (weather permitting). Also, enjoy a peaceful cruise on Lake Ashi before taking to the skies on the Komagatake Ropeway. Next, continue to Tokyo by road.

### DAY 16: TOUR TOKYO

Begin the day with a stroll through Hamarikyu Gardens. Next, take part in a sushi making class, and enjoy your own creations for lunch! Later, soak up the atmosphere at Sensoji, browse the stalls on Nakamise shopping street and drive by the Imperial Palace Plaza.

### DAY 17: TOKYO HIGHLIGHTS

Begin the day at the Tokyo Metropolitan Building and ascend to the observation deck for breathtaking views over the sprawling city. Next, soak up the atmosphere at the peaceful Meiji Jingu Shrine and drive by the world-famous Shibuya crossing. End the day with a relaxing yakata boat dinner cruise on the waters of Tokyo Bay; the perfect vantage point from which to admire the city lights.

### DAY 18: SIP WHISKY IN SENDAI

Let the bullet train whisk you north to Sendai, the largest city in Tohoku. Transfer to the coast and enjoy a relaxing cruise on Matsushima Bay. Also, visit Zuiganji Temple and the famous Nikka Whisky factory in Sendai.

### DAY 19: EXPLORE HAKODATE

Say goodbye to Honshu Island as you board the bullet train to Hakodate located on Hokkaido, Japan's northernmost island. Visit the Goryokaku Tower, a star shaped fortress, followed by some time at leisure. This evening, journey on the Mt Hakodate Ropeway and enjoy the fabulous views of the city below. Enjoy the onsen facilities at your hotel.

### DAY 20: SAPPORO SIGHTSEEING

Board the bullet train to Sapporo, the final stop on this three-week adventure. Admire the Clock Tower and Odori Park, then stop by the Sapporo Beer Museum and enjoy a tasting or two before this evening's farewell dinner.

### DAY 21: FLY SAPPORO TO UK

Fly to the UK, arriving home the same or following day.

## CLASSIC JAPAN

PHYSICAL RATING



## IS THIS TOUR FOR YOU?

An all-encompassing journey through Japan, travelling chiefly by bullet train and taking in the highlights of all three main islands: Kyushu, Honshu and Hokkaido.

## PRICES & DEPARTURES

Departing days of the week vary during peak season

### 2025 DATES

14 Mar - 03 Apr	£10,390	11 Sep - 01 Oct	£10,090
15 Mar - 04 Apr	£10,390	18 Sep - 08 Oct	£10,090
16 Mar - 05 Apr	£10,390	02 Oct - 22 Oct	£10,390
17 Mar - 06 Apr	£10,390	06 Oct - 26 Oct	£10,390
18 Mar - 07 Apr	£10,390	09 Oct - 29 Oct	£10,390
20 Mar - 09 Apr	£10,390	11 Oct - 31 Oct	£10,390
22 Mar - 11 Apr	£10,390	13 Oct - 02 Nov	£10,390
24 Mar - 13 Apr	£10,390	15 Oct - 04 Nov	£10,390
26 Mar - 15 Apr	£10,390	16 Oct - 05 Nov	£10,390
27 Mar - 16 Apr	£10,390	17 Oct - 06 Nov	£10,390
28 Mar - 17 Apr	£10,390	20 Oct - 09 Nov	£10,390
31 Mar - 20 Apr	£10,390	21 Oct - 10 Nov	£10,390
03 Apr - 23 Apr	£10,390	23 Oct - 12 Nov	£10,390
07 Apr - 27 Apr	£10,390	25 Oct - 14 Nov	£10,390
10 Apr - 30 Apr	£10,390	27 Oct - 16 Nov	£10,390
08 May - 28 May	£10,090	30 Oct - 19 Nov	£10,390
15 May - 04 Jun	£10,090	03 Nov - 23 Nov	£10,390
05 Jun - 25 Jun	£10,090	06 Nov - 26 Nov	£10,390
12 Jun - 02 Jul	£10,090	10 Nov - 30 Nov	£10,390
19 Jun - 09 Jul	£10,090		£10,090

### 2026 DATES

14 Mar - 03 Apr	£10,990	11 Sep - 01 Oct	£10,790
16 Mar - 05 Apr	£10,990	18 Sep - 08 Oct	£10,790
18 Mar - 07 Apr	£10,990	25 Sep - 15 Oct	£10,790
20 Mar - 09 Apr	£10,990	02 Oct - 22 Oct	£10,790
22 Mar - 11 Apr	£10,990	06 Oct - 26 Oct	£10,790
24 Mar - 13 Apr	£10,990	09 Oct - 29 Oct	£10,790
26 Mar - 15 Apr	£10,990	11 Oct - 31 Oct	£10,790
28 Mar - 17 Apr	£10,990	13 Oct - 02 Nov	£10,790
30 Mar - 19 Apr	£10,990	15 Oct - 04 Nov	£10,790
01 Apr - 21 Apr	£10,990	17 Oct - 06 Nov	£10,790
03 Apr - 23 Apr	£10,990	19 Oct - 08 Nov	£10,790
05 Apr - 25 Apr	£10,990	21 Oct - 10 Nov	£10,790
07 Apr - 27 Apr	£10,990	23 Oct - 12 Nov	£10,790
09 Apr - 29 Apr	£10,990	25 Oct - 14 Nov	£10,790
08 May - 28 May	£10,790	27 Oct - 16 Nov	£10,790
15 May - 04 Jun	£10,790	29 Oct - 18 Nov	£10,790
22 May - 11 Jun	£10,790	01 Nov - 21 Nov	£10,790
05 Jun - 25 Jun	£10,790	03 Nov - 23 Nov	£10,790
12 Jun - 02 Jul	£10,790	05 Nov - 25 Nov	£10,790
19 Jun - 09 Jul	£10,790	07 Nov - 27 Nov	£10,790

### Flight and supplement information

- Based on London Heathrow departures
- Regional UK departures available
- Flight upgrades available on request
- Land only from £9,290 (Fukuoka - Sapporo)
- Single room from £1,990

Call for our 2027 pricing and departures

# JOURNEY THROUGH JAPAN

14 DAYS FROM

PER PERSON **£7,090**

FLIGHT INCLUSIVE FROM THE UK

ALL MEALS

## TOUR TICKLIST

- ✓ Discover Hokkaido's nature
- ✓ Explore vibrant Sapporo
- ✓ Spend time in Hakodate
- ✓ See Tokyo's bright lights
- ✓ Gaze at Mount Fuji
- ✓ Uncover Kyoto's past



View the magnificent Kegon Waterfall

## PRICE INCLUDES

- 12 breakfasts, 11 lunches & 12 dinners
- International flights and current taxes
- Domestic transportation
- 3 star plus – 4 star accommodation, including an overnight stay in a ryokan
- Touring with guides and entrance fees
- Maximum group size of 28



Leave Tokyo by train

## RAIL HIGHLIGHTS

- ▶ Reliable, efficient, punctual and fast, Japan's extensive rail network is world renowned for all the right reasons.
- ▶ Trains are spotlessly clean and comfortable, with plenty of legroom.
- ▶ Get a glimpse of traditional, rural Japan as you glide through glorious countryside.

## ITINERARY

### DAYS 1-2: FLY OVERNIGHT TO SAPPORO

Fly overnight to the vibrant city of Sapporo, capital of the northern Japanese island of Hokkaido. Depending on your time of arrival, the rest of the day is yours to start soaking up the local culture.

### DAY 3: ASCEND OKURAYAMA

This morning, ascend to the Okurayama viewing point, soaring up to the summit of the Sapporo Winter Olympics ski jump by chair lift – the views over the surrounding mountains are breathtaking. Continue to the pretty port town of Otaru and take some time to walk along the streets of the village and stroll along the picturesque canal. This evening visit a local beer museum and sample some of the beer on offer before heading to a nearby restaurant to dine on a Genghis Khan dinner – barbeque lamb, a Sapporo special!

### DAY 4: TRAVEL TO HAKODATE

Depart Sapporo and travel to a lovely lakeside spot to visit a museum of Ainu culture, an indigenous people of the area. Continue to Noboribetsu Jigokudani (Hell Valley) and walk through a volcanic caldera where you can see steam jets, vents and hot springs. After lunch, hop on a train to the harbour city of Hakodate, set on Hokkaido's southern tip, where you'll embark on a night tour with time to ascend the Mount Hakodate cable car, for magnificent views over the illuminated city.

### DAY 5: EXPLORE HAKODATE ASAICHI

Start the day wandering Hakodate's bustling asaichi (morning market), where hundreds of stores and stalls sell fresh local produce, seafood and the odd souvenir. Next, ascend

Goryokaku Tower for views over Goryokaku Fort and Mount Hakodate before boarding the bullet train to the lovely city of Aomori in the north of Honshu, Japan's largest island. Visit the Nebuta Warasse, a museum dedicated to Aomori's famous 300-year-old Nebuta Matsuri, a lively summer festival.

### DAY 6: TSUNAGI ONSEN

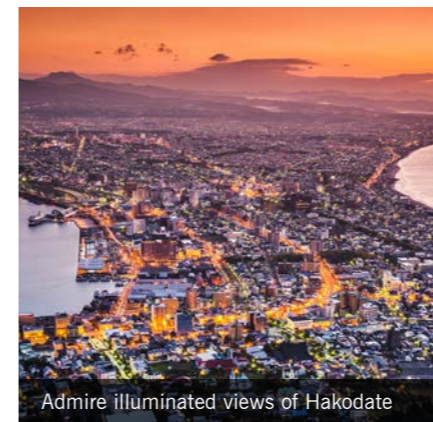
Depart Hirosaki for Kakunodate, an old samurai stronghold still known for its samurai traditions. Visit the Aoyagi Samurai Manor Museum for a fascinating look at samurai culture and stroll around Ishiguro House, a traditional samurai residence. Continue to the hot spring resort of Tsunagi. Stay overnight in a traditional ryokan with onsen facilities and experience sleeping on a futon on a tatami mat.

### DAY 7: CRUISE MATSUSHIMA BAY

Travel to Hiraizumi, where you'll explore the peaceful Chusonji Temple with its beautiful old gold leaf-covered hall. Continue to the charming town of Matsushima to enjoy a relaxed cruise on Matsushima Bay, passing amongst the small pine tree-covered islands of this picturesque seascape.

### DAY 8: SENDAI TO NIKKO

Walk to Sendai station and take the bullet train to the culture-filled town of Nikko. Start your explorations in the beautiful surroundings of Nikko National Park, where you'll visit Toshogu shrine. Built in the 1600s, this is Japan's most lavish shrine, built as the final resting place of shogun Tokugawa Ieyasu. Continue to the magnificent Kegon Waterfall, taking a 100-metre-tall elevator up to the perfect viewing spot. Transfer to Tokyo.



Admire illuminated views of Hakodate



Walk amongst the steam vents in Noboribetsu Jigokudani (Hell Valley)

### DAY 9: EXPLORE TOKYO

Tokyo, Japan's capital, is the ultimate 24-hour city, but look behind its frantic, high-tech frontage and you'll find plenty of tranquil backstreets and old temples to explore. Start the day in the vibrant district of Asakusa, where you will visit Sensoji, Tokyo's oldest temple, and wander down Nakamise shopping street before a visit to Tokyo National Museum. After lunch, stroll through the peaceful Meiji Jingu Shrine complex, before ascending to the observatory deck of the Tokyo Metropolitan Government building for exceptional views over the city.

### DAY 10: ADMIRE MOUNT FUJI

Travel by road from Tokyo to Mount Fuji, where you'll ascend 2,400 metres up Japan's most iconic sight to the 5th Station (weather permitting). Transfer to the Hakone area and enjoy a cruise on the spectacular Lake Ashi before flying high above the lake on the Komagatake Ropeway cable car. Return to Tokyo.

### DAY 11: TRAVEL TO KYOTO

Take a bullet train to Kyoto. Capital for 1,000 years, the city today is full of the legacy of ancient Japan and home to tranquil temples, silk-clad geisha and sublime gardens. This afternoon, visit Togetsukyo Bridge in the heart of the vibrant Arashiyama district and enjoy a leisurely walk through the bamboo forest, with its towering bamboo thickets.

### DAY 12: EXPLORE KYOTO

This morning, visit one of Japan's most famous temples, Kinkakuji, the 'Golden Pavilion'. Set amongst classical Japanese Zen gardens and on the edge of a reflecting pool, the temple's main hall is covered in gold leaf.

Also, stroll through Nishiki Market, dubbed 'Kyoto's kitchen', where there are many interesting food and sake stores to explore before a free afternoon to spend as you wish.

### DAY 13: SAKE TASTING

Today, get to know the local culture. Try your hand at handkerchief dyeing, then learn about the rituals of an authentic Japanese tea ceremony. After lunch, walk the vermilion, torii gate-lined pathways of the Fushimi Inari Shrine and tour a traditional sake brewery, where you can have a few cheeky tasters. Continue to the booming city of Osaka.

### DAY 14: FLY OSAKA TO UK

Fly to the UK, arriving home the same or following day.

## EXTEND YOUR STAY...



### NAOSHIMA EXTENSION

4 days from £1,490pp

### HONG KONG GLIMPSES STOPOVER

3 days from £380pp

### ESSENTIAL DUBAI STOPOVER

3 days from £290pp

CLASSIC  
JAPAN

PHYSICAL RATING



## IS THIS TOUR FOR YOU?

Journey south from Sapporo to Osaka, exploring the diverse islands of Hokkaido and Honshu. From volcanic landscapes to the glittering Matsushima Bay, go beyond the big cities to see another side of Japan.

## PRICES & DEPARTURES

Departing Saturday returning Friday

2025 DATES			
15 Mar - 28 Mar	£7,090	06 Sep - 19 Sep	£7,090
29 Mar - 11 Apr	£7,090	13 Sep - 26 Sep	£7,090
05 Apr - 18 Apr	£7,090	27 Sep - 10 Oct	£7,090
12 Apr - 25 Apr	£7,090	11 Oct - 24 Oct	£7,090
10 May - 23 May	£7,090	25 Oct - 07 Nov	£7,090
24 May - 06 Jun	£7,090		

2026 DATES			
28 Mar - 10 Apr	£7,790	13 Jun - 26 Jun	£7,590
04 Apr - 17 Apr	£7,790	12 Sep - 25 Sep	£7,590
11 Apr - 24 Apr	£7,790	10 Oct - 23 Oct	£7,590
18 Apr - 01 May	£7,790	17 Oct - 30 Oct	£7,590
09 May - 22 May	£7,590	24 Oct - 06 Nov	£7,590

## Flight and supplement information

- Based on London Heathrow departures
- Regional UK departures available
- Flight upgrades available on request
- Land only from £6,290 (Sapporo - Osaka)
- Single room from £1,390

Call for our 2027 pricing and departures



Stroll along the canal in Otaru

# ESSENCE OF SOUTH KOREA & JAPAN

16 DAYS FROM

PER PERSON **£9,190**

FLIGHT INCLUSIVE FROM THE UK

ALL MEALS

## TOUR TICKLIST

- ✓ Explore bustling Seoul
- ✓ Visit historic Gyeongju
- ✓ Discover picturesque Busan
- ✓ Reflect in Hiroshima
- ✓ Be charmed by Kyoto
- ✓ Feel the rush of Tokyo



Experience the Royal Guard Changing Ceremony at Gyeongbok Palace

## PRICE INCLUDES

- 14 breakfasts, 13 lunches & 14 dinners
- International flights and current taxes
- Domestic transportation
- 3 star plus – 4 star accommodation
- Touring with guides and entrance fees
- Maximum group size of 28



Travel across South Korea by KTX

## RAIL HIGHLIGHTS

- ▶ Experience South Korea's high-speed KTX train network.
- ▶ Travel at speeds of up to 230km/hour on 'shinkansen', Japan's famous bullet trains.
- ▶ Enjoy four high speed train journeys in Japan and experience spectacular stations, smooth as silk journeys and legendary punctuality!

## ITINERARY

### DAYS 1-2: FLY OVERNIGHT TO SEOUL

Fly overnight to Seoul, the dazzling capital city of South Korea. Depending on your time of arrival, the rest of the day is yours to start soaking up the local culture. This evening meet your National Escort and fellow travellers to enjoy dinner at a local restaurant.

### DAY 3: EXPLORE SEOUL

Amongst the skyscrapers, nightlife districts and colossal shopping malls of Seoul, there is an exceptional amount of culture and tradition, from busy teahouses to magnificent palaces just waiting to be explored. Enjoy a full day tour of Seoul starting at Gyeongbok Palace to watch the 'Changing of the Guards' ceremony, and then visit the palace itself. Next, attend a Korean cooking class – making traditional bibimbap before tucking into your creations for lunch. Enjoy the panoramic city views at N Seoul Tower and also visit Insadong Antique Alley, renowned for its art products and traditional Korean antiques.

### DAY 4: VISIT THE DMZ

Created as a buffer zone between North Korea and South Korea at the end of the Korean War, the DMZ is part of the most heavily militarised border in the world. An early start is needed today as tickets to the DMZ are limited\*. Explore the DMZ Theatre & Exhibition Hall, walk along the 3rd Infiltration Tunnel, visit Dora Observatory & Station and see the Bridge of Freedom. Return to Seoul to explore Gwangjang Market.

*\*While every effort will be made to get the tickets, should this not be possible, you will instead take a ride on the DMZ gondola and visit the Odusan Unification Observatory.*

### DAY 5: TRAIN TO GYEONGJU

Take a train from Seoul to Gyeongju – a city of cultural and historical relics, Gyeongju is called 'the museum without walls'. Capital of the Silla Kingdom for over 1,000 years, the city is home to a staggering number of tombs, temples, statues and ruins, some of which you'll explore today. In the afternoon, begin at the magnificent UNESCO World Heritage listed Bulguksa Temple, considered the pinnacle of Silla architecture, and Seokguram Grotto. Later, take a stroll at Anapji Pond.

### DAY 6: EXPLORE BUSAN

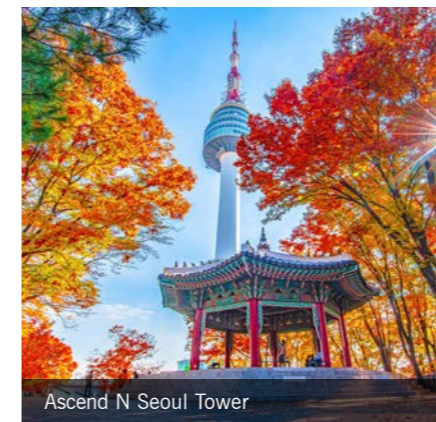
Begin the day with a visit to Gyeongju National Museum, and then explore Tumuli Park, a collection of royal tombs. Continue by road to Busan. Laidback compared to Seoul's bustle, Busan is a city full of character and traditional features as well as mountains, beaches, temples and exquisite seafood. In the afternoon, visit the Jagalchi Fish Market and browse the wares at Gukje Market. Next, head over to Dongbaekseom Island and soak up the peaceful nature, before feeling the sand between your toes on Haeundae Beach.

### DAY 7: GOODBYE SOUTH KOREA, HELLO JAPAN

It's time to say goodbye to South Korea and hello to Japan! Board the ferry to Fukuoka.

### DAY 8: FROM FUKUOKA TO HIROSHIMA

Located on the northern shores of Japan's Kyushu Island – Fukuoka is also the island's largest city. Begin the day with a visit to the Dazaifu Tenmangu Shinto Shrine before exploring the National Museum to learn about the city's colourful past. After lunch, board the bullet train to Hiroshima, a city that needs no introduction.



Ascend N Seoul Tower



Stroll through the historic quarter of Kurashiki

### DAY 9: HIROSHIMA & MIYAJIMA

Start the day at the Peace Memorial Park and Museum, which pays homage to the victims of the 1945 atomic bomb, followed by a visit to an oyster farm by boat. In the afternoon, hop on the ferry to the holy island of Miyajima and visit the Itsukushima Shrine, a UNESCO World Heritage listed site, located on the edge of the waters of the Seto Inland Sea.

### DAY 10: DISCOVER ANCIENT KURASHIKI & OKAYAMA

Transfer by bullet train to Kurashiki to explore the beautifully-preserved Bikan Historical Quarter, where the streets along the banks of the Kurashiki River are lined with white-walled kominka (traditional houses). Next, head to Okayama and visit Korakuen Garden, one of the 'Three Great Gardens of Japan'. Later, board the bullet train to the vibrant city of Osaka.

### DAY 11: EXPLORE NARA & OSAKA

Travel to Nara and enjoy a leisurely walk through Nara Park to Todaiji Temple before returning to Osaka. Enjoy lunch at Dotonbori Street, famous for its eye-catching signage and billboards and then visit the impressive Osaka Castle.

### DAY 12: TRAVEL TO KYOTO

Journey by road to Kyoto. An enchanting city, Kyoto was Japan's capital city for 1,000 years; today it is a testament to ancient Japan, packed with tranquil temples, silk-clad geisha and sublime gardens. Visit Ryoanji, the 'temple of the peaceful dragon' and the famous Kinkakuji Temple, also known as the 'Golden Pavilion'. Later immerse yourself in the culture by experiencing the sacred rituals of a tea ceremony with a tea master.

### DAY 13: EXPLORE KYOTO

Visit the vibrant district of Arashiyama and stroll through the bamboo forest with its towering thickets before trying your hand at the art of fan painting. Next you'll have the opportunity to have lunch with a maiko – an apprentice geisha. In the afternoon, visit to one of Kyoto's most famous sites – Fushimi Inari Shrine, renowned for its 10,000 vermilion torii gates, and follow a forested hillside pathway passing numerous shrines along the way.

### DAY 14: VISIT HAKONE

Take the bullet train to Odawara. Upon arrival, visit the Hakone shrine, situated on the shores of Lake Ashi and enjoy the breathtaking views of Mount Fuji in the background. After lunch, take part in a Yosegi marquetry craft experience, before continuing by road to Tokyo – Japan's capital city.

### DAY 15: EXPLORE TOKYO

Tokyo is the ultimate 24-hour city, but look behind its frantic, high-tech neon-lit frontage and you will find plenty of tranquil backstreets and ancient temples. Begin the day with a visit to Meiji Shrine, before driving past the famous Shibuya crossing. Next, wander through the old district of Asakusa to soak up the atmosphere at Sensoji, Tokyo's most famous and beloved temple. After lunch, visit a bonsai museum and observe a demonstration before trying your hand at bonsai pruning. End the day with a dinner cruise on the beautiful Tokyo Bay.

### DAY 16: FLY TOKYO TO UK

Fly to the UK, arriving home the same or following day.

CLASSIC SOUTH KOREA

PHYSICAL RATING



## IS THIS TOUR FOR YOU?

This two-week South Korea and Japan adventure gives a fascinating insight into two of Asia's most intriguing countries. Close in proximity yet culturally distinct, this tour offers the perfect way to experience the diversity of the Far East.

## PRICES & DEPARTURES

Departing Saturday returning Sunday

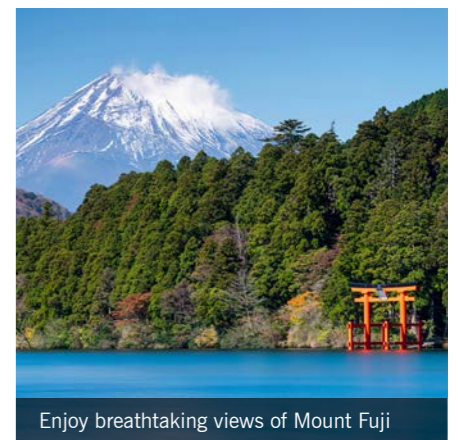
2025 DATES			
08 Mar - 23 Mar	£9,290	20 Sep - 05 Oct	£9,190
12 Apr - 27 Apr	£9,290	08 Nov - 23 Nov	£9,290
10 May - 25 May	£9,190		

2026 DATES			
28 Mar - 12 Apr	£9,790	12 Sep - 27 Sep	£9,690
04 Apr - 19 Apr	£9,790	10 Oct - 25 Oct	£9,690
09 May - 24 May	£9,690	07 Nov - 22 Nov	£9,690

### Flight and supplement information

- Based on London Heathrow departures
- Regional UK departures available
- Flight upgrades available on request
- Land only from £8,390 (Seoul - Tokyo)
- Single room from £1,450

Call for our 2027 pricing and departures



Enjoy breathtaking views of Mount Fuji

# SILK ROAD EXPRESS

Experience timeless luxury

## WHERE LUXURY MEETS ADVENTURE

Travel in style along one of the world's most legendary trading routes on the opulent Silk Road Express. Your fully inclusive journey aboard this private touring train will take you into the heart of the ancient Southern Silk Road, where you'll discover a rich heritage unique to this part of the world. On your journey, you'll learn about the diverse cultures and ethnicities that set this corner of China apart. You'll also explore ancient cities, visit incredible sites, enjoy delicious local food, and so much more.

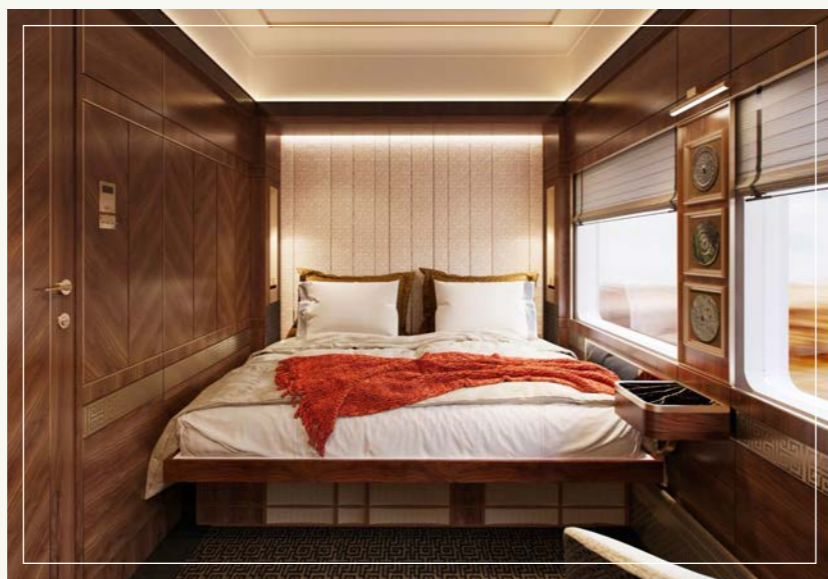
When you're not exploring, you can look forward to the comforts that await you on the beautiful Silk Road Express train. Relax in your elegant private cabin, sit down for an expertly prepared meal in one of the two dining cars, enjoy your favourite tipples in the sophisticated bar car or take it all in from the observation deck.

This promises to be a train journey like nothing else you've experienced before.

## ACCOMMODATION

The perfect blend of style and comfort, your en suite Silk Road Express Gold Class Cabin offers the ideal place to unwind after a day of exploring. With 11 square metres of thoughtfully designed space, the cabin can be set up in a double or twin bed configuration for your evening's rest. By day, you'll have two single sofas to relax on as you enjoy the spectacular scenery passing by.

The cabin includes a private bathroom with a smart toilet and power shower, a minibar, a full-length wardrobe and complimentary tea, coffee and mineral water.



## LIFE ABOARD THE SILK ROAD EXPRESS

Travel across centuries of civilisation from the comfort of this luxurious train. When you're not exploring the rich tapestry of cultures, history and landscapes, you'll be making the most of the train's wonderful facilities.

Inspired by the graceful curves of the Han Dynasty chariots, the elegant bar car is the social hub of the train, with its relaxed yet refined atmosphere. Sip on carefully crafted cocktails and fine wines as you discuss the day's sightseeing and anticipate what tomorrow might bring. The car also has a Bösendorfer piano, so you can look forward to sophisticated entertainment – a fitting choice for this timeless space.

For sublime views, step into the bright and spacious Observation Car. Featuring a 270° panoramic window, you can immerse yourself in the incredible landscapes all around at any time of day. By night, cutting edge ambient lighting transforms the car into a dazzling space.

## A MICHELIN-QUALITY CULINARY JOURNEY

A true feast for the senses, dining aboard the Silk Road Express offers a parallel gastronomic journey as you travel this storied route. You can look forward to exceptional meals delivered with impeccable service across two unique and distinct restaurant cars.

Exceptional fine-dining on board is prepared by a Michelin starred chef. Choose from the Western-style restaurant car, with its banquet dining option, or the more intimate Chinese-style restaurant car with its booth seating. Both cars offer an elegant and relaxing ambience and are adorned with vintage British silverware, French Alain Saint-Joani silver cutlery and Nachtmann glassware from Germany. These thoughtful touches allow you to truly savour the classic dishes on offer, alongside the regional flavours of the Silk Road. Ingredients are locally sourced and have been hand-selected by the onboard chefs. The culinary experience aboard the Silk Road Express perfectly complements the immersive and authentic experiences on offer throughout your itinerary.

Unlimited complimentary wines, beers and cocktails on board will ensure you can relax and enjoy the convivial and refined ambience of your indulgent surroundings.

Embark on a voyage where ancient ways meet elegant luxury on the Silk Road Express.

Turn the page to see how to enjoy The Silk Road Express on our new tour.

# LEGENDS OF THE SILK ROAD

14 DAYS FROM

PER PERSON **£14,390**

FLIGHT INCLUSIVE FROM THE UK

MOST MEALS

## TOUR TICKLIST

- ✓ Cruise the stunning Heavenly Lake
- ✓ Wine tasting in Jiayuguan
- ✓ Explore ancient Kashgar
- ✓ Spend three nights aboard the Silk Road Express
- ✓ Visit the UNESCO Mogao Grottoes
- ✓ Stand before the Terracotta Army



Discover where luxury meets adventure aboard the Silk Road Express

## PRICE INCLUDES

- 12 breakfasts, 9 lunches & 8 dinners
- International flights and current taxes
- Domestic transportation
- 4 star plus – 5 star accommodation
- Touring with guides and entrance fees
- Visa fees for UK passport holders
- Maximum group size of 20



Visit China's largest wine cellar

## EXCLUSIVE EXPERIENCES

- ▶ Nestled near the historic Jiayuguan Great Wall and home to China's largest cellar, visit Xixuan Winery to learn the winemaking process from harvest to bottling, finishing with a tasting of two regional varietals.
- ▶ Explore Kashgar's Terraced Households, traditional Uyghur mud-brick homes, and witness skilled artisans craft intricate clay pottery and printed works.
- ▶ Guided by a master artisan in Xining, craft a traditional Tibetan artwork known as a Thangka, used for meditation and devotion, and have your name inscribed in an ethnic minority script for a special keepsake.

## ITINERARY

### DAYS 1-2: FLY TO URUMQI

Fly overnight to the modern city of Urumqi, the capital of the Xinjiang Uyghur Autonomous Region in China's northwest. On arrival you will be transferred to your hotel, where the rest of the day is at your leisure until a welcome dinner in the evening. (D)

### DAY 3: CRUISE ON HEAVENLY LAKE

Leave the bustle of the city behind and spend the day among the glorious nature of Tian Shan, the 'Mountains of Heaven'. This region of snow- and glacier-capped peaks, forests, meadows, rivers, and lakes is a stark contrast to the nearby desert – you'll get spectacular views of it all on a cruise of Tianchi (Heavenly Lake), before visiting a Kazakh minority family in their yurt for insight into the nomadic lifestyle. Later, relax at your hotel or head out on a walking tour through the atmospheric alleyways of the Urumqi Grand Bazaar. (B,L)

### DAY 4: FLY TO KASHGAR

An important trading centre with a history stretching back over 2,000 years, Kashgar's minaret studded skyline evokes the timeless spirit of the Silk Road. On arrival, your Silk Road Express experience begins, with a transfer to your hotel and a special welcome dinner this evening - the perfect introduction to the luxurious adventure you're about to embark on. (B,D)

### DAY 5: WANDER KASHGAR

This morning, visit the Terraced Households, traditional Uyghur dwellings built of mud bricks, tightly packed down old, atmospheric lanes. Continue your explorations in the Old Town, where plenty of heritage crafts are still undertaken – enjoy a visit to a printing and

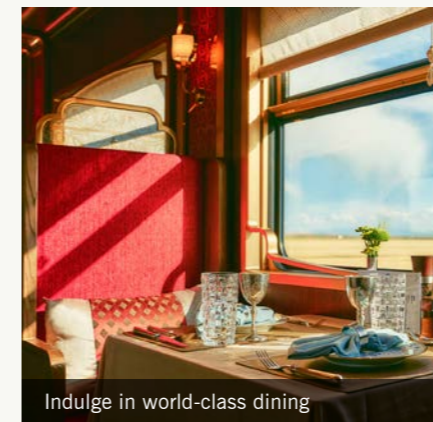
clay pottery workshop to see the artisans at work. Board the Silk Road Express, settling into the classic grandeur of your cabin as your journey following the routes of the fabled Silk Road begins. Pulling out of Kashgar, sit back in comfort and watch the landscapes slip by as you travel deeper into China's northern extremes. Tonight, enjoy a traditional Muqam dinner. (B,L,D)

### DAY 6: DISCOVER HOTAN'S ARTISANS

Enjoy a free morning making use of the train's amenities, relaxing in your cabin or one of the lounge cars as you arrive into Hotan. After lunch, served on the train, disembark and drive to the Hetian Museum to view cultural relics of the local area then continue to a traditional handicraft workshop, a silk commune and a hand-stitched carpet workshop to visit the local artisans and watch them at their work. Then, explore ancient Yotkan, a city with a fascinating thousand-year history and strong links to the Silk Road. Return to the train and enjoy a delicious dinner full of regional flavours. (B,L,D)

### DAY 7: EXPLORE THE RUINS OF MILAN

Pull into the desert-bound town of Ruoqiang. Departing the train, strike out by road to visit the 'Ruins of Milan', a city that was once a major point on the Silk Road, providing shelter for trade caravans from the harshness of the desert. Returning to Ruoqiang, explore the artifacts of the Loulan Museum, excavated from ancient desert cities. Back onboard the train, enjoy a drink in the elegant bar car or take in the 270° panoramic views from the Observation Car. (B,L,D)



Indulge in world-class dining



Traverse the vast landscapes of China's northwest

### DAY 8: ARRIVE IN XINING

Spend a free morning on the train, savouring its comforts, as you cross a final stretch of starkly beautiful desert to arrive in the city of Xining. After lunch onboard, embark on an exploration of Xining's sacred Kumbum, a Tibetan monastery set spectacularly in a narrow valley outside the city, then create a traditional Thangka with a master artisan. Your Silk Road Express experience comes to an end this evening with dinner and an overnight stay at a five-star hotel. (B,L,D)

### DAY 9: WINE TASTING IN JIAYUGUAN

Transfer to Xining train station and board a bullet train to Jiayuguan. Seen as China's western gateway and home to the western end of the Great Wall, this desert city is the perfect place to get to grips with, and a feel for, your Silk Road history. On arrival, tour the renowned Xixuan Winery, home to the largest cellar in China, and learn about the wine-making process from harvest to bottling, complemented by a tasting of two regional varietals. Later, head to the Overhanging Great Wall for a leisurely walk and the chance to witness a breathtaking desert sunset – a truly magical way to end your day. (B,L)

### DAY 10: DUNHUANG NIGHT MARKET

Visit Jiayu Fortress, the westernmost point of the magnificent Great Wall, then drive to Dunhuang, known as the 'City of the Sands,' located in a lush oasis on the edge of the Taklamakan Desert. In the evening, wander the stalls of the bustling night market, where the streets come alive with vendors selling handicrafts and the aromas of sizzling meats and fragrant spices. (B,L)

### DAY 11: MOGAO GROTTOES

Begin the day at Crescent Moon Spring, nestled amongst rolling sand dunes, before exploring the Mogao Grottoes. This UNESCO-listed system of temples and sanctuaries is full of wonderful examples of Buddhist paintings and statues created between the 4th and 14th centuries. Showing its evolution over thousands of years, the grottoes are considered one of the most important collections of Buddhist art in the world. (B,L,D)

### DAY 12: FLY TO XIAN

Enjoy a free morning and later, fly to Xian, a treasure trove of age-old history and the easternmost terminus of the ancient Silk Roads. Transfer to your hotel, where the rest of the day is at leisure to relax, or you may wish to begin your exploration of this fascinating city with a guided walking tour through the winding streets of the lively Muslim Quarter. (B)

### DAY 13: MEET THE WARRIORS WITH AN EXPERT

After their fortuitous discovery in the 1970s, the Terracotta Army of China's first emperor, Qin Shi Huang, has intrigued visitors ever since. Spend the morning with an expert viewing the enigmatic ranks of these life-size warriors. Later, take a stroll on the beautifully preserved city walls that enclose Xian's old town. (B,L,D)

### DAY 14: FLY XIAN TO UK

Transfer to the airport and fly to the UK, arriving home the same or following day.(B)

LUXURY CHINA

PHYSICAL RATING



## IS THIS TOUR FOR ME?

Traverse China's northwest in five-star comfort, discovering cities, landscapes and fascinating archaeological sites. With three nights aboard the opulent Silk Road Express, and indulgent experiences and hotels throughout, on this tour, luxury truly meets adventure.

## PRICES & DEPARTURES

Departing Sunday returning Saturday

### 2025 DATES

15 Sep - 28 Sep **£14,390**

### Flight and supplement information

- Based on London Heathrow departures
- Regional UK departures available
- Flight upgrades available on request
- Land only from £13,690 (Urumqi - Xian)
- Single room from £6,640
- Tipping paid locally RMB 780

## SIGNATURE HOTELS

- ▶ **Conrad Urumqi**  
A sleek skyscraper with soaring views, the contemporary interiors of the Conrad Urumqi bring together the wealth of the city's Silk Road history with stylish, spacious accommodation, accented with rich fabrics and jewel tones.
- ▶ **Sofitel Legends Peoples Grand**  
Housed in an iconic building within Xian's city walls, the Sofitel Legend marries an eclectic mix of cultural flourishes with overt luxury. Spacious rooms are contemporary sanctuaries, the 24-hour butler service ready to cater to your every whim.
- ▶ **Silk Road Dunhuang Hotel**  
Overlooking the dunes of the Gobi Desert, this charming boutique hotel showcases the rich history of the area in its architecture and décor while providing every comfort.

# CHINA BY RAIL

22 DAYS FROM

PER PERSON £5,790

FLIGHT INCLUSIVE FROM THE UK

ALL MEALS

## TOUR TICKLIST

- ✓ Stay atop Yellow Mountain
- ✓ Discover old China in Dali
- ✓ Cruise the Li River
- ✓ Watch giant pandas play
- ✓ Face the Terracotta Army
- ✓ Walk on the Great Wall

Admire views from Yellow Mountain

## PRICE INCLUDES

- 20 breakfasts, 19 lunches & 20 dinners
- International flights and current taxes
- Domestic transportation
- 4 star accommodation
- Touring with guides and entrance fees
- Visa fees for UK passport holders
- Maximum group size of 28



Journey by high-speed bullet train

## RAIL HIGHLIGHTS

- ▶ Glide through China's diverse landscapes aboard bullet trains, experiencing speed, comfort, and modernity. Connect with locals and witness the country's dynamic transformation from the window.
- ▶ Ride Shanghai's Maglev, a high-speed magnetic levitation train linking downtown to Pudong Airport in minutes.
- ▶ Relax with views of Erhai Lake and snow-capped peaks on the Dali-Lijiang rail leg.
- ▶ Ride China's most beautiful rail line to the Yellow Mountains passing through gorgeous scenery.

## ITINERARY

### DAYS 1-2: FLY OVERNIGHT TO SHANGHAI

Fly overnight to Shanghai, also known as the 'Paris of the East'. Depending on your time of arrival, the rest of the day is yours to start soaking up the local culture.

### DAY 3: EXPLORE SHANGHAI

Shanghai is China's great metropolis, where east and west collide on streets lined with futuristic skyscrapers and 10th-century temples. Today's explorations include the Yu Garden, the old town and a silk factory. Admire the magnificent colonial architecture with a stroll along the Bund, before a trip on the super-fast electromagnetic Maglev train. This evening, view the city from the Huangpu River on a panoramic cruise and dine on delicious Shanghainese cuisine.

### DAY 4: YELLOW MOUNTAIN

Embark on a journey aboard the bullet train to Tunxi, and then ascend to the summit of Mount Huang, commonly known as Yellow Mountain, via cable car for an overnight stay atop the mountain. Enjoy the spectacular views of the oddly shaped peaks, rock formations, thousand-year-old pine trees and ever-changing mist, all of which have inspired local artists for centuries. Spend the afternoon exploring this stunning UNESCO World Heritage Site.

### DAY 5: TUNXI ANCIENT TOWN

Take the cable car down to the base of the mountain and explore the atmospheric town of Tunxi. The narrow cobbled streets are lined with pretty little shops selling anything from local snacks and tea, to paintbrushes, cultural relics and intricate wood carvings.

### DAY 6: ORANGE ISLAND

Journey by bullet train to Changsha, a vibrant metropolis steeped in history and surrounded by natural beauty. Explore the bamboo and sculpture gardens of Orange Island, where a towering 32-metre statue of Chairman Mao Zedong stands. As dusk falls, indulge in the lively night market's local delicacies, a taste of Changsha's culture.

### DAY 7: BULLET TRAIN TO GUILIN

Step into history at the Yuelu Academy, the historical hub of learning where ancient wisdom thrives. Then embark on a scenic journey as you traverse magnificent landscapes to reach Guilin's natural wonders.

### DAY 8: DISCOVER GUILIN

Embark on a tour to Elephant Trunk Hill, the iconic rock formation resembling an elephant drinking from the Li River. This afternoon, visit a pearl factory before setting sail on a serene cruise, navigating the network of canals and walkways of the Two Rivers and Four Lakes.

### DAY 9: LI RIVER CRUISE

Take a relaxed cruise along the Li River to charming Yangshuo. Around every river bend is a view to take your breath away as jagged karst peaks loom over rural scenes of lush greenery, grazing buffalo and local fishermen. Disembark and wander Yangshuo's cobbled streets and vibrant markets. This evening, you have the option of enjoying the magical Sanjie Liu night show.

### DAY 10: BULLET TRAIN TO KUNMING

Board the bullet train to Kunming, capital of Yunnan province.



Discover Baisha village



Visit Chengdu's Panda Centre

### DAY 11: EXPLORE KUNMING

Meander through the formations of the UNESCO-listed Stone Forest, where towering limestone pillars stand tree-like in a fascinating illusion of woodland. Return to Kunming and in the evening, sample the local delicacy, Across the Bridge noodles.

### DAY 12: DALI'S ANCIENT TOWN

Board the bullet train to Dali, a charming town that offers a peek at bygone China. Discover Dali's historic quarter and magnificent, age-old Three Pagodas before an evening stroll through the vibrant Foreigners' Street.

### DAY 13: ENCHANTING DALI

Today, explore the village of Xizhou to browse its local market, visit the Yan family home and watch a tie-dyeing demonstration. Enjoy a relaxing cruise on the mirror-like waters of Erhai Lake, admiring the spectacular scenery provided by the Cang Mountains.

### DAY 14: LIJIANG OLD QUARTER

Board the bullet train to Lijiang. Discover the old quarter; the quintessential Chinese 'old town' and wander the jumble of cobbled streets, traditional wooden buildings and rustic stone bridges.

### DAY 15: JADE DRAGON SNOW MOUNTAIN

The Jade Dragon Snow Mountain comprises of several peaks, the tallest of which soars to 5,500 metres. Taking a cable car, explore one of the gorgeous high meadows and enjoy the amazing vistas. Later, visit Baisha old town to view its spectacular Ming Dynasty frescoes and Baisha village, a settlement of the Naxi minority people.

### DAY 16: TRAVEL TO CHENGDU

Fly to Chengdu, capital of Sichuan Province.

### DAY 17: GIANT PANDAS

Visit Chengdu's famous Panda Conservation Base to see and learn about these celebrated bears up close in surroundings that mirror their natural habitat. Take the bullet train to Xian, the starting point of the fabled Silk Road with a history spanning 3,100 years.

### DAY 18: TANG DYNASTY DANCING

After their fortuitous discovery in the 1970s, the Terracotta Army of China's first emperor, Qin Shi Huang, has intrigued visitors ever since. Spend the morning viewing the enigmatic ranks of life-sized warriors and horses. Also visit the workshop to see where the warriors are intricately recreated in the style of their ancient counterparts and stroll on the beautifully preserved 14th-century city walls that enclose Xian's old town. In the evening, enjoy a dumpling feast and Tang Dynasty dancing show.

### DAYS 19-20: IMPERIAL BEIJING

Board the bullet train to Beijing, China's historical capital. The next day, head to Beijing's symbolic heart, Tiananmen Square, and stroll into the sprawling magnificence of the Forbidden City. Entering through the Gate of Supreme Harmony, you will find a complex full of imperial riches. Later, soak up the harmonious ambience of the Temple of Heaven, before learning about evolution of China's railway systems at the China Railway Museum. The day's sightseeing is the perfect way to build up your appetite for Beijing's most famous delicacy – Peking duck.

CLASSIC CHINA

PHYSICAL RATING



## IS THIS TOUR FOR YOU?

Embark on a modern odyssey across China, by bullet train! Mixing urban charm with natural grandeur, be captivated by the beauty of Mount Huang and the Li River, and discover the cities of Shanghai, Beijing, Kunming and Xian.

## PRICES & DEPARTURES

Departing Friday returning Friday

### 2025 DATES

04 Apr - 25 Apr	£5,790	10 Oct - 31 Oct	£5,790
09 May - 30 May	£5,790	17 Oct - 07 Nov	£5,790
22 Aug - 12 Sep	£5,790	07 Nov - 28 Nov	£5,790
05 Sep - 26 Sep	£5,790		

### 2026 DATES

06 Mar - 27 Mar	£5,890	20 Aug - 10 Sep*	£5,990
02 Apr - 23 Apr*	£5,990	03 Sep - 24 Sep*	£5,990
07 May - 28 May*	£5,990	08 Oct - 29 Oct*	£5,990
21 May - 11 Jun*	£5,990	15 Oct - 05 Nov*	£5,990

\* Departing Thursday returning Thursday.

### Flight and supplement information

- Based on London Heathrow departures
- Regional UK departures available
- Flight upgrades available on request
- Land only from £5,090 (Shanghai - Beijing)
- Single room from £1,150
- Tipping paid locally RMB 1,010

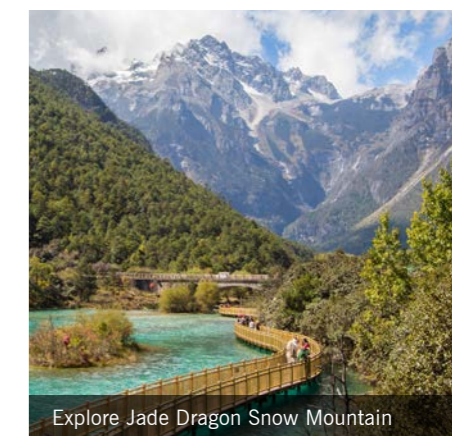
Call for our 2027 pricing and departures

### DAY 21: THE GREAT WALL

This morning is dedicated to China's most iconic sight – the Great Wall. Taking a walk on this incredible structure is the best way to appreciate both the sheer magnificence of the wall itself and the dramatic scenery that surrounds it. Visit a jade factory then spend the afternoon at the idyllic Summer Palace, wandering through traditional Chinese gardens and seeing the exquisite architecture.

### DAY 22: FLY BEIJING TO UK

Transfer to the airport for your flight back to the UK, arriving home the same or following day.



Explore Jade Dragon Snow Mountain



# TIBETAN RAILROAD

17 DAYS FROM

PER PERSON £5,390

FLIGHT INCLUSIVE FROM THE UK

MOST MEALS

## TOUR TICKLIST

- ✓ Face the Terracotta Warriors
- ✓ Wander the Barkhor circuit
- ✓ Watch monks debate at Sera
- ✓ Cross the Tibetan Plateau
- ✓ Witness sunrise over Mt Everest
- ✓ Explore magnificent Potala Palace



Ride the highest railway in the world

## PRICE INCLUDES

- 14 breakfasts (B), 12 lunches (L) & 12 dinners (D)
- International flights and current taxes
- Domestic transportation
- 3 – 4 star accommodation, plus simple guesthouse and overnight train
- Visa fees for UK passport holders
- Touring with guides and entrance fees
- Maximum group size of 18



Overnight on the Qinghai-Tibet train

## RAIL HIGHLIGHTS

- ▶ Lose yourself in spectacular views from your shared four-berth soft sleeper cabin on a 21-hour journey from Xining to Lhasa.
- ▶ The rail route crosses an astounding number of bridges, spanning deep ravines and rushing rivers.
- ▶ The 5,072 metre Tanggula Pass is the peak of the world's highest railway.
- ▶ To help keep the effects of altitude at bay, the train's oxygen levels are adjusted throughout the journey.

## ITINERARY

### DAYS 1-2: FLY OVERNIGHT TO XIAN

Fly overnight to Xian, an ancient city with an illustrious history. Depending on your time of arrival, the rest of the day is yours to start soaking up the local culture. (D)

### DAY 3: TERRACOTTA WARRIORS

After their fortuitous discovery in the 1970s, the Terracotta Army of China's first emperor, Qin Shi Huang, has intrigued visitors ever since. Spend the morning viewing the enigmatic ranks of life-sized warriors and horses. Also visit the workshop to see where the warriors are intricately recreated in the style of their ancient counterparts and stroll on the beautifully preserved 14th-century city walls that enclose Xian's old town. In the evening, enjoy a dumpling feast and Tang Dynasty dancing show. (B,L,D)

### DAY 4: BULLET TRAIN TO XINING

Board the five-hour bullet train to Xining, the capital city of Qinghai province in western China. See the 618-metre-long hand-painted thangka at the Qinghai Tibet Cultural Centre, then explore the local night markets. (B,L,D)



See Tibetan Monks

### DAY 5: OVERNIGHT TRAIN TO LHASA

Spend the morning exploring the sacred Kumbum Monastery, also known as Ta'er Temple. Later transfer to the railway station to embark on one of the most adventurous rail journeys out there, the 21-hour overnight train to Lhasa onboard the Qinghai-Tibet Railway. (B,L)

### DAY 6: ARRIVE LHASA

Riding the highest railway in the world, under the gaze of 5,000 metre plus mountain peaks, you'll cross a range of astonishing high landscapes and traverse the breathtaking Tanggula Pass (5,231 metres) on your journey across the 'roof of the world'. Arrive in Lhasa, the heart and soul of Tibet, in the afternoon. The rest of the day is free to relax and acclimatise to the altitude. (D)

### DAY 7: JOKHANG TEMPLE

Lhasa is a modern city growing fast, but among the old streets at its heart, you will feel a million miles from today's world. Wander around the Barkhor Circuit with traditionally dressed locals and prostrating pilgrims before entering the Jokhang Temple. Inside, the devotion is palpable as queues of people worship in the flickering light of yak butter candles. Continue to the great monastery of Sera, where you'll see a famous monk debate. This evening, enjoy a tasty Tibetan dinner and dance performance. (B,L,D)

### DAY 8: POTALA PALACE

Visit the magnificent Potala Palace, the world's largest monastery and the seat of the Dalai Lama. Then, visit Norbulingka, the summer residence of the Dalai Lama, set in parkland just outside of the city. (B,L)



Discover the 108 chapels in Gyantse Kumbum Stupa

### DAY 9: TRAIN TO SHIGATSE

Travel across Tibet's stark plains to Shigatse. Dominated by a fort reminiscent of the Potala, this is Tibet's second city and the traditional seat of the Panchen Lama. Enjoy some free time to explore the local markets. (B,L,D)

### DAY 10: SHIGATSE

Visit Shalu and Tashilhunpo Monastery, which was founded in 1447 by the first Dalai Lama. Join the pilgrims on their 'kora' – a circumambulation of the sacred building. (B,L,D)

### DAY 11: EVEREST BASE CAMP

Rise early to drive through incredible Himalayan scenery to Rongbuk Township. Here, with Mount Everest (called Qomolangma in Tibetan) dominating the horizon, you can stop by the world's highest post office and the Everest Base Camp Boundary Monument. Situated under the gaze of the mountain's north face, the views of the world's highest peak are unsurpassed (weather permitting). Stay overnight in the Tibetan tent camp or guesthouse (depending on weather). (B,L,D)

### DAY 12: SUNRISE OVER EVEREST

Get up at dawn to see the most glorious sunrise over Everest (weather permitting). Return to Shigatse, via the Tso La Pass and Gyatso La Pass for awe-inspiring views. (B,L,D)

### DAY 13: GYANTSE

Travel to the charming town of Gyantse, where you'll visit the Kumbum and the Tsang Traditional Folk House to see a traditional kitchen and taste some local snacks and homebrewed 'chang'. (B,L,D)

### DAY 14: TSEDANG

Travel along the Brahmaputra River to Tsedang. Visit Gangpo Ri, where legend tells the Tibetan people were born. (B,L,D)

### DAY 15: YUMBULHAKANG PALACE

Perched on a hill over the Yarlung River, the ancient Yumbulhakang Palace is said to have been the first building in Tibet and the palace of the first Tibetan king. Continue to Tradruk Monastery and the King's Tomb. Return to Lhasa. (B,L)

### DAY 16: CHENGDU

Fly to Chengdu, transferring to your hotel on arrival. The rest of the day will be at leisure for you to relax or explore, with a farewell dinner this evening. (B,D)

### DAY 17: FLY CHENGDU TO UK

Transfer to the airport for your flight back to the UK, arriving home the same or following day. (B)

## EXTEND YOUR STAY...



### BEIJING EXTENSION

4 days from £630pp

### SHANGHAI EXTENSION

3 days from £430pp

## GO BEYOND

CHINA, TIBET

PHYSICAL RATING



## IS THIS TOUR FOR YOU?

Take the world's highest railway journey to reach the 'roof of the world' where you'll be immersed in the epic landscapes and spirituality of Tibet. Much of this tour is spent at altitude, including the experience of a lifetime – a visit to Everest Base Camp.



Gaze at Everest's North Face

## PRICES & DEPARTURES

Departing Friday returning Sunday

### 2025 DATES

09 May - 25 May	£5,390	05 Sep - 21 Sep	£5,390
23 May - 08 Jun	£5,390	10 Oct - 26 Oct	£5,390

### 2026 DATES

10 Apr - 26 Apr	£5,490	21 Aug - 06 Sep	£5,590
08 May - 24 May	£5,490	04 Sep - 20 Sep	£5,590
22 May - 07 Jun	£5,490	09 Oct - 25 Oct	£5,590

### Flight and supplement information

- Based on London Heathrow departures
- Regional UK departures available
- Flight upgrades available on request
- Land only from £4,690 (Xian - Chengdu)
- Single room from £985
- Tipping paid locally RMB 895

Call for our 2027 pricing and departures



Visit Jokhang Temple in Lhasa

# SILK ROAD EXPLORER

27 DAYS FROM

PER PERSON £5,990

FLIGHT INCLUSIVE FROM THE UK

ALL MEALS

## TOUR TICKLIST

- ✓ Visit Kashgar Sunday Bazaar
- ✓ Admire Jiayu Fortress
- ✓ Explore Tibetan Xiahe
- ✓ See the Rainbow Mountains
- ✓ Discover Mogao Grottoes
- ✓ Experience the Taklamakan Desert



See the sunrise over the beautiful Rainbow Mountains

## PRICE INCLUDES

- 25 breakfasts, 24 lunches & 25 dinners
- International flights and current taxes
- Domestic transportation
- 3 star plus - 4 star accommodation
- Touring with guides and entrance fees
- Visa fees for UK passport holders
- Maximum group size of 18



Travel through the Xinjiang region

## RAIL HIGHLIGHTS

- ▶ The train journeys on this tour follow the path of the ancient Silk Road, stopping at important trading hubs and cultural centres.
- ▶ Trains on China's high-speed rail network can reach impressive speeds of 350km/h.
- ▶ China's high-speed trains feature coffee shops for drinks and snacks.
- ▶ Large seats have a partial recline and plenty of legroom.

## ITINERARY

### DAYS 1-2: FLY OVERNIGHT TO XIAN

Fly overnight to Xian, the ancient former capital. Depending on your time of arrival, the rest of the day is yours to start soaking up the local culture.

### DAY 3: TERRACOTTA WARRIORS

Gaze over the ranks of warriors and horses, each one unique, whilst your guide introduces you to these life-like soldiers' fascinating story. Later, enjoy a gentle cycle ride that will take you the nine miles around the ancient city wall and take a walking tour of the narrow and winding streets of the Muslim Quarter. Tonight, enjoy a traditional dumpling dinner and take an optional 'Xian by night' tour.

### DAY 4: TRAIN TO LANZHOU

Start the day with a visit to the ancient City Wall Park and Sculptures of Silk Road. Later, board the bullet train to Lanzhou.

### DAYS 5-6: EXPLORE LANZHOU

Begin today with a leisurely walk along the Yellow River and then head to the hilltop Baita Temple for a moment of tranquillity. Along the river and in Baita Park you can see locals practising Tai Chi. Later, tuck into some delicious Lanzhou-style noodles made with hand stretched dough. The next day, cross Liujiaxia Lake by speed boat and head into the green hills around Liujiaxia to explore the extraordinary Thousand Buddha Caves of Bingling Temple and their wealth of Buddhist murals, statues and sculptures. Also visit the statue of Maitreya.

### DAY 7: TIBETAN XIAHE

Conquer the scenic Jishi Mountain Pass to arrive at Tibetan Xiahe and spend time acclimatising to the altitude.

### DAY 8: LABRANG MONASTERY

Offering a taste of Tibetan mystery, visit Labrang Monastery, a fascinating maze of prayer wheels, chapels and chortens. Dine on traditional Tibetan food for lunch, including Tibetan dumplings, known as momos.

### DAY 9: TRAVEL TO ZHANGYE

Return to Lanzhou and take the speedy bullet train to Zhangye, once an important commercial town along the Silk Road.

### DAY 10: RAINBOW MOUNTAINS

Rise early this morning to witness the sunrise over the kaleidoscopic mountains in Danxia National Park. Return to Zhangye and visit the Giant Buddha Temple before boarding your bullet train to Jiayuguan.

### DAY 11: GREAT WALL AT JIAYUGUAN

Seen as China's western gateway, Jiayuguan is the perfect place to get to grips with your Silk Road history. Visit the Jiayu Fortress and take a walk on the western extremes of the magnificent Great Wall for panoramic views over the starkly beautiful Gobi Desert.

### DAY 12: CITY OF SANDS

Drive to Dunhuang. Located on a major trade and cultural crossroads, Dunhuang, known as the 'City of the Sands', sits in a verdant oasis on the edge of the Taklamakan Desert. Visit the Shazhou Night Market where you can wander amongst the stalls.

### DAY 13: MOGAO GROTTOS

A system of temples and sanctuaries, visit the Mogao Grottoes that exhibit wonderful examples of Buddhist paintings and statues that span thousands of years.



Spin prayer wheels at Labrang Monastery



Discover Crescent Moon Spring

### DAY 14: SINGING SAND DUNES

Visit Crescent Moon Spring, nestled amongst rolling dunes and the famous Singing Sand Dunes, a phenomenon produced by the wind blowing through grains of sand.

### DAY 15: TURPAN

Take the bullet train to Turpan, a lush green oasis set in a barren landscape. An easy-going town famed for its grapes, its pleasant streets are lined with lush vine trellises.

### DAY 16: EXPLORE TURPAN

Visit the ruins of ancient Jiaohe and see the elegant Emin Minaret, the tallest in China.

### DAY 17: KURLA

Learn about the fascinating 2000-year-old Karez irrigation canals and drive to Kurla.

### DAYS 18-20: THE SILK ROAD

Over the next three days travel along the original Silk Road through the Xinjiang Region, viewing ruins and sights largely unvisited by tourists. Start with a visit to see the ruins of Subashi, before arriving in Kuqa to see the Kyzil Thousand Buddha Caves. Continue travelling to Aksu, and on to the fabled city of Kashgar.

### DAY 21: EXPLORE KASHGAR

Its skyline punctured by minarets, Kashgar feels a million miles from China – in fact, it feels a million miles from anywhere! Although now a modern city, the sights and sounds of Kashgar's bazaar have remained unchanged for millennia. Sightseeing today includes a visit to Abakh Hoja Tomb, Id Kah Mosque and a stroll through the narrow atmospheric alleyways around Id Kah Square.

### DAY 22: KASHGAR SUNDAY BAZAAR

Dive headlong into Central Asia's largest bazaar. Within this riot of textures, vivid colours and traditional dress, you can browse hundreds of stalls selling anything from spices and carpets to boots and blenders. Later, fly to Urumqi.

### DAY 23: HEAVENLY LAKE

Escape to the tranquillity of Tianchi (Heavenly Lake), formed in a crater. Visit a Kazak Folk Cultural Village and spend some time learning about their way of life.

### DAY 24: URUMQI

Make a short visit to the Xinjiang Museum before flying to Beijing, China's historic capital.

### DAY 25: THE GREAT WALL

This morning is dedicated to China's most iconic sight – the Great Wall. Taking a walk on this incredible structure is the best way to appreciate the sheer magnificence of the wall itself. In the afternoon, enjoy the idyllic landscapes of the Summer Palace as you wander through traditional Chinese gardens and see the exquisite architecture.

### DAY 26: IMPERIAL BEIJING

Head to Beijing's symbolic heart, Tiananmen Square and into the sprawling magnificence of the Forbidden City where you will find a complex full of imperial treasures. Soak up the ambience of the Temple of Heaven before visiting Yandaixiejie, where you will have some free time to wander the hutongs. This evening, dine on Peking duck and enjoy a Chinese acrobatic show.

### DAY 27: FLY BEIJING TO UK

Fly to the UK, arriving home the same or following day.

## GO BEYOND CHINA

PHYSICAL RATING



## IS THIS TOUR FOR YOU?

Follow in the footsteps of intrepid adventurers by journeying along one of the world's most famous trading routes, the Silk Road. Beginning in ancient Xian, venture across this vast land to Kashgar. Expect long journeys on this tour.

## PRICES & DEPARTURES

Departing Sunday returning Friday

2025 DATES			
04 May - 30 May	£5,990	07 Sep - 03 Oct	£5,990
11 May - 06 Jun	£5,990	05 Oct - 31 Oct	£5,990
08 Jun - 04 Jul	£5,990	19 Oct - 14 Nov	£5,990
31 Aug - 26 Sep	£5,990		
2026 DATES			
05 Apr - 01 May	£6,290	30 Aug - 25 Sep	£6,290
10 May - 05 Jun	£6,290	06 Sep - 02 Oct	£6,290
24 May - 19 Jun	£6,290	11 Oct - 06 Nov	£6,290
07 Jun - 03 Jul	£6,290		

### Flight and supplement information

- Based on London Heathrow departures
- Regional UK departures available
- Flight upgrades available on request
- Land only from £5,290 (Xian – Beijing)
- Single room from £1,250
- Tipping paid locally RMB 1,360

Call for our 2027 pricing and departures



Visit Abakh Hoja Tomb in Kashgar

# CLASSIC SOUTH KOREA

## EXTENSION

5 DAYS FROM

PER PERSON £2,240

6 MEALS

FLIGHTS NOT INCLUDED

### TOUR TICKLIST

- ✓ See Gyeongbok Palace
- ✓ Taste delicious Korean street food
- ✓ Explore historic Gyeongju
- ✓ Admire UNESCO-listed Bulguksa Temple



Discover the Bulguksa Temple and Seokguram Grotto

CATEGORY	TWIN SHARE	SOLO TRAVELLER
Standard	£2,240	£3,890
Superior	£2,440	£4,090
Deluxe	£2,890	£4,540

#### Price includes:

- Accommodation (3 nights Seoul, 1 night Gyeongju)
- Meals as stated (B,L,D)
- Transportation as stated
- Private touring with guides and entrance fees

*This tour makes a wonderful extension to our China & Japan tours. Please ask your Wendy Wu Tours consultant for details.*



Travel on Korea's KTX bullet train

#### RAIL HIGHLIGHTS

- ▶ Korea's state-of-the-art trains rival Japan's shinkansen for their smooth ride, comfort, convenience, and onboard amenities.
- ▶ Trains on Korea's high-speed rail network can reach impressive speeds of 350km/h.

## ITINERARY

### DAY 1: ARRIVE SEOUL

Make your way to Seoul, South Korea's capital. Upon arrival, you will be met by your driver and transferred to your hotel. This dynamic city may be well and truly on fast-forward for everything from fashion to technology, but it is still deeply rooted in tradition. Stumble upon temples and palaces amongst the glittering skyscrapers and neon billboards and enjoy Seoul's foodie credentials – the street snacks are second to none!

### DAY 2: EXPLORE SEOUL

Take a full day to explore some of Seoul's many treasures with a local guide. Start at Gyeongbok Palace, the country's most famous and beautiful royal palace, where, as well as exploring, you will see the Royal Guard Changing Ceremony. Next, visit symbolic Namsan Park and N Seoul Tower before heading to Gwangjang Market to taste some of Seoul's best street food. This evening you have the option of watching a traditional music and dance performance at Korea House (payable locally). (B)

### DAY 3: HISTORIC GYEONGJU

Meet your driver-guide and transfer to Seoul station. Travel on the KTX bullet train to Gyeongju. Located in the southeastern corner of North Gyeongsang Province, this city was the ancient capital of the Silla Kingdom, which ruled part of the Korean peninsula from the year 57BC to 935AD. Gyeongju is a living museum, home to a staggering amount of heritage sites, from tombs and temples to pagodas and palaces. On arrival, meet your driver

and start discovering historic Gyeongju. Head to Mount Tohamsan and the UNESCO World Heritage listed site – Bulguksa Temple and Seokguram Grotto. The temple is considered a masterpiece of Silla architecture whilst Seokguram Grotto, a hermitage, is home to some of the world's best Buddhist sculptures. There will also be time to enjoy the vistas around Bomun Lake. Stay overnight in Gyeongju. (B,L)

### DAY 4: RETURN TO SEOUL

Meet your driver-guide to further explore Gyeongju. Start at the National Museum and marvel at its collection of Silla relics. Continue to Tumuli Park with its many royal tombs before heading to the 7th-century Cheomseongdae Observatory, the oldest surviving observatory in East Asia. Finally, visit Anapji Pond. Return by bullet train to Seoul where the evening is at leisure. (B,L)

### DAY 5: DEPART SEOUL

Your day is at leisure until the time comes to transfer to the airport for your onward flight. (B)



Enjoy delicious street food

# TAIWAN BY RAIL

## EXTENSION

8 DAYS FROM

PER PERSON £2,690

11 MEALS

FLIGHTS NOT INCLUDED

### TOUR TICKLIST

- ✓ Ride the Pingxi Valley line
- ✓ Ascend Taipei 101
- ✓ Discover Taroko Gorge
- ✓ Unwind at Sun Moon Lake
- ✓ Explore beautiful Alishan
- ✓ Journey on the high-speed rail

CATEGORY	TWIN SHARE	SOLO TRAVELLER
Standard	£2,690	£4,590

#### Price includes:

- Accommodation (4 nights Taipei, 1 night Hualien, 1 night Sun Moon Lake, 1 night Alishan)
- Meals as stated (B,L,D)
- Transportation as stated
- Private touring with guides and entrance fees

*This tour makes a wonderful extension to our China & Japan tours. Please ask your Wendy Wu Tours consultant for details.*



Ride the scenic Alishan Forest train

#### RAIL HIGHLIGHTS

- ▶ Ride along the historical single-track Pingxi Line, once used to transport coal to remote villages savouring the beauty of mountain cliffs, streams, and waterfalls along the way.
- ▶ Travel on a local train down the east coast from Taipei to Hualien.
- ▶ Explore the highest narrow-gauge mountain railway in Asia on the Alishan Forest Train.
- ▶ Experience the thrill of the West Coast high-speed train – reaching top speeds of 300 km/h.



Glide down Taiwan's east coast on the train to Hualien

## ITINERARY

### DAY 1: ARRIVE TAIPEI

Travel to Taipei, the laidback, vibrant city that is Taiwan's capital. On arrival, you will be met by a driver and transferred to your hotel.

### DAY 2: PINGXI LINE TOUR

After breakfast, meet your guide at the hotel lobby and head to Taipei railway station by public transport to take the train to Ruifang. Here you will start your guided tour along the scenic eight-mile Pingxi Line, originally built to transport coal through the rugged Pingxi Valley. There are 12 stations on Pingxi Line and your guide will recommend the best places to hop on and off to explore the country villages and waterfalls. After touring, take the train back to Taipei. (B,L)

### DAY 3: TAIPEI CITY TOUR

Today you will explore Taipei by public transport with your local guide, starting with a visit to the National Palace Museum. View the Chiang Kai-Shek (CKS) Memorial Hall, a monument dedicated to the former leader. (B,L)

### DAY 4: TAROKO GORGE

After breakfast, an assistant will accompany you by taxi to the train station for your train to Hualien on which you'll glide down Taiwan's east coast with the ocean on the left and mountains on the right. On arrival meet your English-speaking guide/driver for your tour of Taroko Gorge. Explore the spectacular Taroko Gorge Gateway, Tunnel of Nine Turns, Eternal Spring Shrine, Swallow Grotto and Buluowan suspension bridge. This evening, enjoy dinner at your hotel followed by a performance of indigenous singing and dancing. (B,L,D)

### DAY 5: SUN MOON LAKE

This morning travel by road to Sun Moon Lake, cruising along the picturesque Central Cross-Island Highway, said to be the most picturesque route in Taiwan. A designated National Scenic Area, you'll drive along the lake to soak up all the natural beauty around you, visiting Wenwu Temple with its beautiful lake views. Stay overnight at Sun Moon Lake. (B)

### DAY 6: YUYUPAS TEA GARDENS

Depart your hotel after breakfast, travelling by road to historic Jiji Old Town. After exploring the town's sights with your guide, continue to Yuyupas, an indigenous cultural park dedicated to showcasing the Tsou culture and surrounded by extensive tea gardens. Enjoy a tea-tasting experience before transferring to Alishan. (B)

### DAY 7: ALISHAN FOREST

This morning, enjoy a short ride on the Alishan Forest Train, the highest narrow-gauge train in Asia, as it winds its way through dense forests, before exploring the Alishan Forest Recreation Park. Later, the high-speed train will whisk you back to Taipei, where the rest of the day is at leisure. (B)

### DAY 8: DEPART TAIPEI

Your day is at leisure until the time comes to transfer to the airport for your onward flight. (B)

# VIETNAM & THE REUNIFICATION EXPRESS

**14** DAYS FROM

**PER PERSON** £3,890

**FLIGHT INCLUSIVE**  
FROM THE UK

**ALL MEALS**

## TOUR TICKLIST

- ✓ Wake to a Halong Bay sunrise
- ✓ Experience a journey on the iconic Reunification Express
- ✓ Be inspired by charming Hoi An
- ✓ Discover the Cu Chi Tunnels
- ✓ Explore the waterways of the Mekong Delta



Ride Vietnam's Reunification Express

## PRICE INCLUDES

- 12 breakfasts, 11 lunches & 12 dinners
- International flights and current taxes
- Domestic transportation
- 4 star accommodation and 1 overnight train
- Touring with guides and entrance fees
- Maximum group size of 18



Experience Vietnam's scenic rail journeys

## RAIL HIGHLIGHTS

- ▶ Experience Vietnam's historic Reunification Express as you embark on two rail journeys along the scenic north-to-south route.
- ▶ Travel in the comfort of the Lotus Express on the epic overnight journey and wake to the captivating vista of Vietnam's diverse landscapes.
- ▶ Board the comfortable Heritage Train for a 3-hour journey along the coast hugging the South China Sea and through the Hai Van Pass.

## ITINERARY

### DAYS 1-2: FLY TO HANOI

Fly overnight to Hanoi, Vietnam's vibrant capital. Depending on your time of arrival, the rest of the day is yours to start soaking up the local culture.

### DAY 3: HANOI BY CYCLO

Begin your day at the Ethnology Museum, with its mesmerising displays exploring the country's 54 ethnic minority groups. In its grounds are a range of full-size replica longhouses demonstrating traditional ways of life in rural Vietnam. After lunch, cross the Red Bridge over Hoan Kiem Lake to visit Ngoc Son Temple before embarking on a cyclo tour of Hanoi's Old Quarter. Wrap up your day with a foodie tour through the city.

### DAY 4: EXPLORE HANOI

Explore the sights of Hanoi by foot on today's walking tour. Begin in the Ho Chi Minh Quarter, where you will gain an insight into the Vietnamese War before visiting the Humble House on Stilts, the residence of Ho Chi Minh in the grounds of the Presidential Palace, and his mausoleum. After lunch, visit the One Pillar Pagoda and serene Temple of Literature, Hanoi's first university.

### DAY 5: CRUISE HALONG BAY

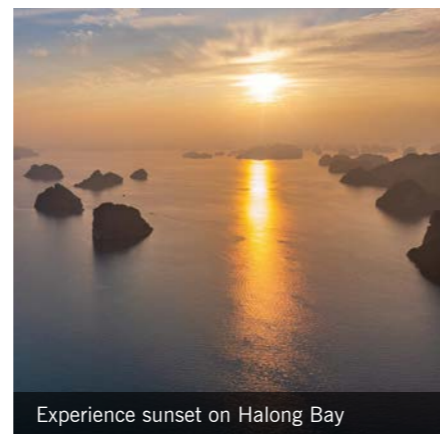
Head to Halong Bay, where you will embark on an unforgettable two-night cruise through this famously beautiful seascape. Enjoy lunch onboard as you cruise out into the bay, stopping to anchor for an afternoon of activities such as kayaking, swimming, or relaxing on an island beach. End the day on deck with a drink in hand to watch the sunset, followed by a freshly prepared dinner, before retiring to your cabin for the night.

### DAY 6: VISIT FLOATING VILLAGES

Rise early to enjoy a Tai Chi lesson on deck as the sun rises, and admire the changing seascapes as you continue deeper into the bay. Visit floating villages, hidden caves, and sandy beaches before another night on board.

### DAY 7: OVERNIGHT TRAIN

Cruise back to port, stopping en route to visit one of the bay's impressive caves. Disembark after an early lunch and prepare to board your overnight train to Hue as you make your first journey on the iconic Reunification Express. Completed under French colonial rule in 1936, this iconic railway line between Hanoi and Saigon became known as the Reunification Express after trains started running between the north and south again in 1976. Travel in the comfort of the Lotus Express carriages and be captivated by Vietnam's diverse landscapes as you leave the country's capital.



Experience sunset on Halong Bay



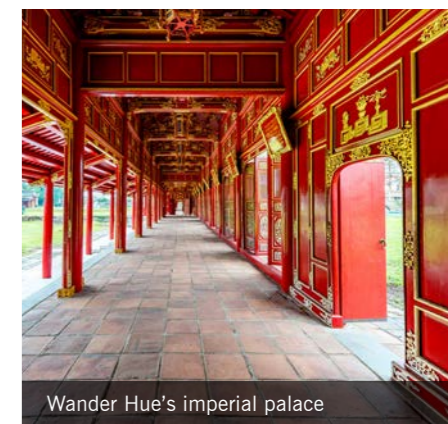
Explore Hoi An's old town

## CLASSIC VIETNAM

PHYSICAL RATING

### IS THIS TOUR FOR YOU?

Explore the fascinating Vietnam using a variety of transport methods including slow and relaxed train journeys on sections of the symbolic Reunification Line, a unique and wonderful experience in itself.



Wander Hue's imperial palace

### DAY 8: EXPLORE HUE

Disembark the Reunification Express as you arrive in Hue this morning. The epitome of Vietnam's dynastic past, Hue is a dignified and scholarly city. Visit the imposing Imperial Citadel and Forbidden Purple City. The magnificent centrepiece of the Royal Empire, the citadel was extensively damaged during the Vietnam War. Visit the UNESCO World Heritage Royal Tomb of Minh Mang, a complex of 40 monuments set in surroundings of gardens and pools. Continue to the old Thien Mu Pagoda before taking a cruise on the Perfume River.

### DAY 9: RIDE THE REUNIFICATION LINE

Hop back on board the Reunification Express in Hue and take what is considered one of the world's most scenic rail journeys over a mountain pass and along the coast to Danang. Continue by road to charming Hoi An, a wonderfully laid-back and traditional city. This afternoon, venture out of Hoi An to Tra Que, a small farming community that supplies many hotels and restaurants in the area with vegetables and herbs. Here you can enjoy the lush green countryside and stroll through the gardens to see the farmers at work.

### DAY 10: EXPLORE HOI AN

Head out on a walking tour of the Old Town, visiting the Chua Ong Chinese Pagoda, a 200-year-old merchant house, and the Japanese Covered Bridge. Stop by the Hoi An Folklore Museum for an insight into the local life before enjoying the rest of the afternoon at leisure to explore Hoi An. You may wish to visit one of the many boutique shops or head to the local beach to relax.

### DAY 11: FLY TO SAIGON

Transfer to Danang and fly to Saigon, Vietnam's bustling southern city. Enjoy an afternoon at leisure as you start to soak up the vibrant atmosphere before an exciting performance of the A O show this evening, showcasing the talented local circus performers, dancers, athletes, and artists.

### DAY 12: DISCOVER SAIGON

Discover the reality of guerrilla warfare at the Cu Chi Tunnels, which were central to the Viet Cong's military operations, including the Tet Offensive. For a truly authentic insight into the war, meet a Vietnamese veteran and hear his story. This afternoon, explore the city's heady mix of local culture and colonial influences, admiring major landmarks like the Notre-Dame Cathedral and Central Post Office before spending time at the poignant War Remnants Museum.

### DAY 13: EXPLORE THE MEKONG DELTA

Journey to My Tho to take a cruise on the Mekong. Paddle through the maze of palm-lined canals and get a glimpse of daily life on the Mekong Delta. Enjoy a lunch of typical Mekong dishes. Make a stop at Vinh Trang Pagoda en route back to Saigon.

### DAY 14: FLY SAIGON TO UK

Transfer to the airport to fly back to the UK, arriving the same or following day.

## PRICES AND DEPARTURES

Departing Monday returning Sunday

2025 DATES			
17 Feb - 02 Mar	£3,890	03 Nov - 16 Nov	£3,890
13 Oct - 26 Oct	£3,890	17 Nov - 30 Nov	£3,890
20 Oct - 02 Nov	£3,890		
2026 DATES			
05 Jan - 18 Jan	£4,190	05 Oct - 25 Oct	£4,190
12 Jan - 25 Jan	£4,190	19 Oct - 01 Nov	£4,190
02 Feb - 15 Feb	£4,190	02 Nov - 15 Nov	£4,190
23 Feb - 08 Mar	£4,190	16 Nov - 29 Nov	£4,190
09 Mar - 22 Mar	£4,190		

### Flight and supplement information

- Based on London Heathrow departures
- Regional UK departures available
- Flight upgrades available on request
- Land only from £3,090 (Hanoi - Saigon)
- Single room from £890
- Tipping paid locally US\$75

Call for our 2027 pricing and departures



Explore the Mekong Delta

# SINGAPORE TO BANGKOK BY RAIL

18 DAYS FROM

PER PERSON **£6,390**

FLIGHT INCLUSIVE FROM THE UK

ALL MEALS

## TOUR TICKLIST

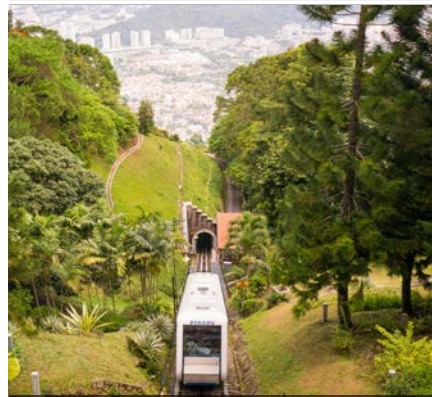
- ✓ Explore Singapore's Sky Garden
- ✓ Visit the Cameron Highlands
- ✓ Swim in Cheow Lan Lake
- ✓ Discover Bangkok's iconic sights
- ✓ Cross the bridge over the River Kwai



Cross the famous bridge on the River Kwai by train

## PRICE INCLUDES

- 17 breakfasts, 18 lunches & 17 dinners
- International flights and current taxes
- Domestic transportation
- 3 star plus – 4 star accommodation a
- Touring with guides and entrance fees
- Maximum group size of 18



Ride Penang Hill's historic funicular train

## RAIL HIGHLIGHTS

- ▶ Ride the fascinating Penang Hill funicular railway up to a spectacular viewpoint, where a cup of tea and pastry will be waiting.
- ▶ Take three journeys on Malaysia's electric trains, with their comfortable air-conditioned carriages running at up to 90mph.
- ▶ Explore the infamous Death Railway (Thai-Burma Railway), and pay respects to its builders at the Allied POW Cemetery.

## ITINERARY

### DAYS 1-2: FLY OVERNIGHT TO SINGAPORE

Fly overnight to Singapore and transfer to your hotel. Depending on your time of arrival, the rest of the day is yours to start soaking up the local culture.

### DAY 3: EXPLORE SINGAPORE

Begin at the orchid gardens then take a walking tour of the Civic District, where you can admire the beautiful colonial landmarks. It's on to the famous shopping street, Orchard Road, and a ride on a bumboat to see the city from a different perspective. There's some free time before an evening visit to the beautifully illuminated Sky Garden.

### DAY 4: TRAVEL TO MALACCA

Cross the bridge from Singapore to Johor Bahru in Malaysia. Drive through the Malay countryside to the historic town of Malacca, arriving in the late afternoon. Later, cruise Malacca's old canals as the sun sets.

### DAY 5: DISCOVER MALACCA

Immerse yourself in Malacca's multi-faceted heritage with a tour of its fascinating Old Town, where a blend of empires have left their mark. Stroll the Street of Harmony, where Hindu, Chinese and Muslim places of worship sit side by side, stopping at a local craft museum. This afternoon head to Tampin Station to hop on the train to Kuala Lumpur. Here, your explorations begin with a street food tour.

### DAY 6: BATU CAVES

Ride the city metro 30 minutes out of the city to visit the Batu Caves, one of Malaysia's most important Hindu temples. Return to Kuala Lumpur and visit the city's highlights. These

include Masjid Jamek and the landmarks of the Old District – Sutan Abdul Samad Clock Tower, Independence Square, and the Central Market. Ascend to the KL Tower's Skydeck for views of the city skyline, dominated by the Petronas Twin Towers.

### DAY 7: TRAVEL TO CAMERON HIGHLANDS

Enjoy a morning at leisure before boarding the train to Tapah Road. After lunch, take a scenic road trip into the Cameron Highlands, stopping at Lata Iskandar Waterfall. Pause at an indigenous Orang Asli roadside shop that sells forest honey and handicrafts, where the chief may extend an invitation to visit the village.

### DAY 8: MOSSY FOREST WALK

Embark on a relaxed uphill hike to see the Mossy Forest, where you can find exotic plants like ferns and pitcher plants. At the top you'll be rewarded with beautiful panoramas. Drive to a tea plantation to learn about local tea production then continue to Ipoh. Board a train to Penang, travelling through picturesque countryside and crossing Bukit Merah Lake, arriving in George Town.



Experience Singapore's Sky Garden



### DAY 9: PENANG HILL

Spend the morning exploring the heritage-rich streets of George Town and pay a visit to the Penang Peranakan Mansion to see its fascinating antiques. After lunch, head to the foot of Penang Hill and board the historic funicular train to reach the top. Pause for a cup of tea and pastry at the century-old-bungalow-turned-restaurant then take on a canopy walkway through the protected rainforest before strolling the trails of the forest floor.

### DAY 10: FLY TO PHUKET

Transfer to the airport for a lunchtime flight to Phuket. On arrival, embark on a whirlwind journey through this intriguing island before tasting local treats on a street food tour. As dusk falls head to a bustling night market.

### DAY 11: JAMES BOND ISLAND

Hop in a speedboat and head out on an exploration of the spectacular Phang Nga Bay, home to some of Thailand's most gorgeous scenery. Stop at Panak Island and discover its mysterious caves by canoe then zip around Koh Tapu, also called 'James Bond Island', featured in 1974 film *The Man with the Golden Gun*.

### DAY 12: KHAO LAK

Head north to Khao Lak and visit the Tsunami museum, a poignant memorial dedicated to those affected by the 2004 tsunami. Continue to Takua Pa and explore its old town, a treasure trove of cultural gems, before returning to Khao Lak.

### DAY 13: MANGROVE EXPERIENCE

Drive to the Thaplamu river delta for an immersive cultural experience at Baan Tha Din Deang village. Enjoy a relaxing kayak journey

through the mangroves, and find out more about this vital eco-system before enjoying a locally prepared lunch. Learn more about the village's former tin mining industry as you explore some of its remains. Return to Khao Lak in the afternoon.

### DAY 14: TRAIN TO HUA HIN

Transfer from Khao Lak to Surat Thani to catch a train to Hua Hin. Meandering up the coast there are plenty of excellent views to enjoy on the journey.

### DAY 15: VILLAGE LIFE

Spend the day with the Thum Rong village community, immersing yourself in the rural lifestyle. The villagers will demonstrate how to make toddy palm cake and show you around the temple and palm sugar plantation. After lunch with the locals, it's time to head back to the station to take the train to Bangkok.

### DAY 16: BANGKOK CITY TOUR

This morning, discover Bangkok's highlights on a city tour that features the Grand Palace, the Temple of the Emerald Buddha and Wat Pho. Stop by the amulet market to learn about these Buddhist charms. After lunch, the rest of the day is at leisure.

### DAY 17: DEATH RAILWAY

Take a day trip to Kanchanaburi where, in a beautiful forest setting, you can discover more about its role during WWII. Visit the railway museum, Allied War Cemetery, Hellfire Pass and ride the Death Railway, crossing the famous bridge on the River Kwai. Return to Bangkok for a farewell dinner.

### DAY 18: FLY BANGKOK TO UK

Transfer to the airport for your flight back to the UK, arriving home the same or following day.

## CLASSIC

SINGAPORE, MALAYSIA & THAILAND

PHYSICAL RATING



## IS THIS TOUR FOR YOU?

Make your way by train from Singapore through Malaysia to Penang, flying over the border into Thailand to travel from Penang to Bangkok, exploring spectacular landscapes, culture-filled cities, and plenty of local cuisine en route.



See James Bond Island

## PRICES AND DEPARTURES

Departing Friday returning Wednesday

2025 DATES			
14 Feb - 03 Mar	£6,390	24 Oct - 10 Nov	£6,390
21 Feb - 10 Mar	SOLD OUT	31 Oct - 17 Nov	£6,390
28 Feb - 17 Mar	£6,390	07 Nov - 24 Nov	£6,390
14 Mar - 31 Mar	£6,390	14 Nov - 01 Dec	£6,390
2026 DATES			
30 Jan - 16 Feb	£6,690	30 Oct - 16 Nov	£6,690
20 Feb - 09 Mar	£6,690	06 Nov - 23 Nov	£6,690
06 Mar - 23 Mar	£6,690	13 Nov - 30 Nov	£6,690
13 Mar - 30 Mar	£6,690	20 Nov - 07 Dec	£6,690
23 Oct - 09 Nov	£6,690		

### Flight and supplement information

- Based on London Heathrow departures
- Regional UK departures available
- Flight upgrades available on request
- Land only from £5,790 (Singapore-Bangkok)
- Single room from £1,270
- Tipping paid locally US\$95

Call for our 2027 pricing and departures



Discover the Cameron Highlands

# INDIA BY RAIL

15 DAYS FROM

PER PERSON £4,290

FLIGHT INCLUSIVE FROM THE UK

ALL MEALS

## TOUR TICKLIST

- ✓ Ride the toy train in Shimla
- ✓ Watch the flag lowering ceremony at the Wagah border
- ✓ Marvel at the Taj Mahal
- ✓ Experience a Pooja ceremony
- ✓ Cruise the waters of the River Ganges



Ride Shimla's toy train

## PRICE INCLUDES

- 13 breakfasts, 12 lunches & 13 dinners
- International flights and current taxes
- Domestic transportation
- 4 star accommodation
- Touring with guides and entrance fees
- Visa fees for UK passport holders
- Maximum group size of 18



Experience the most beautiful rail journey

## ► RAIL HIGHLIGHTS

- Forget thoughts of crowded local trains. Travel in air-conditioned comfort on India's latest modern inter-city express trains.
- Safe, comfortable and convenient, India's trains offer a fascinating window into life on the subcontinent.
- Ride the Shimla – Khandaghat Toy Train, considered one of the world's most beautiful rail journeys.
- While some trains have a food service onboard, those that don't have vendors selling regional speciality foods, sweet chai and coffee.

## ITINERARY

### DAYS 1-2: FLY OVERNIGHT TO DELHI

Upon your arrival at Delhi International Airport, you will be greeted by your National Escort from Wendy Wu Tours and transferred to your hotel. Settle into your accommodation for a two-night stay.

### DAY 3: EXPLORE DELHI

Begin your day with a drive alongside the magnificent Red Fort, taking in the awe-inspiring beauty of its red sandstone structure. Next, embark on a delightful rickshaw ride through the lively streets of Old Delhi, before proceeding to the renowned Jama Masjid. After lunch, fly to Amritsar, eagerly anticipating the adventure that lies ahead.

### DAY 4: DISCOVER AMRITSAR

Today starts with a morning visit to the historically significant Jallianwala Bagh, a poignant public garden in Amritsar. Continue your exploration by visiting the remarkable Durgiana Temple, and in the afternoon, embark on a scenic drive to the Wagah border, to witness the ceremonial flag lowering ceremony.

### DAY 5: TRAVEL TO SHIMLA

Catch your morning train and enjoy the picturesque journey as you head towards Chandigarh. Continue by road to the hill station of Shimla, where you will take a walking tour to Mall Road. Explore The Ridge, a spacious open space offering panoramic views of the surrounding hills, and marvel at the architectural beauty of Christ Church, a landmark of Shimla's colonial heritage.

### DAY 6: SHIMLA

Today begins with an enchanting toy train experience from Shimla to Kandaghat. Return to Shimla by car to enjoy a city tour visiting the Indian Institute of Advanced Studies. Explore the grandeur of this architectural gem and learn about its historical significance. Continue your exploration by visiting the Himachal State Museum. Immerse yourself in the rich heritage and vibrant artistry of the region as you discover the museum's fascinating exhibits.

### DAY 7: TRAVEL TO DELHI

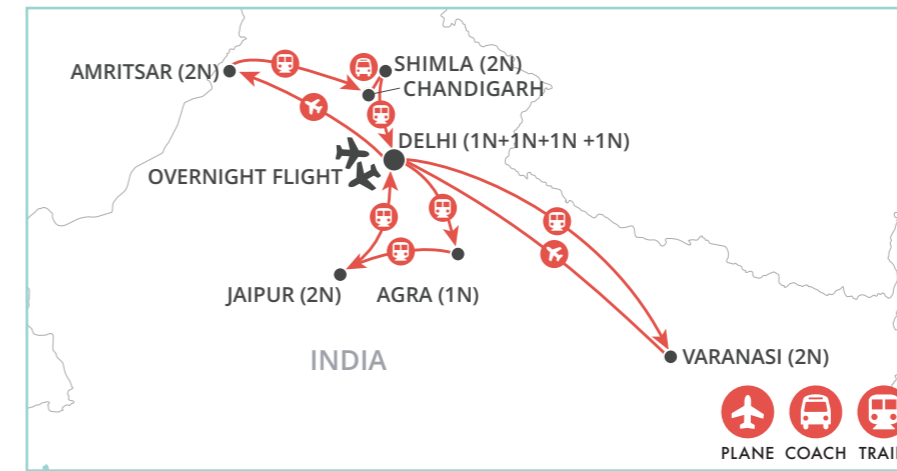
After your memorable time in Shimla, it's time to transfer to Chandigarh station for your onward journey. Bid farewell to the charming hill station as you board your train bound for Delhi. Sit back, relax, and enjoy the changing landscapes. The afternoon is at leisure for you to explore.

### DAY 8: TRAVEL TO AGRA

This morning's train journey is to Agra, a city steeped in history and architectural marvels. On arrival explore Fatehpur Sikri. This UNESCO World Heritage Site showcases the grandeur of Mughal architecture. Proceed to Agra Fort, another iconic landmark with imposing red sandstone walls, encompassing palaces, gardens and many halls.

### DAY 9: TAJ MAHAL

Early morning start with a sunrise visit to the world-renowned Taj Mahal in Agra. As the first rays of sunlight illuminate the iconic white marble monument, witness its ethereal beauty and experience the tranquil atmosphere surrounding this masterpiece, as you learn about the captivating love story behind its creation.



Marvel at the Taj Mahal

Visit a nearby marble workshop to witness the skilled artisans crafting intricate marble designs before your next train journey takes you to Jaipur, the vibrant capital of Rajasthan.

### DAY 10: EXPLORE JAIPUR

Explore Jaipur's iconic attractions, including a photo stop at Hawa Mahal. Visit the magnificent Amber Fort and immerse yourself in its regal ambiance. Discover the Maharaja's City Palace while delving into the city's royal heritage before experiencing the scientific wonders of the Jantar Mantar Observatory. Witness traditional crafts like block printing and carpet weaving at a local craft centre and end the day with a delicious dinner and captivating cultural performance.

### DAY 11: DISCOVER DELHI

Bid farewell to Jaipur as this train journey takes you to Delhi. Upon arrival you will enjoy a tour that begins at the magnificent Qutab Minar, a UNESCO World Heritage Site that



Travel from Jaipur to Delhi by train

stands as a testament to Delhi's rich history and architectural grandeur. Continue to explore New Delhi, starting with the Rashtrapati Bhavan, the official residence of the President of India and stop at the iconic India Gate, designed by Sir Edwin Lutyens.

### DAY 12: TRAVEL TO VARANASI

Board a morning train from Delhi to the sacred city of Varanasi. Upon arrival, prepare for an enchanting evening rickshaw ride to the banks of the Ganges River. As dusk sets in, witness the mesmerizing Ganga Aarti, a traditional prayer ceremony dedicated to the river, capturing the rhythmic chants, flickering oil lamps, and the divine atmosphere that surrounds you.

### DAY 13: VARANASI

Enjoy a serene cruise along the Ganges River, soaking in the spiritual atmosphere. Explore landmarks like Bharat Mata Mandir and Durga Temple. Visit Banaras Hindu University and the revered Vishwanath Temple. Venture to Sarnath to explore ancient Buddhist sites, including the Dhamek Stupa and Mulagandha Kuti Vihar, and become immersed in the rich spirituality and cultural heritage of Varanasi and Sarnath.

### DAY 14: RETURN TO DELHI

Enjoy a free morning to relax or explore at your leisure. In the afternoon, fly from Varanasi to Delhi, returning to this bustling capital city. Enjoy a farewell dinner celebrating a remarkable journey.

### DAY 15: FLY DELHI TO UK

Fly to the UK, arriving home the same day.

## CLASSIC INDIA

PHYSICAL RATING



### IS THIS TOUR FOR YOU?

Set off on an extraordinary rail adventure through northern India, passing from bustling metropolises to serene countryside, embracing the myriad scenic landscapes, cultures, and traditions that are unfolding through your window.

## PRICES & DEPARTURES

Departing Thursday returning Thursday

### 2025 DATES

23 Jan - 06 Feb	£4,290	02 Oct - 16 Oct	£4,290
06 Feb - 20 Feb	£4,290	06 Nov - 20 Nov	£4,290
20 Feb - 06 Mar	£4,290	20 Nov - 04 Dec	£4,290
06 Mar - 20 Mar	£4,290	04 Dec - 18 Dec	£4,290
13 Mar - 27 Mar	£4,290		

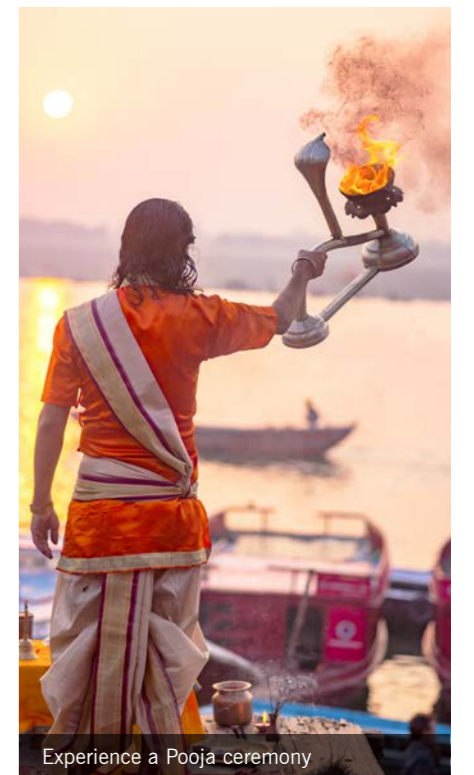
### 2026 DATES

08 Jan - 22 Jan	£4,490	01 Oct - 15 Oct	£4,490
05 Feb - 19 Feb	£4,490	15 Oct - 29 Oct	£4,490
05 Mar - 19 Mar	£4,490	29 Oct - 12 Nov	£4,490
12 Mar - 26 Mar	£4,490	19 Nov - 03 Dec	£4,490
02 Apr - 16 Apr	£4,490	26 Nov - 10 Dec	£4,490

### Flight and supplement information

- Based on London Heathrow departures
- Regional UK departures available
- Flight upgrades available on request
- Land only from £3,690 (Delhi - Delhi)
- Single room from £920
- Tipping paid locally US\$130pp

Call for our 2027 pricing and departures



Experience a Pooja ceremony

# SOUTHERN INDIA BY RAIL

15 DAYS FROM

PER PERSON **£4,290**

FLIGHT INCLUSIVE FROM THE UK

ALL MEALS

## TOUR TICKLIST

- ✓ Explore Mahabalipuram's temples
- ✓ Witness an Aarti ceremony
- ✓ Soak up Trivandrum's sights
- ✓ Cruise Kerala's backwaters
- ✓ Discover vibrant Kochi



Ride the Nilgiri Mountain Railway

## PRICE INCLUDES

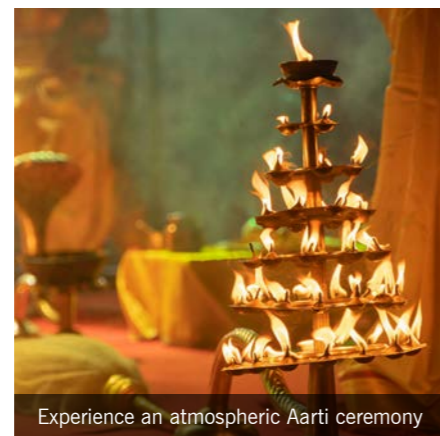
- 13 breakfasts, 12 lunches & 13 dinners
- International flights and current taxes
- Domestic transportation
- 3 star plus – 4 star accommodation
- Touring with guides and entrance fees
- Visa fees for UK passport holders
- Maximum group size of 18



Take the toy train from Ooty to Coonoor

## RAIL HIGHLIGHTS

- ▶ Forget thoughts of crowded local trains. Travel in air-conditioned comfort on India's latest modern inter-city express trains.
- ▶ Ride the UNESCO-listed Nilgiri Mountain Railway, known as the 'Toy Train', through breathtaking landscapes between Ooty in the highlands and Coonoor, a hill station known for its tea plantations.
- ▶ Taking the Intercity Express trains from Kochi to Coimbatore and Coimbatore to Bangalore gives a fascinating and picturesque window into Southern India's landscapes and rural life, passing mountains, agricultural fields and small towns.



Experience an atmospheric Aarti ceremony

## ITINERARY

### DAYS 1-2: FLY OVERNIGHT TO CHENNAI

Fly overnight to Chennai and transfer to your hotel. Depending on your time of arrival, the rest of the day is yours to start soaking up the local culture.

### DAY 3: CITY OF A THOUSAND TEMPLES

Visit Kanchipuram, the 'City of a Thousand Temples', a long important pilgrimage centre known for its many temples, towers and halls. Continue to the coastal town of Mamallapuram to explore its UNESCO-listed, intricately carved 7th and 8th-century Hindu temples.

### DAY 4: TRAVEL TO TANJORE

Transfer to Chennai's train station to board the Tejas Express to Trichy. Sit back and relax as you head south, enjoying the picturesque views out of the window. On arrival, transfer by coach to Tanjore.

### DAY 5: TRAVEL TO MADURAI

Drive to Madurai, detouring through Chettinad to visit the market, learn about tile-making and take a cooking class, savouring the tasty, local flavours of the food you created for lunch. Arrive in Madurai where, this evening, you'll experience an atmospheric Aarti ceremony at Minakshi Temple.

### DAY 6: EXPLORE MADURAI

Start with a sightseeing tour which includes a visit to Thirumalai Nayaka Palace, a historical gem full of the splendour of a bygone era. Then embark on a fun food tour and relish the diverse and delicious flavours and culinary delights that Madurai is known for.

### DAY 7: TRAVEL TO TRIVANDRUM

Board the PJ TVC Express to Trivandrum first thing. On arrival, you'll be immediately immersed in the spiritual ambiance of the city with a visit to the iconic Sri Padmanabhaswamy Temple.

### DAY 8: DAY IN KANYAKUMARI

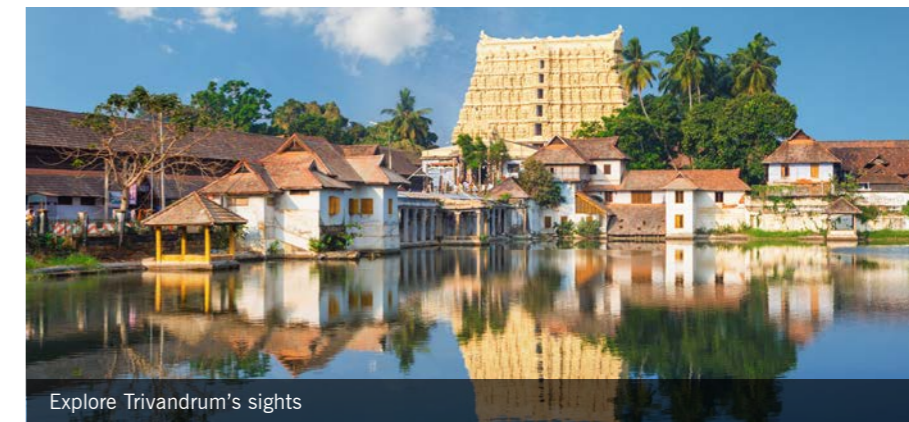
Take a day trip to Kanyakumari, set on the southernmost tip of the Indian subcontinent, where you can stand and look out over the waters of the Arabian Sea, Indian Ocean and Bay of Bengal converging. Visits include Vivekananda Rock Memorial and the Thiruvalluvar Statue.

### DAY 9: KERALA'S BACKWATERS

Drive to Alleppey, board a traditional kettuvallam, or houseboat, and set sail into the waterways of the captivating backwaters region against a backdrop of lush greenery and swaying palms. Relax the day away and stay onboard overnight.



Cruise Kerala's backwaters



Explore Trivandrum's sights

### DAY 10: TRAVEL TO KOCHI

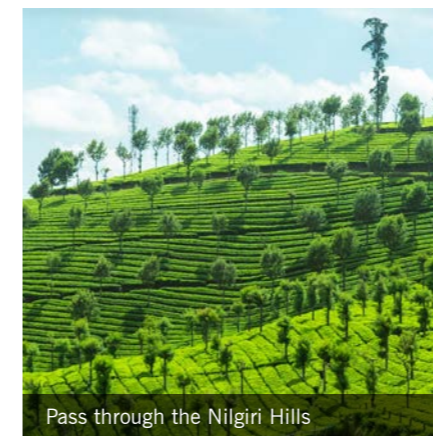
Bid farewell to your kettuvallam and head for vibrant Kochi. Take a tour to see the best of the city's landmarks, historical sites, and lively local markets. This evening, experience Kathakali, an ancient dance form that merges facial expressions, graceful movements, and extravagant outfits.

### DAY 11: ASCEND TO OOTY

Hop on the SBC Intercity Express to Coimbatore. On arrival, transfer by road up into the Nilgiri Hills to Ooty, the 'queen of hill stations'.

### DAY 12: RIDE THE TOY TRAIN

This morning, take a spectacular ride on the Nilgiri Mountain Railway, or toy train, from Ooty to Coonoor, passing through the picturesque tea valleys of the Nilgiri Hills. Wander through Coonoor's beautiful Botanical Gardens before returning to Ooty.



Pass through the Nilgiri Hills

### DAY 13: TRAVEL TO BANGALORE

Return to Coimbatore and catch the SBC Intercity Express to Bangalore.

### DAY 14: EXPLORE BANGALORE

Venture out on a tour of Bangalore to get a taste of its rich heritage, at landmarks like the Bull Temple and Tipu Sultan's Palace, and see the fascinating juxtaposition of modern and traditional that characterises this lively city.

### DAY 15: FLY BANGALORE TO UK

Transfer to the airport for your flight back to the UK, arriving home the same day.

## EXTEND YOUR STAY...



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5 days from £720pp

**KOVALAM EXTENSION**  
5 days from £370pp

**ESSENTIAL DUBAI STOPOVER**  
3 days from £290pp

CLASSIC INDIA

PHYSICAL RATING



## IS THIS TOUR FOR YOU?

Embark on a journey across Southern India by train, stopping in its most historic, culturally significant, and spectacular destinations. Explore temples, cruise the backwaters, and ride the toy train on this adventure of road and rail.

## PRICES & DEPARTURES

Departing Wednesday returning Wednesday

2025 DATES			
22 Jan - 05 Feb	£4,290	15 Oct - 29 Oct	£4,290
19 Feb - 05 Mar	£4,290	12 Nov - 26 Nov	£4,290
26 Mar - 09 Apr	£4,290	03 Dec - 17 Dec	£4,290
2026 DATES			
21 Jan - 04 Feb	£4,490	14 Oct - 28 Oct	£4,490
18 Feb - 04 Mar	£4,490	11 Nov - 25 Nov	£4,490
25 Mar - 08 Apr	£4,490	02 Dec - 16 Dec	£4,490

## Flight and supplement information

- Based on London Heathrow departures
- Regional UK departures available
- Flight upgrades available on request
- Land only from £3,590 (Chennai - Bangalore)
- Single room from £870
- Tipping paid locally US\$150

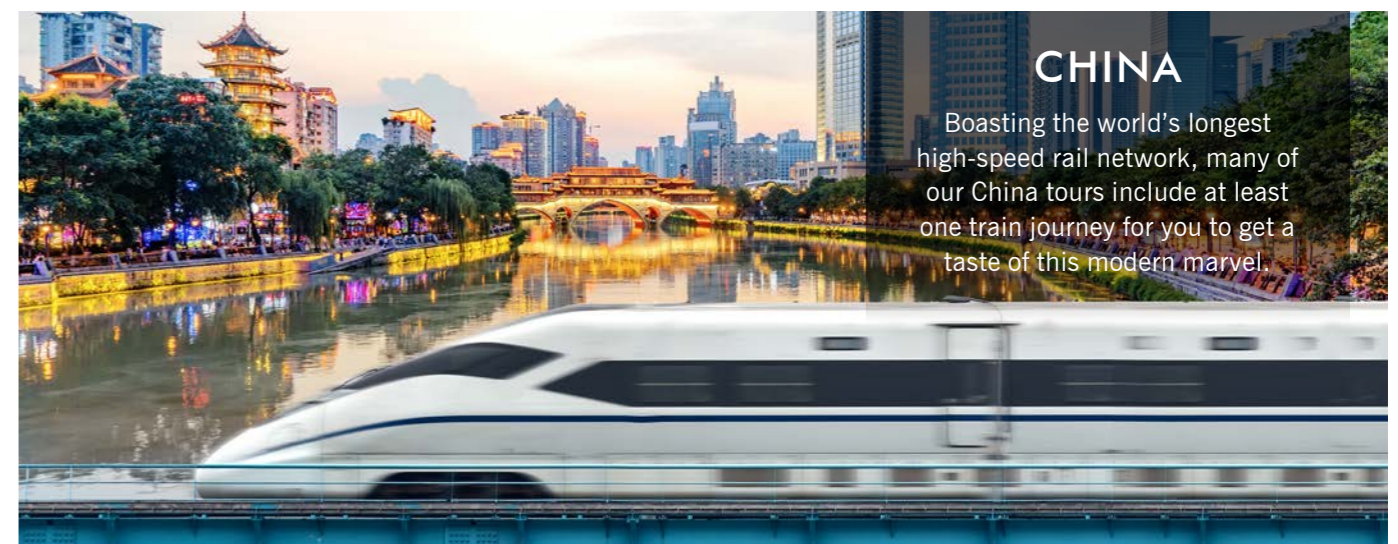
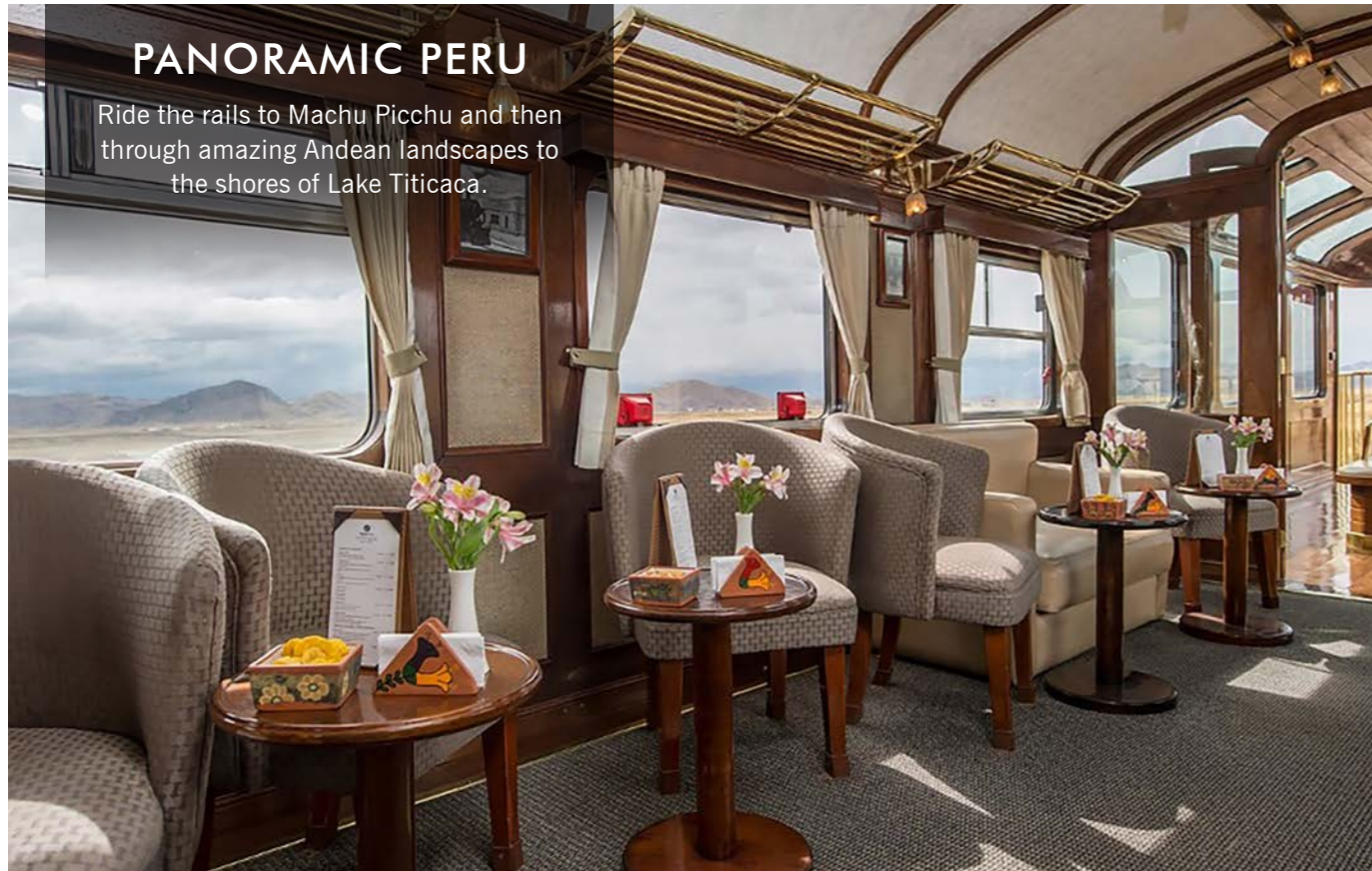
Call for our 2027 pricing and departures



Reach the Southern tip of India, Kanyakumari

# A Taste of the Train

Many of our award-winning fully inclusive tours include a rail journey or two to give you a taste of the joys of travelling by train. Here's a snapshot of our most popular tours that include a memorable rail journey.





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