



# GOLDEN EAGLE LUXURY TRAINS

VOYAGES OF A LIFETIME BY PRIVATE TRAIN™

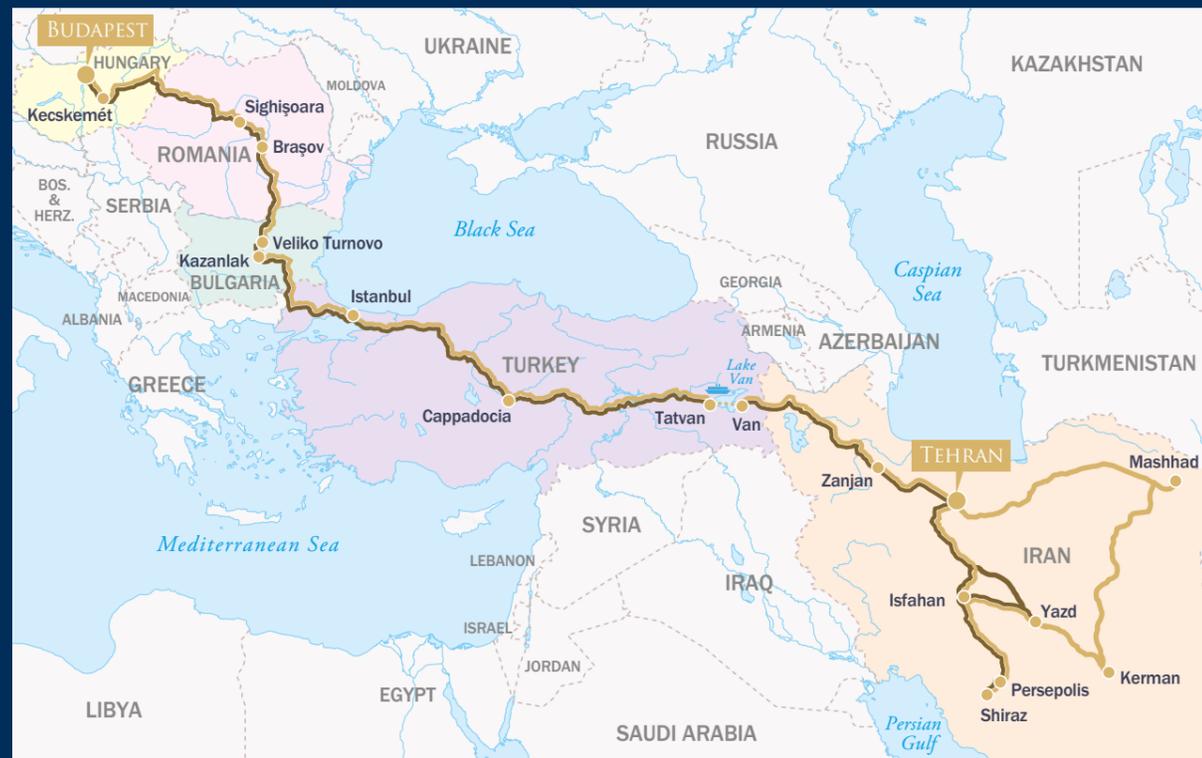
JEWELS OF PERSIA & HEART OF PERSIA  
2015



GOLDEN EAGLE LUXURY TRAINS

# JEWELS OF PERSIA ROUTE MAP

As rail tours go, Jewels of Persia is truly amazing. Travelling from the banks of the Danube to the shores of the Bosphorus and onto the ancient land of Persia, this unique journey takes in destinations that are rarely experienced by the Western visitor, which makes it all the more special.



### Tour Route

Eastbound Itinerary

Budapest - Kecskemét - Sighișoara - Brașov - Veliko Tarnovo - Kazanlak  
Istanbul - Cappadocia - Lake Van - Akdamar Island - Van - Zanzan - Yazd  
Isfahan - Shiraz - Persepolis - Tehran

March 31 – April 14, 2015

September 4 – September 18, 2015

October 6 – October 20, 2015

November 16 – November 30, 2015

April 13 – April 27, 2015

September 17 – October 1, 2015

### Tour Route

Westbound Itinerary

Tehran - Mashhad - Kerman - Shiraz - Persepolis - Isfahan - Zanzan - Van  
Lake Van - Akdamar Island - Cappadocia - Istanbul - Kazanlak - Veliko Tarnovo  
Brașov - Sighișoara - Kecskemét - Budapest

October 29 – November 12, 2015

November 29 – December 13, 2015



# TOUR ITINERARY (EASTBOUND)

## DAY 1 BUDAPEST HUNGARY

Arrivals day in Budapest where you will be met and transferred to the Four Season Hotel Gresham Palace. We will enjoy a welcome reception dinner, whilst you meet your fellow travellers on this highly anticipated journey.



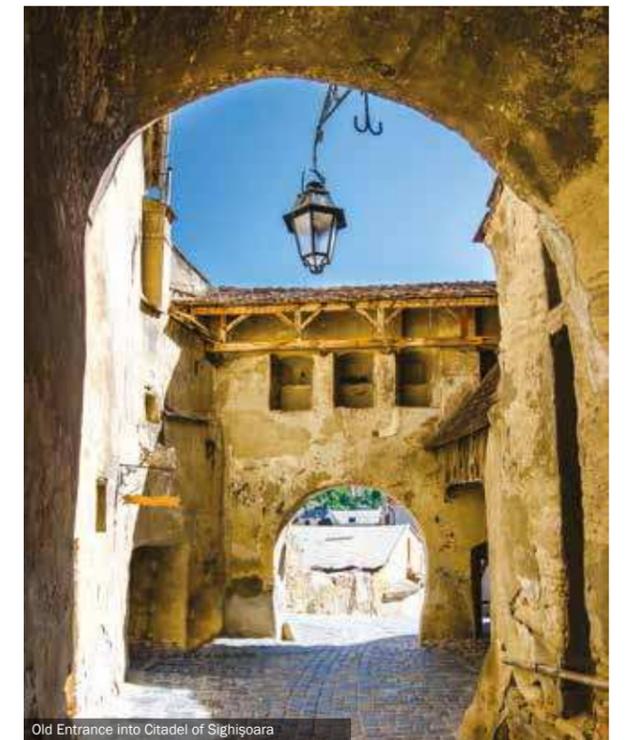
## DAY 2 BUDAPEST & KECSKEMÉT HUNGARY

We enjoy a morning drinks reception in the impressive Royal Waiting Room at Budapest Nyugati station before boarding the Danube Express and we begin our spectacular rail journey to Tehran. Settle in to your cabin and later enjoy lunch as the train heads, steam-hauled for the first 100km, to Lajosmizse for a spectacular 'Pusztá' horse show. Afterwards there is free time to explore Kecskemét, a fascinating city at the geographical centre of Hungary. Back onboard, enjoy a pre-dinner drink in the Lounge Car as the train continues across the Great Hungarian Plain and dine as we head towards Transylvania.

## DAY 3 SIGHIȘOARA & BRAȘOV ROMANIA

Today we arrive in Sighișoara for a walking tour of the town's main highlights. A World Heritage site rumoured to be the birthplace of Dracula, it is one of the best-preserved fortified medieval towns in Europe. Burgher houses and ornate churches line its cobbled streets. We return onboard for lunch as we continue onto Brașov for a tour of Bran Castle. Popularly known as Dracula's Castle, this beautiful 14th century building is situated amongst stunning mountain scenery.

Back onboard later this evening, the train twists and turns as it climbs over the Carpathian Mountains and threads its way through the dramatic landscape with crystal clear mountain streams. Dinner is served as our train continues onto Bulgaria.



## DAY 4 VELIKO TARNOVO & KAZANLAK BULGARIA

We arrive after breakfast in Veliko Tarnovo, Bulgaria's ancient capital. Nestled in a magnificent mountain setting, the stone houses seem perched, one above the other, on the steep banks of the Yantra River. A tour includes the superbly preserved medieval Tsarevets Hill and Castle and there is free time to wander through the ancient city. We take lunch onboard during the climb over the Shipka Pass. Kazanlak, in the Valley of the Roses, produces rose oil prized by perfumers worldwide. Here we visit the Shipka Memorial Church and a Thracian tomb with vaulted brickwork dating back to the 4th century BC.

Relax in the Lounge Car before dinner is served as our train continues through the scenic landscape, reaching the Turkish border late in the evening.

**DAY 5 & 6**  
**ISTANBUL**  
**TURKEY**

This morning we arrive into Istanbul. This fabled city that spans Asia and Europe deserves an extended stay so over the next two days we will see how old meets new; east meets west when you visit Istanbul's must-see historic sites. One of the most famous monuments in both the Turkish and Islamic worlds, the Sultan Ahmet Mosque (the Blue Mosque) is a superb creation in the classical Ottoman style and features six towering minarets and 260 windows illuminating its vast main chamber, which is decorated with more than 20,000 Iznik tiles.

Now a museum, Hagia Sophia was built in the 6th century by the Emperor Justinian, and was one of the largest basilicas in the Christian world. After the Ottoman conquest, it was converted to a mosque and is today one of the most magnificent museums in the world. Take a moment to linger here to admire the fine Byzantine mosaics. The largest and oldest palace in the world and primary residence of the Ottoman Sultans from 1465 to 1853, Topkapi is the crown jewel of the Ottoman Empire. With its treasury and exotic buildings overlooking the Golden Horn, your visit to Topkapi promises to be a truly fascinating experience. We also visit the Grand Bazaar which is one of the world's largest covered markets, with 58 streets and over 4,000 shops. In operation since the 14th century the bazaar is especially known for its jewellery, leather, pottery, spices and carpets. Guests stay overnight at the five-star Jumeirah Pera Palace hotel as the train re-positions to Derince for the next stage of the journey. Late afternoon on Day 6 after the conclusion of our city tour, we leave Istanbul and travel by bus to Derince to re-board the Danube Express and continue our journey through Asian Turkey.

Note: Engineering work in connection with the Bosphorus Tunnel project (on both sides of the Bosphorus) will involve the train stopping short of Istanbul in both directions. The journey into and out of Istanbul will be by road and the train will be sent across the Bosphorus by ferry.

**DAY 7 & 8**  
**CAPPADOCIA**  
**TURKEY**

Cappadocia is an area of Central Anatolia best known for its rocky landscape and is honeycombed with networks of ancient underground settlements and outstanding examples of Byzantine art. Erosion shaped the incredible landscape of the Göreme Valley, but thousands of years ago humans took their cue from Mother Nature and began carving an incredible chamber and tunnel complex into the soft rock. Beginning in the 4th century, an urbanised underground cultural landscape was created here.

You can enhance the Cappadocia experience and stay overnight in a unique cave hotel (at extra cost) located in the ancient



Fairy Chimneys, Cappadocia

village of Urgup, which features 7 cave houses and 40 rooms dating back to the 5th and 6th centuries before taking a sunrise balloon flight over the region's famous fairy chimneys the following morning. We return to the train for the day as we journey across central Turkey towards the Turkish/Iranian border.

**DAY 9**  
**VAN, LAKE VAN & AKDAMAR ISLAND**  
**TURKEY**

As our train is loaded onto a ferry for a 4 hour crossing, we will travel by bus around the edge of Lake Van and take a charter boat to Akdamar Island to walk to the stunning Akdamar Kilisesa (Church of the Holy Cross). The walls are adorned with Old Testament carvings telling familiar tales from the Bible.

Onward into Van we will navigate the old streets of the town and marvel at the beautiful silver and hanging kilims (woven carpets) made from natural dyes.



Akdamar Island

**DAY 10**  
**ZANJAN**  
**IRAN**

We head into Iran by night via the border crossing at Razi. The UNESCO World Heritage Site of Sultanieh is our first stop upon arrival in Zanjan, with its 13th century mausoleum of Oljeitu, the Il Khanid sultan. A visit to the old Rakhkt Shoor Khaneh and the Museum of the Mummified Salt Men concludes the day.



**DAY 11**  
**YAZD**  
**IRAN**

Yazd is thought to be one of the oldest cities in the world and the tour takes in the Zoroastrian Fire Temple, Amir Chakhmagh Square and the 14th century Friday Mosque, home to one of Persia's finest mosaics. We re-board the train for lunch and continue to Isfahan where we enjoy a short tour of the famous bridges of Sioseh Pol and Khadjou. A local restaurant is the setting for our evening meal.

**DAY 12**  
**ISFAHAN**  
**IRAN**

This enchanting city, which served as Persia's capital from 1598 to 1722, is 2,500 years old and one of the oldest in Iran. As a crossroad of international trade and diplomacy, Isfahan has a rich mix of languages, religions and customs.

The city is famous for its silver filigree and metal work, array of great historical monuments, and its Life-Giving River, the Zayandeh-Rood, which has given the city its beauty. Isfahan is packed with some of Iran's best sights and today we spend a whole day in the city, visiting the Chehel Sotoon Palace and the Vank Church in the Armenian Quarter. Following a traditional Iranian lunch we move on to Naghshe Jahan Square, a World Heritage Site and the second largest man-made square in the world, where the Ali Qapou Palace and Shah and Sheikh Lutfullah Mosques can be found. Here, the time is yours to enjoy the huge square and pick up a bargain at the handicraft Bazaar of Qaisarieh.

**DAY 13**  
**SHIRAZ & PERSEPOLIS**  
**IRAN**

Shiraz has many strings to its bow: poetry, literature, wine, flowers and amazing gardens and fruit trees. A visit to the Qoran Gate, Hafez Tomb and the Vakil Citadel are the highlights of our morning tour.

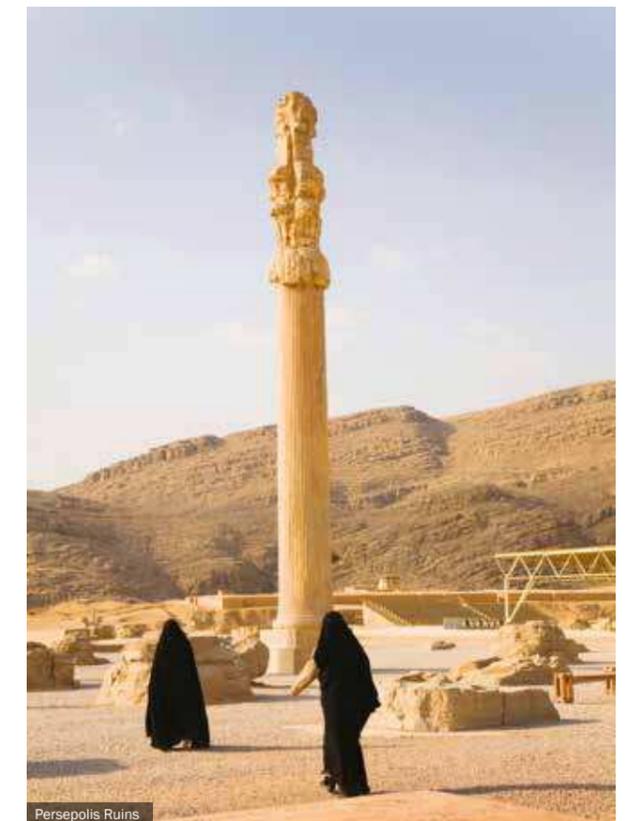
Following lunch onboard we continue onto Marvdast, for the home of Persepolis, another World Heritage Site. Perhaps Iran's most important archeological site, this ceremonial capital of the Persian Empire dates back to the 6th century. Even now, the ruins are extremely impressive. We also view the Necropolis (Naghshe Rostam) and the Naghshe Rajab.

**DAY 14**  
**TEHRAN**  
**IRAN**

After breakfast we reach our final destination and disembark the Danube Express. Our first port of call is the Crown Jewels Museum in the Central Bank of Iran Building, with its vast array of crown jewels used by the Qajar and Pahlavid royalty. Following lunch we head to the Gulestan Palace with its renovated Versailles-inspired mirror-encrusted Marble Throne Hall used for the coronation of the last Shah. Most of the remaining brick and tile buildings date back to the 19th century Qajar dynasty. Guests stay overnight in the five-star Laleh International Hotel (or similar).

**DAY 15**  
**TEHRAN**  
**IRAN**

Following breakfast you will be transferred to the airport for onward departures.



Persepolis Ruins



## TOUR ITINERARY (WESTBOUND)



The Masjid-i Jami, Isfahan

### DAY 1 TEHRAN IRAN

Arrivals day in Tehran where you will be met and transferred to the five-star Laleh International Hotel (or similar). We will enjoy a welcome reception dinner, whilst you meet your fellow travellers on this highly anticipated journey.

### DAY 2 TEHRAN IRAN

Our first port of call on our city tour of Tehran is the Crown Jewels Museum in the Central Bank of Iran Building, with its vast array of crown jewels used by the Qajar and Pahlavid royalty. Following lunch we head to the Gulestan Palace with its renovated Versailles-inspired mirror-encrusted Marble Throne Hall used for the coronation of the last Shah. Most of the remaining brick and tile buildings date back to the 19th century Qajar dynasty. Late afternoon we transfer to the main railway station in the city and board the Danube Express. Settle in to your cabin and later enjoy dinner as the train heads overnight to Mashhad.

### DAY 3 MASHHAD IRAN

An early morning arrival provides us with the whole day to explore the city of Mashhad, which is home to the Imam Reza Holy Shrine, the largest mosque in the world in terms of its dimension, followed by a tour of the Nader Shah Museum. Following lunch in the city, we will visit the Tomb of Ferdowsi, the father of Persian literature who lived over 1,000 years ago.

### DAY 4 MAHAN & KERMAN IRAN

Today we will travel from Kerman to the city of Mahan to visit the famous 19th century Prince Garden as well as the 15th century Mausoleum of the Shah Nematollah Vali, the renowned Iranian mystic, poet and philosopher who died in 1431.

Lunch is taken in the very impressive restaurant situated inside the Prince Garden before we return to Kerman in the afternoon with a visit to the Green Dome and the Sanati Contemporary Museum.



### DAY 5 SHIRAZ & PERSEPOLIS IRAN

Shiraz has many strings to its bow: poetry, literature, wine, flowers and amazing gardens and fruit trees. A visit to the Qoran Gate, Hafez Tomb and the Vakil Citadel are the highlights of our morning tour.

Following lunch onboard we continue onto Marvdast, for the home of Persepolis, another World Heritage Site. Perhaps Iran's most important archeological site, this ceremonial capital of the Persian Empire dates back to the 6th century. Even now, the ruins are extremely impressive. We also view the Necropolis (Naghshe Rostam) and the Naghshe Rajab.

### DAY 6 ISFAHAN IRAN

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Chehel Sotoun Palace, Isfahan

Isfahan is packed with some of Iran's best sights and today we spend a whole day in the city, visiting the Chehel Sotoon Palace and the Vank Church in the Armenian Quarter.

Following a traditional Iranian lunch we move on to Naghshe Jahan Square, a World Heritage Site and the second largest man-made square in the world, where the Ali Qapou Palace and Shah and Sheikh Lutfullah Mosques can be found. Here, the time is yours to enjoy the huge square and pick up a bargain at the handicraft Bazaar of Qaisarieh

### DAY 7 ZANJAN IRAN

The UNESCO World Heritage Site of Sultanieh is our first stop upon arrival in Zanjan, with its 13th century mausoleum of Oljeitu, the Il Khanid sultan. A visit to the old Rakhkt Shoor Khaneh and the Museum of the Mummified Salt Men concludes the day.



### DAY 8 VAN, LAKE VAN & AKDAMAR ISLAND TURKEY

In the early hours of the morning we cross the border from Iran into Turkey to Van where we will navigate the old streets of the town and marvel at the beautiful silver and hanging kilims (woven carpets) made from natural dyes.

As our train is loaded onto a ferry for a 4 hour crossing, we will travel by bus around the edge of Lake Van and take a charter boat to Akdamar Island to walk to the stunning Akdamar Kilisesa (Church of the Holy Cross). The walls are adorned with Old Testament carvings telling familiar tales from the Bible.



**DAY 9** CAPPADOCIA  
TURKEY

Cappadocia is an area of Central Anatolia best known for its rocky landscape and is honeycombed with networks of ancient underground settlements and outstanding examples of Byzantine art. Erosion shaped the incredible landscape of the Göreme Valley, but thousands of years ago humans took their cue from Mother Nature and began carving an incredible chamber and tunnel complex into the soft rock. Beginning in the 4th century, an urbanised underground cultural landscape was created here and is the focus of our visit.

**DAYS 10,11** ISTANBUL  
TURKEY

This morning we arrive into Istanbul. This fabled city that spans Asia and Europe deserves an extended stay so over the next two days we will see how old meets new; east meets west when you visit Istanbul's must-see historic sites.

One of the most famous monuments in both the Turkish and Islamic worlds, the Sultan Ahmet Mosque (the Blue Mosque) is a superb creation in the classical Ottoman style and features six towering minarets and 260 windows illuminating its vast main chamber, which is decorated with more than 20,000 Iznik tiles.

Now a museum, Hagia Sophia was built in the 6th century by the Emperor Justinian, and was one of the largest basilicas in the Christian world. After the Ottoman conquest, it was converted to a mosque and is today one of the most magnificent museums in the world. Take a moment to linger here to admire the fine Byzantine architecture.

The largest and oldest palace in the world and primary residence of the Ottoman Sultans from 1465 to 1853, Topkapi is the crown jewel of the Ottoman Empire. With its treasury and exotic buildings overlooking the Golden Horn, your visit to Topkapi promises to be a truly fascinating experience. We also visit the Grand Bazaar which is one of the world's largest covered markets, with 58 streets and over 4,000 shops. In operation since the 14th century the bazaar is especially known for its jewellery, leather, pottery, spices and carpets.

Guests stay overnight at the five-star Jumeirah Pera Palace hotel as the train re-positions from Derince for the next stage of the journey. Late afternoon on Day 11 after the conclusion of our city tour, we leave Istanbul and travel by bus to Tetkirdag to re-board the Danube Express and continue our journey towards the Bulgaria.

Note: Engineering work in connection with the Bosphorus Tunnel project (on both sides of the Bosphorus) will involve the train stopping short of Istanbul in both directions. The journey into and out of Istanbul will be by road and the train will be sent across the Bosphorus by ferry.



Bran Castle, Braşov

**DAY 12** KAZANLAK & VELIKO TARNOVO  
BULGARIA

We arrive before breakfast in Kazanlak, situated in the Valley of the Roses, which produces rose oil prized by perfumers worldwide. Here we visit the Shipka Memorial Church and a Thracian tomb with vaulted brickwork dating back to the 4th century BC.

We take lunch onboard during the climb over the Shipka Pass and travel onwards to Veliko Tarnovo, Bulgaria's ancient capital. Nestled in a magnificent mountain setting, the stone houses seem perched, one above the other, on the steep banks of the Yantra River. A tour includes the superbly preserved medieval Tsarevets Hill and Castle and there is free time to wander through the ancient city.

Relax in the Lounge Car before dinner is served as our train continues through the scenic landscape as we head across the Romanian border.

**DAY 13** BRAŞOV & SIGHIŞOARA  
ROMANIA

Overnight the train twists and turns as it climbs over the Carpathian Mountains and threads its way through the dramatic landscape with crystal clear mountain streams. This morning we arrive into Braşov for a tour of Bran Castle. Popularly known as Dracula's Castle, this beautiful 14th century building is situated

amongst stunning mountain scenery. We return to the train for lunch as we continue onto Sighişoara for a walking tour of the town's main highlights. A World Heritage site rumoured to be the birthplace of Dracula, it is one of the best-preserved fortified medieval towns in Europe. Burgher houses and ornate churches line its cobbled streets. Dinner is served as our train continues onto Hungary and across the Great Hungarian Plain.

**DAY 14** KECSKEMÉT & BUDAPEST  
HUNGARY

Our final day onboard is expected to provide a spectacular conclusion to our rail journey as first we get the opportunity to explore Kecskemét, a fascinating city at the geographical centre of Hungary before the train heads, steam-hauled, to Lajosmizse for a spectacular 'Pusztá' horse show.

We then arrive late afternoon at our final destination, Budapest, the romantic and historic Hungarian capital located on the banks of the magnificent Danube. This evening we will enjoy a farewell dinner and take the opportunity to reflect on our pioneering journey from Iran to Central Europe. We will stay overnight in the Four Seasons Hotel Gresham Palace.

**DAY 15** BUDAPEST  
HUNGARY

Following breakfast you will be transferred to the airport for onward departures.



GOLDEN EAGLE LUXURY TRAINS

## HEART OF PERSIA ROUTE MAP

Travelling in the ancient land of Persia, this unique journey takes in destinations that have been off the tourist map for many years and therefore have rarely been experienced by the Western visitor, which makes it all the more special.



### Tour Route

Tehran - Mashhad - Kerman - Bam - Rayen - Mahan - Yazd - Isfahan - Persepolis  
Kashan - Shushtar - Chogha Zanbil - Susa - Tehran

October 19 - October 30, 2015

### DAY 1 TEHRAN

IRAN

Arrivals day in Tehran where you will be met and transferred to the five-star Laleh International Hotel (or similar). We will enjoy a welcome reception dinner, whilst you meet your fellow travellers on this highly anticipated journey.



Golestan Palace, Tehran

### DAY 2 TEHRAN

IRAN

After a tour of Tehran we will have time at the huge Bazaar. After lunch in a local restaurant we will visit the breath-taking Crown Jewels Museum in the Central Bank of Iran Building, with its vast array of crown jewels used by the Qajar and Pahlavid royalty. Late afternoon we transfer to Tehran railway station with its huge portraits of Ayatollah Khomeini and Ayatollah Kamenei at the entrance to board the Danube Express, our home for the next ten nights. Settle in to your cabin and later enjoy dinner as the train heads overnight to Mashhad.

### DAY 3 MASHHAD

IRAN

An early morning arrival provides us with the whole day to explore the city of Mashhad, which is home to the Imam Reza Holy Shrine, the largest mosque in the world in terms of its dimension, followed by a tour of the Nader Shah Museum. After lunch in the city, we will visit the Tomb of Ferdowsi, the father of the Persian Language who lived over 1,000 years ago. Dinner on the train as we head south.

### DAY 4 KERMAN & BAM

IRAN

This morning we arrive in Kerman where we will visit the ancient bazaar, the Ganj Ali Khan Wax museum and a 19th century old tea house. We return to the train for lunch as we head southeast towards the ancient city of Bam, arriving mid-afternoon.

Bam was one of the world's largest mud brick citadels, dating back at least 2,000 years, a wealthy city on the trade route from Pakistan. Sadly a major earthquake in 2003 killed 26,000 people and destroyed much of the city. Restoration work is being undertaken but with over 20,000 houses destroyed it will take many years and more modern materials will be used to make the buildings earthquake proof.

### DAY 5 RAYEN & MAHAN

IRAN

After Breakfast we detrain in Rayen. The 20,000 sq. metre Rayen castle is situated beneath the snow capped Mt Hezar in the Province of Kerman. A huge medieval mud brick citadel, it was considered second only to Bam before the 2003 earthquake. Rayen displays all the architectural elements of a deserted citadel (It was inhabited until 150 years ago) and is extremely well preserved. It is considered one of the most interesting sites in Iran.

We continue by road to Mayan where we visit the 19th century Royal building, Prince Garden and tomb. We later visit the sanctuary and tomb of the famous, Soufi, Shah Nematollah Vali, dating back to the Mongol Era. We rejoin the train at dusk in time for dinner as we depart for Yazd.

### DAY 6 YAZD

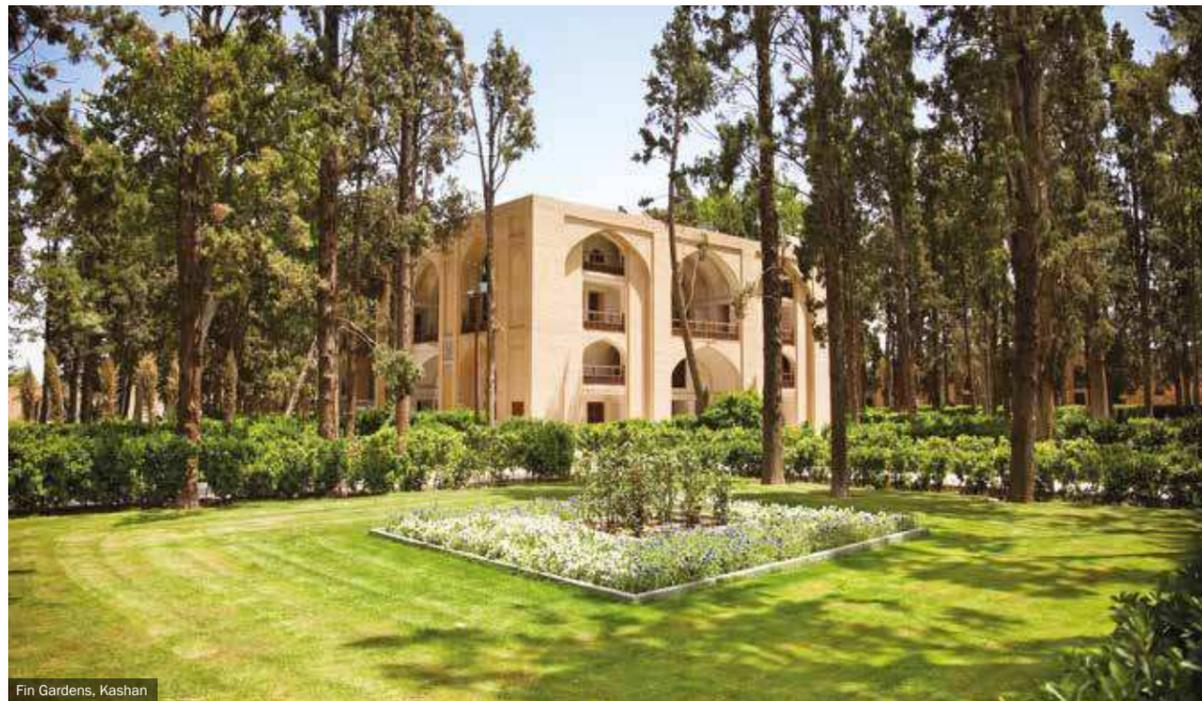
IRAN

Yazd is thought to be one of the oldest cities in the world, dating back over 3,000 years, and we spend the day here. Our tour takes in the Zoroastrian Fire Temple and Silent Towers, Amir Chakhmagh Square and the Friday Mosque, home to one of Persia's finest mosaics (both 14th century) and finally the water museum.

Lunch will be served in the Moshir Garden Hotel which features a lovely Pomegranate Garden (Yazd is famous for pomegranates). We return to the train late afternoon.



Rayen Citadel, near Mahan



Fin Gardens, Kashan

**DAY 7** ISFAHAN  
IRAN

This enchanting city, which served as Persia's capital from 1598 to 1722, is 2,500 years old and one of the oldest in Iran. As a crossroad of international trade and diplomacy, Isfahan has a rich mix of languages, religions and customs

The city is famous for its silver filigree and metal work, array of great historical monuments, and its Life-Giving River, the Zayandeh-Rood, which has given the city its beauty. Isfahan is packed with some of Iran's best sights and today we spend a whole day in the city, visiting the Vank Church in the Armenian Quarter. Following a traditional Iranian lunch we move on to Naghshe Jahan Square, a World Heritage Site and the second largest man-made square in the world, where the Ali Qapou Palace and Shah and Sheikh Lutfullah Mosques can be found. Here, the time is yours to enjoy the huge square and pick up a bargain at the handicraft Bazaar of Qaisarieh.

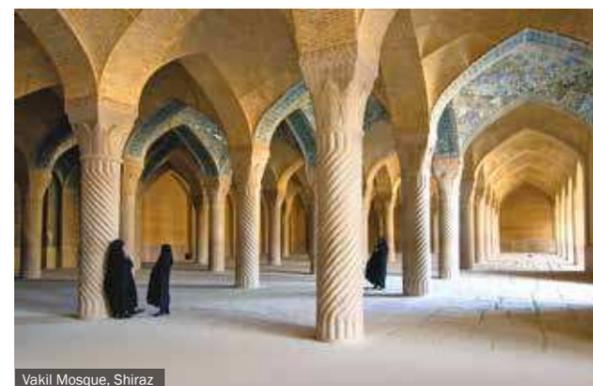
**DAY 8** SHIRAZ & PERSEPOLIS  
IRAN

At Breakfast time we will arrive in Shiraz, Persia's cultural Capital. Dating back over 4,000 years it is also known as the city of Poets, literature, wine and flowers. During the morning we will visit the Pink Mosque, Eram Garden, Hafez tomb and the Qoran gate. Lunch will be served in a first class restaurant in Shiraz before we travel by road to the nearby ruins of Persepolis and Necropolis. Founded in 550 BC Persepolis

was Persia's capital until destroyed by Alexander the Great in 330 BC. Persepolis means 'City of Persians' and is a UNESCO World Heritage Site. Our final visit today is to the Necropolis at nearby Naqsh-e Rostam. We return to our train in Marvdast as we depart northwards.

**DAY 9** KASHAN  
IRAN

Morning finds us in the ancient city of Kashan where we visit the Fin garden, Iran's oldest garden dating from 1590 (a World Heritage Site), and nearby Sialk Hills archaeological site, dating back almost 8,000 years and Brojerdi and Taba Tabaei - 19th century historical houses. After lunch in a first class local restaurant we can visit the impressive and ancient bazaar before returning to our train mid-afternoon. Kerman is the most important centre for Persian carpets. As dinner is served we pass through Qom and arrive at Dorud, in the foothills of the Zagros Mountains around midnight.



Vakil Mosque, Shiraz

**DAY 10** SHUSTAR, CHOGHA ZANBIL AND SUSA  
IRAN

Just before dawn our train will ease its way out of Dorud and start a spectacular journey through the Mountains before arriving in Shushtar after an early lunch.

We first visit the Hydraulic system that dates back to 590 BC and still provides water to the town of Shushtar. We move on to the Chogha Zanbil site dating back to 1250 BC and then tour the ancient city of Susa before rejoining the train for dinner and a final night's party as we head north towards Tehran and the end of our journey on the Danube Express.

**DAY 11** TEHRAN  
IRAN

This morning we visit the Golestan Palace (a UNESCO World Heritage Site) with its renovated Versailles-inspired mirror-encrusted Marble Throne Hall used for the coronation of the last Shah. Most of the remaining brick and tile buildings date back to the 19th century Qajar dynasty.

In the afternoon there is free time before our farewell Gala dinner. Overnight at Tehran's former Intercontinental Hotel (now the Laleh Hotel), or similar.

**DAY 12** TEHRAN  
IRAN

Following breakfast you will be transferred to the airport for your departing flights.

Note: During this tour there is the religious holiday of Tassoura and Ashura. The dates will be either the 22/23 or 23/24 October however the dates will not be announced until the end of 2014. During Tassoura and Ashura all religious sites are closed and we will therefore have to make certain adjustments to the above itinerary as soon as the dates for these holidays are known.



Ruins at Shushtar



Chogha Zanbil



**UNESCO WORLD HERITAGE SITES**  
VISITED ON OUR TOURS

- 🌟 Bam
- 🌟 Chogha Zanbil
- 🌟 Fin - Persian Gardens
- 🌟 Isfahan - Friday Mosque (Masjed-e Jame)
- 🌟 Isfahan - Royal Square (Median Emam)
- 🌟 Persepolis
- 🌟 Shushtar ancient Hydraulic System
- 🌟 Tehran - Golestan Palace, Tehran



DANUBE EXPRESS  
ACCOMMODATION



The carriages for this unique tour will be made up from the Deluxe sleeping cars, Heritage sleeping cars, Restaurant and Bar cars comprising the Danube Express which normally runs from Budapest to Istanbul and Prague. The capacity of the train will be around 65 guests.

**Danube Express Deluxe Sleeping Cars**

Travel in some of the finest rail accommodation available in Europe. Each deluxe sleeping car has just five spacious yet intimate en-suite cabins offering every convenience and comfort so you may sit back, relax and enjoy the scenery as it rolls by.

Private bathrooms feature a shower with constant hot water, washbasin and toilet. There is a heated towel rail, shaver socket and hairdryer and a range of toiletries are provided.

Bedrooms have individually controlled air-conditioning, lighting with dimmer switches, individual reading lights, power sockets and a safe. Co-ordinated fabrics complement wood panelled walls and brass fittings. Two comfortable armchairs provide daytime seating and a free-standing chair adds flexibility. Cupboards and a full length wardrobe provide ample storage whilst the large picture window and full length mirror enhance the spacious feel. A second window will open for fresh air and for that perfect photo opportunity.

During dinner each evening the living room is converted into two comfortable lower beds by your attendant who is also on hand to bring early morning tea or coffee or perhaps later, a glass of wine.

**Heritage Class**

Each carriage has eight sleeping cabins with an upper and lower bed. A toilet is available at one end of the carriage and a shower at the other end. Each cabin has wood panelled walls, remote controlled air-conditioning, power sockets and hanging space. A full length couch provides daytime seating. The large picture window will open for fresh air and for that perfect photo opportunity. During dinner each evening the cabin is converted into two comfortable beds by your attendant who is also on hand to bring early morning tea or coffee or perhaps later, a glass of wine.

**Saloon Cars**

For this journey we will be taking two managers saloon cars which, as well as providing two additional seating areas, incorporate four single cabins and one large cabin with small double bed and en-suite toilet and shower. The single cabins have access to a toilet and shower at the end of the carriage. These two carriages are not air-conditioned but we do not consider this will be a requirement at this time of the year.

**Restaurant and Bar Cars**

There will be two restaurant cars and one bar car included in the train formation which we expect to be 12 carriages in total.



DANUBE EXPRESS  
2015 TOUR PRICES



**Jewels Of Persia (Eastbound)** US \$ GBP £ EURO €

DELUXE - TWIN	\$21,995	£14,695	€16,995
DELUXE - SINGLE	\$37,995	£25,395	€29,295
HERITAGE - DOUBLE (SALOON*)	\$21,995	£14,695	€16,995
HERITAGE - SINGLE (SALOON*)	\$20,995	£14,095	€16,195
<b>Deposit - Per Person</b>	<b>\$2,000</b>	<b>£1,500</b>	<b>€1,750</b>
HERITAGE - TWIN	\$13,595	£9,095	€10,495
HERITAGE - SINGLE	\$20,995	£14,095	€16,195
<b>Deposit - Per Person</b>	<b>\$1,500</b>	<b>£1,000</b>	<b>€1,250</b>

\* non air-conditioned

**Jewels Of Persia (Westbound)** US \$ GBP £ EURO €

DELUXE - TWIN	\$22,995	£15,395	€17,695
DELUXE - SINGLE	\$39,995	£26,995	€30,795
HERITAGE - DOUBLE (SALOON*)	\$22,995	£15,395	€17,695
HERITAGE - SINGLE (SALOON*)	\$21,995	£14,695	€16,995
<b>Deposit - Per Person</b>	<b>\$2,000</b>	<b>£1,500</b>	<b>€1,750</b>
HERITAGE - TWIN	\$14,695	£9,895	€11,295
HERITAGE - SINGLE	\$21,995	£14,695	€16,995
<b>Deposit - Per Person</b>	<b>\$1,500</b>	<b>£1,000</b>	<b>€1,250</b>

\* non air-conditioned

**Heart Of Persia** US \$ GBP £ EURO €

DELUXE - TWIN	\$21,995	£14,695	€16,995
DELUXE - SINGLE	\$37,995	£25,395	€29,295
HERITAGE - DOUBLE (SALOON*)	\$21,995	£14,695	€16,995
HERITAGE - SINGLE (SALOON*)	\$20,995	£14,095	€16,195
<b>Deposit - Per Person</b>	<b>\$2,000</b>	<b>£1,500</b>	<b>€1,750</b>
HERITAGE - TWIN	\$13,595	£9,095	€10,495
HERITAGE - SINGLE	\$20,995	£14,095	€16,195
<b>Deposit - Per Person</b>	<b>\$1,500</b>	<b>£1,000</b>	<b>€1,250</b>

\* non air-conditioned

**What is included in the price?**

- Hotel accommodation as per in the itinerary.
- Accommodation onboard the Danube Express as per the itinerary.
- All meals with wines at lunch and dinner except in Iran where soft drinks and non-alcoholic beer will be available. (We are currently advised that serving alcohol on the train will be allowed in Iran, but not at off-train meals).
- Complimentary tea, coffee and mineral water throughout the day.
- Guided off-train sightseeing excursions.
- Arrival and departure transfers.
- The services of experienced tour leaders.
- All gratuities.
- The services of a doctor travelling with the group.

**What is not included in the price?**

- International airfares.
- Visa and excess baggage charges.
- Travel Insurance.
- Personal expenses such as drinks in the hotels or bar car, laundry and telephone calls.
- Any additional activity not specifically mentioned in the tour programme.

All prices are per person unless otherwise stated. We only accept payments in US Dollars (\$) with the exception of UK residents (payments in GBP £) and residents of the Eurozone countries (payment in Euros). This tour is operated by Australian Pacific Touring.



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