

BUSINESS CLASS FLIGHTS INCLUDED FOR A LIMITED TIME ONLY

JOURNEYS THROUGH EUROPE BY PRIVATE TRAIN

VENICE TO ISTANBUL & BUDAPEST TO VENICE
ABOARD THE GOLDEN EAGLE DANUBE EXPRESS
OCTOBER 2026; APRIL, MAY & OCTOBER 2027



NOBLE CALEDONIA



GOLDEN EAGLE DANUBE EXPRESS

We are delighted to have joined forces with Golden Eagle Luxury Trains, the world's leading operator of luxury 'rail cruises', to bring you some spectacular private rail journeys through Europe aboard the Golden Eagle Danube Express. Travelling by private train is a unique way to absorb the rich culture and cinematic landscape of a country and Golden Eagle Luxury Trains design their itineraries carefully to combine iconic cities with stunning scenery ensuring there is a good balance of both relaxation and exploration.

The Golden Eagle Danube Express is a luxurious hotel-on-wheels and whilst on board you can enjoy a 'room with a view' that constantly changes. Carefully designed with comfort and enjoyment in mind, the Golden Eagle Danube Express accommodates a maximum of just 62 guests and whilst on board you can be assured of first-class service, welcoming and well-appointed cabins, fine dining, a convivial atmosphere and elegant surroundings. With decades of experience, the attentive staff members on board are dedicated to ensuring every moment of your journey is enjoyable. From the skilled bar car and restaurant car staff, each team member is meticulously trained to cater to your every need. When you embark on a journey with Golden Eagle Luxury Trains, your experience is elevated by the presence of a dedicated cabin attendant and these consummate professionals are committed to your comfort and well-being, ensuring that your time on board is an exceptional experience.



Cabin Attendant

YOUR ACCOMMODATION

Unpack just once and settle into your well-appointed cabin as you embark on a fascinating journey. Your cabin attendant will be on hand to look after all of your needs.

SUPERIOR DELUXE CLASS

The Superior Deluxe Class cabins, with private en-suite facilities, offer the ultimate in European rail accommodation in terms of space, facilities and comfort. Each of the 12 cabins offers comfortable daytime seating with a full length sofa and two additional chairs. The large cabin also benefits from two full-size picture windows, one of which can be opened to add to the bright and airy feel of the interior. Each evening the cabin is transformed into a luxurious bedroom with a King Size bed. All cabins have, as standard, a large double wardrobe with excellent storage space, individually controlled air-conditioning, lighting with dimmer switches, individual reading lights, in cabin Wi-Fi and USB ports, power sockets and a safe.

DELUXE CLASS

Each Deluxe sleeper carriage has just five spacious yet intimate en-suite cabins offering every convenience and comfort. Private bathrooms feature a shower with constant hot water, washbasin and toilet. Cabins feature individually controlled air-conditioning, lighting with dimmer switches, individual reading lights, power sockets and a safe. Coordinated fabrics complement wood-panelled walls and brass fittings. Two comfortable armchairs provide daytime seating along with a freestanding chair. Cupboards and a full length wardrobe provide ample storage whilst the large picture window and full length mirror enhance the spacious feel. There is also a second window which can be opened for fresh air. During dinner each evening the living room is converted into two comfortable lower beds by your attendant who is also on hand to bring you early morning tea or coffee.



Restaurant Car



Superior Deluxe Class Cabin – Daytime Configuration



Deluxe Class Cabin – Daytime Configuration

YOUR DINING

Culinary excellence is an important part of the onboard experience, and you can expect an array of exquisite dining adventures, where the culinary team prepares sumptuous meals inspired by the regions you traverse. The onboard chefs source ingredients from local markets and take influence from regional culinary traditions, creating a unique insight into your destinations, as well as international cuisine. Guests can watch the daily morning parade, as locally sourced, seasonal supplies are loaded onto the train. All food and drinks on board are included, featuring a curated selection of wines and beverages that perfectly complement the meals. Each morning enjoy a bountiful breakfast buffet in the beautifully appointed Restaurant Car offering a wide selection of fruit, cereals, orange juice and cold plates. Alternatively enjoy a cooked breakfast brought to your table by the waiting staff, all complemented by tea and coffee. The meals are skilfully prepared by the Executive Chef and his onboard restaurant team using the very best in ingredients and vegetarian and other dietary options are also available. Meals on board are a convivial affair with the freedom to dine wherever, and with whomever you please in a single sitting.

LIFE ON BOARD

The social heart of the Golden Eagle Danube Express is the Bar Lounge Car, a great place to relax and settle into the unhurried pace of life on board. Unwind in comfortable surroundings and watch the world go by as you get to know your fellow passengers or perhaps read a novel to while away the time. The Bar Lounge Car and Restaurant Cars also host an entertaining and enlightening range of activities and it is here that the Tour Manager will organise a programme of activities for the journey ahead. Daily itineraries detailing train arrival and departure timings and information on the following day's excursions and activities will be provided. As evening falls, you enjoy the sounds of the resident pianist playing on the baby grand piano in the Bar Lounge Car.



Bar Lounge Car



Breakfast in the Restaurant Car

BALKAN EXPLORER

FROM VENICE TO ISTANBUL

ABOARD THE GOLDEN EAGLE DANUBE EXPRESS PRIVATE TRAIN

2ND TO 13TH OCTOBER 2026; 7TH TO 18TH MAY & 19TH TO 30TH OCTOBER 2027



JOURNEY HIGHLIGHTS

The iconic European Grand Tour journey between Venice and Istanbul visiting seven countries in twelve days.

Enjoy a gondola ride through the iconic waterways of romantic Venice.

Explore the ethereal Postojna Cave network of limestone caverns and monuments.

Discover Sarajevo's poignant history through a truly absorbing guided tour of the city.

Visit one of the world's best preserved Roman amphitheatres in ancient Plovdiv.

Tour Istanbul's magnificent Topkapi Palace and Hagia Sophia.

At the crossroads of East and West and with a history forged over the centuries and influenced by so many, the Balkans have always had an allure for the genuine traveller. There is a wealth of fascinating cultural sites and natural world marvels to discover and with the Golden Eagle Danube Express as our luxury 'hotel on wheels' we will journey from the enchanting city of Venice and meander through the captivating Balkan region to Istanbul, the jewel of the Byzantium Empire. Evocative of the refinement and sumptuous elegance of a bygone era, the Golden Eagle Danube Express captures the vintage charm of the golden era of travel and whilst travelling between our destinations you will witness some of the most beautiful scenery Europe has to offer with mountains that sweep down to lakes surrounded in rich vegetation.

THE ITINERARY

Day 1 London to Venice, Italy. Fly by scheduled flight. Arrive and transfer to our five-star hotel for a two night stay. This evening enjoy a welcome reception and dinner.

Day 2 Venice. Venice is a truly captivating and romantic city. Today you can choose to join a guided walking tour beginning at the iconic Rialto Bridge. Stroll through Venice's winding streets and across its many bridges, uncovering the city's hidden corners and everyday life. The walk is followed by a short gondola ride, before enjoying lunch at an authentic Venetian restaurant. After lunch, continue to the magnificent St Mark's Square, the historic and cultural heart of the city. Alternatively, join an excursion to the famous Venetian islands. Visit Murano for a traditional glassblowing demonstration and time to browse local workshops, before continuing to Burano, a charming group of small islands renowned for their brightly coloured houses and centuries-old lacemaking tradition. Enjoy a guided walk and a visit to a lacemaker, before rejoining the group for lunch. This evening join a private visit to St Mark's Basilica.

Day 3 Venice to Trieste & Postojna, Slovenia. This morning we transfer from the hotel by boat to Santa Lucia station on the Grand Canal. Here our private train, the Golden Eagle Danube Express, is ready to receive us. Mid-morning our private train will thread its way out of Santa Lucia station onto the three-mile causeway over the Venice Lagoon. After lunch on board, we make a brief stop in the Italian port city of Trieste for a short guided tour. Explore the expansive Piazza Unità d'Italia, one of Europe's largest sea-facing squares. This evening, we experience the truly

jaw-dropping Postojna Caves. Travel deep underground aboard a cave train before exploring a remarkable network of vast chambers, stalactite and stalagmite formations.

Day 4 Pula & Rijeka, Croatia. Begin the morning with a guided tour of Pula, exploring its historic centre and the impressive Roman Arena. Continue inland to the Kumparicka Estate for a visit and leisurely lunch, enjoying a tasting of authentic Istrian flavours in a beautiful rural setting. In the afternoon, travel to Rijeka for a guided walk through the city centre.

Day 5 Sarajevo, Bosnia-Herzegovina. Early this morning we arrive at the Bosnian capital of Sarajevo which is an intriguing blend of Eastern and Western culture with mosques and minarets, an ancient bazaar and an atmospheric old Turkish quarter. Discover the city's poignant history during the guided tour. Following lunch at a local restaurant, there is a choice of two tours this afternoon. You may ascend by cable car to Mount Trebevic, once a 1984 Olympic venue, where breathtaking panoramic views unfold across the city and surrounding mountains. Alternatively, visit the Tunnel of Hope, a profoundly moving site that tells the story of Sarajevo's endurance and spirit during the siege of the 1990s.

Day 6 Mostar. We continue to the historic city of Mostar, a true crossroads of civilisations, cultures, and faiths. Once one of the most important cities of the Ottoman Empire, Mostar is renowned for its striking stone arch bridge, gracefully spanning the Neretva River and symbolically linking the Christian and Muslim quarters of the town. Destroyed during the conflict of the 1990s,



Postojna Cave



Mostar



Roman Arena, Pula



Hagia Sophia, Istanbul

the bridge was meticulously rebuilt and reopened in the summer of 2004, standing today as a powerful emblem of reconciliation and continuity. Enjoy a guided walking tour through the old town, including a visit to a traditional Turkish house and a local mosque. Wander through the narrow bazaar streets where you may browse for traditional handicrafts. Lunch is enjoyed at a restaurant overlooking the iconic bridge, before following the emerald waters of the Neretva River to the ancient Ottoman fortified town of Pocitelj, dramatically set against the hillside and steeped in history.

Day 7 Belgrade, Serbia. Nestled at the confluence of the Sava and Danube rivers, Belgrade, capital of Serbia, is one of oldest and most fascinating cities in Europe. Here, we disembark the train for an overnight stay at the historic Hotel Bristol. Enjoy a guided tour of the Old Town and the Kalemegdan Fortress followed by a curated wine tasting featuring local Serbian wines. This afternoon, visit the magnificent Church of Saint Sava.

Day 8 Belgrade. Today we explore Tito's Belgrade, gaining insight into the life and legacy of one of the most influential figures in Yugoslav history. Visit Tito's museum complex, including his former residence and the museum itself, where you will be welcomed with the traditional Serbian offering of bread and salt. Following the visit, we rejoin the train and continue our journey southeast towards Sofia, crossing the scenic landscapes of Serbia.

Day 9 Sofia & Plovdiv, Bulgaria. Today's exploration begins in Sofia, Bulgaria's vibrant capital, set at the foot of Mount Vitoshka. Originally settled by the Thracian tribe of the Serdi, the city is a fascinating blend of ancient and modern influences. During our morning tour, we will see sections of the Roman city walls, admire the early Christian Church of St George, marvel at the golden-domed Alexander Nevsky Cathedral, and visit the historic Turkish Bashi Mosque. Following the morning tour, you may choose to rejoin the train for lunch as we continue our journey to Plovdiv or take a short drive to a local winery for a light lunch accompanied by wine tasting and a lively Bulgarian folk performance, before travelling onwards by bus to Plovdiv. Arriving in Plovdiv, we discover one of Europe's oldest continuously inhabited settlements. In the early evening, enjoy a guided tour of the Roman Forum and Amphitheatre, then wander through the Old Town.

Day 10 Istanbul, Turkey. We arrive in Istanbul, the legendary city that straddles two continents, where your luggage will be transferred directly to the luxurious five-star Four Seasons Hotel. Begin with a gentle walk through the historic streets before entering the atmospheric spice market for a

guided visit through this centuries old bazaar. After a traditional Turkish lunch, embark on a scenic cruise along the legendary Bosphorus. This evening, descend into the atmospheric depths of Istanbul's ancient cisterns and visit the Basilica Cistern before enjoying dinner.

Day 11 Istanbul. This morning you may choose to visit the opulent Topkapı Palace, former residence of the Ottoman sultans, exploring its magnificent courtyards, harem and treasury. Alternatively, enjoy a guided tour of the Grand Bazaar. After lunch, we visit one of the city's most iconic landmarks, the awe-inspiring Hagia Sophia, dating from the 6th century. This evening, enjoy a farewell dinner at the hotel.

Day 12 Istanbul to London. Check out of the hotel this morning and transfer to the airport for the scheduled flight to London.

PRICES PER PERSON

Based on double occupancy

SPECIAL OFFER – BUSINESS CLASS FLIGHTS INCLUDED FOR A LIMITED TIME ONLY

CATEGORY	2026	2027
Deluxe Class	£17995	£20495
Superior Deluxe Class	£22995	£26695
Deluxe Class for sole occupancy	£26495	£30695
Superior Deluxe Class for sole occupancy	£36995	£44495

PRICE INCLUDES: Scheduled return air travel from London • Two nights hotel accommodation in Venice • Six nights aboard the Golden Eagle Danube Express Train • Overnight hotel accommodation in Belgrade • Two nights hotel accommodation in Istanbul • All meals • All alcoholic and non-alcoholic beverages from the standard bar list whilst on board the Golden Eagle Danube Express • Wine, beer and soft drinks with included lunches and dinners off the train • Excursions • Gratuities • Transfers • Hotel Portage • Airport taxes.

Not Included: Travel insurance.

Important Information: Please note that all bookings (including those made by Commodore Club members) are subject to a 10% deposit, except where the booking is made within 90 days of departure, in which case full payment will be required at the time of booking. Please also note that nonstandard cancellation fees terms apply to bookings for this holiday. Please contact us for further information.

GRAND ALPINE EXPRESS

FROM BUDAPEST TO VENICE ABOARD THE GOLDEN EAGLE
DANUBE EXPRESS PRIVATE TRAIN

30TH APRIL TO 10TH MAY 2027



Here is a spectacular journey by private train through six fascinating countries. From the classic capital cities of Budapest and Vienna, we venture deep into the Austrian Tyrol before heading across the valleys of the Swiss Alps and onwards through the Italian Lake District before entering into the lesser-known but equally beautiful country of Slovenia and its jewel in the crown, Lake Bled. Traverse some of the most scenic railway lines in the world as the Golden Eagle Danube Express weaves its way through tunnels, across viaducts and over mountain passes. Journey's end will be in the stunning maritime city of Venice, an outstanding mix of Gothic and Renaissance palaces perched on the edge of the Italian coast. A perfect end to a memorable journey of alpine discovery.

JOURNEY HIGHLIGHTS

- Private concert in the Palais Daun Kinsky with performers from the Vienna Residence Orchestra.
- Travel over the spectacular Semmering Pass with its 16 viaducts and 15 tunnels.
- Take in the breathtaking beauty of Lake Bled on a special boat experience.
- Visit stunning Lake Como and enjoy a boat excursion.
- Explore the ethereal Postojna Cave network of limestone caverns and monuments.
- Enjoy a gondola ride through the iconic waterways of romantic Venice.

THE ITINERARY

Day 1 London to Budapest, Hungary. Fly by scheduled flight. Arrive and transfer to the Four Seasons Hotel Gresham Palace for our two night stay. Enjoy a welcome reception dinner in the elegant surrounds of this Art Nouveau landmark, with its panoramic views across the River Danube.

Day 2 Budapest. Our exploration of Budapest begins with a visit to the magnificent Hungarian Parliament Building set on the banks of the Danube. From here, a scenic coach tour takes us across the river to the historic Buda side, where we explore the charming old town and admire the fairytale turrets of Fisherman's Bastion, enjoying panoramic views over the city. This afternoon we visit the elegant Hungarian State Opera House for an exclusive private concert. The remainder of the day is at leisure.

Day 3 Budapest to Vienna & Semmering Pass, Austria. We begin the day with a drinks reception at Budapest Nyugati Station before boarding the Golden Eagle Danube Express for our morning departure. Settle into the comfort of your cabin as the train glides westwards, with lunch served on board en route to Vienna. Austria's magnificent capital captivates with its Imperial grandeur and rich cultural legacy. Today's programme includes a horse-drawn carriage ride through the cobbled streets of the Old Town, a visit to the magnificent Schonbrunn Palace, or time at leisure to explore the city independently. Later, we continue to Palais Daun Kinsky for a spectacular classical performance from the Vienna Residence Orchestra. In the late afternoon, we depart Vienna and travel across central Austria towards the Alps. As evening falls, enjoy one of Europe's most spectacular rail journeys as we climb over the Semmering Pass,

a UNESCO World Heritage Site. The train threads its way across 16 soaring viaducts and through 15 tunnels, offering breathtaking alpine vistas.

Day 4 Lake Achen & Innsbruck. Continuing through the Alps, we pass the renowned skiing village of Kitzbuhel before arriving at Jenbach. After lunch, we embark on a scenic drive to the idyllic Lake Achen (Achensee). Here we step back in time aboard the historic Achenseebahn, the oldest steam cog railway in Europe. This charming narrow-gauge line carries us gently upwards to the shores of Lake Achensee. On arrival we enjoy a cruise across its sparkling waters, surrounded by alpine peaks. Later we continue to Innsbruck, the charming capital of Austria's western state of Tyrol for a guided walking tour of this compact and picturesque city.

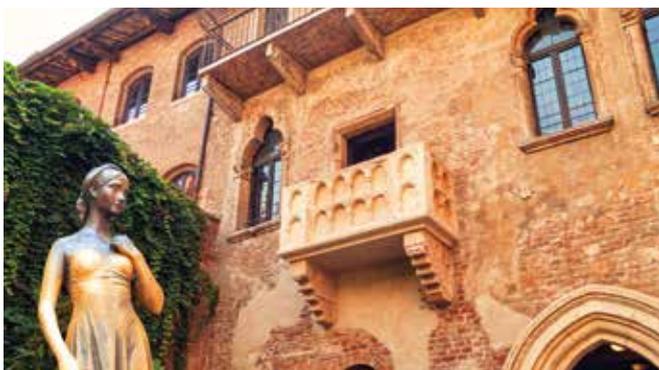
Day 5 Zurich, Switzerland. Relax on board this morning and watch the scenery of the Vorarlberg unfold before your eyes as we pass through St Anton before crossing through Liechtenstein and then into Switzerland where we run along the whole of Lake Zurich before arriving in the city itself where a traditional Swiss fondue tasting awaits. During a walking tour explore Zurich's historic centre, including a visit to the remarkable Fraumunster Church, renowned for its stunning stained-glass windows, followed by some time at leisure. Alternatively, those drawn to fine art may wish to join a brief guided walk followed by a visit to the distinguished Kunsthaus Zurich. Later enjoy dinner aboard the train as it continues its scenic journey through alpine landscapes.



Fisherman's Bastion, Budapest



Schonbrunn Palace, Vienna



Juliet's Balcony, Verona



Lake Bled

Day 6 St Gotthard Pass & Lake Como, Italy. Upon leaving Zurich we pass along the shorelines of Lake Zug and Lake Lucerne before starting the very scenic climb to the St Gotthard Pass. Once through the old St Gotthard tunnel we descend through Lugano towards Lake Como in Italy. We enjoy a private boat cruise across the serene waters and visit the beautiful lakeside town of Bellagio, where we stop for a scenic lunch and time at leisure to explore its cobbled lanes and boutiques. Returning by boat to Como, enjoy a guided tour of the historic town before we reboard the Golden Eagle Danube Express.

Day 7 Verona. This morning after running along the south shore of Lake Garda we arrive in Verona, famous for being the setting of Shakespeare's 'Romeo and Juliet'. During our tour here we will visit the magnificent Verona Arena. Built in the 1st century AD, this remarkably preserved Roman amphitheatre is one of the finest in the world and remains in active use today. Following a traditional Italian lunch, enjoy a guided walking tour through the historic centre, discovering elegant piazzas, Medieval lanes and architectural treasures.

Day 8 Lake Bled & Ljubljana, Slovenia. This morning be awake early as our train climbs away from Trieste and heads over the border into Slovenia and continues climbing through the Julian Alps to Lake Bled. With its island, church and castle, this is an incredibly picturesque alpine lake situated at the foothills of the Alps in north-western Slovenia. There will be the opportunity to step aboard a traditional Pletna boat for a tranquil trip across the lake to visit the island church. Alternatively, there is the option to explore the island and climb to Bled Castle which offers stunning views. Those seeking a more leisurely morning can choose to circle the island by boat before joining a panoramic drive to the charming Medieval village of Radovljica, including a chocolate tasting. After lunch at the elegant Tito's villa, take a short coach ride to Slovenia's enchanting capital, Ljubljana. Enjoy a walking tour through the historic centre, followed by a scenic boat trip along the Ljubljanica River.

Day 9 Postojna & Venice, Italy. This morning enjoy a private visit to Postojna Cave, one of Europe's largest and most spectacular karst cave systems. We then head south towards Mestre where our train curves to the left onto the three-mile causeway across the Venice Lagoon and into Venice Santa Lucia station located on the Grand Canal, arriving in the late afternoon. We say farewell to our train crew and transfer to a five-star hotel for a two-night stay. After dinner enjoy a private evening tour of St Mark's Basilica, offering the chance to experience one of Venice's most extraordinary landmarks in a more intimate setting.

Day 10 Venice. Venice is a truly captivating and romantic city. Today, enjoy a walking tour around the highlights of this spectacular city. Walk through the winding lanes beside the Grand Canal to St Mark's Square, followed by a short gondola ride and lunch in a local restaurant. Alternatively you may like to join an excursion to the famous Venetian islands where we will visit Murano for a traditional glassblowing demonstration and time to browse local workshops, before continuing to Burano, a charming group of small islands renowned for their brightly coloured houses and centuries-old lacemaking tradition. Enjoy a guided walk and a visit to a celebrated lacemaker, before returning to Venice for lunch. The day concludes with a farewell dinner.

Day 11 Venice to London. Check out this morning and transfer to the airport for the scheduled flight to London.

PRICES PER PERSON

Based on double occupancy

SPECIAL OFFER – BUSINESS CLASS FLIGHTS INCLUDED FOR A LIMITED TIME ONLY

CATEGORY

Deluxe Class	£18695
Superior Deluxe Class	£23995
Deluxe Class for sole occupancy	£27995
Superior Deluxe Class for sole occupancy	£40195

PRICE INCLUDES: Scheduled return air travel from London • Two nights hotel accommodation in Budapest • Six nights aboard the Golden Eagle Danube Express Train • Two nights hotel accommodation in Venice • All meals • All alcoholic and non-alcoholic beverages from standard bar list whilst on board the Golden Eagle Danube Express • Wine, beer and soft drinks with included lunches and dinners off the train • Excursions • Gratuities • Transfers • Hotel Porterage • Airport taxes.
Not Included: Travel insurance.

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All special offers are subject to availability. Itinerary and accommodation is subject to change.
Booking conditions apply to all reservations and are available on request.
Cover image: Venice, Italy. Back cover image: Bellagio, Lake Como.