### Abercrombie & Kent



## GOLDEN EAGLE DANUBE EXPRESS: PARIS TO ISTANBUL

Embark on an iconic voyage, traversing legendary cities across the continent aboard the Golden Eagle Danube Express.

Tailor-Made Journeys, Suggested Itineraries, Luxury Rail Journeys

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Europe, France, Austria, Slovenia, Turkey (T)

8 days Call for a quote pp



Private

### Journey Overview

Embark on an iconic voyage, traversing legendary cities across the continent aboard the Golden Eagle Danube Express. This extraordinary journey unfolds from the magical metropolis of Istanbul to the very heart of Europe, Paris – promising an unparalleled experience with signature Golden Eagle experiences throughout.

Expertly curated excursions are accompanied by relaxing afternoons onboard your private, five-star hotel on rails. In this unparalleled setting, unwind in the fusion of magnificent vistas and personalised, attentive service, making each moment a testament to the epitome of luxurious travel.



### **Itinerary**

### **Day 1: Arrive Paris, France**

On arrivals day in Paris, you will be met and transferred to a centrally located five-star hotel for a one-night stay. Enjoy a welcome reception dinner with your fellow guests.

### Day 2: Champagne, France

Your extraordinary rail odyssey commences from Paris. Guests will be transferred this morning to Paris Gare de Lyon Station, where the indulgence begins with a champagne drinks reception before stepping aboard the stylish Golden Eagle Danube Express. Settle into life onboard your private train as you journey across the serene French countryside towards our first stop – Champagne.

Renowned for producing the world's finest sparkling wines, Champagne's lusciously manicured vineyards, draped over rolling hills, present a captivating tapestry of green and gold. Beyond the effervescent nectar that bears its name, the region boasts historic cathedrals and regal architecture, narrating tales of medieval grandeur. Our adventures through this land will reveal a symphony of flavours, history, and elegance, making Champagne an unparalleled destination for the senses.

### Day 3: Vienna, Austria

Embark on a splendid afternoon journey through the breathtaking Austrian countryside, traversing the majestic Alps as you make your way into Switzerland. Whether you choose to unwind in the privacy of your cabin, where your dedicated cabin attendant is ready to cater to your every need or opt for the sophisticated ambiance of the Bar Lounge Car, revelling in the enchanting melodies of the resident pianists and savouring the exquisite array of cocktails meticulously crafted by world-class bar staff – every moment promises an indulgent fusion of spectacular views and refined relaxation.

As twilight descends, you gracefully arrive in the imperial city of Vienna, where the evening unfolds into a crescendo of sophistication. Indulge in a sumptuous dinner and experience the pinnacle of cultural delight with a private classical concert featuring the illustrious Vienna Supreme Orchestra. Tonight, revel in the harmonious convergence of exquisite cuisine and timeless melodies, creating an evening that transcends the ordinary and stands as a testament to the art of refined travel.

### Day 4: Vienna, Austria & Postojna, Slovenia

This morning, your exploration of the refined splendours of Vienna continues. Austria's stunning capital, steeped in a rich heritage, casts its enchanting spell on visitors. With its elaborate palaces, iconic coffee houses, and a cultural tapestry woven with classical music and captivating opera, Vienna stands as a seductive metropolis that beckons to be explored.

Indulge in an exquisite post-lunch affair as you step into a realm of culinary opulence with an exclusive confectionary masterclass, curated and presented by Golden Eagle's esteemed Catering Manager, Krisztian, and the illustrious Head Pastry Chef, Rebeka.

Tonight experience refined exploration as you venture into the enchanting depths of Postojna Caves. Aboard an underground train, delve into a subterranean world of magnificence, wandering through a network of grand halls adorned with a myriad of intricate cave formations and inhabited by mysterious creatures. Immerse yourself in the atmospheric ambiance, heightened by the soulful notes of a saxophonist echoing through the cavernous spaces.

### Day 5: Belgrade, Serbia

Today, your adventure immerses you in the hidden treasures of Belgrade, beginning with an exclusive exploration of Tito's legendary blue train, a relic of Yugoslavia's storied past. Indulge your senses with a sumptuous traditional Serbian feast, tantalising your taste buds with flavours as bold and diverse as the city itself.

Prepare to savour the essence of Serbian hospitality as you delve into the world of Rakija, Serbia's beloved elixir. At the city's oldest brewery, you'll sample an array of Rakija varieties, all while regaling in captivating tales and anecdotes that breathe life into Belgrade's spirited history.

Before you board the train, seize the opportunity to wander through Belgrade's bustling streets, where every corner reveals a new facet of its vibrant culture. Unravel the secrets of this dynamic city, where luxury meets adventure at every turn.

Tonight, you're invited to experience an immersive culinary journey – with an indulgent Gala Dinner – presented by the revered Head Chef, Ramon Batta. With each meticulously crafted dish, Chef Ramon offers a sensorial voyage, capturing the essence of this journeys destinations through the artistry of gastronomy. Drawing inspiration from local ingredients and flavours encountered along the way, Chef Ramon transforms each course into a symphony of taste and culture.

### Day 6: Sofia, Bulgaria

Enjoy a morning of relaxation in the Bar Lounge Car as you head towards Bulgaria. Soak up the ambiance of sophistication as the dulcet tones of the resident pianist serenade you, creating a symphony of relaxation. Savour the luxury of time as you recline, watching the world gracefully unfold outside your window.

Sofia is one of the oldest cities in Europe dating back around 7,000 years and sits at the foot of Mount. Vitosha, offering a stunning backdrop to our explorations. The city has some magnificent architecture throughout the city, with a mixture of Western and Central European influences, especially many of the Orthodox churches. Your adventure begins amidst the captivating ruins of the Roman city of Serdica, where echoes of a bygone era whisper tales of glory and conquest. Wander through the enchanting City Garden, home to the prestigious National Theatre Ivan Vazov, and marvel at the opulent façade of the Presidential Palace and other iconic landmarks that adorn Sofia's skyline.

But the excitement does not end there. Brace yourself for an exclusive, once-in-a-lifetime experience as you descend into the hallowed Crypt of the Alexander Nevsky Cathedral. Here, in this sacred space, you'll be enraptured by the mesmerising melodies of the "Cosmic Voices" a transcendent vocal masterpiece that stirred hearts at the opening of the Olympic Games in Tokyo. Enchanting and evocative, this private performance by the renowned Vanya Moneva Choir promises to transport you to realms of sublime beauty and spiritual awakening.

### Day 7: Istanbul, Turkey

Today, the final destination awaits, as you arrive at the end of your European rail odyssey into the fabled city of Istanbul, spanning both Asia and Europe. The rest of the day is for you to explore this fascinating city at your leisure before you enjoy a splendid Farewell Dinner on the atmospheric banks of the Bosphorus.

#### Day 8: Depart Istanbul, Turkey

This morning, after an overnight stay at your centrally located five-star hotel, you enjoy your final breakfast on the tour.

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### Accommodation

### **The Golden Eagle Danube Express**



Journeys on this private train encompass some of the continent's most enticing destinations operating through wonderful natural scenery straight into the heart of vibrant cities like Budapest, Venice, Istanbul, Krakow or Prague. Each journey takes guests back to the age of elegance in the deluxe comfort and stylish surrounds of the finest sleeping cars on the European rail network.

#### **Deluxe class**

Each deluxe sleeping car has just five spacious yet intimate air-conditioned en suite cabins (9.2 sq m).

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

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.

During dinner 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.

### **Superior Deluxe class**

Each superior deluxe sleeping car has just four spacious yet intimate air-conditioned en suite cabins (8.6 sq m). Private bathrooms feature a shower, washbasin and toilet. Comfortable seating, two large picture windows, ample storage, individual air-conditioning, safe, and in cabin Wi-Fi. During dinner the cabin is converted into a luxurious double bedroom by your attendant who is also on hand to bring early morning tea or coffee or perhaps later, a glass of wine.

#### What's included

- Breakfast, lunch, afternoon tea and dinner daily
- Inclusive alcoholic and non-alcoholic drinks throughout
- Optional in-cabin breakfast to start the day
- Dining experiences in local restaurants
- Live musical performances
- Welcome and farewell dinners Tea, coffee and bottled drinking water served in your cabin

### Abercrombie & Kent

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