

TRAIN : Venice Simplon Orient Express (VSOE)

JOURNEY : Paris to Istanbul

Journey Duration : Upto 7 Days

Day to Day Itinerary

Day 1 - Friday

Board the gleaming blue and gold carriages of the Venice Simplon-Orient-Express at Paris Gare de l' Est, mid afternoon. After being greeted by your personal steward, settle into your private cabin and relax with a delightful afternoon tea. Later enjoy a delicious gourmet dinner on board and overnight on the train.

Day 2 - Saturday

Relax and enjoy the sublime scenery as the Venice Simplon-Orient-Express travels into Hungary. Continental breakfast is served in your cabin and lunch will be taken in one of the opulent dining cars. Afternoon tea is served later in the journey. On arrival in Budapest transfer to your luxury hotel. Dinner and overnight in Budapest.

Day 3 - Sunday

After breakfast at your hotel, enjoy a private guided tour of the city Budapest, with lunch at a local restaurant included. The city is divided by the mighty Danube river into 'Buda' and 'Pest'. Rejoin the train late afternoon and perhaps enjoy an aperitif in the Bar Car before dinner as the train travels into Romania. Overnight on board.

Day 4 - Monday

After breakfast, the train arrives at the mountain town of Sinaia. Disembark for a visit to beautiful Peles Castle, which was also visited by the very first Orient-Express passengers in 1883. Rejoin the train to complete the short journey to Bucharest. On arrival transfer to the Athenée Palace Hilton Hotel where a late lunch is served. In the afternoon there will be a short city sightseeing tour. Dinner and overnight in Bucharest.

Day 5 - Tuesday

This morning, rejoin the Venice Simplon-Orient-Express as the train travels south across the Danube and into Bulgaria. During the afternoon, a stop is made to enjoy this pretty, rural country. Lunch and dinner are served on board the train, as your journey continues. This final night is spent on board the Venice Simplon-Orient-Express.

Day 6 -Wednesday

Early this morning the train enters Turkey and crosses the beautiful Thracian Plain. After breakfast and lunch on board, the Venice Simplon-Orient-Express arrives in Istanbul, at the end of a fascinating and unique journey across seven countries and cultures.

***Accommodation and transfers not included**

| Timetable : Paris - Budapest - Bucharest - Istanbul 2024 | | | |
|---|-------------------------------|---------------|---------------|
| | | Arrive | Depart |
| Day 1 | Paris (Gare de l'Est station) | - | 15:53 |
| Day 2 | Budapest (Nyugati station) | 15:42 | |
| <i>Transfer to hotel for overnight stay. Private dinner at a nearby restaurant.</i> | | | |
| Day 3 | Budapest (Nyugati station) | - | 18:08 |
| <i>Full days guided tour of Budapest. Lunch at a local restaurant.</i> | | | |
| Day 4 | Sinaia | 08:52 | 12:20 |
| <i>Guided tour of Peles Castle.</i> | | | |
| | Bucharest (Nord station) | 14:16 | |
| <i>Guided tour of Bucharest. Arrive at hotel for overnight stay. Dinner at hotel.</i> | | | |
| Day 5 | Bucharest (Nord station) | - | 09:05 |
| <i>Short off-train excursion in Varna, Bulgaria mid-afternoon.</i> | | | |
| Day 6 | Istanbul (Sirkeci Station) | 15:18 | |

*Please Note: All timings shown on this website are for your guidance only. Confirmed timings will be supplied with your travel documents.