

## ENHG Trans-Siberian Railway Adventure July 6 – 25, 2016

20-day group adventure traveling on the famous Trans-Siberian Railway from St. Petersburg to Vladivostok, Russia, July 6 – July 25. Along the way, we will explore some of the more significant and famed cultural and natural delights of Russia and Siberia. This field trip worked out so well (and I didn't get to participate!) last summer so that I'm organizing it again (and, hopefully, I will be able to participate) this summer. Here is the full itinerary:

- St. Petersburg (inc. the Hermitage, Peterhof, etc. – 4 days)
- Moscow (inc. the Kremlin and the "Golden Ring" – 3 days)
- Kazan (1 day)
- Novosibirsk (1 day)
- Krasnoyarsk (1 day)
- Irkutsk (inc. cruise on Lake Baikal with stop-off on Olkhon Island – 3 days)
- Ulan-Ude (1 day)
- Vladivostok (1 day)

There are an additional 5 days on the train for a total of 20 days – 8800 km! – for the entire journey. During this "train time," we will be treated to scenic views of the unique natural beauty of the Siberian tundra and forests. In fact, this whole trip will be a real "journey of discovery." Every participant will learn about, and experience, the culture, history, geography and natural wonders of Russia and Siberia. Of particular interest to ENHG members are Lake Baikal – the largest and deepest fresh water lake in the world, Olkhon Island, Stolby Nature Reserve in Krasnoyarsk, Ulan Ude with its unique and colorful Mongolian-Buddhist culture and, finally, Vladivostok – the San Francisco of Russia!

Approximate price is 3000 EUR per participant all inclusive (i.e., train tickets – berth in 2<sup>nd</sup> class 4-berth cabin, hotels including breakfast and local transportation). Not included are all other meals and roundtrip airfare to and from Russia (i.e., from Abu Dhabi to St. Petersburg and return home from Vladivostok to Abu Dhabi or elsewhere). Participants would be responsible for arranging their own visas. Full instructions and advice on the most efficient and expedient way to do this, as well as a more accurate and updated price (which depends on how many people sign-up) and more complete details on the trip itinerary, will be provided to all those who respond to this announcement (send to the email address below my signature).

The deadline to sign-up for this adventure is May 31. Please include full contact information, i.e., email address, phone number, etc., with your sign-up message. Please DO NOT sign-up unless you are really interested in, and committed to, participating. The size of this group is limited to 12 participants, so, hurry and grab your spot before someone else gets it!

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