

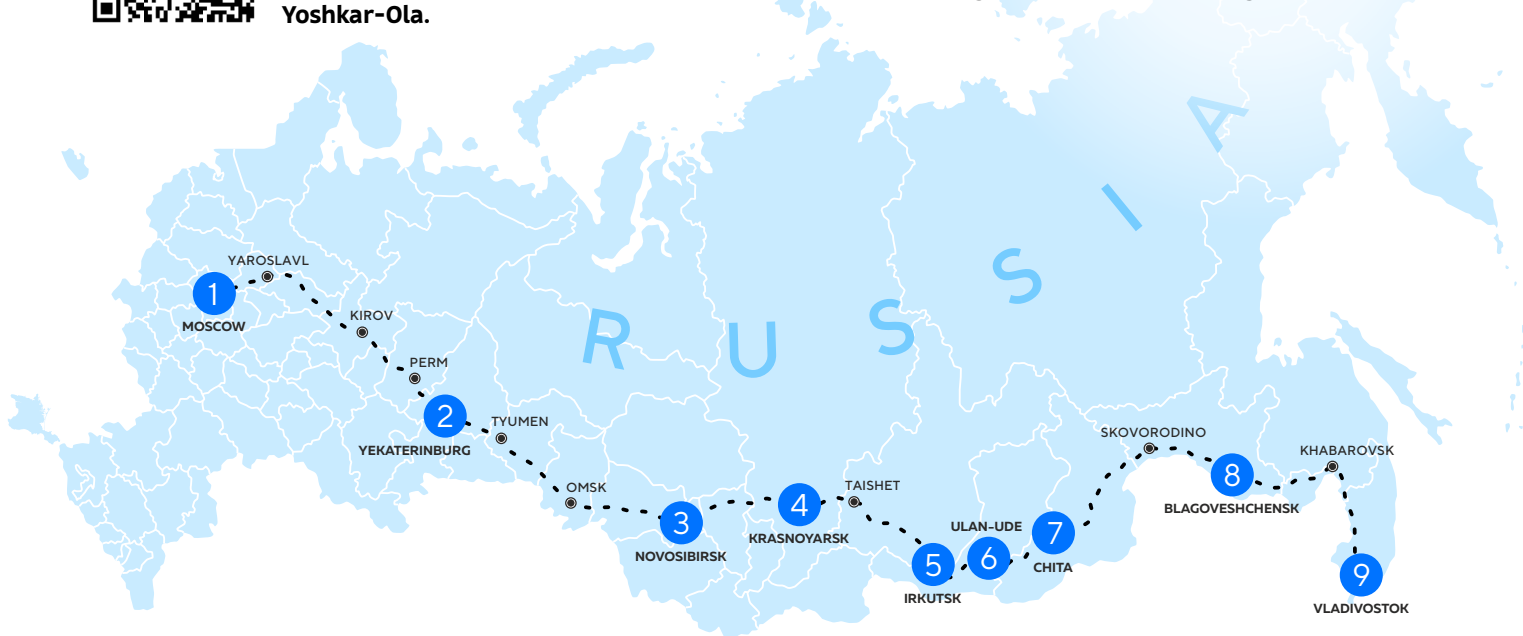
Trans-Siberian Railway

Length 9,288 kilometers [5,771 miles] (6 days by train with short stops)



Train No 100/099 departs from Moscow to Vladivostok every two days.

There are also trains between Khabarovsk - Vladivostok, Moscow - Khabarovsk, Moscow - Ulan-Ude, Moscow - Irkutsk, Moscow - Krasnoyarsk, Moscow - Novosibirsk - Kemerovo, Moscow - Novosibirsk - Novokuznetsk, Moscow - Novosibirsk, Moscow - Ekaterinburg, Moscow - Nizhny Novgorod, Moscow - Yoshkar-Ola.



1 Moscow

- You begin your journey in the capital of Russia. Most seasoned travellers will have seen everything here already. However, in other cities try some of the suggestions below

2 Yekaterinburg

- Visit The Stone Museum
- Drop in the Local History Museum on Plotinka
- Walk around the city center (you should look for a guide on constructivism architecture)
- Or visit Chekist Town (it's worth finding a local guide)
- While "Oleni Ruchi" National Park is interesting, there is another wildlife sanctuary waiting for you ahead, so it's best to continue your journey

3 Novosibirsk

- Visit the Akademgorodok district
- Stop by the "Stokvartirny house" with a guide
- Explore the mansions of the Siberian merchants

4 Krasnoyarsk

- Plan a great tour to the "Stolby" reserve

5 Irkutsk

- Take a city center tour to experience the wooden architecture Take a tour to the 130th Quarter
- Find a guided tour to travel to Listvyanka or Khuzhir by bus or by car
- Go for a ride on the Circum-Baikal Railway

6 Ulan-Ude

- Drop by the Buddhist Center
- Try buuzy (big local dumplings)

7 Chita

- Climb one of the hills near the city

8 Blagoveshchensk

- Take a walk around the city center

9 Vladivostok

- Visit the island Russky
- Take a walk around the city center and drop by the Chinese block (preferably with a guide)
- Watch the performance of dolphins and seals in the oceanarium on the island Russky
- Try some delicious crab and visit the local fish market
- Send a postcard to friends

HOW MUCH IT COSTS

200k rubles will fund a comfortable 2-week trip, including a 2nd class compartment ticket, meals and snacks, accommodation and excursions in major cities along the way. The more frugal traveller can reduce travel costs to 8-10k rubles by travelling 3rd class.

WHAT TO CONSIDER DURING PREPARATION FOR THE TRIP



Take overnight trains to move and enjoy a new city each day.



Utensils (especially glasses and glass holders) are provided in the train free of charge.



The first half of May is one of the most scenic times of year, when the wild rosemary flowers.



In the 3d class cars there is a danger of theft: do not leave valuable items in sight. With higher classes the probability of theft is several times lower.



Do not eat food that people are selling on the platform at the stations, bring all the food with you or eat in the dining car.



The shower is in the headquarters car. Ask your conductor for details.



It is better to download a phrasebook, rather than rely on cellular data, as coverage is not universal.

Facts

The railway construction started in 1887 using the force of about 90 thousand builders. The road is still included in the Guinness Book of Records by three dimensions: total length, the number of stations and the pace of construction (600 kilometers [373 miles] per year).

The bridge over the Yenisei received a gold medal at the World Exhibition in Paris (as well as the Eiffel Tower).

While, Station Polovina [Half] is considered to be half of the way, it is in fact closer to Vladivostok.

The Slyudyanka-1 station near Baikal lake is the only station in the world entirely built of marble.

Route example

Day 1: start your trip from Moscow to Ekaterinburg around midnight.

Day 2: stay in Yekaterinburg.

Day 3: leave for Novosibirsk in the evening.

Day 4: stay in Novosibirsk.

Day 5: in the afternoon leave for Krasnoyarsk.

Day 6: early check-in at the hotel in Krasnoyarsk, take a tour of the National Park "Stolby".

Day 7: at lunch leave for Irkutsk, overnight in the train.

Day 8: take a walk around the city and visit Listvyanka or Khuzhir.

Day 9: take excursions around Baikal, in the evening go to Irkutsk, then by train to Ulan-Ude.

Day 10: spend the day in the city (the hotel is not necessary) and leave for Chita in the evening.

Day 11: another day on foot - plan a tour of the city and in the evening take the train to Blagoveshchensk.

Day 12: all day in the train.

Day 13: early check-in at the hotel in Blagoveshchensk, take a tour of the city and a boat trip by the Amur River.

Day 14: leave for Vladivostok.

Days 15-16: early arrival at the hotel, take a relaxed day on the edge of the world!

Day 17: in the evening you can go back to Moscow or travel to China or Japan.

Remember that you can also take the route in the opposite direction, starting in Vladivostok and ending in Moscow.