

# TRAVELITE

TRAVEL FOR THE ELITE



## ASIAN HIDEAWAYS

ISBN 977-2-30-522800-7



9 772305 228007

ACTIVE ADVENTURES INDONESIA TRAIN TRAVEL SOUTH AFRICA

# CONTRIBUTORS



**VIOLA RAIKHEL-BOLOT**, co-founder and Managing Director of 1858 Ltd Art Advisory, is frequently invited as a guest lecturer at Sotheby's Institute and the International Bar Association as well as various art fairs and museums. Get a sample of her prized insights in *IT'S MINE! WHAT NEXT?*, as she brings forth some considerations after acquiring an art piece.



After spending time as an intern in South Africa, **HOLLY BYRNE**, who is currently a journalism student at the University of South Australia, has fond memories of the country, involving rugged cliff-side hikes, enchanting beaches, thrilling shark cage dives and exciting game reserves. She revisits one particularly stunning area in *THE EDGE OF SOUTH AFRICA*.



Having over 10 years of experience, **TAI HUI**, Managing Director and Chief Market Strategist, Asia, for J.P. Morgan Funds, is an expert in providing easily understandable analyses of the economic and financial conditions in the region. In *DON'T TIME THE MARKET*, he stresses the value of patience when handling investments.



When she's not pre-occupied as the Marketing Manager of luxury bespoke travel company Brown + Hudson, **ELIZABETH ELLIS** fills her time with yoga, photography, food, wine and leisure travel. She has visited more than 20 countries and in *CABIN COUTURE: BESPOKE TRAVEL BY TRAIN*, she shares her knowledge and memories on rail journeys.



**TIM RUSSELL**, Marketing Director of luxury tour operator Remote Lands, has come a long way in so many aspects since 1992, when he worked as a tour guide in Paris. Having lived and travelled extensively throughout Asia, he has gained superior knowledge about the region, which he shares in *ELEMENTS OF ASIA*.



In *ANYTHING BUT AS LONG AS IT'S CHARDONNAY*, **AMANDA LONGWORTH**, Education Consultant at Berry Bros. & Rudd, focuses on one grape variety to discuss its origins and characteristics. Being a WSET (Wine Spirit Education Trust) certified educator who holds the Level 4 Diploma, she is well on her way to becoming a Master of Wine.



**OPEN WITH A BRAND NEW LOOK**  
**YOUR CHOICE OF COMFORTABLE PAY-IN LOUNGE**

**Vancouver International Departure Lounge**

Level 3, International Departure Terminal



# Cabin Couture: BESPOKE TRAVEL BY TRAIN

*Embrace a bygone era aboard some of the world's most luxurious trains. Glide your way through expansive, undulating landscapes, immerse yourself in traditional culture and sample some of the most delectable food on the planet while coursing through rails of splendour.*

WORDS BY ELIZABETH ELLIS

## ADVENTURE THROUGH THE HEART OF THE ANDES

Peru. A complex, delicate land best explored as an epic journey through diverse and rolling landscapes on-board the **Andean Explorer**. As with most South American escapades, the challenge here lies in capturing the country in all of its essence. By choosing a train as the mode of travel, South America's most varied, colourful culture is brought alive by exploring Peru's vast array of offerings in one fell swoop. From vibrant festivals and brass bands to the mystic reverberations of ancient pageantry, Peru exudes diversity in all corners.

Whisked from colonial cities, past pretty lakes and onwards to imposing mountains dispersed between deserts, rainforests and ancient ruins, train travel through Peru provides a wonderfully rich exploration laid out for your own personal adventure. Home to the mighty Andes, endless Amazonian jungle and countless archaeological treasures, there is so much to see and plenty to absorb. What better way to view your impressive surrounds than by perusing the ever-changing landscapes on-board a luxurious train?

Beginning your journey in Cusco – the city that once lay at the heart of the mighty Inca Empire – you will discover the city's unique combination of colonial and religious splendours. Built on the hefty stone foundations laid by the Incas, home for your first two nights is the renowned **Hotel Monasterio**. Residing within the walls of a stunning 16th century monastery, this historic hotel blends elegance and comfort with the rich cultural heritage of Cusco. Set in the tranquil courtyard of Plazoleta Nazarenas, you are just moments from the central square of Plaza de Armas.



Having explored the city's impressive array of wonders, you will then join the **Andean Explorer** – a fabulous blend of Peruvian craftsmanship and international design. Complete with 1920s glamour, the **Andean Explorer** is unique in South America. Enjoy a full day traversing through a variety of villages, encountering insightful cultural nuances along the way. Glide between mountains and clouds – from Cusco to the lofty heights of Lake Titicaca on the Bolivian border – you will gaze at the ever-changing landscape as the roving rail ripples across undulating terrain.

Flavour and fusion are at the heart of Peruvian gastronomy. Laden with Spanish, African and even Asian influences, you will be joined by a Peruvian culinary master during your time on-board. And with the beautiful **Titilaka Lodge** waiting for your arrival on the lakeshore, you are welcome to relax and reflect on your journey in one of South America's finest abodes. Soaking up your breathtaking surrounds, this is a fitting end to an adventure through the heart of the Andes.

*A five-day, all-inclusive journey with Brown + Hudson staying two nights at Cusco's Hotel Monasterio, one day on-board the Andean Explorer and three nights at Titilaka Lodge starts at USD 19,400 per person.*



## A TRANS-SIBERIAN TALE

The diverse history and cultural complexities spanning Russia, Siberia and Mongolia are all navigated in an exceptional journey through some of the world's most fascinating cities and landscapes. Starting amongst the imposing and intricately beautiful facades of Moscow's architectural wonders, you will travel southeast from Moscow to Mongolia and into the untouched wilderness of the Gobi Desert.

Absorb the bursting creative energy of modern-day Russia with contemporary art galleries, museums and world-renowned theatres just a stone's throw away from the **Ararat Park Hyatt**, arguably the city's finest hotel. Discover the capital's bustling vitality with your personal guide – from the grandeur of the Kremlin to the treasures of the Tsars. Wander through peaceful monasteries to witness the historic spiritualism of the Russian Orthodox Church before embarking on a train journey like no other.

Departing from Moscow's Kazansky station, the **Golden Eagle** is a luxurious locomotive. With champagne to toast your departure, you can watch the world go by from your Imperial Suite's panoramic windows. First stop is the historic city of Kazan, perching majestically on the banks of the River Volga, before travelling onwards through the Capital of the Urals, Yekaterinburg, and the Soviet city of Novosibirsk. This is a journey which juxtaposes vivacity and peacefulness like no other.

Stroll through the streets of Irkutsk, known as the “Paris of Siberia”, then steam ahead to the beauty and grandeur of Lake Baikal. The world’s oldest and deepest lake is home to a unique breed of freshwater seal and over 50 species of fish. Relax as the stunning scenery envelops you as you wind your way along cliff-hugging tracks. A reminder that the depths of Siberia aren’t too far away lies in the backdrop of the lake; an expansive vista of snow-capped peaks framing the deep blue beneath.

For nine days on-board this exceptional and grandiose train, you will glide past an array of fascinating sights and sounds, absorbing the ever-evolving landscape along the way. This of course is set to the backdrop of splendour and opulence of the acclaimed Golden Eagle sleeper train. Opting for an Imperial Suite complete with king-size bed, under-floor heating and en suite bathroom with L’Occitane products, your every need is met. A private guide is even at the ready to show you around.

Arriving in the ethnic and culturally diverse city of Ulan-Ude in eastern Siberia, where stepping off the train feels as though you have been transported to another world, the welcoming Buryat people will host a traditional lunch including their famous meat dumplings called *buuza*. Spend the afternoon learning about the culture and history of the religious people here and after a day exploring, you can experience a private concert featuring local traditions and lively folk-singing to truly immerse yourself in the diversity and colour of Siberian traditions.

Travelling deeper and into Mongolia, the capital Ulaanbaatar exhibits the contrast between ancient traditions and a 21<sup>st</sup> century democracy. Here, traditional yurts and Buddhist monasteries sit in direct contrast to the modern high-rise structures. Spend the morning at the Gandan Monastery – the revered seat of Buddhism in Mongolia – for a private tea ceremony with one of the high-ranking lamas in his private chambers, followed by an afternoon visit at the National History Museum for an impressive overview of Mongolia’s famed paleontological discoveries. In the evening, a private dinner at the Fine Arts Museum can be arranged with the museum’s curator whose expertise will fully immerse you in the colourful world of Mongolian artistry.



Finally, from the hustle of the city, travel across the vast steppe to the Gobi Desert. Hike through the Yol Valley National Park, cradled in the foothills of the Altai Mountains in the northern part of the Gobi. The green valley was carved out by an ancient river with remnant streams creating incredible ice formations at the base of the valley.

Having explored the desert and immersed yourself in new natural surroundings, you will arrive at the award-winning **Three Camel Lodge**. With close proximity to the Tugrigin Shiree site where the infamous ‘Fighting Dinosaurs’ fossil was found in the 1970s, it’s the ideal place to end your epic journey. An intimate dinner flanked by the amber-hued Flaming Cliffs is a grand conclusion especially if an expert astrophysicist is around to make the most of your evening, stargazing beneath the twinkling Gobi sky.

For 14 nights, fascinating cultures and century-old customs emerge as the picture-perfect panorama of a far lesser known part of Eurasia unfolds before you. Not a journey for the faint-hearted, this Trans-Siberian tale is a worthwhile reminder that some of the greatest adventures are the ones that take a little more time and an open mind.

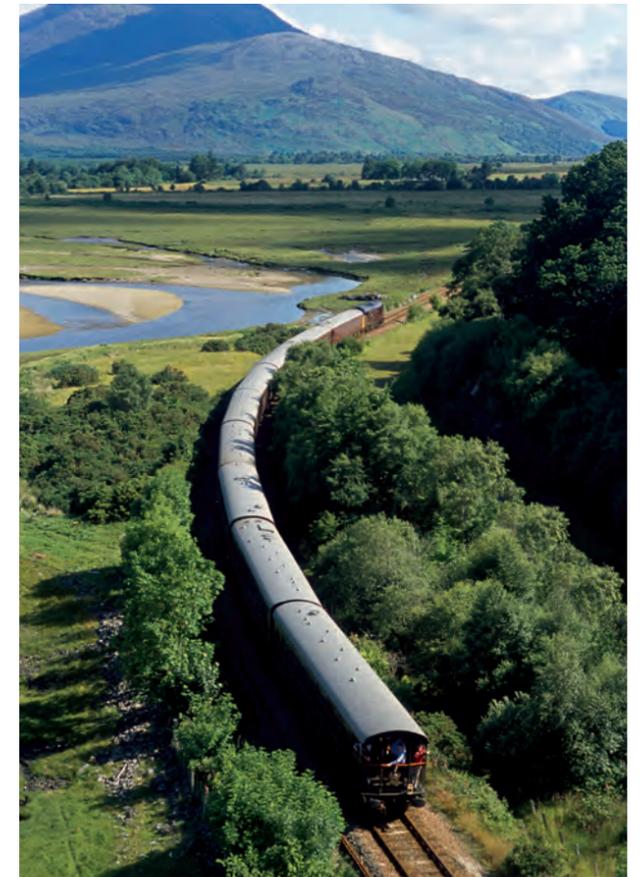
*Brown + Hudson can craft a 14-night, all-inclusive journey traversing Trans-Siberia with one night at Moscow’s Ararat Park Hyatt, two nights at The Blue Sky hotel in Ulaanbaatar and three nights at the Gobi Desert’s Three Camel Lodge, from USD 52,700 per person.*

## A SCOTTISH SOJOURN

The Scots would have you believe that there is no finer place on Earth and so a journey on the iconic **Royal Scotsman** into the heart of the Highlands may well prove their point. When one thinks of Scotland, an array of images are drawn to mind – from colourful tartan kilts and aged-whisky to remote castles and flowering thistles. However, despite all of this, many visitors to the UK miss the touches of this magnificent corner of the British Isles.

Working with expert trip planners, you will exclusively discover Scotland’s diverse landscape and unearth locations on-board one of Europe’s most prestigious trains. Admiring towering, pine-clad mountains reflecting on mirror-still lochs, with picturesque castles at dawn, seals basking on the beaches and historic golf courses down below, this journey truly captures the essence of what makes the Scottish so fiercely proud.

Opting for a relaxed yet indulgent way to explore, the Royal Scotsman harks back to a glorious age of travel. With fine dining, local expertise and a wee dram of whisky, the rich history of Scotland comes alive in a unique and special way. Laying emphasis on the complexities of Scottish whisky – originating from the Gaelic word *uisge beatha* meaning “lively water” – the history, distilling process and singularly unique flavours of each variety make for the perfect accompaniment to your exploration.



Scotland’s high latitude means that although winter days are short, the days during summer months are impressively long. Summertime is the perfect window in which to embark on an exclusive journey combining stunning scenery, rich cultural heritage and a range of sporting pursuits with inspiring characters to bring each element to life. Whisking you from coasts to castles, by chartering the train exclusively, you will float effortlessly through pretty villages and glens whilst also sampling a superb selection of regional whiskies. The Royal Scotsman, with its private en suite cabins, mahogany-panelled dining carriage and open-deck observation car, is a wonderful place to slow your pace and settle into the Scottish way of life.

*A seven-day, all-inclusive journey with Brown + Hudson exploring the heart of the Scottish Highlands and exclusively chartering The Royal Scotsman train with two nights at Edinburgh’s most luxurious hotel costs from USD 66,000 per person including extensive aged-whisky tastings. *

WWW.BROWNHANDHUDSON.COM

