

TRAVELER INFORMATION

Reservations

Small Group Tours and Rail Journeys by Private Train

1. **Contact us at 1-800-424-7289 with questions about any tour and to reserve space with your non-refundable deposit.** Early reservations are recommended, as space on all scheduled tours is limited.

2. **Complete the Reservation Form and Release of Liability and Assumption of Risk Agreement** (at the back of this catalog and available at www.mircorp.com) **and mail to MIR with a photocopy of your passport.**

Destination by Design — Flexible Essential Trips and Custom & Private Journeys

Please contact us for a proposed itinerary/price estimate and list of inclusions/exclusions. Separate terms apply to custom groups.

Booking Conditions

Eligibility

Travelers must be 18 years of age or older (or a minor accompanied by a parent or chaperone) and in acceptable health to join one of our tours. Reservations are subject to our review and acceptance of your completed Reservation Form and signed Release of Liability and Assumption of Risk Agreement. We reserve the right to request additional information or medical clearance, or to refuse to accept any traveler from any tour, for any reason, at our sole discretion.

Travelers' Responsibilities

Travelers are responsible for selecting an appropriate tour that matches their interests and physical abilities. Please contact us for assistance with tour selection. Travelers are also responsible for preparing for the tour by studying the Descriptive Daily Itinerary and additional trip information sent by MIR Corporation.

Travelers must complete and return to MIR the Reservation Form and signed Release of Liability and Assumption of Risk Agreement before a Confirmation Packet can be sent. If you book through a third party agent, please note that all subsequent communication will be made through your agent.

Land Tour Inclusions/Exclusions

Land Tour Inclusions/Exclusions for any Small Group Tour, Rail Journey by Private Train or Flexible Essential Trip are outlined in the Descriptive Daily Tour Itinerary. For Custom & Private Journeys, inclusions/exclusions are detailed in the custom trip proposal. Please note: Land tour prices include estimated internal transport such as local flights, and flight prices remain subject to change.

Not Included in Tour Prices

Prices do not include international airfare, taxes, fuel surcharges, airport departure fees, visa fees, passport expenses, cost increases of internal airfares, gratuities (unless otherwise stated), meals not specified in the itinerary, alcoholic beverages, insurance (required on all Rail Journeys by Private Train), single supplement (by choice or circumstance), items of a personal nature including souvenirs, laundry, phone calls/email, excess baggage fees, or expenses arising from the delay, extension or modification of a tour due to bad weather, flight delays, sickness or medical emergency, government action, or any other cause beyond our control.

Deposits & Payment Schedules

At the time of reservation, a non-refundable per person deposit is due as follows:

-Scheduled departures of MIR Small Group Tours and Flexible Essential Trips	\$500
-Scheduled Rail Journeys by Private Train, all classes except Gold Class	\$1,500
-Scheduled Rail Journeys by Private Train, Gold Class	\$2,000
-Custom & Private Journeys	
for individuals	\$700
for groups	see itinerary/reservation form

The balance is due upon receipt of invoice or at latest by:

-Scheduled departures of MIR Small Group Tours and Flexible Essential Trips	60 days prior to departure
-Scheduled Rail Journeys by Private Train	95 days prior to departure
-Custom & Private Journeys	
for individuals	60 days prior to departure
for groups	see itinerary/reservation form

Payment Terms

Prices are quoted in U.S. dollars and must be paid in U.S. dollars. Land tour deposits are accepted by check, wire transfer, money order, or credit card (Visa, MasterCard or Amex). Final payments may be made by check, wire transfer, money order or credit card for reservations made directly with MIR. If booking through a third party agent, please contact your agent to find out what form of payment they accept. (MIR can accept final payment from third party agents by agency check only.)

Full payment for land tours is due at the time of booking for reservations made at or within 60 days prior to departure (95 days for Rail Journeys by Private Train).

Payment for air tickets which are not part of the land tour is due upon confirmation and may be paid for by credit card or check according to the acceptance policies of the carrier. Tickets cannot be issued until we have received your payment, and fares, taxes and fuel surcharges remain subject to change until ticketed.

Transfers on Scheduled Small Group Tours*

You may transfer your deposit from one Small Group Tour departure to another scheduled to depart in the same calendar year up to 91 days prior to departure at no charge, subject to availability. Please send your request in writing. Transfers made 90 days or closer to departure are subject to our cancellation policy.

*Transfer policy is applicable only from/to scheduled small group tours and does not apply from/to any Rail Journey by Private Train, Flexible Essential Trip or Custom or Private Journey.

Insurance

We strongly recommend that you purchase cancellation/interruption, medical and evacuation insurance. Contact MIR at 1-800-424-7289 or www.mircorp.com for our insurance rates and a complete description of policy terms, conditions and exclusions. Please note that it is a condition of booking any Rail Journey by Private Train that you are adequately insured with cancellation/interruption, medical and evacuation insurance. We can arrange for your purchase of these coverages through us, in which case the pre-existing medical condition exclusion will be waived if the premium is paid when you make your tour deposit.

Should you seek your own insurance, please supply us with the name, address and telephone number of your insurers, your policy number and the 24-hour medical emergency telephone number. We reserve the right to decline to accept a booking if adequate proof of such current and valid travel insurance (at our sole discretion) is not provided to us upon request.

Cancellations and Refunds

Please understand there will be no exceptions to our cancellation policies regardless of your situation. We recommend the purchase of trip cancellation/interruption insurance at the time of deposit.

Should you need to cancel your travel plans, please notify us in writing immediately. At the time we receive written notification of cancellation, the following charges apply:

Scheduled Small Group Tours, Flexible Essential Trips and Custom & Private Journeys for Individuals:

If received up to 61 days or more prior to departure
deposit due or paid in full of \$500 or \$700
31-60 days prior to departure 50% of the land tour cost
30 days prior to departure or after trip departure no refund

Scheduled Rail Journeys by Private Train:

95 or more days prior to departure
deposit due or paid in full of \$1,500 or \$2,000
65-94 days prior to departure 50% of the land tour cost
64 days prior to departure or after trip departure no refund

Custom & Private Journeys:

for groups see itinerary/reservation form

Air Tickets:

Refunds for unused air tickets are subject to the rules of the respective air carrier(s) and to a MIR service fee.

Please note that no partial refunds are available for any missed days of a tour or any whole or part of a tour, accommodation, meal or any other service not utilized by the participant during the tour. The quoted price represents a package price for the services offered and an itemization of individual component costs will not be provided, except for internal air tickets in some cases.

MIR Corporation reserves the right to cancel any tour prior to departure for any reason whatsoever, in which case a refund of the land tour payment will constitute full settlement. In the event of cancellation, MIR is not responsible for any expenses incurred by travelers in preparation for the trip (e.g. non-refundable airline tickets, visa fees, etc.).

MIR reserves the right to add staff or invited guests to any of our group departures.

Itinerary & Price Changes

Published itineraries and hotels for all tours are subject to change. Prices listed in this brochure are subject to change. We reserve the right to add a surcharge or to modify a tour if we are faced with significant increased costs including (but not limited to) changes in airfares, fuel surcharges and currency fluctuations, over which we have no control.

Rail Journeys by Private Train

Train Schedules & Flexibility – The trains used for these tours usually run on busy main lines, cover huge distances and operate to pre-agreed schedules. Occasionally, operational, mechanical or other reasons beyond the tour operator's control can cause delays resulting in rescheduling, reducing or cancelling parts of the cultural and sightseeing program in order to maintain the overall schedule. No refunds will be made if time constraints dictate that elements of the cultural/sightseeing program or route be reduced, altered or cancelled to maintain the overall schedule, or if any accommodation, sightseeing, meals or services are not utilized.

The international rail tour operators who operate the private trains featured in this brochure will make every effort to ensure

that advertised features such as travel in specific carriages or on specific lines are provided. However, there can be occasions when, for reasons outside of the tour operator's control, the specific features cannot be provided. The tour operator will endeavor to provide alternative accommodations or routing as the circumstances allow; however, the tour operator and its agents at all times reserve the right to make substitutions for mechanical, operational or other unforeseen reasons.

Formations of some trains are not fixed, as the composition varies to suit the number of passengers on a given departure, and exact configuration(s) may not be determined until close to departure. A variety of cabin styles is in use aboard the various trains. Décor and layout of dining, bar and sleeping cars on your journey may differ from the sample images depicted in our brochures/websites.

Safety on Rail Tours – Railways are busy and potentially dangerous places. If you alight other than at scheduled stops at recognized stations, or visit any railway installation, whether included or not in the tour, you do so entirely at your own risk and are advised that your travel insurance MAY NOT cover you in case of mishap. Permission to travel on the locomotives, or on any other part of the train not normally accessible, may be given during the tour; however, you do this entirely at your own risk.

Accommodation Policies

If you prefer single accommodations, the single supplement fee/single occupancy rate is payable. Single accommodations are not always available as some nights may be spent in yurts/gers, tents, lodges, guesthouses, aboard regularly-scheduled rail service or in private homes and are subject to the availability of rooms and/or camping space. The (*) listed next to the single supplement price indicates partial single supplement availability on tours that employ non-hotel accommodation for some nights.

Double occupancy accommodations may have two twin beds or one double bed. We cannot guarantee requests for particular bed types as options are limited in most locations. On trains, cabin configurations differ by class of service and by train, with most cabins configured with upper/lower berths.

We are happy to attempt to make a same gender roommate match for solo travelers who request it. Should no one be available with whom you can share, you will be assessed the single supplement fee/single occupancy rate at the time of invoicing. In the event of a last-minute cancellation or roommate incompatibility resulting in assignment of a single room, the single supplement fee/single occupancy rate will be assessed.

Visas and Passports

A valid passport with six months validity from the end of the tour is required for participation. Travelers are responsible for obtaining all necessary visas prior to departure. MIR is not responsible for incorrect or improperly issued visa or passport documentation and cannot guarantee visa approval by foreign governments. MIR cannot assume responsibility for any costs associated with a traveler's refused visa issuance or refused entry into a country due to incorrect or incomplete documentation. It is the traveler's responsibility to check visas and passports for accuracy.

Air Reservations

MIR will gladly provide suggested airfare for you to join any of our programs. Please indicate your airfare needs on the reservation form. Please note that airfares, taxes and fuel surcharges are not guaranteed until purchased and ticketed. Should you decide to make your own arrangements, including mileage-based reservations, please supply MIR with a copy of your air itinerary showing arrival and departure flights and times by 60 days prior to departure.