



THREE NEW GRAND SUITES ANNOUNCED ON VENICE SIMPLON-ORIENT-EXPRESS IN 2020

27th June 2019 - Belmond announces the creation of three new Grand Suites set to join the legendary Venice Simplon-Orient-Express, a Belmond train, Europe for the 2020 season. The new suites, Vienna, Prague and Budapest, are named after iconic European cities the train travels to every year.

The epitome of luxury, each Grand Suite has been created with scrupulous craftsmanship that embraces the train's iconic history throughout. From the hand embroidered cushions to intricately carved marquetry, the suites offer an unmatched experience with perfectly placed mosaics, silk patterns, en-suite bathrooms, double beds and a private living area with underfloor heating.

The three new Grand Suites will bring the total number of suites on board to six as they join Venice, Istanbul and Paris, the existing winners of the 'AHEAD: World's Best Suite 2019'.

Gary Franklin, Vice President, Trains & Cruises, Belmond comments, "As with everything on board the Venice Simplon-Orient-Express, the design and careful restoration that goes into each suite, whilst respecting the original 1920s art-deco design, is extraordinary. Each meticulous suite will draw inspiration from the romance, adventure and style of each great European city we travel to. The suites evoke the individual city experience whether it is walking along the Charles Bridge in Prague or exploring the contrasting Gothic and Ottoman architecture of Budapest. They are a real tribute to the romance and glamour of Europe and the golden era of rail travel."

AWARD-WINNING DESIGN

The first set of Grand Suites won several esteemed design awards including the AHEAD World's Best Suite, Gold Key Awards – Best Specialist Design and the Historic Renovation

category in the Contract Interior Awards. The suites were also nominated for the Inside Awards, Civic Culture & Transport and the Blueprint Awards.

Wimberly Interiors will be conducting the design project. "We are thrilled and honoured to work with Belmond again on this important design project. It is imperative that the design reflects the train's history and supports the ultimate experience of glamour and prestige that any experience on the train delivers. We have worked closely with the Belmond team to ensure that the train's iconic cities are reflected in the suite design." Rachel Johnson, Senior Vice President and Studio Director, Wimberly Interiors London.

GREAT EUROPEAN CITIES

The Baroque and Gothic architecture of Prague, along with the city's theatrical feel, will be encapsulated in the Prague Grand Suite through rich golds and maroons. The balance of ancient and modern will be captured through layers of hand-embroidered cushions and Cubist inspired mosaic patterns. The marquetry will be adorned with hints of red garnet.

Vienna is known for its historic landmarks and Grand Palaces. The city's imperial nature will be reflected with an ornate and classical design in the Vienna Grand Suite. Rich hues of gold and emerald green will reflect the romantic details of the city. A feature curved headboard with silk fabric panels will give a feminine feel together with touches of dark wood.

The Budapest Grand Suite aims to capture the essence of both sides of the Danube river, taking inspiration from both the Gothic and Ottoman architecture. The suite will be adorned with intricate detailed marquetry and sumptuous silk embroidery patterns.

THE GRAND SUITE EXPERIENCE

The full collection of suites will now include Venice, Istanbul, Paris, Prague, Budapest and Vienna. Each suite will consist of private bathrooms with showers, double beds that can convert into twin beds, a private living area and underfloor heating.

Free-flowing champagne, a personal 24-hour cabin steward, private in-cabin dining, spacious marble en-suites, bespoke amenities, a complimentary bathrobe and private transfers to and from the train also included in the experience.

Venice Simplon-Orient-Express travels throughout Europe from March to November and travels to Istanbul once a year.

A classic one-night journey in a Grand Suite starts from £6,200 per person.

A journey from Venice to Vienna, Prague or Budapest in a twin cabin starts from £2,200 per person.

A journey from Vienna, Prague or Budapest to Paris or London in a twin cabin starts from £2,573 per person.

For more details on Belmond visit www.belmond.com.

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About Belmond

Belmond has been a pioneer of luxury travel for over 45 years, building a passion for authentic escapes into a portfolio of one-of-a-kind experiences in some of the world's most inspiring destinations.

Since the acquisition of the iconic Hotel Cipriani in Venice in 1976, Belmond has continued to perpetuate the legendary art of travel, taking discerning global travellers on breathtaking journeys. Its portfolio extends across 24 countries with 46 remarkable properties that include the illustrious Venice Simplon-Orient-Express train, remote beach retreats like Cap Juluca in Anguilla, Italian hideaways such as Splendido in Portofino, or unrivalled gateways to world natural wonders such as Hotel das Cataratas inside Brazil's Iguazu National Park. From trains to river barges, safari lodges to hotels, each unique property offers an incomparable experience with its own story to tell. The essence of the Belmond brand is built upon its heritage, craftsmanship and genuine, authentic service. Belmond sees its role as custodians of timeless heritage, dedicated to preserving its assets through sensitive ongoing restoration plans. Belmond is part of the world's leading luxury group LVMH Moët Hennessy Louis Vuitton.

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