

## Status of and outlook for luxury train vacations

As indicated by the following recent excerpts

New trains are being introduced to meet significant ongoing demand for luxury rail vacations.

To see examples, take a few minutes and click [here](#), and [Italy](#), and [China](#), and [England/Wales](#), and [Australia](#), and [Flocking to luxury trains](#); there is a shortage of inventory “for the foreseeable future”.

### **Bloomberg**

June 2025 - High-end train travel market is growing in popularity - the great railroad resurgence of the mid-2020s - a 300% increase in demand for pscale journeys by rail since 2023



1 Feb 2025 - “As the world’s luxury train renaissance gathers speed, it’s on track to be one of the most significant travel trends of this decade and beyond. Some are even predicting growth in the sector will be like the explosion of popularity in river cruising.”



### Luxury Train Travel is Making a Comeback

There is a new renaissance of luxury trains **getting back on track** with modern train travel today, and the world’s VIP’s are all aboard. Newly recreated, restored classic trains are brought back to life as upscale steel carriages complete with personal butlers, attentive headwaiters happily serve five-course meals on premium bone china. Roomy private suites with plush linens pressed to perfection are also what can be expected these days, as if you were at the Ritz.



Luxury train travel has **stepped up its game**.



### **Full steam ahead: the revival of luxury train travel**

Today, the journey has become as enjoyable as the destination itself, as more of us choose to take it slow and experience the scenic route.



2019 - “It’s growing all the time,” Todd Powell, CEO of Vacations by Rail, said of the luxury rail market.



### **Golden Eagle Luxury Trains, Europe, India**

Tim Littler, owner operator - “There is a **current boom in luxury rail**” . . . “There will be a **limitation on availability for the foreseeable future**” because demand for luxury train vacations exceeds available inventory.

Natasha Baker, Sales and Marketing Manager - “Luxury Trains, **becoming increasingly popular**.”



Luxury train travel has **stepped up its game** . . . chic train travel is **making a comeback** . . . the journey has become as enjoyable as the destination itself . . . a totally unique way to travel through a country . . . the popularity of luxury train travel is **a worldwide phenomenon**



Guy Saunders, founder, Planet Rail

“Luxury rail trips have been becoming **more popular year on year**” . . . “We have seen a **significant increase in the number of customers looking for luxury train travel**” . . . “The popularity of luxury train travel **continues to grow apace**” . . . “an upsurge in the number of people booking”



The buzz at the International Luxury Travel Market (ILTM) conference in Cannes, France, was a clear indication that there is indeed a **strong demand in the luxury train travel niche** . . . travelers are responding by packing new trains.





### **Letter from Director Business Development, RCI-Wyndham Destination Network**


“We are very excited to hear about the renovations and upgrades taking place with America’s Trains; there has been a lot of great press lately about the **resurgence of train travel** and we’re happy to see your progress! RCI as part of the Wyndham Destination Network with our over 3 million member families has a **great demand for the luxury train travel** product your organization is planning. We provide over 2 million families with great vacations year after year and believe that your services fill a general need and there is **notable**

**consumer interest for Journeys by Rail.** As the world leader in vacation exchange and travel, we look forward to our ongoing relationship and jumping on the train!”


**railbookers** “Travel agents are showing a lot of interest in rail travel”. . . ‘We are seeing tremendous interest in rail travel”, says John Vavrina, Vice President of Sales. “Railbookers has been witnessing an incredible surge in higher-ticket vacations. (on trains)”


 Lewisinvestmentgroup.com, the Lewis Group – Jan 2021  
**Luxury train travel is very much needed in the US.**


 Amtrak is initiating the work to deliver by 2035 more frequent, reliable and sustainable intercity passenger rail services to over 160 more communities and 20 million more passengers annually.

 Tim Littler, CEO, Golden Eagle Luxury Trains (Europe) – July 2021  
It has been heartening, yet unsurprising, to see the level of booking demand with many of our **flagship** tours nearing capacity already . . . in response to this heightened demand.


**Condé Nast Traveler** **Train Travel in the U.S. Is Getting More Luxurious September 7, 2021**  
Rail is on a roll. Train journeys have long been viewed as more sophisticated than traveling by either road or air, but train travel in the U.S. has long lagged behind Europe and Asia . . But sophisticated travelers *are* voting - with their wallets, at least - in favor of rail, and they've been doing so in **greater numbers**, experts say.


 A recent poll by Virtuoso travel agency consortium found that . . . sentiment is **fueling interest in** high-end train travel in the U.S., says Misty Belles, Virtuoso’s vice president. “Train travel is a way to enjoy the beauty of the U.S. and its diverse landscapes without having to drive,” she says. “More spacious seating and ability to roam appeal to those looking to avoid chaotic airports, crowded flights, or cramped cars.”


 Premium rail travel “is a hot product” right now for discerning travelers, according to Eleanor Hardy . . . co-founder of The Society of International Railway Travelers.


 “We are seeing a ton of new customers,” says Roger Harris, Amtrak’s executive vice president . . . “mainly **upscale leisure travelers** who are not just interested in getting from point A to point B, but in savoring the train trip itself.”

**OLATORERA.COM** luxury is the new norm and **travelling via a luxurious train is indeed the classiest way to travel**  
CONSULTING • BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT • AFRICA **ravel overland distances.**

 Before the dawn of private jets and business class flights, royalty and high society onboard luxury trains. Now anyone can do it ... The **prices, however, don't seem to deter rail enthusiasts.**

 **A record year** for Venice Simplon-Orient-Express that saw our revenue increase by 70%” said Gary Franklin, vice president of Belmond’s trains and cruises. Franklin told CNBC. “we anticipate that this **rise in demand and interest will continue** ... “It’s fantastic value for money,” he said.


 U.S. Transportation Secretary : **\$ billions, federal government grants** for rail services - “reversing a half-century of underinvestment in our rail network - will expand service - **demand has been strong** across the country - **Americans should have the option of high-quality passenger rail** .. and are ready for the benefits of better rail”

 2022 - The world’s ‘best’ luxury train **sells out a year in advance** . . . certainly **requires early booking.**

**THE POINTS GUY** Want to truly immerse yourself in the vastness of the USA? **There's no better way than to take a scenic cross-country train trip.** During these long-distance train rides, the journey is just as exciting as the destination itself. Relaxing in your seat as you watch the U.S. landscape out your train car window slowly change from cities to farmlands or from wide-open plains to towering mountains is an experience that's worth the extra transit time.

**TRAVEL WEEKLY** Demand for train travel has been on the rise . . . **booking more train travel than ever before.**

 Rail is on a roll, sophisticated travelers *are* voting-with their wallets . . . in favor of rail.

 Experts have seen a huge **increase in luxury train travel for leisure and five-star tours.**

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Luxurious [train travel](#) is trending . . . **surging in popularity** in the United States.



### **Five Reasons to Take a Rail Vacation**

(1) An immersive travel experience. . . through the heart of breathtaking scenery inaccessible by other modes of transportation. (2) Endless variety of well-planned rail itineraries. (3) More spacious and comfortable than other modes of travel. (4) On board iconic trains . . . with comfortable lodging and memorable sightseeing and dining. (5) The journey is part of your adventure.