

1 **Excerpts from *Luxury Train Travel Reports and Statements***

2 **Summary:** As indicated by the following excerpts which represent current expert opinions, the outlook for luxury
3 train vacations and therefore Journeys by Rail is strong.



4 Dec 12th, 2019 *Luxury Train Travel is Making a Comeback*

5 There is a new renaissance of luxury trains **getting back on track** with modern train travel
6 today, and the world's VIP's are all aboard. Newly recreated, restored classic trains are brought back to life as
7 upscale steel carriages complete with personal butlers, attentive headwaiters happily serve five-course meals
8 on premium bone china. Roomy private suites with plush linens pressed to perfection are also what can be
9 expected these days, as if you were at the Ritz.
10



11 *Departures Magazine* December 26, 2019

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

13
14 **BD Full steam ahead: the revival of luxury train travel**

15 Today, the journey has become as enjoyable as the destination itself, as more of us choose to take it
16 slow and experience the scenic route.
17



18 July 1, 2019 In the past few years, the luxury train travel game has heated up.
19



20 2019 - "It's growing all the time," Todd Powell, CEO of Vacations by Rail, said of the luxury rail
21 market. Well-traveled people are looking for new experiences, he said, and trains provide an overland adventure
22 on which visitors get a feel for a country while enjoying exceptional service...With **train travel gaining steam**.



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

24 **Tim Littler, owner operator, Nov 2019 - "There is a current boom in luxury rail" . . . "There**
25 **will be a limitation on availability for the foreseeable future" because demand for luxury train vacations**
26 **exceeds available inventory.**

27 **Natasha Baker, Sales and Marketing Manager, 2020 - "Luxury Trains, becoming**
28 **increasingly popular.**



29 2020 - Luxury train travel has **stepped up its game** . . . that's just one of the many reasons that
30 chic train travel is **making a comeback** . . . the journey has become as enjoyable as the destination itself . . . a
31 totally unique way to travel through a country . . . the popularity of luxury train travel is **a worldwide**
32 **phenomenon**
33



34 2020 - Guy Saunders, founder, Planet Rail

35 "Luxury rail trips have been becoming **more popular year on year**" . . . "We have seen
36 **a significant increase in the number of customers looking for luxury train travel**" . . . "The popularity of
37 luxury train travel **continues to grow apace**" . . . "The demand for luxury train travel is now chugging away –
38 steady and sure . . . an upsurge in the number of people booking"



39 Dec 2019 - The buzz at the International Luxury Travel Market (ILTM) conference in Cannes,
40 France, was a clear indication that there is indeed **a strong demand in the luxury train travel niche** . . .
41 travelers are responding by packing new trains.



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

43 " We are very excited to hear about the renovations and upgrades taking place with America's Trains;
44 there has been a lot of great press lately about the **resurgence of train travel** and we're happy to see your
45 progress! RCI as part of the Wyndham Destination Network with our over 3 million member families has a **great**
46 **demand for the luxury train travel** product your organization is planning. We provide over 2 million families
47 with great vacations year after year and believe that your services fill a general need and there is **notable**
48 **consumer interest for Journeys by Rail**. As the world leader in vacation exchange and travel, we look forward
49 to our ongoing relationship and jumping on the train!"
50
51
52
53

54
55
56
57
58
59
60
61
62
63
64
65
66
67
68
69
70
71
72
73
74
75
76
77
78
79
80
81
82
83
84
85
86
87
88
89
90
91
92
93
94
95
96
97
98
99
100
101
102
103

 June 12, 2020 **Rail travel allows for a lot more social distancing**
“Travel agents are showing a lot of interest in rail travel as an ideal post-pandemic travel product” . . . “We are seeing tremendous interest in rail travel as a go-to alternative for post-coronavirus travel”, says John Vavrina, Vice President of Sales.

 Mar 10, 2021
“Railbookers has been witnessing an incredible surge in higher-ticket vacations. (on trains)”

 Aug 2020 - Private Rail Cars Will Soon Become The Ultimate Social Distancing Escape. A new resurgence of the Golden Age is on the horizon as interest in a post-pandemic world is increasing.

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

 27 May 2021 - 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, as outlined in their ‘Corridor Vision’.

 Tim Littler, CEO, Golden Eagle Luxury Trains (Europe) – July 2021
It has been heartening, yet unsurprising, to see the level of booking demand for 2022 tours so far, with many of our flagship tours nearing capacity already . . . in response to this heightened demand.

 **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 since the pandemic struck, experts say.

 2021 - 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.”

 2021 - 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.

 2021 - “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.”

 Sep 2021 - Luxury is the new norm and travelling via a luxurious train is indeed the classiest way to travel overland distances. It is a great way to see beautiful sceneries without the inconvenience of moving luggage from one destination to another.

 Oct 2021 - Before the dawn of private jets and business class flights, royalty and high society traveled through Europe onboard luxury trains. Now anyone can do it . . . if they are willing and able to spend £1,700 (\$2,300) for a one-night trip (\$900 on America’s Trains’ Journeys by Rail) The prices, however, don’t seem to deter rail enthusiasts. Many journeys sell every seat.

“2019 was a record year for Venice Simplon-Orient-Express that saw our revenue increase by 70% compared to those in 2015,” said Gary Franklin, vice president of Belmond’s trains and cruises. When passenger journeys restarted in June (post Covid departures, 2021), travelers again booked some routes solid.

“We are certainly seeing a revival of rail travel post-pandemic,” Franklin told CNBC. “With more and more travelers discovering . . . slow travel, we anticipate that this rise in demand and interest will continue. He likened the trips to “a private jet on wheels” and the carriages to “art pieces.” . . . “It’s fantastic value for money,” he said.