

Georgia – Armenia 9 days 8 nights 2025

# Day 1: Arrival Arrival at Kutaisi Transfer to the hotel Overnight in Kutaisi Day 2: Kutaisi - Mtskheta - Tbilisi Breakfast Kutaisi Visit Prometheus cave Gelati Academy and Monastery Mtskheta Overnight in Tbilisi Day 3: Tbilisi / City tour / Breakfast Tbilisi city tour Overnight in Tbilisi Day 4: Tbilisi - Sighnaghi - Bodbe - Tbilisi **Breakfast** Kakheti region **Bodbe Monastery** Visit to Winery Overnight in Tbilisi Day 5: Sadakhlo - Haghpat - Dilijan - Sevan - Yerevan **Breakfast Haghpat Monastery** Dilijan Sevan Overnight in Yerevan Day 6: Yerevan / City tour / - Zvartnots - Ejmiatsin - Yerevan **Breakfast** Yerevan City Tour Ejmiatsin Cathedral - Zvartnots Cathedral Overnight in Yerevan

## Day 7: Yerevan - Khor Virap - Areni - Noravank - Yerevan

Breakfast

Khor Virap

Areni Cave

Noravank

Overnight in Yerevan

# Day 8: Yerevan - Garni - Symphony of stones - Geghard - Yerevan

Breakfast

Garni Temple

Symphony of Stones

Geghard Monastery

Visit fruit market "Gum"

Overnight in Yerevan

# Day 9: Departure

Breakfast

Transfer to the hotel

Departure

# Day 1: Arrival



## **Arrival at Kutaisi**

Meeting at Kutaisi



Transfer to the hotel



Overnight in Kutaisi

# Day 2: Kutaisi - Mtskheta - Tbilisi



### **Breakfast**



#### Kutaisi

Today we travel to Kutaisi in the Western Georgia, which has a different climate from east, and south Georgia. Its climate is subtropical and you can feel this as soon as you pass Rikoti Tunnel.



#### **Visit Prometheus cave**

Is one of Georgia's natural wonders providing visitors with breathtaking examples of stalactites and stalagmites. (on Monday is closed).



### **Gelati Academy and Monastery**

Visit to Gelati Academy and Monastery is a monastic complex near Kutaisi, the region of Imereti, western Georgia, was founded by King David IV the founder in XII century. During the 12-13th centuries Gelati was one of the biggest religious, educational, scientific and philosophy centers of Georgia. The founding of Gelati is tied to the cultural renaissance of Georgia.



### Mtskheta

Mtskheta with its historical sites: the Church of Jvari (6th century) and Svetitskhoveli Cathedral (11th century). Jvari and Svetitskhoveli are World Heritage Sites of UNESCO. And according to the legend it is believed Svetitskhoveli houses the Robe of Christ. Mtskheta is the town where St. Nino – a 14-year old Cappadocian maiden preached Christianity as early as 4th century AD and converted Georgia officially to Christianity in 337 AD making Georgia the third official Christian country in the world.



### Overnight in Tbilisi

# Day 3: Tbilisi / City tour /



### **Breakfast**



### Tbilisi city tour

(literally "Warm Spring") is the capital and the largest city of Georgia, lying on the banks of the Mt'k'vari River. Founded in the 5th century by king Vakhtang Gorgasali. The history of the city can be seen by its architecture.

Places to visit:

Old town: Metechi – one of the earliest inhabited areas of the city.

Abanotubani – district of Tbilisi, known for its sulfuric baths

Narikala fortress is an ancient fortress overlooking Tbilisi

Sharden street- modern street in Tbilisi with coffee-shops

Sioni Cathedral- is a Georgian orthodox cathedral in Tbilisi. Following a medieval Georgian tradition of naming churches after particular places in the Holy Land.

Bridge of Peace – is a bow-shaped pedestrian bridge. The bridge was designed by the Italian architect (2010)

The Holy Trinity Cathedral, commonly known as Sameba is the main Georgian Orthodox Cathedral and it is listed among the largest Orthodox churches in the world. Constructed between 1995 and 2004.

By bus Shota Rustaveli Avenue- is an avenue in central Tbilisi and Freedom square.

Flea market



## **Overnight in Tbilisi**

# Day 4: Tbilisi - Sighnaghi - Bodbe - Tbilisi



#### **Breakfast**



### Kakheti region

Drive to the eastern part of Georgia- Kakheti region, known almost exclusively for its vineyards and wineries.

Places to visit: KTW - For tasting the famous Georgian wine.



### **Bodbe Monastery**

Bodbe Monastery - is a Georgian Orthodox monastic complex. Originally built in the 9th century.



### **Visit to Winery**



### Overnight in Tbilisi

# Day 5: Sadakhlo - Haghpat - Dilijan - Sevan - Yerevan



### **Breakfast**



### **Haghpat Monastery**

Continue to Haghpat Monastery, situated in the Lori Province of Armenia, is a medieval religious complex dating back to the 10th century. Recognized as a UNESCO World Heritage Site, the monastery features impressive ecclesiastical architecture, intricate stone carvings, and a unique fusion of Armenian religious art.



### Dilijan

Then we will drive to Dilijan. Walking along the Sharamberyan Street we will come across with many museums, souvenirs' markets, small shops and so on. We will also observe two traditional houses built of wood, with tiled roofs and balconies with meticulously carved being typical examples of Dilijan.



#### Sevan

We will drive to Lake Sevan, one of the largest freshwater high-altitude lakes in the world, often referred to as the "Pearl of Armenia." The lake stands out with its sweet and astonishingly blue water, reflecting the surrounding mountain landscapes. Situated at an altitude of about 1,900 meters (6,200 feet) above sea level, it is a vital ecological and cultural landmark for Armenia. Visitors can enjoy the breathtaking scenery and serene ambiance, making it a perfect spot for relaxation and photography. Next, we will visit Sevanavank Monastery, a historic complex located on the Sevan Peninsula. Originally, the peninsula was an island, but due to a decrease in the water level of the lake, it has transformed into a peninsula.



### Overnight in Yerevan

# Day 6: Yerevan / City tour / - Zvartnots - Ejmiatsin - Yerevan



### **Breakfast**



### **Yerevan City Tour**

We will begin our tour with the capital of Armenia: **Yerevan**. For centuries, this city has been known as the "**pink city**" due to the color of the volcanic tuff stone used in its construction. Yerevan is one of the world's oldest continuously inhabited cities, founded in 782 BC, and its streets are filled with history, culture, and vibrant energy.

During our tour, we will explore some of the city's most iconic landmarks:

- **Republic Square** The heart of Yerevan, surrounded by government buildings and the History Museum. At night, the square comes alive with its famous dancing fountains.
- Mashtots Avenue Named after Mesrop Mashtots, the creator of the Armenian alphabet, this central avenue is lined with shops, cafes, and cultural institutions.
- Aram Khachaturian Opera and Ballet Theatre This grand structure, named after the famous Armenian composer, is a cultural hub for opera, ballet, and concerts in Yerevan.
- Cascade Complex A massive staircase that connects the downtown area with the Monument neighborhood, offering stunning views of the city and Mount Ararat. The Cascade is also home to the Cafesjian Center for the Arts, featuring modern sculptures and art exhibitions.
- **Mother Armenia** A towering statue that symbolizes peace and strength, offering a panoramic view of Yerevan. Located in **Victory Park**, the statue serves as a reminder of Armenia's resilience.

Throughout the tour, we will also have the chance to explore **local markets**, **parks**, and enjoy the city's lively cafe culture. Yerevan blends the old and the new, offering visitors a unique glimpse into Armenia's rich past and vibrant present.



### **Ejmiatsin Cathedral - Zvartnots Cathedral**

We will start our excursion to the centuries-old monuments of **Ejmiatsin** and **Zvartnots**, both of which are listed as UNESCO World Heritage Sites.

- Cathedral of Ejmiatsin: Founded in 303 AD, the Cathedral of Ejmiatsin is the official residence of the Catholicos of Armenia and holds great significance as the spiritual heart of the Armenian Apostolic Church. This ancient cathedral is not only a place of worship but also a symbol of Armenian identity and faith. Its rich history and architectural beauty attract pilgrims and visitors from around the world.
- **Zvartnots Temple**: After our visit to Ejmiatsin, we will continue our trip to **Zvartnots Temple**, constructed in the 7th century by **Nerses the Builder**. Although only ruins remain today, the site is steeped in history and still holds an air of mystery and grandeur. Once a magnificent architectural marvel, Zvartnots was known for its unique design, featuring a circular structure with an impressive dome. As we explore the ruins, we will delve into the temple's historical significance and the reasons for its eventual abandonment.

Both sites provide a deep insight into the rich religious heritage of Armenia and reflect the architectural brilliance of their time. As we visit these sacred places, we will appreciate their lasting impact on Armenian culture and spirituality.



### Overnight in Yerevan

# Day 7: Yerevan - Khor Virap - Areni - Noravank - Yerevan



### **Breakfast**



### **Khor Virap**

Take trip to Khor Virap Monastery (4-18th cc.). This monastery is very prominent because of its history; Gregory the Illuminator, who introduced Christianity to Armenia, has been imprisoned there about 13 years as at that time there was a prison in the place of the monastery. Here we can enjoy the spectacular view of the sacred Ararat Mountain - an immortal symbol of Armenia.



### **Areni Cave**

Continue the tour to Areni Village and Areni Cave. The cave consists of 3 rooms, most of which are not yet explored. During the studies of the cave, metal knives, fruit seeds, grain residues, rope, pottery, clothing, grapes and dried plums attributed to the years 4200-3500 BC were found. The oldest leather shoe in the world (which is more than 5500 years old) was found here. Here has been found the cellar which is considered to be the oldest cellar in the world (dating back over 6000 years ago).



### **Noravank**

We will continue our tour to Noravank - a monastery of XII century situated among amazing sheer rocks on the bench of a twisty gorge. This is the only monastery where we may find a unique sculpture of Father God.



### Overnight in Yerevan

# Day 8: Yerevan - Garni - Symphony of stones - Geghard - Yerevan



### **Breakfast**



### **Garni Temple**

Take a trip to Garni, home to the only standing Pagan temple in Armenia, built in the 1st century AD. This unique structure was dedicated to Mihr, the god of light and purity, showcasing Armenia's ancient pre-Christian beliefs. While the temple was largely destroyed by an earthquake in 1679, it was meticulously restored in 1975, bringing back its classical Greco-Roman architectural style. Set atop a rocky hill with stunning views of the Azat River gorge, the Temple of Garni provides a fascinating insight into Armenia's pagan history and its preservation efforts.



### **Symphony of Stones**

Drive to the Symphony of Stones, located near the village of Garni, not far from the ancient Garni Temple. It is a stunning basalt rock formation that has been shaped by nature over centuries. The rocks in the gorge have taken on various columnar shapes, resembling a natural orchestra of standing stones, which has led to the name "Symphony of Stones".



### **Geghard Monastery**

We'll continue to the Monastery of Geghard, named after the legendary lance that pierced Christ's body and was kept here for centuries. Although the exact founding date of the monastery remains unknown, the current complex dates back to the mid-13th century. Built partially into the cliffs of a spectacular gorge, Geghard Monastery is a masterpiece of medieval Armenian architecture and a UNESCO World Heritage site, symbolizing both faith and artistry.



### Visit fruit market "Gum"

One of the most vivid places in Yerevan is Gum Market near the Tashir trading center, which opened during former the Soviet Union years. It operates every day from morning until late evening. Here you can find fresh fruits and vegetables, meat, spices, many types of dried fruits, cheeses, traditional Armenian bread (lavash), pickles, and more.

### Overnight in Yerevan



# **Day 9: Departure**



### **Breakfast**



### Transfer to the hotel



## **Departure**

Departure from Zvartnots International Airport

# **Information & Documents**



## **Price includes**

- Transport
- · Accommodation at the hotels
- Entrance fees
- 1 Bottle of water per pax
- English speaking guide
- Meals / Breakfasts /



### **Price Excludes**

- Flight tickets
- Alcoholic beverages
- Extra personal fees
- Meals