



## **Travel to Armenia 2025**

### **Trip Summary**

### Day 1: Arrival - Yerevan / City tour /

Arrival at Zvartnots International Airport. Transfer to the hotel Yerevan City Tour Overnight in Yerevan

### Day 2: Yerevan - Sevan - Dilijan - Fioletovo - Yerevan

Breakfast Sevan Dilijan Fioletovo Molocan's house Return to Yerevan Overnight in Yerevan

### Day 3: Yerevan - Khor Virap - Noravank - Areni - Yerevan

Breakfast Khor Virap Noravank Areni Return to Yerevan Overnight in Yerevan

### Day 4: Yerevan - Garni - Geghard - Symphony of stones - Yerevan

Breakfast Garni Temple Geghard Monastery Symphony of Stones Return to Yerevan Ararat Brandy Factory Vernissage Visit fruit market "Gum" Overnight in Yerevan

### Day 5: Yerevan - Ejmiatsin - Zvartnots - Departure

Breakfast Ejmiatsin Cathedral - Zvartnots Cathedral Departure Transfer to the airport



Transfer to the hotel

### 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.

**Overnight in Yerevan** 

### Day 2: Yerevan - Sevan - Dilijan - Fioletovo - Yerevan

### Breakfast

### 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.

### 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.

### Fioletovo Molocan's house

Continue the tour to Fioletovo village which is inhabited with Molokan Russians. You will be hosted by a family in Fioletovo village, where you can see the ordinary Molokan house, wander in the garden and participate in a tea drinking ceremony around samovar with freshly baked pastries or cookies. In Molocan's house you can taste tea from samovar.

**Return to Yerevan** 

**Overnight in Yerevan** 

### Day 3: Yerevan - Khor Virap - Noravank - Areni - 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.

### 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.

### Areni

On our way back we will visit village Areni which is considered to be an important center of wine production industry. You are welcome to taste local wines.

**Return to Yerevan** 

**Overnight in Yerevan** 

### Day 4: Yerevan - Garni - Geghard - Symphony of stones - 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.

### **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.

### 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".

### **Return to Yerevan**

### **Ararat Brandy Factory**

Visit Ararat Brandy Factory, also known as the Yerevan Brandy Company, is a historic and renowned Armenian brandy distillery located in Yerevan, the capital of Armenia. Founded in 1887, the distillery has a long and storied history of producing high-quality brandy, often referred to as Armenian cognac. The factory, with its historic buildings and cellars, is not only a destination for brandy enthusiasts but also a place where visitors can learn about the rich tradition of Armenian brandy production.

#### Vernissage

Visit Vernissage; a vibrant open-air market and cultural phenomenon located in the heart of Yerevan, the capital of Armenia. Vernissage gathers local artists, craftsmen, and vendors who display and sell a diverse array of handmade crafts, traditional Armenian art, souvenirs, jewelry, carpets, ceramics, and other unique items.

#### 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 5: Yerevan - Ejmiatsin - Zvartnots - Departure





### **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.

#### Departure

Departure from Zvartnots International Airport

Transfer to the airport



### **Information & Documents**



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### **Price Includes**

- Transportation with good condition
- Professional English-speaking guide service during the tour
- Professional driver service during the tour
- Accommodation in the hotels,
- Water (1 x bottle per person daily)
- Map
- Entrance fees in accordance with the program
- Meals / 4 breakfasts /
- Visit Violetovo house
- Ararat brandy factory degustation
- Areni wine degustation

### **Price Excludes**

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