

Classical Tour to Armenia and Georgia

Key information

Duration: 9 days / 8 nights

Best season: Year round

Tour type: Small group / individual (starting from 2 persons)

What's included:

airport transfers, accommodation in hotels 8 nights (3* hotels with free WiFi double room), breakfast, all transfers in air-conditioned vehicles, English speaking guide service for all days, all admission fees, 4-wheel drive vehicle for Gergeti Trinity Church, wine tasting in Signaghi, 1 bottle of water per day (0.5lt.), 24-hour office support both Armenia and Georgia

What's not included:

flights, visa fee, medical insurance

Itinerary in brief

Day 1 - Arrival - Yerevan City Tour

Day 2 - Echmiadzin - Zvartnots - Genocide Memorial - Yerevan

Day 3 - Khor Virap - Noravank - Yerevan

Day 4 - Geghard - Garni - Yerevan

Day 5 - Sevan - Haghartsin - Goshavank - Armenia-Georgia border - Tbilisi

Day 6 - Mtskheta - Tbilisi City Tour

Day 7 - Ananuri - Gudauri - Stepantsminda - Gergeti - Tbilisi

Day 8 - Kakheti - Signaghi - David-Gareja - Tbilisi

Day 9 - Departure



Detailed itinerary

Day 1

After your arrival at the airport, you will be transferred to the hotel in Yerevan and checked in. On your first day you will have a city tour around Yerevan, the ancient capital of Armenia, which was founded in 782 B.C. Armenians are proud that Yerevan is 29 years older than Rome. During the city tour, you will walk around the center of the city and visit Cascade, Opera and Ballet theater, Mashtots Avenue, and the Republic Square. The tour also includes a visit to Matenadaran Museum, a repository of one of the richest manuscript collections in the world.

Overnight: *Hotel in Yerevan*

Duration: *6 hours (40 km)*

Day 2

A short morning drive will take you to Echmiadzin town – the religious center of all Armenians around the world. Here – after the adoption of Christianity in 301 AD – was built the first Christian temple in the world – Echmiadzin Cathedral. It is the seat of the Supreme Patriarch of the Catholicos of all Armenians. The cathedral keeps an important religious relic – the Holy Lance spear. In 2000 Echmiadzin Cathedral was listed as an UNESCO site. You'll see the ruins of Zvartnots temple (7th century, UNESCO World Heritage Site), that was a miracle of its time. The trip will continue to the Genocide Memorial – a solemn reminder of the first genocide of the 20th century.

Overnight: *Hotel in Yerevan*

Meals: *Breakfast*

Duration: *7 hours (65 km)*

Day 3

The day will start with a trip to Ararat Province where proudly stands one of the holiest sites in Armenia – Khor Virap Monastery. You will hike up a small hill to discover the monastery and enjoy the breathtaking view on Biblical Mount Ararat. The tour will continue through a narrow canyon to the valley of red rocks, right where Noravank Monastery is located – built in the 13th century it is a masterpiece of Armenian architect Momik. On the territory of the monastery amazing khachkars are scattered all around – crosstones designed by Momik.

Overnight: *Hotel in Yerevan*

Meals: *Breakfast*

Duration: *8 hours (260 km)*

Day 4

This day you will have a 1-hour drive to the Canyon of Azat River. Our destination is Geghard Monastery. This unique monastery is carved into nearby rocks and the surrounding cliffs compose a great part of it. In 2000 it became a UNESCO heritage site. The trip leads us to Garni village, well known for its Garni temple – the only surviving example of Hellenistic architecture in the region. Back in Yerevan you will have an excursion in the History Museum of Armenia – the main historical museum of the country known for its Archaeological, Numismatic, and Ethnographic collections.

Overnight: *Hotel in Yerevan*

Meals: *Breakfast*

Duration: *6 hours (80 km)*

Day 5

After breakfast, you will start your day to the North. Gegharkunik Province is best known for amazing Lake Sevan. It is one of the highest freshwater lakes in the world located at an altitude of 1900 meters above the sea level. We continue our trip further north to Tavush Province. Here we have a stop at the cozy resort town of Dilijan known for its arts and crafts as



well as picturesque lush nature and healing air. After an excursion to the medieval monasteries of Haghartsin and Goshavank the tour will continue to the Armenian-Georgian border. Having passed the customs another 3-hour drive to Tbilisi takes us to the capital of Georgia.

Overnight: *Hotel in Tbilisi*

Meals: *Breakfast*

Duration: *11 hours (320 km)*

Day 6

After breakfast head to Mtskheta which was the first capital of Georgia from the 3rd century BC to the 5th century AD. The town is considered the religious center of Georgia. Our excursion will start with the visit to the Cathedral of the 11th century – Svetitskhoveli. The next stop – Jvari Temple located at the top of the hill which offers a fascinating view of the confluence of two rivers Kura and Aragvi. After your return to Tbilisi we'll continue with a city tour including an in depth exploration of the old town, cable car trips to Narikala Fortress, a visit to the Bridge of Peace and Armenian Church, Jewish Synagogue and Turkish Mosque.

Overnight: *Hotel in Tbilisi*

Meals: *Breakfast*

Duration: *8 hours (80 km)*

Day 7

The day will start with a trip to Ananuri Fortress. A beautiful castle complex on the Aragvi River. Once it used to be a seat of the Georgian feudal dynasty. Our next stop is the popular ski resort Gudauri which is actually beautiful in any season. After some rest, the trip continues to Stepantsminda village where a 4-wheel vehicle will take you up the high hill to the Gergeti Trinity Church (14th century). The sanctuary is located at an altitude of 2180 m above sea level. From the top opens an unforgettable view to the famous Mount Kazbek.

Overnight: *Hotel in Tbilisi*

Meals: *Breakfast*

Duration: *10 hours (330 km)*

Day 8

In the morning you will drive to the east of the country, to Kakheti – the main wine making region of Georgia. A pleasant time is waiting for you in Signaghi – a royal town founded by the king Erekle II in the 18th century. Strolling around the tiny streets you will enjoy the local architecture and atmosphere. In the local winery you will have a tour and degustation of Georgian traditional local wine. The day ends with a trip to David-Gareja semi-deserted area and monastery complex founded in 6th century by father David.

Overnight: *Hotel in Tbilisi*

Meals: *Breakfast*

Duration: *9 hours (310 km)*

Day 9

Transfer to airport, departure.



Booking terms and conditions

Once we received your application, confirmed all tour details with you, we will send a deposit invoice. After the deposit of 50-100 euro per person (depending on the tour price) is received, we will start your hotel reservation and other service booking and will send your Tour Voucher with all the trip details.

Payment Terms

After you have booked the tour, it is necessary to make a non-refundable deposit of 50-100 euros, which will provide our coordinators with the possibility to start organizing a trip (hotel reservation, food, transportation, etc.). Final payment could be made after your arrival in Armenia. We reserve the right to cancel your booking and apply the relevant cancellation charges (detailed below) if we do not receive all payments at the due time.

Cancellation of the tour

If you or a member of your group wants to cancel the tour, please, inform our company as soon as possible in writing form. Please, note that the prepayment (50-100 euros) is non-refundable, however, you can use it throughout the year and book another tour. In this case, our company will have to charge an extra 100 euros for re-booking the hotel.

Rights and obligations

Tours provided by our company are planned for many months before its inception and are not the subject of change or cancellation. Under the obligation of forced circumstances (weather, holidays) we can make some changes in the itinerary, however, all that relates to services and attractions will remain unchanged.

Please note, that our tours require a minimum number of participants – 2 persons. We reserve the right to cancel the trip, if any tour will not have the minimum number of participants. We will inform you about the cancellation of the tour no later than 30 days before the start and will do the full refund of the amount paid, including the prepayment.

We also request immediately and promptly report all complaints and any claims during the tour. If possible, all problems will be solved. If the tourist does not report any complaint, the compensation will not be implemented.

Please, also note that the company AraraTour is not liable for services not included in the tour price. Our responsibility is limited only to the extent provided by our tour.

Force majeure or any other event which is beyond our control and which is not preventable by reasonable diligence on our part frees both parties from liability or obligation. In case of Force majeure, we don't issue any refund.

Insolvency or bankruptcy insurance

Tour operator Arara guarantees the refund of clients' money for unfulfilled services even in the case of company's own insolvency or bankruptcy.

