

Tour to Armenia in 14 days

Key information

Duration: 14 days / 13 nights

Best season: May - October

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

What's included:

Airport transfers, Accommodation for 13 nights at 3* hotels (free Wi-Fi, double/twin rooms), Breakfast and welcome dinner, All transfers in air-conditioned vehicles, English speaking guide service for all days, All admission fees, 1 bottle (0,5 litre) of water per day per person, 24-hour office support in Armenia, Tatev cable car ticket, Lavash masterclass, Wine tasting in Areni, Ararat Brandy tasting, Cheese tasting at Mikaelyan's Family Farm

What's not included:

Flights, Medical insurance, Visa fee

Itinerary in brief

- Day 1 - Arrival in Yerevan
- Day 2 - Yerevan City Tour - Echmiadzin - Zvartnots
- Day 3 - Garni - Geghard - Yerevan
- Day 4 - Khor Virap - Areni - Noravank - Jermuk
- Day 5 - Karahunj - Tatev - Khndzoresk - Jermuk
- Day 6 - Selim Pass - Noraduz - Free Time in Sevan Lake
- Day 7 - Sevanavank - Haghartsin - Goshavank - Dilijan
- Day 8 - Dilijan - Haghpat - Sanahin
- Day 9 - Stepanavan - Harichavank - Gyumri
- Day 10 - Gyumri City Tour
- Day 11 - Saghmosavank - Karmravor - Amberd - Yerevan
- Day 12 - Yerevan City Tour
- Day 13 - Free Day
- Day 14 - Departure



Detailed itinerary

Day 1

After your arrival at the airport of Yerevan, you will be transferred to the hotel and checked in.

Overnight: *Hotel in Yerevan*

Day 2

After having breakfast at the hotel, you will start the city tour around Yerevan. It is one of the oldest cities of the world, Yerevan is famous as a pink city and calls visitors with its humble and at the same time splendid landscapes. Start city tour visiting the Cascade Monument, which was the main symbol of the city's 2780th anniversary with the equivalent number of stairs. The mega scale staircase is 500 meters high and 50 meters wide. A panoramic view from the monument opens up breathtaking city view with Opera House, Mount Ararat, Swan Lake, Republic Square, and Abovyan Avenue, which you will also walk by during the tour. Continue to Matenadaran Museum, a repository of one of the richest manuscript collections in the world. A short drive will also take you to Echmiadzin town – the religious centre of all Armenians around the world. 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 a UNESCO site. You'll see the ruins of Zvartnots temple (7th century, UNESCO World Heritage Site), that was a miracle of its time. Back to Yerevan, you will have a welcome dinner.

Overnight: *Hotel in Yerevan*

Meals: *Breakfast, Dinner*

Duration: *7 hours (85 km)*

Day 3

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. This is the only Greco-Roman style temple with 24 ionic columns as in Armenia, so on the territory of the former USSR. A disastrous 1679 earthquake destroyed the temple. It was reconstructed in the 20th century. Here you will also have a master class on baking Armenia bread Lavash and then head to Genocide Memorial Complex – a solemn reminder of the first genocide of the 20th century.

Overnight: *Hotel in Yerevan*

Meals: *Breakfast*

Duration: *7 hours (95 km)*

Day 4

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. Next stop will be at Areni Cave where the world oldest leather shoe has been found during excavations. Continue to a winery and taste different types of famous wines of Armenia. After head 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. The day will end in Jermuk, which is a mountain resort town and famous for its hot mineral springs and scenic landscape.

Overnight: *Hotel in Jermuk*

Meals: *Breakfast*

Duration: *6 hours (200 km)*



Day 5

After breakfast, you will start your day to Karahunj, which is a 6,000-year-old observatory, a prehistoric site in Syunik Province. It is also called Armenian Stonehenge. Continue to the Monastery and the University of Tatev. In the 14th and 15th centuries, the monastery opened the doors for one of the vital medieval universities of Armenia, “The University of Tatev”, which had a gigantic contribution to the development of science, religion and philosophy. Here you have a chance to ride on the longest cable car in the world 5.7 km over the 320 meter-deep Vorotan River Canyon. Stop at natural bridge named “Devil’s Bridge” at the bottom of a deep canyon. Head to Khndzoresk - one of those places, that people were able to dominate nature and take the best of it. Khndzoresk is famous for its antique cave dwellings, which have been used up to 1950s. From ancient times people lived in these rocky hills, constructing artificial shelters and places for food storage. After the tour, back to Jermuk town for having overnight.

Overnight: Hotel in Jermuk

Meals: Breakfast

Duration: 11 hours (300 km)

Day 6

You will start your day to the North. Gegharkunik Province along the part of the Great Silk Road towards the Selim Pass. Stop at 14th century Selim Caravansary – one of the most well-preserved hostels along the ancient Great Silk Road. A trip along the part of the Great Silk Road towards the Selim Pass. Stop at 14th century Selim Caravansary – one of the most well-preserved hostels along the ancient Great Silk Road. Visit Mikaelyan’s family farm in Noraduz to taste various types of cheese and have a tour around the family farm. En route, you will be able to admire the azure waters of Lake Sevan and have overnight there.

Overnight: Hotel in Sevan

Meals: Breakfast

Duration: 8 hours (180 km)

Day 7

After having breakfast at the hotel, you will head to Sevanavank. And visit the remnants of the monastery that include two temples – Surb Arakelots and Surb Astvatsatsin standing among numerous khachkars. The buildings were constructed from black tuff which probably gave the monastery its name “Sevanavank – “the Black Monastery”. Today the two black temples of Sevan stand deserted like two guards of this ancient lake. The view from there is simply magnificent: the mountains surround lake from all sides and snow tops are seen almost on the entire perimeter and disappear behind the horizon. We continue our trip further north to Tavush Province. Here we have a stop at the cosy resort town of Dilijan known for its arts and crafts as well as picturesque lush nature and healing air. Have an excursion to the medieval monasteries of Haghartsin and Goshavank. It is a 13th-century monastery located near the town of Dilijan and was built between the 10th and 13th centuries. "Hagh" means a game while "Artsin" a form of "Artsiv" means eagle in Armenian). Goshavank is very impressive monastery which has remained in relatively good condition also houses one of the world’s finest examples of crosstones. After the excursion, you will back to Dilijan and have overnight there.

Overnight: Hotel in Dilijan

Meals: Breakfast

Duration: 10 hours (120 km)

Day 8

The day will start with a tour to Parz Lake. It is located in the Dilijan National Park and was formed by natural climatic changes. “Parz” in Armenian means crystal. Near the lake, you will find paddle boats rope courses and zip lines. Continue to the Monasteries of Haghpat & Sanahin, which are both listed in UNESCO World heritage sites since 1996. The



Monastery was founded by Queen Khosrovanush probably in 976. The monastery Sanahin refers to be at the same time period. Both are typical examples of 10th-century Armenian architecture. The location of Haghpat Monastery was chosen in a way of it overlooks the Debed River. The monastery has been managed many times by numerous attacks by armed forces and from a major earthquake in 1988. Back to the village and enjoy the rest of the day.

Overnight: Hotel in Haghpat

Meals: Breakfast

Duration: 9 hours (144 km)

Day 9

This day will start with a visit to Stepanavan Dendropark – Armenia’s first botanical garden. 15 hectares of its territory are planted with exotic trees and the rest 20 hectares are covered by natural wild forest. It is not by chance that this amazing place is considered one of the most beautiful corners of Armenia – once here, you will feel like in a fairy tale. Continue to Harichavank, which is 7th-century Monastery near the village of Harich. It is known as one of the most famous monastic centres in Armenia and especially for its school and scriptorium. During excavations of 1996 indicate that Harich was existence during 2nd century BC as well as was known fortress town in Armenia. The day will end in Gyumri, the second-largest city in Armenia.

Overnight: Hotel in Gyumri

Meals: Breakfast

Duration: 9 hours (210 km)

Day 10

After having breakfast, start a city tour around Gyumri. People also entitled it as a “city of crafts and arts”, since it is home to many remarkable museums of Armenia. It also includes the House Museum of Mher Mkrtchyan, which you will be visiting during the tour. Mher Mkrtchyan was a famous Armenian stage and film actor. Continue to Dzitoghtsyan Museum of Social Life and National Architecture. It is an old mansion, housing collections of history and the everyday life of Gyumri, as well as different paintings and other works of art. There is an old historical part of Gyumri called Kumayri famous with unique architecture. It has more than a thousand buildings dating back to the 18th and 19th centuries. After the excursion, you will have some free time to discover the city on your own.

Overnight: Hotel in Gyumri

Meals: Breakfast

Duration: 3 hours (50 km)

Day 11

A short morning drive will take you to Saghmosavank. It is a Greek-cross style monastery of the 13th century, which played an important role in the religious, academic and cultural development of medieval Armenia. Head to Karmravour – the most well-known historical site of Ashtarak constructed in the 7th century from large square stone blocks. A small cross-shaped church has a porch facade. The legend says that the name of the church symbolizes dress colours of three sisters who committed suicide after falling in love with one man. Your next stop will be at the monument of Armenian Alphabet founded in 2005 to celebrate the 1600th anniversary of the alphabet foundation. Drive to Amberd – rare historical site that survived and reached us in a good condition from the 7th century. Some say that it was built in the 11-13th centuries, attributing it to the near located church. Amberd means ‘fortress in the clouds’; the name is due to its location 2300 meters above sea level. At the end of the day, you will reach to Yerevan and have overnight there.

Overnight: Hotel in Yerevan

Meals: Breakfast

Duration: 9 hours (210 km)



Day 12

A morning drive will take you to the History Museum of Armenia – the main historical museum of the country known for its Archaeological, Numismatic, and Ethnographic collections. After you will visit Megeryan Carpet showroom, which is the private, family-run exhibition space offers high-quality Armenian rugs and carpets. You will get a chance to see weavers working on their patters and learn about the history of the trade. Continue to taste some excellent cognacs in Ararat Brandy Company. In Armenia, the cognac making tradition goes back to the 19th century. Ararat trademark of Yerevan Brandy Company is well known over the world. At the end visit Gum Market. The front section of the Gum Market is devoted to dried and candied fruits, nuts, spices and sujukh. The traders are quite passionate about their product and try to do their best to get your attention with a never-ending stream of free samples.

Overnight: Hotel in Yerevan

Meals: Breakfast

Duration: 9 hours (50 km)

Day 13

A free day allows one to enjoy their time in Yerevan visiting souvenir shops, outdoor cafes or some fine jazz clubs at one's liberty. Should this day of leisure fall upon a weekend, one should be lucky enough to visit Vernisaj, an art and craft market offering both souvenirs and a showcase of local Armenian craftsmanship for purchase or perusal.

Overnight: Hotel in Yerevan

Meals: Breakfast

Day 14

Transfer to the airport, departure.

Meals: Breakfast



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 on the spot. 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.

