

Hiking Tour in Armenia

Key information

Duration: 8 days / 7 nights

Best season: May - October

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

What's included:

airport transfers, accommodation in hotels 5 nights (3* / double rooms), in guesthouses 2 nights (double rooms), meals – breakfast, 1 bottle of water per day (0.5lt.), all transfers in air conditioned vehicles, English speaking hiking guide service for all days, local mountain guide service where needed, all admissions fees, 24-hour office support

What's not included:

flights, visa fee, medical insurance

Itinerary in brief

Day 1 - Arrival - Yerevan City Tour - Geghard Cave Monastery - Garni Pagan Temple

Day 2 - Areni winery - Noravank Monastery - Fortress of King Smbat - Takhats Kar Monastery - Jewish Cemetery - Hermon village

Day 3 - 14th century caravanserais - Lake Sevan

Day 4 - Crystal Lake - Goshavank Monastery - Dilijan - Old Dilijan complex

Day 5 - Gomer Village - Lastiver

Day 6 - Sanahin Monastery - Haghpat Monastery - Kayan Fortress - Odzun Village

Day 7 - Aragats Mountain - Saghmosavank Monastery

Day 8 - Departure



Detailed itinerary

Day 1

This trip begins with a city tour in Yerevan, bustling capital having a history of over 2700 years. Some decades ago Alexander Tamanyan, the general architect of Yerevan drew contemporary plan of the city which we can see today. The warm smiles of its inhabitants give unique charm to this eternal city ancient and so young at the same time. After lunch you will head to Geghard Cave Monastery, partly carved pure rocks. Garni Pagan Temple is the only preserved in the Caucasus region. You will be back to Yerevan and have opportunity to feel the pulse of Yerevan night life as our itinerary starting from the second day gets you to the regions to hiking routes of this ancient country. *(No hiking)*

Overnight: *Hotel in Yerevan*

Day 2

This day you'll begin exploration of Southern Armenia. Our first stop will be Areni wine market where you'll have a chance to taste one of famous wines in Armenia. You will continue trip to beautiful two storied Noravank Monastery through the deep narrow canyon surrounded with red rocks. Then you will head to Hermon Village standing amidst a charming valley of Yeghegis river. After check in at hotel you will start your hike to the medieval well preserved fortress of King Smbat, standing on the elevation of about 1950, you will continue to Takhats Kar Monastery on the elevation of 2080 m. Afterwards you will have a walk on a slighter note to Yeghegis village where you can find Jewish Cemetery and little churches right in the gardens of villagers. Your hotel in Hermon village has all the amenities (swimming pool, thermal baths and gym) and bikes, horses to organize your evening well. *(Hiking – 12 km / Ascent\descent – 680 m)*

Overnight: *Hotel in Hermon Village*

Meals: *B*

Day 3

This day is a relaxed day, you will cover a part of The Great Silk Road, see one of well-preserved caravanserais. You will have feelings here as time has stopped for a long time as very little has changed here. You will be driven to Lake Sevan, admire one of the highest freshwater lakes from the hilltop of Sevan Peninsula. In the evening you will have time to walk along shores of Lake Sevan. *(No hiking)*

Overnight: *Hotel at Lake Sevan*

Meals: *B*

Day 4

This day you will be transferred to Cristal Lake to start hike in Dilijan National Park along stunning forest trails cross the wildly beautiful Areguni Pass and reach Goshavank Monastery of Gosh village, where the great scholar of the 13th century Mkhitar Gosh lived. You will be driven to Dilijan, a cozy town that captures the spirit of rural Armenia. A visit to newly opened Old Dilijan complex on historic Sharambeyan Street and observe the weaving carpets by local women at Tufenkian Carpet Showroom will be great finale for this day. *(Hiking – 8 km / Ascent\descent – 370 m)*

Overnight: *Hotel in Dilijan*

Meals: *B*

Day 5

After breakfast at hotel you will head to Gomer Village near Ijevan where we you will take a short transfer to the Lastiver trailhead. A wonderful forested route into the most unspoiled and rugged area of north-eastern Armenia as you will head into a deep gorge before descending to cascading waterfalls and the most scenic meadows in Armenia, perhaps Armenia's best-kept secret. Explore ancient caves of Lastiver. In the evening you'll be back to town of Ijevan for rest and overnight.



(Hiking – 7 km / Ascent\descent – 480 m)

Overnight: *Guesthouse in Ijevan*

Meals: *B*

Day 6

This day takes you Lori region where Haghpat and Sanahin Monastery complexes (UNESCO World Heritage Sites) are situated. They both are equally beautiful but have very different atmosphere. You will hike from Haghpat to Sanahin through beautiful meadows and small villages. The hike is easy. On the way you will explore formidable Kayan fortress and enjoy the best viewpoints over dramatic Debed gorge. You will be driven to Odzun Village where Odzun 3 nave basilica is located. This church is unique by its construction of domed basilica. In the evening you will be back to Yerevan. *(Hiking – 10 km / Ascent\descent – 550 m)*

Overnight: *Hotel in Yerevan*

Meals: *B*

Day 7

On the last day of your trip you will hike to the highest mountain of Armenia. You will reach Amberd Medieval Fortress of 12th century standing on the elevation of 2300 m. The first point of your hiking adventure is the Stone Lake on the slope of mount Aragats an extinct volcano. You will start your hike to the Southern Summit (trail length 5-7 hours). If the day is clear you will have a great view from here on Mount Ararat. The day continues with a relaxing sightseeing. You will visit Saghmosavank (Monastery of Psalms) perched on the edge of picturesque Kasakh gorge and then head to Yerevan for another lovely evening in the city. *(Hiking – 4-5 km / Ascent\descent – 700 m)*

Overnight: *Hotel in Yerevan*

Meals: *B*

Day 8

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 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.

