

## Rural Tour to Armenia

### Key information

Duration: 7 days / 6 nights

Best season: April - November

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

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### What's included:

Airport transfers, comfortable transport, accommodation sharing a twin room (6 nights), English-speaking guide's service, breakfasts & lunches, master-classes, mentioned in the itinerary, wine tasting in Yeghegnadzor, 1 bottle of water per day (0.5lt.), entrance fees

### What's not included:

Flights, visa fee, medical insurance

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### Itinerary in brief

Day 1 - Arrival - Yerevan City Tour

Day 2 - Yerevan - Khor Virap - Noravank - Chiva - Yeghegnadzor

Day 3 - Selim Pass - Noratus - Sevan - Hayravank - Chkalovka

Day 4 - Sevanavank - Chambarak - Getik - Dilijan

Day 5 - Dilijan - Fioletovo - Aparan - Proshyan

Day 6 - Ashtarak - Yerevan

Day 7 - Departure



## Detailed itinerary

### Day 1

After your arrival at the airport, you will be transferred to the hotel in Yerevan and checked in. Your journey will start with the city tour around Yerevan. Some decades ago Alexander Tamanyan, the general architect of Yerevan, created the contemporary plan of the city which we can see today. From the observation area in the Victory Park, you will be able to enjoy an amazing view to Yerevan and Mount Ararat. The excursion will continue to the Cascade – the favorite place of Yerevan residents. The Cascade is a huge staircase that connects the city center with the residential area. Downstairs, you will see the unique sculptures, belonging to the world-famous foreign sculptors. Next, you will pass through the main street of the city, and see the building of the Opera and Ballet Theatre, several central streets of Yerevan, and the Republic Square – the “heart” of the capital.

**Overnight:** *Hotel in Yerevan*

**Meals:** *Lunch*

### Day 2

The second day will begin with a trip through the Ararat valley to the monastery of Khor Virap, the history of which is related to the adoption of Christianity in Armenia. It offers the most spectacular view of Mount Ararat as Khor Virap is located in close proximity to the mountain. The way will continue to the monastery of Noravank (XIII cent.), located among the red rocks of the gorge of indescribable beauty. After the excursion, you will go to the village of Chiva, where the locals will treat you with a delicious meal, prepared from natural products. Together with the hospitable hosts you will be able to take part in the preparation of Armenian national sweet pie – gata. The day will end with a trip to Yeghegnadzor, where you will have a visit to a wine house where one of the best sort of wines in Armenia is produced. Here you will enjoy wine tasting. Overnight will be in a guesthouse in Yeghegnadzor.

**Overnight:** *Guesthouse in Yeghegnadzor*

**Meals:** *Breakfast, Lunch*

### Day 3

In the morning, you will go along a segment of the Silk Road to the Vardenyats pass (2410 m). Here is located the caravanserai of Orbelian Princes, which has been preserved almost in its original form (XIV-th century). It was the place where medieval travelers stopped to have overnight and also to share news about the security of the roads, reliability of merchants and the quality of goods. The trip will continue through the Selim Pass (2410m) to Lake Sevan – the blue gem of Armenia, which is one of the largest freshwater mountain lakes in the world. It is located at an altitude of 1900 meters above sea level. Here you will visit the medieval cemetery of khachkars (cross-stones) – Noratus. Khachkars are unique works of art, they can be found only in Armenian culture. In the stone patterns of khachkar the master embodied his soul and faith. A delicious lunch will be held at one of the houses of the local farmers. You will visit Hayravank monastery on the shore of Sevan lake, with which a beautiful legend is connected. You will have free evening to enjoy the beauty of Lake Sevan. Overnight in the guesthouse in the village of Chkalovka.

**Overnight:** *Hotel in Chkalovka*

**Meals:** *Breakfast, Lunch*

### Day 4

The tour will continue along the coast of Lake Sevan to the peninsula. After rising to the peninsula, you will see the monastery of Sevanavank (IX cent.). An amazing view to the lake and surrounding beauties opens from the hill. Continue the tour via the scenic road to the village of Martuni (Chambarak). Here you will have the opportunity to taste several varieties of honey. An experienced beekeeper will tell about the interesting process of honey producing. The path continues to the village of Getik, where in a small farm-guesthouse you will have the opportunity to make traditional



Armenian cheese with the hosts and feed hens. In the evening, you will drive to Dilijan small resort town, which is famous for its beautiful nature, tasty water and talented people.

**Overnight:** *Guesthouse in Dilijan*

**Meals:** *Breakfast, Lunch*

### **Day 5**

Visiting a painter's house in Dilijan. You'll have the opportunity to take part in batik-making master-class. On this day, you will go to Russian Molokan village Fioletovo. At home of welcoming hostess will have a delicious lunch, and have an opportunity to a chat over a cup of tea from a samovar and try pancakes with jam. The way will continue through the town of Aparan to yezidi mountain village, situated at the foot of Mount Aragats. Here you will get acquainted with the villagers who will treat you with fresh matsun – national fermented milk product. You will have the overnight in a hospitable guesthouse in Proshyan village.

**Overnight:** *Guesthouse in Proshyan*

**Meals:** *Breakfast, Lunch*

### **Day 6**

On this day, you will visit the home of one of Ashtarak families, whose history goes back to the century before last. Here, together with the lady of the house you will be participate in the preparation of the Armenian sweet sudjukh and see how they bake Armenian national bread lavash in tonir. The taste of freshly baked bread with homemade cheese can't be compared with anything else. Return to Yerevan

**Overnight:** *Hotel in Yerevan*

**Meals:** *Breakfast, Lunch*

### **Day 7**

Transfer to the 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.

