

# Top Wonders of Armenia and Georgia in 14 days

# **Key information**

Duration: 14 days / 13 nights Best season: April - October

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

#### What's included:

Airport and border transfers, Accommodation for 13 nights (3\* hotels, double rooms), Meals: breakfast, All transfers in air-conditioned vehicles, English speaking guide/driver service for all days, All admission fees 1 bottle (0,5 liter) of water per day per person, Tatev cable car ticket

#### What's not included:

Flights, visa fee, medical insurance, lunches & dinners

## Itinerary in brief

Day 1 - Arrival in Tbilisi

Day 2 - Kakheti - Telavi - Batonsi Tsikhe - Tsindandali - Sighnaghi - Tbilisi

Day 3 - Tbilisi City Tour

Day 4 - Ananuri - Gudauri - Gergeti - Tbilisi

Day 5 - Vardzia - Paravani - Akhaltsikhe

Day 6 - Rabati - Safara - Borjomi - Kutaisi

Day 7 - Kutaisi City Tour

Day 8 - Georgian-Armenian border - Haghpat - Sanahin - Stepanavan - Dilijan

Day 9 - Sevan - Selim Pass - Jermuk

Day 10 - Karahunj - Tatev - Goris

Day 11 - Areni - Noravank - Khor Virap - Yerevan

Day 12 - Yerevan City Tour - Echmiadzin - Zvartnots

Day 13 - Garni - Geghard - Yerevan

Day 14 - Departure





# **Detailed itinerary**

Day 1

Transfer from the airport to the hotel.

Overnight: Hotel in Tbilisi

## Day 2

Our journey will commence by exploring Telavi, the vibrant heart of the Kakheti region. We will then proceed to the Tsinandali estate, a cherished legacy of the renowned Georgian Chavchavadze dynasty. This estate boasts a captivating labyrinth adorned with exotic trees and cellars that house an extraordinary collection of Georgian and European wines. Afterward, you'll have the opportunity to immerse yourself in the charming architecture and delightful ambiance of Sighnaghi town. The day will culminate with a tour of the esteemed Khareba winery, where you'll savor the flavors of local wines and partake in a hands-on masterclass in baking traditional shoti bread.

Overnight: Hotel in Tbilisi

Meals: Breakfast Duration: 7-8 hours Length: 250 km

#### Day 3

Tbilisi, often hailed as one of the most cosmopolitan cities in the South Caucasus, boasts an energetic and lively ambiance. The seamless blend of modernity and antiquity here is bound to captivate all who visit. Our day will be dedicated to discovering the city's treasures. Our city tour will start with a visit to the open-air Ethnographic Museum, where traditional structures from various Georgian regions are on display. Later, you'll delve into the heart of the city, exploring its center and the charming old town. Our itinerary includes visits to Meidani Square, the Assumption Church, Narikala Fortress, the iconic sulfur baths, the picturesque Mtatsminda Mount, and other captivating attractions that are sure to leave a lasting impression.

Overnight: Hotel in Tbilisi

Meals: Breakfast
Duration: 5-6 hours
Length: 60 km

## Day 4

Embarking on a new day, you'll set off in the morning for Ananuri Fortress, nestled in a remarkable location by the Zhinvali reservoir, embraced by velvety green hills. Founded in 1720 with a defensive purpose, this fortress holds tales of the past. Your journey will then lead to Gudauri resort, renowned as one of Georgia's premier ski destinations. However, its allure extends beyond the winter season. In summer and autumn, Gudauri transforms into a haven of green mountains, sunlit meadows adorned with fragrant blooms, and serene landscapes where cows graze peacefully. The tranquility and beauty of this place create an absolute idyll. Next, you'll venture to Stepantsminda settlement, where you'll ascend a hill to reach Gergeti Church. At the hill's summit, an indescribably breathtaking view unfolds before your eyes. your final stop will be the captivating Dariali Gorge and the elegant Transfiguration Church. As the day draws to a close, we'll return to the vibrant city of Tbilisi.

Overnight: Hotel in Tbilisi

Meals: Breakfast Duration: 7-8 hours Length: 250 km





## Day 5

Undoubtedly, the cave city of Vardzia ranks among the most captivating attractions in Georgia. Here, you'll navigate narrow tunnels, explore a rock church adorned with distinctive frescoes, and uncover the fascinating legend intertwined with this sight. Continuing our journey, you'll head to Paravani, Georgia's largest lake, where the natural beauty is sure to captivate you. Your next stop takes us to the St. Nino Monastery, renowned for its small dairy managed by local nuns. This enclave offers an array of unique cheeses, exclusive to this location in Georgia. As the day winds down, you'll conclude our exploration at Khertvisi Fortress, a relic from the 10th century. Your overnight stay will be arranged in the charming town of Akhaltsikhe.

Overnight: Hotel in Akhaltsikhe

Meals: Breakfast Duration: 8-9 hours Length: 320 km

#### Day 6

On this day, your exploration will commence with a visit to the renowned Rabat Fortress, the gem of Akhaltsikhe town. This fortress, recently restored, commands attention from every corner of this small and welcoming town. Throughout its long history, the citadel has weathered trials ranging from devastation to desolation, and has witnessed the rise and fall of churches. While not all structures have endured to the present day, a recent renovation initiative has transformed the fortress into an impressive and highly sought-after tourist destination. Covering an expansive territory of approximately 7 hectares, the fortress stands as a testament to history. Continuing our journey, we'll proceed to Borjomi resort, known for its world-renowned mineral waters. You'll have the opportunity to taste these mineral-rich waters directly from the spring in the Mineral Water Park. Our final destination for the day is Kutaisi town, where further discoveries await.

**Overnight:** Hotel in Kutaisi

Meals: Breakfast
Duration: 7-8 hours
Length: 200 km

#### Day 7

Commencing your journey, you'll delve into the treasures of Kutaisi, a city often hailed as Georgia's historical capital. This city, graced by the flowing Rioni River, is artfully divided into two halves, connected by a series of bridges, with the White Bridge standing out among them. A prominent highlight of Kutaisi is the Bagrat Temple, a monumental structure that ranks among the largest churches in all of Georgia. This magnificent cathedral has been recognized as a UNESCO World Heritage site. Our exploration continues to the Sataplia National Reserve, where you'll venture into a cave renowned for its remarkable dinosaur traces. This prehistoric insight adds a unique dimension to your journey. Another UNESCO gem, the Gelati Monastery, will be your next destination. Its historical significance and architectural beauty make it a must-visit site. Our final excursion of the day will lead us to the Motsameta Monastery, perched on a hill beneath the Red River, known as Tskhaltsitela. This serene location adds a spiritual touch to your journey. As the day draws to a close, we'll drive back to the vibrant city of Tbilisi.

Overnight: Hotel in Tbilisi

Meals: Breakfast Duration: 7-8 hours Length: 280 km





## Day 8

In the morning you will head to Georgian-Armenia border, meet your Armenian representatives and start your tour to Armenia. You will have a trip to Haghpat and Sanahin Monasteries, which are listed by UNESCO as World Heritage Sites. Visit 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. We continue our trip further 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.

Overnight: Hotel in Dilijan

Meals: Breakfast
Duration: 7-8 hours
Length: 250 km

## Day 9

Your first day in Armenia will start with a nice trip to well-known Sevan Lake. It is one is highest freshwater lakes in the world located at an altitude of 1900 meters above the sea level. Here after visiting Sevanvank Monastery that offers amazing views to the lake, you will continue your adventures along the part of the Great Silk Road towards the Selim Pass. On the way there will be a stop at the 14th century Selim Caravansary – one of the most well-preserved hostels along the ancient Great Silk Road. Our next destination will be the resort town of Jermuk, famous for its hot mineral springs and scenic landscape. Also, you will have a walkthrough Arpa River Canyon to admire the Jermuk Waterfall.

Overnight: Hotel in Jermuk

Meals: Breakfast
Duration: 7-8 hours
Length: 250 km

## **Day 10**

As the new day dawns, you will set your course toward the captivating Syunik Province. Your initial destination will be Karahunj, an ancient observatory dating back 6,000 years – a site often referred to as the "Armenian Stonehenge." Here, the mysteries of the cosmos have been pondered for millennia, and you will have the opportunity to explore this historical treasure. Continuing your expedition, you will unveil the jewel of Armenian Medieval architecture – the Tatev Monastery and University. This remarkable complex stands as a testament to the ingenuity and artistic prowess of its time. You will reach the monastery by the longest ropeway in the world. During your travels, a pause at the natural wonder known as the "Devil's Bridge" is planned – a creation of nature situated at the canyon's profound depths. As the day unfolds, your path will lead you to Goris, where a free evening awaits. Here, you can savor the atmosphere, perhaps strolling through the town's charm-laden streets, before settling in for a restful night.

Overnight: Hotel in Goris

Meals: Breakfast
Duration: 7-8 hours
Length: 270 km

#### **Day 11**

Your day will commence with a check-out from your hotel, marking the beginning of your journey to Yerevan. Your route will be adorned with captivating experiences, the first of which is a visit to a local wine factory. Here, you will be invited to taste the distinctive wine crafted from the "Areni" grape variety – a delightful introduction to Armenia's vinicultural heritage. Next you will have a trip through a narrow canyon, a gateway to the realm of red-hued rocks. Amidst this rugged





beauty, the Noravank Monastery emerges – a sanctuary nestled in the valley, a testament to the fusion of nature and architecture. The journey will then lead you further south to the Khor Virap Monastery, its sacred presence gracing the foothills of the Biblical Mount Ararat. This vantage point offers an awe-inspiring view of the storied mountain, evoking a profound sense of connection with history and spirituality. In the evening, the vibrant capital city of Yerevan will welcome you. Here, the pulse of the city is matched only by the richness of its culture. Your evening will be dedicated to immersing yourself in the tapestry of Yerevan's essence, as you explore its bustling streets and dynamic atmosphere.

**Overnight:** Hotel in Yerevan

Meals: Breakfast
Duration: 7-8 hours
Length: 250 km

## **Day 12**

In the morning you will have a captivating city tour, unraveling the many facets of Yerevan's character. Your first destination is Matenadaran Institute Museum – an esteemed repository of history, housing an astonishing collection of over 17,000 ancient and medieval manuscripts. Here, the past comes alive through the pages of these preserved treasures. Continuing your exploration, you will find yourself at the heart of Yerevan's culinary tapestry – the Food Market. Here, a vibrant display of locally grown fresh fruits and vegetables waits, inviting you to stroll through the colorful aisles and engage with the bounties of Armenia's land. The journey will then lead you to Echmiadzin. Here, you will visit the Echmiadzin Cathedral – an embodiment of spiritual significance and architectural elegance. As you stand within its hallowed halls, you'll feel the weight of centuries of faith and devotion. On your return journey, a there will be a last stop at the ruins of the Zvartnots Temple beckons – a 7th-century marvel that once graced the landscape and now holds the title of a UNESCO World Heritage Site.

Overnight: Hotel in Yerevan

Meals: Breakfast Duration: 7-8 hours Length: 90 km

#### **Day 13**

In the morning you will follow the path of the Azat River to the awe-inspiring Geghard Cave Monastery. This sacred site, revered for its unique architecture and historical significance, holds a place of honor on UNESCO's list of World Heritage Sites. Carved into the rock, the monastery's chambers and chapels stand as a testament to the harmony between nature and human ingenuity. Continuing on, your exploration will lead you to the Hellenistic Garni Temple constructed in 77 AD. The journey then takes you to the Museum of Armenian History – a sanctuary of knowledge where you will embark on a journey through Armenia's rich history. Each exhibit and artifact will weave a tale of heritage, resilience, and Cultural Evolution. As you progress through these remarkable destinations, you will find yourself immersed in the echoes of time, as history, spirituality, and art converge to create an intricate mosaic of Armenia's past and present.

Overnight: Hotel in Yerevan

Meals: Breakfast Duration: 7-8 hours Length: 90 km

#### **Day 14**

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 200 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 200 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 (200 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 200 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.

