

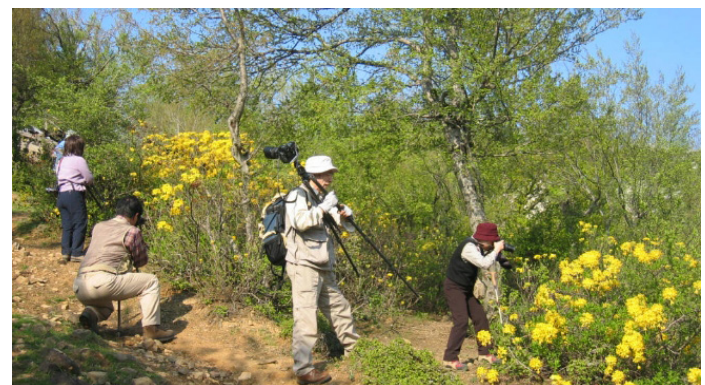
EXPLORE CAUCASUS FLORA

Georgia

Learn about the endemic variety of Georgian Flora

Despite its small territory Georgia is covered with a large variety of vegetation, caused by a considerable difference between the Western and Eastern climates. The structure of the landscape and the mountain ranges have largely contributed to this geographical system, which has resulted in a high level of endemic variety.

- Day 1: **Arrival in Tbilisi;** met and assisted at the airport.
- Day 2: **Tbilisi - Gudauri;** departure to the subalpine and alpine zone of Gudauri area, where we can get acquainted with local flora by seeing : Centaurea nigrofimbria, Centaurea abbreviata, Campanula tridentate, C. glomerata, C. hypopolia, Senecio othonae, S. platiphillus, Trifolium pretense, T. alpestre, T. Caucasica, Lilium etc.
- Day 3: **Gudauri - Stepantsminda;** drive north to the high peaks and sub alpine and subnival belt zone of the Caucasus Mountain range. Visit Juta area and walk (6-7 km) to Chaukhebi mountains. While alking some of following plants can be spotted: Symphyoloma graveolens, Pseudovesicaria digitata, Prymula bayernii, Cerastium polymorphum, Tephrosieris caucasigena, Campanula spp., Cruciat coronate, Lamium tomentosum, Doronicum oblongifolium etc.
- Day 4: **Stepantsminda - Borjomi;** visit picturesque Truso gorge and see: Gentianopsis blepharophora, Gentianella caucasea, G. septemfida, Saxifraga spp. Euphorbia macrocephalus, Drias caucasica, Parnasia palustris, Schwertia iberica etc. In the afternoon drive to Borjomi.
- Day 5: **Borjomi - Tskhratskaro Pass - Javakhety Plateau - Borjomi;** drive to Javakheti plateau via Tskhratskaro pass; walk in alpine meadows and see wetland flora: Agasyllis purpurascens, Heracleum wilhelmsii, Cicerbita macrophylla, Grossheimia polyphylla, Eryngium giganteum, Gladiolus dzavakheticus, Carex acuta, Potamogeton spp. Dianthus multicaulis etc.
- Day 6: **Borjomi - Abastumani - Akhaltsikhe;** visit the highlands of Abastumani where Paeonia caucasica, Galanthus caucasicus, Anemone, Scilla, Orchis spp. can be spotted.
- Day 7: **Akhaltzikhe - Zekari Pass- Sairme;** departure to Sairme, via picturecque Zekari Pass. En route can be seen: Androsace raddeana, Rhododendron caucasicum, Rh. ponticum, Lilium schovitizianum, Paedorotella pontica, Campanula raddeana etc.
- Day 8: **Sairme - Tbilisi;** departure to Tbilisi. In the afternoon enjoy Tbilisi sightseeing tour.
- Day 9: **Departure;** transfer to the airport.



BEST SEASON FOR THE TOUR BY MONTH

Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
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TOUR TECHNICAL CHARACTERISTICS			
Total Touring Distance ≈ 1035 km	Total driving time ≈ 18 hours		
Longest driving distance per day ≈ 265 km	Longest driving time per day ≈ 5 hours		
O/N by locations: 1+1+1+2+1+1+1 = 8	Walking total ≈ 25 hours		
Adopted conditions for disabled person*	No	Partly	Fully

* Caucasus Travel takes special care of disabled persons, doing the best to adopt and improve conditions for disabled persons, when/where it is possible

TB For planning, reservations, management, monitoring and control of tour operations Caucasus Travel is using **TourBuilder™** Travel Management Software

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Georgian flora comprises around 4,200-4,500 species of vascular plants, 675 mosses, 1763 algae, 6337 fungi, 738 lichens. Out of all the vascular species distributed in Georgia 380 (9.0%) are endemic to the country and 600 (14.2%) endemic to the Caucasus. Almost 40% of Georgia's territory is covered with various types of forests. Approximately 5% of natural forests are virgin and 40% have kept their primary structure.



Purpose of this PDF is to give you general information about provided program.

As always, we design and tailor tours to ensure that they are perfect fit for our customers.

Please contact us to design tailored tour for you.

Program details, including transportation, accommodation, catering, events, and experiences, will be shared upon completing the request form and through ongoing communication to tailor to visitors' specific needs and wishes.

During our botanic tours can be seen numerous endemic species of trees, herbs and flowers: *Betula megrellica* Sosn., *Acer iberica* L, *Amugdalis georgica* Dest., *Buxus colchica*, *Pyrus Kecchoveli* Kutach., *Corylus colchica* Abov., *Pinus pityusa* Stev., *Staphulea colchica* Stev., *Quercus hartwissiana* Stev., *Salix Kikodseae* Goerz., *Ulmus minor* Mill., *Taxus buccata* L., *Ostria carpinifolia* Scop., *Genista bxazica* Sachokia, *Iris iberica* subsp., *Gentiana gelida*, *Veelonica gentianoides*, *Sempervivum transcaucasicum*, *Xeranthemum squarosum*, *Trifolium* spp., *Campanula aucheri*, *Centaurea nigrofimbria*, *Centaurea abbreviata*, *Campanula tridentata*, *C. glomerata*, *C. hypopolia*, *Senecio othonae*, *S. platiphillus*, *Trifolium pretense*, *T. alpestre*, *T. Caucasica*, *Silene linearifolia*, *S. pygmaea*, *Campanula hohenackeri*, *C. bellidifolia*, *C. petraea*, *Linaria meyeri*, *Symphyoloma graveolens*, *Pseudovesicaria digitata*, *Prymula beyernii*, *Cerastrium polymorphum*, *Tephroses caucasigena*, *Campanula* spp., *Cruciata coronate*, *Lamium tomentosum*, *Doronicum oblingifolium*, *Gentianopsis blepharophora*, *Gentianella caucasea*, *G. septembfida*, *Saxifraga* spp., *Euphorbia macrocephalus*, *Drias caucasica*, *Parnasia palustris*, *Schwertia iberica*, *Agasyllis purpurascens*, *Heracleum wilhelmsii*, *Cicerbita macrophylla*, *Grossheimia polyphylla*, *Eryngium giganteum*, *Gladiolus dzavakheticus*, *Carex acuta*, *Potamogeton* spp., *Dianthus multicaulis*, *Papaver orientale*, *Arenaria dianthoides*, *Scutellaria sosnowskyi*, *Scorzonera ketzhoveli*, *Lilium kesselgringianum*, *Dapne trascaucasicum*, *Asphodeline taureica*, *Sorbus graeca*, *Senecio massagetovii*, *Chartolepis glastifolia*, *Androsace raddeana*, *Rhododendron caucasicum*, *Rh. Pnticum*, *Lilium schovitzianum*, *Paedorotella pontica*, *Campanula raddeana*, *Heracleum sosnowskyi*, *Althea rugosa*, *Knautia montana*, *Cephalaria gigantea*, *Rosa* spp., *Trifolium* spp., *Campanula* spp., *Centaurea* spp. *Um adducio*, *num fac*



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About the Programs, Services and More...

The Sample Programs shown on this site, are based on customers frequent requests and points of interests, however as usual, we design and tailor tours for our customers to meet their best interests.

Provided programs give an opportunity to travel and enjoy the hospitality of the Caucasus Countries; experience traditions of these countries, geographically so close to each other but still so different; taste local cuisine and get in touch with local people; get acquainted with their life-style, visit museums, important architectural monuments and enjoy diversity of the landscapes by visiting lowlands and the Caucasus Mountains.

Even though programs are mainly focused on excursions and cultural experiences some elements of active leisure can be organically incorporated in the program without much changes. Opportunities of short hiking, early morning short biking or horse riding, ballooning, etc., are very common and desired options for visitors.

Sightseeing - Our programs are combinations of the most interesting and thematically different visits to cultural, architectural, historical, archaeological sites, museums, galleries, nature sites and National Parks; at most sites brief written information is given in English and guided tours are available in English and other European languages. In places where local guides are not available or do not speak the language requested by our guests Caucasus Travel guides are there to assist with guiding and translation.

Experience - Along the cultural programs we offer unique experiences: meet locals, enjoy craft workshops, culinary master classes, thematic meetings. Book events and receptions in the most unexpected places, meet outstanding interesting people, speakers, artists, experts.

Enjoy short and easy hiking in some programs, also use an opportunity to book horseback, white water easy rafting & other activities or relaxing boat tours and ballooning opening fascinating views.

Travel from country to country and create your own unforgettable memories.

Supply & Network - We are strengthened by professional, reliable, loyal suppliers and partners in cities and rural areas of Georgia and the Caucasus. One can guess, that during years of mutually successful business and sincere relationship, we have earned huge network of partnership in accommodation, catering, transportation or in any needed field of supply. This is our wealth and the strongest point.

Accommodation - In all three countries we have a wide choice of international and local hotels offering high standard hospitality services. We couple the tradition with the comfort. Our visitors choosing accommodation places from big variety of properties, from beautiful Guest Houses to Superior Hotels. Providing hotels of all categories, we are working with best of them and having great deals for our customers.

Food & Catering - We serve our guests in the best local restaurants, providing big variety of National and European food. There are also many Chinese, Japanese, Indian, Thai and other exotic food restaurants available in all three countries. When and where it is needed we provide picnic, snacks, fruits, drinks, and of course unlimited bottled water while transportation.

Transportation - Depending on group size we provide appropriate types of comfortable vehicles: for large groups medium or full size busses (30-45 seats); for smaller groups minibuses (15 seats) and minivans; for individual travellers we offer sedan type cars or SUV. Vehicles will usually be changed while crossing land borders between the countries, as well as drivers, to guarantee local expertise.

Professional Staff with "Field Experience" - Company Managers and staff have had special training in tourism management in various leading institutions of Europe, USA and Japan. Caucasus Travel employs and contracts people with diverse professional backgrounds. This enables us competently and successfully plan, design and carry various tours in many fields of interest: archaeology, history, culture, art, ethnology, etc.

Guides - In each country we employ top professional, well-trained and experienced guides. Having wide knowledge and interests, they are very enthusiastic to show the best of the country, its life, moderate communication with locals and always will be glad to assist guests best interest.

Languages - Our managers, office staff, guides are fluent in 3-4 languages. We speak and guiding tours in English, German, French, Spanish, Italian, Portuguese, Japanese, Chinese, Korean languages.

How to get there...

Flights - Direct flights to Tbilisi, Yerevan, Baku also Kutaisi and Batumi are available from the main European and Asian cities. Flights are operated by: Lufthansa, Turkish Airlines, Qatar Airways, Air France, Condor, LOT, Air Baltic, Wizz Air, FlyDubai, Eurowings, Pegasus, Air Arabia, many more.., and of course Georgian, Armenian and Azerbaijani national carriers.

Visa is not required for Georgia for the citizens of the USA, Canada, Brazil, Argentina, Japan, Israel, Turkey, citizens of EU member countries and CIS - full list is available on www.mfa.gov.ge. Those, who require visa for Georgia will be able to obtain e-visa through www.evisa.gov.ge.

Please find information about visa requirements in Armenia on www.mfa.am. Visa can be obtained at Armenian border upon arrival. The citizens of some countries need invitation letter in order to get visa at the consulate of Armenia in their country of residence. The list of the countries can be found on www.mfa.am.

Visa for Azerbaijan has to be arranged before arrival. You can find information about visa requirements on www.mfa.gov.az. Please note, that e-visa for Azerbaijan can be provided by Caucasus Travel and on supplementary basis.

Passport must be valid for at least six months (required for all three countries).

Please contact us for questions or enquiries...

We are open for collaboration and keen to develop new product and projects to satisfy the most demanding customers. Having decades of experience in operating in South Caucasus, we have hosted travellers from many countries and nationalities, gaining great understanding of their cultural, practical customs and expectations.

We carefully select the product and all its components. We participate in all the steps in the product development - from generating ideas to designing logistical schemes of day-to-day operations. We constantly monitor and control our suppliers (hotels, restaurants, transportation, etc.). When developing a product, should this be for individuals or groups, we consider four major parameters: content, safety, quality and price. Of course, final shape of the product is defined according to the priorities settled by the customer.

So, welcome to South Caucasus - have a great Cultural Experience and Lifelong Impression.

CAUCASUS TRAVEL

The first choice Tour Operator and DMC in South Caucasus