

REMOTE MOUNTAIN VILLAGES

Georgia

Discover the remote and unique villages of the Caucasus

This tour involves travelling through three radically different mountain regions of the country and visit to remote villages of the Caucasus, where the spirit of knighthood preserved for centuries comes alive. Deep river gorges, narrow paths, stone houses, watch towers, swift Caucasian horses, Caucasian shepherd dog, folk bards, mystical rituals are harmoniously blended. Breath fresh mountain air, enjoy amazing landscapes and make your life full of joy and excitement.

- Day 1: Arrival in Tbilisi;** met and assisted at the airport.
- Day 2: Tbilisi;** take a walk around the old town and breathe in the living past of the capital, founded by King Vakhtang Gorgasali in 5th c.
- Day 3: Tbilisi - Ananuri - Shatili;** drive to completely different world - Khevsureti, where traditions and customs are as severe as the countryside itself. Here you still find the mixture between Georgian Orthodox Christianity and pre-Christian cults.
- Day 4: Shatili - Mutso - Gudauri;** explore the fortified tower village of Mutso. Khevsureti is one among very few places left in Georgia, where you can still see people dressed in traditional costumes - all handmade, richly decorated by embroidery, appliqué, and beads.
- Day 5: Gudauri - Stepantsminda - Juta - Gudauri;** venture to Stepantsminda, a small town with views to Mt. Kazbek (5047 m), associated with myth of Prometheus. According to the legend he was chained on the mountain in punishment for having stolen fire from the gods and having given it to mortals.
- Day 6: Gudauri - Mtskheta - Tbilisi;** drive back to Tbilisi via the ancient capital of Georgia - Mtskheta (UNESCO site), where St. Nino Enlightener of Georgia erected the first Christian cross.
- Day 7: Tbilisi - Tsinandali - Telavi;** explore Kakheti region, known as a birthplace of viticulture and wine-making. Ancient Georgian traditional Qvevri winemaking is listed as Intangible Cultural Heritage by UNESCO. Enjoy wine tasting.
- Day 8: Telavi - Alaverdi - Omalo;** travel to unexplored region of Tusheti, the most ecologically unspoiled place, famous with its towers. These towers, with pyramid shaped roofs, used to function as fortifications as well as places of worship. En route visit Alaverdi cathedral (11th c).
- Day 9: Omalo - Keselo - Dartlo - Omalo;** enjoy impressive and severe alpine landscapes. Village Dartlo is one of the most remarkable places in the region owing to its architecture. Local people take pride in their natural home-grown food and you will have a possibility to taste home-made cheese, kotori and beer.
- Day 10: Omalo - Shenako - Omalo;** explore Shenako and its old, stone houses surrounded by green alpine meadows. The technique of building houses without foundations is unique to Tusheti.
- Day 11: Omalo - Tbilisi**
- Day 12: 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 ≈ 1290 km	Total driving time ≈ 32 hours		
Longest driving distance per day ≈ 255 km	Longest driving time per day ≈ 8 hours		
O/N by locations: 2+1+2+1+1+3+1 = 9	Walking total ≈ 11 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



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.



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

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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