

THE BEST OF THE CAUCASUS

Azerbaijan → Georgia → Armenia → Georgia

Visit three countries of Caucasus, blend of history and cultures

This comprehensive program offers the opportunity to explore impressive puzzle of cultural and natural heritage. Guests travel from country to country following the ancient roads, once used by Silk Road travellers and caravans on their way to Europe. Picturesque villages and towns, contrasting landscapes of valleys and mountains, openhearted local folks make the journey full of lifelong impressions.

- Day 1: **Arrival in Baku;** met and assisted at the airport; transfer to hotel.
- Day 2: **Visit Baku & Absheron Peninsula;** explore old town of Baku, called Ichari Shahr. In the afternoon drive to Absheron Peninsula; visit Ateshgah - fire worshippers' temple and Burning Mountain - Yanar Dagh.
- Day 3: **From Baku to Sheki;** en route to Sheki visit historical and religious sites of Shemakha. In the evening enjoy Sheki sightseeing tour.
- Day 4: **From Sheki to Tbilisi;** after crossing Georgia border explore Kakheti - the land of wine; have a walk in Signaghi Royal Town and enjoy impressive views of Alazani Valley.
- Day 5: **Tbilisi sightseeing tour;** explore the old town; visit centuries old churches; architectural and historical sites as well as museums.
- Day 6: **From Tbilisi to Stepantsminda;** en route visit Mtskheta - the ancient capital of Georgia and explore Ananuri Architectural Complex overlooking blue waters of Jinvali Dam.
- Day 7: **Stepantsminda - Tbilisi;** spend morning in highlands of Stepantsminda; visit Gergeti Trinity church beautifully located on Gergeti Hill, in the shadow of mount Kazbek.
- Day 8: **From Tbilisi drive to Yerevan;** visit Sanahin and Haghpat monasteries as well as Sevan Monastery and Noradus - Field of Khachkars.
- Day 9: **Yerevan sightseeing tour;** Explore Yerevan, its market squares, parks, museums and galleries.
- Day 10: **Yerevan - Echmiadzin - Zvartnots -Yerevan;** visit Echmiadzin spiritual center of the Armenians and the seat of the Catholicos of all Armenians. In afternoon visit archaeological site of Zvartnots.
- Day 11: **Garni & Geghard;** visit Garni Pagan Temple and Geghard Monastery, carved in a rocky hill.
- Day 12: **Day trip to Khorvirap and Noravank;** enjoy impressive views across the vast plain to Turkey and Mount Ararat.
- Day 13: **From Yerevan drive to small town Gyumri;** visit Erebuni fortress, also called "Arim Berd" - "Fortress of Blood" in translation.
- Day 14: **From Gyumri drive to Georgian Border;** visit Varzia Cave Town, transformed in well defended Monastery complex. In the evening explore "Rabati" - Historical Center and Museum of Akhaltsikhe.
- Day 15: **From Akhaltsikhe drive to Kutaisi - the capital of legendary Colchis;** have a walk in Old town and visit its UNESCO sites.
- Day 16: **From Kutaisi to Mestia;** en route visit Prometheus Speleological caves and enjoy boat tour in Martvili Canyon.
- Day 17: **Spend a day in Mestia;** walk in Seti district; visit "Machubi" dwelling tower and local Ethnographical Museum.
- Day 18: **Mestia - Ushguli - Mestia;** explore Ushguli, medieval fortified village, representing unique junction of watchtowers, dwelling complexes and basilicas.
- Day 19: **Drive to Batumi;** enjoy subtropical landscapes of the Black Sea coastline. Evening walking tour.
- Day 20: **Sightseeing tour of Batumi;** walk in Batumi historical quarter, in old port and Sea Side boulevard; visit Gonio Fortress and Archaeological Museum.
- Day 21: **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 ≈ 3080 km	Total driving time ≈ 43 hours		
Longest driving distance per day ≈ 390 km	Longest driving time per day ≈ 7 hours		
O/N by locations: 2+1+2+1+1+5+1+1+1+3+2 = 20	Walking total ≈ 13 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



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

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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.



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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