

## Discover Armenia, Georgia and Azerbaijan - 16 days

CT-02



These three Caucasus nations couldn't be more different, but they share a common desire to show guests warm hospitality which makes them a wonderful choice for a holiday. This 16 day tour will show you the highlights of Armenia, Georgia and Azerbaijan. You'll enjoy visits to UNESCO-listed monasteries, unique subterranean cave systems, wineries and of course, a rural landscape that's as diverse as it is beautiful. The three capitals also have a different flavour, but all are compelling in their history and rich heritage.

**DEPARTURE DATES:**

05.06.2025; 05.13.2025; 05.20.2025; 05.27.2025; 06.03.2025; 06.10.2025; 06.17.2025; 06.24.2025; 07.01.2025; 07.08.2025; 07.15.2025; 07.22.2025; 07.29.2025; 08.05.2025; 08.12.2025; 08.19.2025; 08.26.2025; 09.02.2025; 09.09.2025; 09.16.2025; 09.23.2025; 09.30.2025; 10.07.2025; 10.14.2025; 10.21.2025; 10.28.2025; 11.04.2025; 11.11.2025; 11.18.2025; 11.25.2025; 12.02.2025; 12.09.2025; 12.16.2025.

## ITINERARY

**Day 1 - Yerevan**

Today your Caucasus adventure starts when you step off the plane in the Armenian capital Yerevan. You'll be met for your transfer to the hotel. Overnight in Yerevan. (D)

**Day 2 - Yerevan - Ejmiatsin - Zvartnots - Yerevan**

The Yerevan Cascade is one of the city's most recognisable landmarks, with its staircases and escalators rising over multiple levels, offering a breathtaking view of the capital and the distant Mount Ararat from the top. We'll continue exploring the city, including Republic Square with its singing fountains and the lively Vernissage market, where rows of stalls offer everything from antiques to locally-made crafts. Also included is a visit to the Matenadaran, which houses an impressive collection of ancient manuscripts. Before heading out of the city, we'll visit the Genocide Memorial, a solemn and powerful tribute to the victims of the Armenian Genocide. Just outside of town, we'll explore the 7th-century ruins of Zvartnots Cathedral. Nearby, you'll also visit the Mother See of Holy Echmiadzin, the spiritual and administrative heart of the Armenian Church. Return to Yerevan for a traditional Armenian dinner. Overnight in Yerevan. (B, D)

**Day 3 - Yerevan - Garni - Geghard - Yerevan**

This morning, our journey takes us to Garni Temple, an ancient Greco-Roman site that stands in striking contrast to Armenia's many monasteries. After exploring the temple and uncovering its fascinating history, we will proceed to Garni Gorge, famous for its breathtaking "Symphony of Stones," a remarkable natural formation of basalt columns that create a stunning visual spectacle. Following our time in the gorge, we'll head to Geghard Monastery, one of the first of several monasteries you will encounter during your stay in Armenia. On our way back to the capital, we'll visit a local home in the countryside where you can participate in making lavash, the traditional Armenian flatbread. Finally, if time permits, we can stop at the Ararat Wine Factory for a tasting of some exquisite local wines. Overnight in Yerevan. (B, D)

**Day 4 - Yerevan - Khor Virap - Noravank - Yerevan**

An excursion to Khor Virap brings you closer to the iconic Mount Ararat, which you may have seen from the top of the Yerevan Cascades. This monastery is famous for the underground cell where Saint Gregory the Illuminator was imprisoned for 13 years. After lunch, we'll drive to Noravank Monastery, a stunning site nestled within a narrow canyon, blending harmoniously with its rugged surroundings. Adventurous visitors can climb a staircase without rails for incredible views of the canyon below. Later in the afternoon, we'll visit Areni, where we'll stop at Bird's Cave, a fascinating archaeological site revealing artifacts from ancient settlements. Following this, we'll head to Areni Winery, one of the best spots in the country to sample local wines and fruit-infused spirits-perfect for a souvenir or two. Overnight in Yerevan. (B, D)

**Day 5 - Yerevan - Sevan - Dilijan - Haghpat - Armenian-Georgian border - Tbilisi**

Armenia has a few more sights to show us before we set off for the Georgian border. Lake Sevan is the largest body of water in Armenia and perched on a hilltop above its shoreline is the delightful Sevanavank Monastery. There are quite a few steps to climb, but the reward is panoramic views across the blue waters of the lake as well

as a glimpse inside this 9th century marvel. Later, you'll enjoy a tour of the spa resort of Dilijan before visiting Haghpat Monastery en route to the border. We'll continue on to the Georgian capital Tbilisi; total driving distance today is around 188 miles (301km). Overnight in Tbilisi. (B, D)

### **Day 6 - Tbilisi**

The Georgian capital is very different to Yerevan, with less of a Soviet feel to the place, particularly in the heart of the city. We'll begin in Tbilisi's Old Town, where there's a plethora of ancient churches, old synagogues and the thermal baths for which the city is known. On today's tour, you'll pay a visit to the Georgian National Museum to learn a bit about this fascinating country and also take a walk along Rustaveli Avenue, one of the city's liveliest thoroughfares. Overnight in Tbilisi. (B, D)

### **Day 7 - Tbilisi - Mtskheta - Kutaisi**

Tbilisi hasn't always been the capital of Georgia; before, that honour went to Mtskheta. As you'd expect, that means there is much to see, the highlights being the UNESCO-listed Djvari Church and Svetitskhoveli Cathedral. Later, in the afternoon, we will drive to Kutaisi, the country's second largest city, and visit the Prometheus Cave which is located just outside. Overnight in Kutaisi. (B, D)

### **Day 8 - Kutaisi - Gelati - Bagrati - Akhaltsikhe**

One of the great joys when travelling in the Caucasus is to visit the bustling local markets and we'll do so in Kutaisi before leaving the city. Our UNESCO hit list continues with visits to Gelati Monastery and Bagrati Cathedrals. There'll be plenty of time to explore before we need to hit the road for Akhaltsikhe. Incidentally, its name means "new castle" although old is no longer an apt epithet. Overnight in Akhaltsikhe. (B, D)

### **Day 9 - Akhaltsikhe - Vardzia - Akhaltsikhe**

Visitors come to Akhaltsikhe to visit the spectacular underground cave city of Vardzia. The hillside is riddled with tunnels and caverns; these were used as store rooms, churches and refectories. If you're wondering how they came to be here, the thirteen level site was hewn from the rock on the orders of Queen Tamar in 1185. Destroyed by an earthquake in 1283, it was rebuilt but abandoned again when the Ottomans came in the 16th century. Back in Akhaltsikhe the itinerary includes a visit to the famous ethnographic Museum in the Rabati Fortress. Overnight in Akhaltsikhe. (B, D)

### **Day 10 - Akhaltsikhe - Borjomi - Gori - Uplistikhe - Tbilisi**

The most infamous leader Russia ever had was in fact Georgian by birth, and he came from the town of Gori. Today, there's a museum dedicated to his life, which incorporates the humble wooden hut in which he spent his early years. Of course, this is a sanitised history and you'll be wise to make up your own mind as to what you think of the man and his actions. Afterwards, we'll visit nearby Uplistikhe Cave Town, another fascinating subterranean complex, before returning to Tbilisi. Overnight in Tbilisi. (B, D)

### **Day 11 - Tbilisi - Gombori - Alaverdi - Napareuli - Gremi - Signagi**

Georgia has a long history of viticulture; the nation has been producing wine for over 8000 years. Today's programme takes us into wine country, to explore the region of Kakheti. We will explore the Alaverdi Monastery and Gremi Complex as well as enjoy a much-anticipated wine tasting in Napareuli. Last stop today is the pretty town of Signagi. We'll start exploring the town's fortifications and from those walls enjoy far-reaching views across the surrounding countryside. Overnight in Signagi. (B, D)

### **Day 12 - Signagi - Azerbaijan border - Kish - Sheki**

Having enjoyed a tour of Signagi's main sights yesterday afternoon, there'll be more time in this characterful place to soak up the atmosphere of its historic centre. A couple of miles down the road is Bodbe Monastery, a complex set amid delightful gardens. That will be our last stop before we leave Georgia. It's time to cross the border into our third country, Azerbaijan, where we'll begin the drive to Sheki. A visit to Kish village completes today's programme. Overnight in Sheki. (B, D)

### **Day 13 - Sheki - Shamakhi - Baku**

Sheki, sometimes referred to as Shaki, was a stop on the ancient Silk Road. Its 18th century Palace of the Shaki Khans was a summer residence for the ruling elite and was built without a single nail. Even the regular dwellings were richly decorated with wooden lattice work framing colourful glass. That's not all; we'll also show you the 18th century Shaki Castle before setting off for Shamakhi. This place is rich in culture and history; highlights include Juma Mosque which has survived many earthquakes. Our final destination this afternoon is the capital of Azerbaijan, Baku. Overnight in Baku. (B, D)

### **Day 14 - Baku**

Baku is forward thinking, but also has a thriving old city which abuts the Caspian Sea. You'll enjoy a tour of old

Baku, taking in the Maiden Tower, the Palace of Shirvanshahs, the courtyard of Divankhana and numerous mosques, minarets, caravanserais and baths. Most people will recognise the distinctive shapes of Baku's newest landmark, the Flame Towers, built on the back of Azerbaijan's not insignificant mineral wealth. Overnight in Baku. (B, D)

Day 15 - Baku - Gobustan - Yanar Dag - Baku

On our final full day of exploration, we leave the capital to visit Gobustan, a UNESCO World Heritage Site celebrated for its ancient petroglyphs that offer a glimpse into prehistoric life in the Caucasus. In addition to these remarkable rock carvings, Gobustan is home to approximately 300 mud volcanoes. We'll visit one of these captivating sites to observe bubbling mud pools and mini-eruptions, often attributed with health benefits and unique geological interest. After lunch, the journey continues to Yanar Dag, or "Burning Mountain." This fascinating natural wonder has been alight continuously since the 1950s, fueled by natural gas seeping through the sandstone. The unbroken flames make for an unforgettable spectacle and a reminder of Azerbaijan's nickname, the "Land of Fire." Overnight in Baku. (B, D)

Day 16 - Baku

Your Caucasus adventure has to end sometime and today is that day. We'll transfer you to the airport for your flight home and wish you well for the journey home. (B)

TOUR INCLUSIONS AND OPTIONAL EXTRAS

Included

- Accommodation
- Guided tours & cultural programme
- English - speaking guides
- Half board meals
- Evening entertainment
- Ground transportation
- Airport transfers
- Azerbaijan e-visa

Not included

- Personal travel insurance
- Optional excursions

Practical information

- About Best of Caucasus company
- How our tours are run
- Contact our travel consultants

AVAILABLE PACKAGES

COMFORT - 3\* PACKAGE

Dates	Tour Price	Single supplement
05/06/2025 - 05/21/2025	\$3495	\$395
05/13/2025 - 05/28/2025	\$3495	\$395
05/20/2025 - 06/04/2025	\$3495	\$395
05/27/2025 - 06/11/2025	\$3495	\$395
06/03/2025 - 06/18/2025	\$3495	\$395
06/10/2025 - 06/25/2025	\$3495	\$395
06/17/2025 - 07/02/2025	\$3495	\$395
06/24/2025 - 07/09/2025	\$3495	\$395
07/01/2025 - 07/16/2025	\$3495	\$395
07/08/2025 - 07/23/2025	\$3495	\$395
07/15/2025 - 07/30/2025	\$3495	\$395
07/22/2025 - 08/06/2025	\$3495	\$395
07/29/2025 - 08/13/2025	\$3495	\$395
08/05/2025 - 08/20/2025	\$3495	\$395
08/12/2025 - 08/27/2025	\$3495	\$395
08/19/2025 - 09/03/2025	\$3495	\$395
08/26/2025 - 09/10/2025	\$3495	\$395
09/02/2025 - 09/17/2025	\$3495	\$395
09/09/2025 - 09/24/2025	\$3495	\$395
09/16/2025 - 10/01/2025	\$3495	\$395
09/23/2025 - 10/08/2025	\$3495	\$395
09/30/2025 - 10/15/2025	\$3495	\$395
10/07/2025 - 10/22/2025	\$3495	\$395
10/14/2025 - 10/29/2025	\$3495	\$395



10/21/2025 - 11/05/2025	\$3495	\$395
10/28/2025 - 11/12/2025	\$3495	\$395
11/04/2025 - 11/19/2025	\$3495	\$395
11/11/2025 - 11/26/2025	\$3495	\$395
11/18/2025 - 12/03/2025	\$3495	\$395
11/25/2025 - 12/10/2025	\$3495	\$395
12/02/2025 - 12/17/2025	\$3495	\$395
12/09/2025 - 12/24/2025	\$3495	\$395
12/16/2025 - 12/31/2025	\$3495	\$395

#### PREMIUM - 4\* PACKAGE

Dates	Tour Price	Single suppliment
05/06/2025 - 05/21/2025	\$3695	\$495
05/13/2025 - 05/28/2025	\$3695	\$495
05/20/2025 - 06/04/2025	\$3695	\$495
05/27/2025 - 06/11/2025	\$3695	\$495
06/03/2025 - 06/18/2025	\$3695	\$495
06/10/2025 - 06/25/2025	\$3695	\$495
06/17/2025 - 07/02/2025	\$3695	\$495
06/24/2025 - 07/09/2025	\$3695	\$495
07/01/2025 - 07/16/2025	\$3695	\$495
07/08/2025 - 07/23/2025	\$3695	\$495
07/15/2025 - 07/30/2025	\$3695	\$495
07/22/2025 - 08/06/2025	\$3695	\$495
07/29/2025 - 08/13/2025	\$3695	\$495
08/05/2025 - 08/20/2025	\$3695	\$495
08/12/2025 - 08/27/2025	\$3695	\$495
08/19/2025 - 09/03/2025	\$3695	\$495
08/26/2025 - 09/10/2025	\$3695	\$495
09/02/2025 - 09/17/2025	\$3695	\$495
09/09/2025 - 09/24/2025	\$3695	\$495
09/16/2025 - 10/01/2025	\$3695	\$495
09/23/2025 - 10/08/2025	\$3695	\$495
09/30/2025 - 10/15/2025	\$3695	\$495
10/07/2025 - 10/22/2025	\$3695	\$495
10/14/2025 - 10/29/2025	\$3695	\$495
10/21/2025 - 11/05/2025	\$3695	\$495
10/28/2025 - 11/12/2025	\$3695	\$495
11/04/2025 - 11/19/2025	\$3695	\$495
11/11/2025 - 11/26/2025	\$3695	\$495
11/18/2025 - 12/03/2025	\$3695	\$495
11/25/2025 - 12/10/2025	\$3695	\$495
12/02/2025 - 12/17/2025	\$3695	\$495
12/09/2025 - 12/24/2025	\$3695	\$495
12/16/2025 - 12/31/2025	\$3695	\$495

#### ALTERNATIVE TOURS AND TAILOR-MADE ARRANGEMENTS

In addition to organized group tours, we also offer individual trips. This could be an entirely separate holiday arrangement or an extension to a regular "Best of Caucasus" trip. Whether you would like to travel independently, or just with the group of your friends or colleagues, we can help to realise your holiday plans. Depending on your preference for either comfort or budget, we can help you to design the ideal itinerary and provide the optimal value-for-money quote. Please [contact us for a quote](#).

Based on your chosen tour we believe you might be interested in alternative trips listed below:

- > [Caucasus Express: Armenia, Georgia & Azerbaijan - 10 days \(CT-08\)](#), Price from \$2,495, 10 days
- > [Best of Georgia and Azerbaijan - 12 days \(CT-03\)](#), Price from \$2,595, 12 days
- > [Wine and gourmet tour of Armenia and Georgia \(CT-06\)](#), Price from \$3,095, 13 days
- > [Classical Turkey Tour: Istanbul, Cappadocia, Ephesus, Pamukkale, Izmir - 8 days \(TR-03\)](#), Price from \$2,995, 8 days

#### HOW TO BOOK

## Step 1 - Choose Your Holiday & Departure Dates

It is important that you choose a trip that is well suited to your interests, capabilities and experience. All our staff has first hand experience of a range of Best of Caucasus holidays and will be happy to talk to you about your chosen trip, enabling you to assess its suitability. We also recommend that you read the descriptions of the relevant region, general information about our services, booking conditions, and trip dossiers carefully. Once you know what tour is right for you, as well as your departure dates, you can start your booking.

## Step 2 - Complete the Booking Form

**Online:** log on to [www.best-of-caucasus.com](http://www.best-of-caucasus.com) and open the tour you wish to book and click "Book now". To provide you with a more personalised and relevant experience in all your contact with Best of Caucasus, when you book online we ask you to register on our system. Once registered you can retrieve your bookings, update newsletter subscriptions, passenger and emergency contact details, submit special dietary requests, view invoices and receipts, download trip documents.

**Email:** alternatively, you can book your tour per email - [info@best-of-caucasus.com](mailto:info@best-of-caucasus.com), or

**Phone:** call us on **+1 (917) 259 13 33**

When booking by email or over the phone please confirm your personal details (full name and address), chosen tour, departure date, package type (hotel category), and available upgrades.

## Step 3 - Confirmation of your booking

On receipt of your booking form, we will make any necessary reservations for you and send you confirmation invoice, including the flight details, and additional information about your destination: advice on visas, vaccinations and what to take. The invoice will also show you the exact due date of the payment.

## Step 4 - Payment

Please note, if your departure date is more than 56 days you will need to pay the deposit, which should cover the full cost of the flight (if applicable), plus 10% of the land-only arrangements (minimum \$250) per person towards your tour. The outstanding payment must be made 56 days prior to departure. If you book less than 56 days before departure, full payment must be made at the time of your booking. You can make your payment by bank transfer, debit or credit card, cheque, bankers draft or postal order. You will find all relevant payment details in your invoice.

On request we can organise an additional programme for you, please inquire about the price and availability of the optional excursions.

Please find below some space to write down your queries or comments regarding this trip.

This image shows a single sheet of white paper with horizontal ruling lines. The lines are evenly spaced and run across the width of the page. There are no margins, text, or other markings on the paper.