

## Best of Armenia and Georgia - 12 days

CT-05



This 12 day tour combines the best of Armenia and Georgia, two very different but equally rewarding countries. In both, you'll discover centuries-old monasteries in breathtaking locations, fascinating museums, characterful cities and of course a landscape that's as beautiful as it is varied. Taste Armenian brandy, learn how to bake lavash, explore underground cave cities, luxuriate in a thermal bath and visit a chaotic animal bazaar. Throughout, you'll receive a typically warm Caucasus welcome in a region where hospitality means so much more than just polite and efficient service.

**DEPARTURE DATES:** 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**

You'll arrive today in the Armenian capital Yerevan, where we've arranged a meet and greet at the airport. Transfer to the hotel and settle in to your accommodation. Overnight in Yerevan. (D)

**Day 2 - Yerevan - Echmiadzin - Zvartnots - Yerevan**

Yerevan, one of the oldest cities in the world, is even older than Rome and London, offering a rich tapestry of history and culture to explore. We'll start our journey at the Matenadaran Library, which boasts a remarkable collection of 17,000 rare manuscripts, including Greek, Persian, and Arabic texts. Following this, we'll head to the iconic Cascade, a grand staircase that provides stunning panoramic views of the city and the majestic Mount Ararat. As we continue our tour, we'll visit the vibrant Republic Square, famous for its Singing Fountains, and pay our respects at the Genocide Memorial, a poignant tribute to Armenia's past. Later in the day, we'll take an excursion to the UNESCO-listed cathedral at Echmiadzin, which dates back to 303 AD, and explore the ruins of Zvartnots. Overnight in Yerevan. (B, D)

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

This morning, we head to Garni, where you'll explore the impressive Garni Gorge, famed for its striking basalt columns, often called the "Symphony of Stones." Cross the 9th-century stone bridge over the Azat River to reach the ancient Temple of Garni. This 1st-century AD pagan temple, which was reconstructed after an earthquake in 1679, showcases beautiful Greco-Roman architecture. Close by is Geghard Monastery, a UNESCO World Heritage Site, partly carved into the cliffs. The monastery, dating from the 13th century, holds a deep spiritual history linked to the legendary spear that pierced Christ. Later, we'll visit a local home where you'll have the opportunity to participate in baking lavash, Armenia's traditional bread. Overnight in Yerevan. (B, D)

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

Gregory the Illuminator introduced Christianity to Armenia, and Khor Virap Monastery is closely tied to this pivotal figure in the country's history. Perched at an elevated position, the monastery offers stunning views of Mount Ararat, a snow-capped peak in neighboring Turkey that holds deep significance for Armenians. Continuing our journey, we'll visit Noravank, a 12th-century monastery nestled amidst towering rock faces within a winding gorge, creating a dramatic and picturesque setting. Next, we'll stop in Areni, where we'll explore Bird's Cave, an important archaeological site that sheds light on Armenia's ancient history through fascinating discoveries. Afterward, we'll visit the renowned Areni Winery, where you'll have the opportunity to sample local wines and fruit-infused spirits, perfect for souvenirs. Overnight in Yerevan. (B, D)

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

One of the largest high altitude freshwater lakes on the planet, Lake Sevan is considered the pearl of Armenia. Surrounded by mountains, it sits at 2000 masl and is overlooked by the charming Sevanavank Monastery. You'll have to climb lots of steps to reach the church and its khatchkhars - at this altitude, it's quite literally breathtaking - but it's utterly worth it when you take in the panoramic views. From there we move on to what's

dubbed "Armenian Switzerland" and have a city tour of the delightful Dilijan. En route to the Georgian border, we'll call in at Haghpat monastery, one of the largest religious, cultural and educational centres of mediaeval Armenia. Meet your Georgian guide on the Armenian-Georgian border and together drive to Tbilisi. Dinner and overnight stay in Tbilisi. (B, D)

### **Day 6 - Tbilisi**

Today you'll get to know the charming Georgian capital, Tbilisi. Its compact old town makes exploring a pleasure. We'll tick off some of the main sights including the 13th century Methekhi church, 6th century Antchiskhati Church, 12th century Sioni cathedral and an ancient synagogue. Jumping on the cable car, we'll ascend to the imposing Narikala Fortress and look down over the city. Back at the bottom, we'll round off this introduction to Tbilisi with a visit to the Georgian National Museum and a stroll along bustling Rustaveli Avenue, the city's main drag. Overnight in Tbilisi. (B, D)

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

Near Tbilisi you'll find its predecessor Mtskheta, the ancient capital and religious centre of Georgia. Two important, UNESCO-listed sites are on the itinerary: the 6th century Djvari church and the 11th century Svetitskhoveli Cathedral. You'll enjoy a fascinating guided tour of both locations. Afterwards, we drive three hours west to Kutaisi, Georgia's second largest city. Nearby, we'll show you around Prometheus Cave with its many stalactites and stalagmites. Overnight in Kutaisi. (B, D)

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

Early morning bazaars are an established part of life in the Caucasus region and we'll begin today watching the animal traders and farmers carrying out their business. Today's sightseeing kicks off properly at the Gelati Monastery and Academy Complex, which dates from the 12th century. Moving on, we'll tour Bagrati Cathedral, also UNESCO-listed. From there, we'll drive to our base tonight at Akhaltsikhe. Overnight in Akhaltsikhe. (B, D)

### **Day 9 - Akhaltsikhe - Vardzia - Rabati Fortress - Akhaltsikhe**

The incredible cave city of Vardzia is the highlight of today's sightseeing programme. It dates from Georgia's Golden Age and the complex comprises an astounding 300 or so caves. They were used as churches, refectories, wine cellars and dwellings. As we tour the complex, you'll learn what it would have been like at the height of its popularity. Later, we'll stop off at Rabati Fortress where there's an excellent ethnographic museum to check out. Overnight in Akhaltsikhe. (B, D)

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

This morning we'll set our sights on Gori, breaking the journey with a wander through Borjomi Park on the way. Gori's most famous former resident is none other than the notorious Soviet leader Joseph Stalin and the museum which tells the story of his life is sure to hold our attention. Near Gori is another great cave city. You'll have plenty of time to acquaint yourself with Uplistikhe cave city before we hit the road again, bound for Tbilisi. There, we'll enjoy a traditional dinner accompanied by singing and folk dancing. Overnight in Tbilisi. (B, D)

### **Day 11 - Tbilisi**

Having ticked off the must-sees, this day is free for you to explore Tbilisi at your own pace. We'd recommend a visit to one of the city's atmospheric thermal baths. You'll spot their characteristic domes in several locations in the old town. There are plenty of excellent gift shops in which you can pick up a souvenir or perhaps you'll enjoy a leisurely coffee in one of Tbilisi's many lovely caff s. Overnight in Tbilisi. (B, D)

### **Day 12 - Tbilisi**

This morning marks the end of your Caucasus adventure in Armenia and Georgia. You'll be picked up from the hotel for your airport transfer in good time to make your flight. (B)

## TOUR INCLUSIONS AND OPTIONAL EXTRAS

### **Included**

Accommodation

Guided tours & cultural programme

English - speaking guides

Half board meals

Evening entertainment

Ground transportation

[Airport transfers](#)

**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 suppliment
05/20/2025 - 05/31/2025	\$2495	\$345
05/27/2025 - 06/07/2025	\$2495	\$345
06/03/2025 - 06/14/2025	\$2495	\$345
06/10/2025 - 06/21/2025	\$2495	\$345

06/17/2025 - 06/28/2025	\$2495	\$345
06/24/2025 - 07/05/2025	\$2495	\$345
07/01/2025 - 07/12/2025	\$2495	\$345
07/08/2025 - 07/19/2025	\$2495	\$345
07/15/2025 - 07/26/2025	\$2495	\$345
07/22/2025 - 08/02/2025	\$2495	\$345
07/29/2025 - 08/09/2025	\$2495	\$345
08/05/2025 - 08/16/2025	\$2495	\$345
08/12/2025 - 08/23/2025	\$2495	\$345
08/19/2025 - 08/30/2025	\$2495	\$345
08/26/2025 - 09/06/2025	\$2495	\$345
09/02/2025 - 09/13/2025	\$2495	\$345
09/09/2025 - 09/20/2025	\$2495	\$345
09/16/2025 - 09/27/2025	\$2495	\$345
09/23/2025 - 10/04/2025	\$2495	\$345
09/30/2025 - 10/11/2025	\$2495	\$345
10/07/2025 - 10/18/2025	\$2495	\$345
10/14/2025 - 10/25/2025	\$2495	\$345
10/21/2025 - 11/01/2025	\$2495	\$345
10/28/2025 - 11/08/2025	\$2495	\$345
11/04/2025 - 11/15/2025	\$2495	\$345
11/11/2025 - 11/22/2025	\$2495	\$345
11/18/2025 - 11/29/2025	\$2495	\$345
11/25/2025 - 12/06/2025	\$2495	\$345
12/02/2025 - 12/13/2025	\$2495	\$345
12/09/2025 - 12/20/2025	\$2495	\$345
12/16/2025 - 12/27/2025	\$2495	\$345

**PREMIUM - 4\* PACKAGE**

Dates	Tour Price	Single suppliment
05/20/2025 - 05/31/2025	\$2645	\$445
05/27/2025 - 06/07/2025	\$2645	\$445
06/03/2025 - 06/14/2025	\$2645	\$445
06/10/2025 - 06/21/2025	\$2645	\$445
06/17/2025 - 06/28/2025	\$2645	\$445
06/24/2025 - 07/05/2025	\$2645	\$445
07/01/2025 - 07/12/2025	\$2645	\$445
07/08/2025 - 07/19/2025	\$2645	\$445
07/15/2025 - 07/26/2025	\$2645	\$445
07/22/2025 - 08/02/2025	\$2645	\$445
07/29/2025 - 08/09/2025	\$2645	\$445
08/05/2025 - 08/16/2025	\$2645	\$445
08/12/2025 - 08/23/2025	\$2645	\$445
08/19/2025 - 08/30/2025	\$2645	\$445
08/26/2025 - 09/06/2025	\$2645	\$445
09/02/2025 - 09/13/2025	\$2645	\$445
09/09/2025 - 09/20/2025	\$2645	\$445
09/16/2025 - 09/27/2025	\$2645	\$445
09/23/2025 - 10/04/2025	\$2645	\$445
09/30/2025 - 10/11/2025	\$2645	\$445
10/07/2025 - 10/18/2025	\$2645	\$445
10/14/2025 - 10/25/2025	\$2645	\$445
10/21/2025 - 11/01/2025	\$2645	\$445
10/28/2025 - 11/08/2025	\$2645	\$445
11/04/2025 - 11/15/2025	\$2645	\$445
11/11/2025 - 11/22/2025	\$2645	\$445
11/18/2025 - 11/29/2025	\$2645	\$445
11/25/2025 - 12/06/2025	\$2645	\$445
12/02/2025 - 12/13/2025	\$2645	\$445
12/09/2025 - 12/20/2025	\$2645	\$445
12/16/2025 - 12/27/2025	\$2645	\$445



## 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:

- > [Great Armenian Discovery - 10 days \(AM-03\)](#), Price from \$1,995, 10 days
- > [Highlights of Azerbaijan - 6 days \(AZ-01\)](#), Price from \$1,095, 6 days
- > [Discover Armenia, Georgia and Azerbaijan - 16 days \(CT-02\)](#), Price from \$3,495, 16 days
- > [Best of Georgia and Azerbaijan - 12 days \(CT-03\)](#), Price from \$2,595, 12 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.

