



Tour program in Georgia

Day 1: Arrival in Tbilisi. Meeting at the Airport. Transfer to a hotel in Tbilisi. *Overnight in Tbilisi.*

Day 2: Tbilisi Tour

We will visit the **Old Tbilisi Sulfur Baths**, Georgian Orthodox and Armenian Gregorian churches, and a **Jewish synagogue** and a **Turkish mosque** side by side, reflecting Tbilisi's acceptance and tolerance of different religions. We can also see a recent monument, the **Tbilisi Sameba Cathedral**, the largest cathedral in the Caucasus. Tour includes following sights: **Metekhi Church** is erected on the cliff, overlooking the Mtkvari River. **The Sulfur Baths** are located in Old Tbilisi, on the other side of the river, opposite Darejani Palace. The Orthodox **Narikala St. Nikolas Church** is in the same district. The church is furnished with frescoed portraits of martyrs and scenes from the Bible. It is wrapped in a defensive **Narikala fortress**, established in the fourth century. At Leselidze Street, we come across the 13th century Armenian St. George Church and a **Jewish synagogue** with an elegant facade. On the opposite side of the street is **Sioni Church**, leading to the bank of the Mtkvari. Here you discover **Shardeni Street** with its fashionable cozy cafes and art galleries. Walking we will come across the **Anchiskhati church**, the oldest church in Tbilisi keeping the miraculous icon of Jesus Christ. Finally the tour takes you to **Rustaveli Avenue**, where attractions such as the **Tbilisi Opera and Ballet Theatre, the Parliament, Rustaveli Theatre**, different art galleries and cafes will draw your attention and provide a cosmopolitan atmosphere. Visit to Open Air Ethnographic Museum, place, where are built all kinds of Georgian national old country-houses and castles. 20:00 folk dinner at National restaurant in Tbilisi. *Overnight in Tbilisi hotel.*

Day 3: Tbilisi –Kazbegi – Gudauri

Drive to Kazbegi. A stunning drive from Gudauri along the Tergi River will bring us to Kazbegi – the main town in the region. On the way we pass **Ananuri Castle** and **Jinvali water reservoir** of amazing beauty. En route stop and see different local hand made things (thick felt, embroidery, iconographic painting). From Kazbegi we drive to Gergeti Trinity Church located at 2170m by 4X4 cars (payment on the spot, about 6-7 Euro per person). Weather permitting you may catch a glimpse of one of the highest glaciers in the Caucasus – Mt Kazbegi (5047m). We drive back to the town and before returning to Gudauri drive to Dariali Gorge. *Dinner and overnight in Gudauri hotel.*

Day 4: Gudauri – Gori – Uplistsikhe – Mtskheta – Tbilisi

After breakfast drive to Gori. The city was founded by one of the greatest kings of Georgia, David the Builder (1089–1125). Visit The Joseph Stalin Museum in Gori. Afterwards visit Uplistsikhe, "the lord's fortress", which is an ancient rock-hewn town in eastern Georgia. Built on a high rocky left bank of Mtkvari River, it contains various structures dating from the 2nd ML BC to the Late Middle Ages, and is notable for the unique combination of various styles of rock-cut cultures. Drive to **Mtskheta (UNESCO Heritage Site)**, an ancient capital of the Georgian Kingdom from the 3rd century BC to the 5th century AD. **Jvari Monastery** (6th c.); **Svetitskhoveli Cathedral** built in the 11th century. Drive to Tbilisi. Dinner at a restaurant. *Overnight in Tbilisi.*

Day 5: Tbilisi – Gremi – Kvareli – Telavi

After breakfast drive to Kakheti region. Visit Alaverdi cathedral. The next spot is Gremi Monastery the 16th century architectural monument – the royal citadel and the Church of the Archangels – in Kakheti. Afterwards

drive to Kvareli. We will visit wine cellar called “Gvirabi”- tunnel. This unique wine cave represents the tunnel that is cut off in eth stone massif of Caucasian mountain range, where yearlong natural temperature is 10-12°C. The length of this construction is 7, 7 Km. Have dinner at the restaurant “Kakhetian Yard”. **Overnight in Telavi hotel.**

Day 6: Telavi – Tsinandali – Gurjaani - Signaghi

Visit house museum of Prince Aleksandre Chavchavadze, with beautiful garden and wine cellar, where we will taste 5 sorts of wine. Alexander Chavchavadze inherited this village, lying in the Alazany River valley, from his father, Prince Garsevan. He refurbished the estate, constructed a new Italianate palace and built a decorative garden in 1835. It was the place where Chavchavadze frequently entertained foreign guests with music, wit, and – most especially – the fine vintages made at his estate winery (marani). Familiar with European ways, Chavchavadze built Georgia’s oldest and largest winery where he combined European and centuries-long Georgian winemaking traditions. The highly regarded dry white Tsinandali is still produced there. Afterwards drive to Signagi. On the way visit Gurjaani all St. Church. Have Signaghi tour and free time in Signaghi. Dinner at a restaurant. **Overnight in Signaghi.**

Day 7: Signaghi –Bodbe- David Gareji – Tbilisi

After breakfast visit Bodbe monastery of St. Nino. According to Georgian tradition, St. Nino, having witnessed the conversion of Georgians to the Christian faith. Afterwards drive to David Gareji. David Gareji is one of the most important landmarks of Georgia. This site is characterized by a unique combination of historic architecture, prehistoric archaeological sites, rich paleontological fields and important bio-geographical features widely spread within the arid and semiarid landscape of the river Iori plateau. The dozens of cave monasteries decorated with unique frescoes are the best examples of harmonious interaction of man-made structures with the dramatic landscape. They bear the traditional principles of sustainable living and are considered as the masterpieces of Georgian Medieval art. In the evening drive back to Tbilisi. Have farewell dinner at a traditional restaurant with folk show. **Overnight in Tbilisi hotel.**

Day 8: Transfer to the Airport. Departure.

pax	Price per person in SEK in 3* hotel
15	11 800

Price included:

- Flight Stockholm-Tbilisi with Turkish Airlines
- Transportation as per program
- English speaking guide
- 4 overnights in Tbilisi with breakfast
- 1 overnight in Gudauri with breakfast
- 1 overnight in Telavi with breakfast
- 1 overnight in Signaghi with breakfast
- 1 Tour leader free of charge in single room
- Lunch and dinner day 1-7
- Museum entrance fees
- Wine degustation fees
- Two bottles of mineral water per person per day

Price excluded:

- Travel insurance
- 4X4 cars in Kazbegi (6-7 Euro per person)
- Alcoholic beverages