Georgia, Armenia & Azerbaijan

BAKU ● YEREVAN ● TBILISI ● USHGULI

The Offer

Embark on a journey through the captivating landscapes and rich cultural tapestry of Azerbaijan, Georgia, and Armenia, where ancient traditions meet stunning natural beauty, and every corner holds a story waiting to be discovered. From the architectural elegance of Baku to the stunning mountains of Gudauri and the rich history of Yerevan, this trip offers a perfect blend of cultural immersion, breathtaking sights and memorable experiences.

Starting in Baku, a city where Parisian elegance meets futuristic architecture you'll explore its UNESCO-listed Old City, the iconic Maiden Tower, and the architectural masterpiece of the Heydar Aliyev Centre. From the bustling Seaside Boulevard to the tranquil Mud Volcanoes, Baku offers a stunning blend of history and modernity.

In Armenia, the pristine shores of Lake Sevan and the charming town of Dilijan, known as "Little Switzerland," showcase the natural beauty of this ancient land. Conclude your journey in Yerevan, the "Pink City," where historic monuments like the Garni Temple and Geghard Monastery reveal the depth of Armenia's cultural and religious history.

Travel to Sheki, Azerbaijan's hidden gem, nestled in forested mountains, where the Sheki Khan Palace and medieval caravanserais transport you to another era. Crossing into Georgia, the wine region of Kakheti awaits, with wine-tasting tours in tunnels carved into the Caucasus Mountains and hands-on lessons in crafting traditional Georgian delicacies.

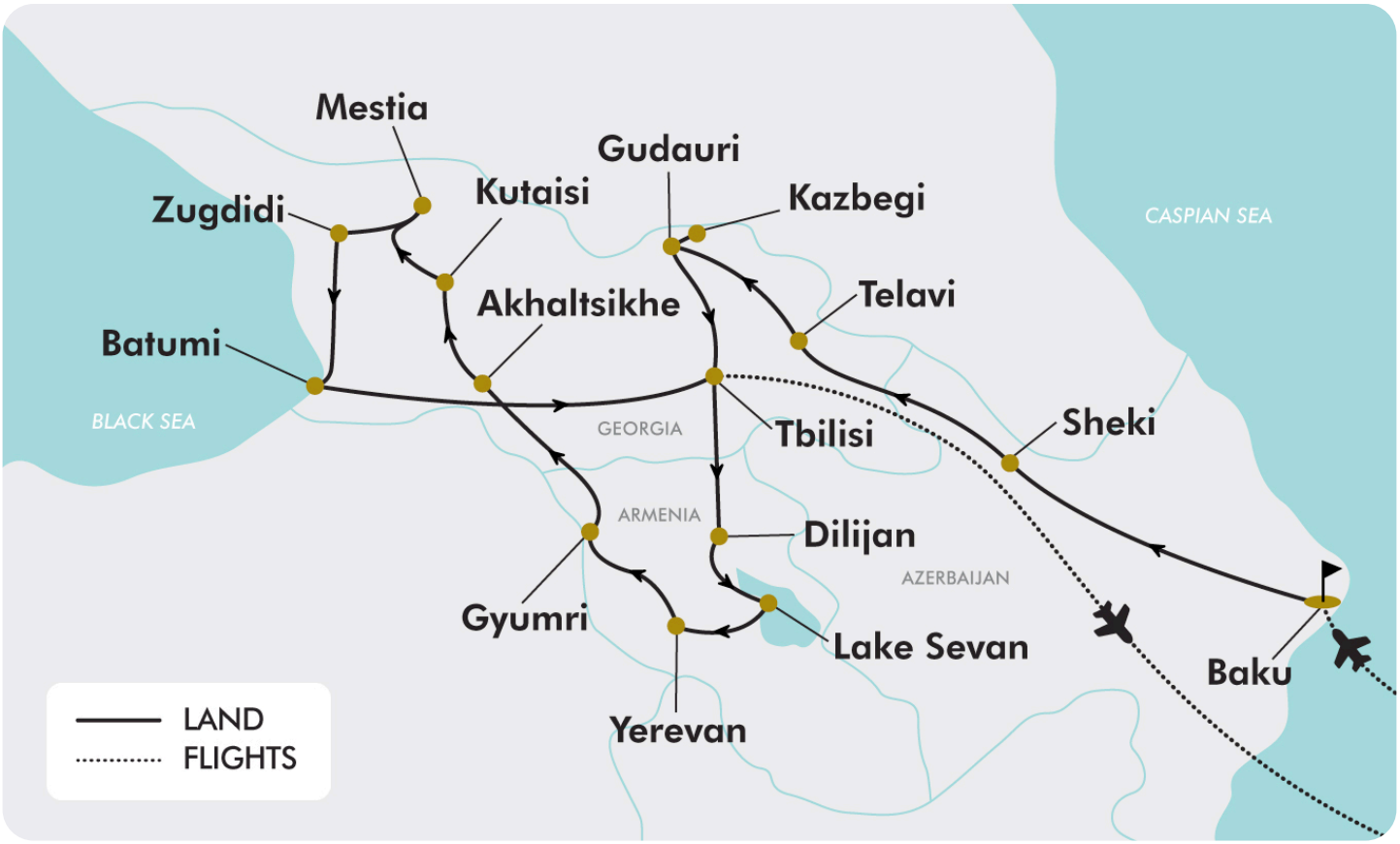
Marvel at the breathtaking scenery of Gudauri and Kazbegi in the Georgian Caucasus, where ancient churches stand against dramatic peaks. Explore the vibrant city of Tbilisi, with its eclectic architecture, sulphur bathhouses, and iconic landmarks such as the Narikala Fortress and Holy Trinity Cathedral. UNESCO World Heritage sites in Mtskheta provide a window into Georgia's spiritual heritage.

This unforgettable adventure includes return international full-service flights, 22 nights of hotel accommodation, 28 meals including a traditional Georgian lunch, English-speaking tour guides and more!

Want more? Arrive Early in Baku, Azerbaijan or Stay Behind in Tbilisi, Georgia!

GOLDEN GATE
TRAVEL

The Map


Mestia
Gudauri
Zugdidi
Kutaisi
Kazbegi
CASPIAN SEA
Akhaltsikhe
Telavi
Batumi
BLACK SEA
GEORGIA
Tbilisi
Sheki
ARMENIA
Dilijan
AZERBAIJAN
Gyumri
Lake Sevan
Baku
Yerevan
LAND
FLIGHTS

The Itinerary

Day 1 Depart Australia (or New Zealand)

Today you'll depart from Australia (or New Zealand) for Baku, Azerbaijan.

Please note: Some customers may require long layovers in connecting cities. Please be assured that lounge passes or overnight accommodation will be provided if required.

Overnight: None
Meals included: In-Flight

Day 2 Arrive Baku, Azerbaijan

Upon arrival, you'll be greeted at the airport and transferred to the hotel.

Azerbaijan's capital Baku (or Bakı in Azeri) is the architectural love child of Paris and Dubai, albeit with plenty of Soviet genes floating half-hidden in the background. Few cities in the world are changing as quickly and nowhere else in the Caucasus do the East and West blend as seamlessly.

Overnight: Sapphire Bayil or similar, Baku
Meals included: None

Day 3 Baku City Tour

This morning, after breakfast, you will head out on a city tour of Baku.

First, you will visit Memory Alley (Martyr's Lane) which is a cemetery and memorial dedicated to those killed by the Soviet Army during Black January and also for those killed in the Nagorno-Karabakh War. You'll then continue to Upland Park to enjoy a panoramic view of Baku Bay. Afterwards, enjoy a walking tour in the beautiful UNESCO-listed Old City area where you'll see historical and cultural sites such as the Maiden Tower, Shirvanshah's Palace, Medieval Caravanserai, the hammams (bathhouses), Market Square, carpet shops, art studios and souvenir stalls. After lunch (not included), you'll visit the world-class cultural centre named after Heydar Aliyev, Azerbaijan's third president. The Heydar Aliyev Centre consists of various exhibitions and is recognised as one of the world's most famous buildings, the masterpiece of Zaha Hadid has also become an architectural landmark of modern Azerbaijan. You'll then finish the day with a walk along the Seaside Boulevard, the longest promenade in Baku, before returning to the hotel for an evening at leisure.

Overnight: Sapphire Bayil or similar, Baku
Meals included: Breakfast

Day 4 Baku Free Day

Today is yours to enjoy free at leisure or you may take part in an optional tour (not included).

Optional Activity: Gobustan Archaeological Reserve & Mud Volcanoes

This morning, after breakfast, you will travel to mud volcanoes that are approximately 70 kilometres from Baku. These mud volcanoes are a unique natural phenomenon with almost half of the mud volcanoes on our planet located in Azerbaijan. Afterwards, you'll continue to Gobustan Reserve, an open-air archaeological museum where you can observe the caves and petroglyphs of the Neolithic period (Stone Age). Gobustan has outstanding universal value as its rock art images depict hunting, fauna, flora and lifestyles in pre-historic times. In the afternoon you'll travel onwards to the Absheron Peninsula where you may

The Itinerary

explore the Fire Worshippers Temple of Ateshgah. Until the late 19th century, it was known as the Zoroastrian pilgrimage place. Here you can admire the nearby flaming mountain of Yanardag where natural gas comes to the surface and has been burning since ancient times, attracting fire worshippers throughout many centuries. You'll then return to Baku where you may enjoy the remainder of the day at leisure.

Please note: This optional tour requires a minimum of 8 people to operate. Current pricing details can be found under Important Information.

Overnight: Sapphire Bayil or similar, Baku
Meals included: Breakfast

Day 5 Baku - Maraza Village - Shamakhi - Sheki City Tour

This morning, after breakfast, you'll check out of your hotel and travel onwards approximately 330 kilometres to Sheki in the North-West of the country. Snoozing amid green pillows of beautifully forested mountains, Şəki (Sheki) is Azerbaijan's loveliest town, dappled with old houses boasting tiled roofs and topped off with a glittering little Khan's palace. Along the way, you will visit Diri Baba Mausoleum in Maraza Village and the ancient Juma Mosque in Shamakhi, the medieval capital city. You will also cross a river canyon through the beautiful Muganly mountainous pass. Upon arrival in Sheki this afternoon, you will enjoy a short city tour to see the city fortress, Sheki Khan Palace, Caravanserai and artisans' stalls selling stained glass and silk.

Overnight: Sheki Palace Hotel or similar, Sheki
Meals included: Breakfast

Day 6 Sheki, Azerbaijan - Kvareli, Georgia - Telavi

This morning you'll check out of your accommodation and continue onwards to the neighbouring country of Georgia. Along the way, you'll visit the village of Kish and observe the ancient temple called "the mother of churches". The history of this church goes back to 6th-7th centuries. Once you have completed border formalities and crossed the border you will meet your Georgian guide who will drive you onwards to Kvareli and visit the Khareba wine cellar, located in a tunnel dug out of the flank of the Caucasus Mountains, where you can taste amazing Qvevri wines. The temperature in the tunnel stays ideally at 12-14 degrees throughout the year and consists of two main tunnels which are linked by 13 galleries. The total length of the tunnels is 7.7 kilometres. Following the wine tasting and tour of the tunnels, you'll learn to make two traditional Georgian dishes - Georgian Shoti Bread and local sweet Churchkhela. You'll then finish the day in Telavi where you will check in for an evening at leisure after an approximately 200 kilometre travel day.

Please note: You will be required to walk approximately 700m (approx. 300m of this is up stairs) from the Azerbaijan side to the Georgian side of the border. There are no cars inside the neutral zone to transfer the luggage and no car can currently cross the border.

Overnight: Holiday Inn Telavi or similar, Telavi
Meals included: Breakfast

The Itinerary

Day 7 Telavi - Tsinandali - Shumi - Gudauri

After breakfast, you'll drive to Tsinandali village and visit the 19th-century residence of Kakheti nobleman, poet, public figure and founder of the first wine factory, Alexander Chavchavadze. Here you'll explore the house-museum and sample a glass of the finest Tsinandali cellar wine. You'll then head to Shumi Winery, located just a few minutes' drive from Tsinandali, where you'll enjoy a tour of the winery which presents a collection of wine-related exhibits, a history and culture department and a wine-tasting area. Here you will also enjoy a taste of Shumi botted wines with light snacks. Afterwards, you'll drive to Gudauri village deep in the Caucasus mountains at 2,200 metres above sea level and enjoy breathtaking views before you check into your hotel after an approximately 170-kilometre travel day.

Overnight: Marco Polo Inn or similar, Gudauri
Meals included: Breakfast; Dinner

Day 8 Gudauri - Kazbegi - Walking Tour to Gveleti Waterfall - Gudauri

After breakfast, you'll drive to the Gudauri Viewpoint which is a cylinder monument with spectacular views overlooking Devil's Valley and the Caucasus Mountains. Called "Russia–Georgia Friendship Monument", this was erected by the Soviets in 1983 in the mountains of northern Georgia. The famous Georgian architect, Giorgi Chakhava, designed it and placed it on a spot offering a spectacular view over the surrounding landscape. You'll then drive onwards to Gergeti Mountain by 4x4 vehicle to visit the iconic Gergeti Trinity church which is overlooked by Mt. Kazbegi. Gergeti Holy Trinity Church is an important altar of the 14th century, located on the slope of Mount Kazbegi. The church facade preserves stone decorations depicting ancient rituals and beliefs. If you are lucky with the weather, you'll see the magnificent Mount Kazbegi (5047 metres above sea level), according to legend, Amirani, a cult hero and a prototype of Greek Prometheus, was punished by Gods and chained on the mountain. Afterwards, you'll continue to Gveleti and enjoy a walk to the Gveleti waterfall. You must first drive through the stunning Dariali Gorge where you can take a short, leisurely hike up a narrow footpath that leads the way to the Gveleti Small waterfall. You'll then return to Gudauri for the evening after an approximately 100-kilometre travel day.

Overnight: Marco Polo Inn or similar, Gudauri
Meals included: Breakfast; Dinner

The Itinerary

Day 9 Gudauri - Ananuri - Mktskheta - Tbilisi

This morning you'll depart Gudauri and head south out of the mountains towards Georgia's beautiful capital city of Tbilisi, enjoying a few stops along the way. First up you will visit Ananuri Fortress and take in views of the Zhinvali Reservoir. The Ananuri complex was built between the 14th and 17th centuries and consists of fortifications and residential buildings of Aragvi Dukes, the purpose of the monument was to control the trade route and to guard the country from the North.

Afterwards, you'll drive to the ancient capital of Mtskheta which functioned as the capital of Eastern Georgia (Iberia) from the 3rd century BC to the 5th century AD. Mtskheta was a site of early Christian activity and the location where Christianity was proclaimed the state religion of Kartli in 337 AD. It remains the headquarters of the Georgian Orthodox Church so here you will visit the Mtskheta historical monuments of the Jvari Monastery of the 6th century and the Svetitskhoveli Cathedral of the 11th century, both which are recognised as UNESCO World Heritage Sites.

You'll then finish the day in Tbilisi, the vibrant and colourful capital of Georgia with its dramatic valley setting, picturesque Old Town, eclectic architecture and superb eating and drinking opportunities. Tbilisi is the vibrant, beating heart of Georgia and home to more than one in three of its citizens, so enjoy an evening at leisure here after an approximately 160 kilometre travel day.

Overnight: Holiday Inn Express or similar, Tbilisi
Meals included: Breakfast

Day 10 Tbilisi City Tour

After breakfast at the hotel, you'll enjoy a full-day tour of this historic capital city. You'll combine driving and walking through the city to visit key attractions including Mount Mtatsminda ("The Holy Mountain") which stands at an altitude of 729 metres above sea level with a leading position over the city. Nearby, you'll also visit the Mtatsminda Pantheon of Writers and Public Figures where you'll find where some of the most prominent writers, artists, scholars, and national heroes of Georgia are buried. Afterwards, you'll head to the Holy Trinity Sameba Cathedral which is the largest religious building not only in Georgia but in the region of South Caucasus. It's even listed among the largest Orthodox churches in the world. The cathedral was constructed between 1995 and 2004 as a "symbol of the Georgian national and spiritual revival". The 13th-century Metekhi Church then awaits, presenting one of the most important architectural monuments of old Tbilisi. You'll then see the 4th-century Narikala Fortress which dominates the Old Town as an impressive architectural landmark. With its inaccessible slopes, the fortress served as a main fortification and defended the city for centuries. Stop by the Old Sulfur Bathhouses with healing natural warm water have been praised by numerous travellers who visited the city, as well as the Meidan Square and Shardeni neighbourhood which are famous for their cosy cafes, souvenir shops and art galleries. Take a walk over The Bridge of Peace, a modern architectural glassy bridge in Old Town, before seeing the 6th-century Anchiskhati Basilica which is one of the oldest churches of Tbilisi and is associated with the adoption of Christianity in Georgia. You'll then finish the day back at the hotel and enjoy the remainder of the day at leisure.

The Itinerary

Overnight: Holiday Inn Express or similar, Tbilisi
Meals included: Breakfast

Day 11 Tbilisi Free Day

Today is a free day to explore this beautiful city or you can choose to take part in an optional tour.

Optional Activity: Gori, Stalin's Museum & Uplistsikhe Day Tour

On this tour, you'll visit J. Stalin's memorial house museum, located in the nearby town of Gori, which was established in 1937 and retains its Soviet-era characteristics. The museum exhibits re-create scenes from the life of the leader and includes unique photos, gifts and furniture. The house where Stalin was born is preserved under a stone canopy nearby while the museum complex also consists of an exposition building with a tower and Stalin's coach which he used to travel to Tehran, Yalta and Potsdam. Afterwards, you'll visit the Uplistiskhe cave town, located southeast of Gori on the left bank of the river Mtkvari. Uplistsikhe is the first settled area mentioned in manuscripts dating from the 2nd millennium BC and translates literally in English as "the fortress of God". The town was an important point on the trade route linking Byzantium, India and China. Nowadays archaeological excavations uncovered several layers dating from the Early Iron Age to the late Middle Ages. Take a walk through the narrow streets carved into sandstone rock, explore the caves, visit several pagan temples and see the Agama lizards that have taken over the abandoned city. Please note: This tour requires a minimum of 8 people to operate. Current pricing details can be found under Important Information.

Overnight: Holiday Inn Express or similar, Tbilisi
Meals included: Breakfast

Day 12 Tbilisi - Sadakhlo - Dilijan, Armenia - Lake Sevan - Yerevan

After breakfast, you'll head towards the Sadakhlo border where you'll travel onwards to the beautiful resort town of Dilijan, also known as 'Little Switzerland' due to its beautiful setting. Here, you will visit the old centre of Dilijan and Sharambeyan Street which is full of handicraft stores, souvenir shops and historical buildings. You'll then drive to Lake Sevan which is often referred to as a "Pearl of Armenia" by locals and is one of the largest freshwater high-altitude lakes in Eurasia. It stands out with its sweet and astonishingly blue water so enjoy the breathtaking scenery of the beautiful lake and enjoy a cruise to admire the beauty of the blue pearl of the Armenian highland. Finally, you'll arrive in Yerevan, the capital city of Armenia, where you will check into your hotel and enjoy an evening at leisure after an approximately 300-kilometre travel day. Yerevan is the vibrant capital of Armenia where ancient history seamlessly blends with modern energy. Nestled against the backdrop of Mount Ararat, Yerevan is a city of captivating contrasts so enjoy strolling through the charming streets adorned with pink tuff buildings and discover a rich tapestry of culture, cuisine, and hospitality.

Overnight: Ani Central Inn or similar, Yerevan
Meals included: Breakfast

The Itinerary

Day 13 Yerevan City Tour

After breakfast, you'll embark on a tour of Yerevan, known by locals as the 'pink city' due to the colour of stone commonly used on the buildings. In the city centre, you will visit Republic Square and Mashtoc Avenue where you will see some of the most prominent buildings and attractive structures. You'll then see the gorgeous Yerevan Cascade, a giant multi-level stairway built of limestone and adorned with modernist sculptures. The stairs direct visitors' gaze to views of central Yerevan and Mount Ararat. At the base of the Cascade, you'll find a garden courtyard boasting statues of contemporary sculptures such as Botero. You'll then continue onwards to the Yerevan Theatre of Opera and Ballet which officially opened in 1933 with Alexander Spendiaryan's Almast opera performance. Afterwards, you'll visit a brandy factory to learn about the national spirit of Armenia and enjoy a tasting too. You'll then head to the nearby Garni Temple, a Pagan Temple built in the 1st century AD that was devoted to the god Mihr, who was the god of cleanness. In 1679 it was destroyed by an earthquake however was restored in 1975. You will then continue to Geghard Monastery, named after the legendary lance that was used to pierce the body of Christ. It has been kept here for centuries though the exact foundation of the monastery is unknown, it's thought that the present complex was built in the mid–13th century. You'll finish the day at a local house where you will have the chance to see and participate in the preparation of the Armenian national bread, lavash. This bread is very thin and usually cooked in a ground oven (tonir) so you'll enjoy this 'Armenian fast food' with lavash and cheese. Afterwards, you'll return to Yerevan for an evening at leisure.

Overnight: Ani Central Inn or similar, Yerevan
Meals included: Breakfast

Day 14 Yerevan Free Day

Today is a free day to explore this fascinating city or take part in an optional activity.

Optional Activity: Aregi Factory & Armenian Cooking Class

After breakfast, you'll drive to the nearby Aragatsotn region and visit the "Aregi" Dry Fruit & Eco-Snack Factory where incredible combinations of traditional Armenian dried fruits and vegetables await you. "Aregi" products are exclusively made without sugar and additives, and the factory operates by receiving solar energy through special stations. Thanks to the latter, ecologically clean dry fruit and vegetable snack chips are produced so you'll enjoy the opportunity to taste them. Afterwards, you'll visit a local house for lunch where you can participate in the preparation of Armenian pasta "Arishta" before finishing the day back in Yerevan.

Please note: This optional activity requires a minimum of 4 people to operate. Current pricing details can be found under Important Information.

Overnight: Ani Central Inn or similar, Yerevan
Meals included: Breakfast

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Day 15 Yerevan - Zvarnots - Ejmiatsin - Gyumri

Today you'll depart Yerevan and travel onwards to the centuries-old UNESCO-listed monuments of The Cathedral of Ejmiatsin and the 7th-century Zvartnots Temple. Afterwards, you'll continue onwards to Gyumri, the second-largest city in Armenia. The city, which has changed its name several times, was initially called Kumayri and later Alexandrapol. After that, it was called Leninakan and finally Gyumri. Enjoy walking the streets here after an approximately 130 kilometre travel day.

Overnight: Tomus Hotel or similar, Gyumri
Meals included: Breakfast

Day 16 Gyumri - Bavra - Vardzia, Georgia - Akhaltsikhe

Today you'll depart Gyumri and travel to the Georgia and Armenia border at Bavra. After the border crossing, you'll travel onwards and explore the medieval Vardzia cave city and monastery. Vardzia is carved on the slopes of the Erusheti Mountain, stretching along the 500 meter-wide cliff and consisting of 19 tiers. Georgian Queen Tamar is credited for establishing a monastery in Vardzia during her reign in the 12th century which housed 2000 monks. During its rise in the 12th century, the cave city contained 6000 apartments, a throne room and a large church with a bell tower. While you're here, take a walk to explore the caves, and medieval frescoes and narrow "secret" tunnels.

After Vardzia, you'll continue onwards to the town of Akhaltsikhe which has always been known as a melting pot for its multiculturalism, tolerance and diversity. Georgians, Jews, Armenians and Turks have lived here side by side for centuries, and this is clearly reflected in the historical monuments of the town. Here you will check in to your accommodation and enjoy the remainder of the afternoon at leisure after an approximately 190 kilometre travel day.

Overnight: Akhaltsikhe Inn or similar, Akhaltsikhe
Meals included: Breakfast

Day 17 Akhaltsikhe - Borjomi - Gelati Monastery - Kutaisi

This morning you'll depart Akhaltiskhe and travel onwards to the resort town of Borjomi, famous for its mineral water and being within a picturesque valley near the Agura River gorge at an altitude of 800 metres. Enjoy time at leisure exploring this beautiful town before driving onwards to the Gelati Academy and UNESCO-listed Monastery complex of the 12th century. The complex includes an Academy where some of the most renowned Georgian theologians, scientists and philosophers have graduated from.

You'll then continue onwards to Kutaisi which is one of the oldest continuously inhabited cities in the world and the third-most populous city in Georgia after Tbilisi and Batumi. On arrival, enjoy a guided walk near the drama theatre on Agmashenebeli Square and Kutaisi Opera House before heading in the direction of the Kutaisi Historic District. Afterwards, cross the white bridge and go to the farmer's market before finishing the tour at Kutaisi Central Garden "Boulevard" where you can see a white stone statue of the famous folk singer of Debi Ishkhnelebi.

You'll then complete the day at your hotel where you may enjoy an evening at leisure after an approximately 190 kilometre travel day.

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Overnight: Kutaisi Inn or similar, Kutaisi
Meals included: Breakfast

Day 18 Kutaisi - Martvili Canyon - Mestia

Depart Kutaisi and drive to the small village of Martvili on an approximately 220 kilometre travel day. Here you will visit one of the most unique natural attractions of Georgia, the Martvili Canyon protected area. Over millions of years, the Abasha River has created a magnificent gorge in limestone rocks, reaching a depth of 40 metres with canyons, caves and waterfalls. There are stretches of quiet water for peddling and swimming but also steep rocks to climb, spectacular waterfalls to enjoy and caves to explore. In the upper part of the canyon, you'll enjoy a boat trip to explore this beautiful canyon and marvel at a few of these waterfalls.

From Martvili, you will begin your ascent up into the mountains of the Svaneti region. Along the way, you'll visit Enguri Dam which is the world's second-largest arch dam at 270 metres in height.

You'll then finish the day in the beautiful mountain resort town of Mestia which also doubles as the capital of Svaneti Provence. Mestia sits at 1500 metres above sea level in the shadows of some of the biggest mountains in Europe, such as the iconic Mt Ushba (4710 metres). The population of Mestia is made up mostly of Svans, a cultural and linguistic subgroup of the Georgians with a unique cultural identity. Despite its small size, the townlet was an important centre of Georgian culture for centuries and contains several medieval monuments such as churches and forts which are included in a list of UNESCO World Heritage Sites.

Overnight: Hotel Lahili or similar, Mestia
Meals included: Breakfast; Dinner

Day 19 Mestia & Surroundings

After breakfast, enjoy a tour of the Svaneti Museum, where you will find unique icons and manuscripts from the 4th to 6th centuries, as well as ethnic artefacts associated with Svaneti and its people. Afterwards, you'll visit the Mikheil Khergiani Museum, dedicated to Mikheil Khergiani, a legendary Georgian mountaineer, which preserves his belongings, climbing equipment, photographs, and memorabilia, offering guests both cultural and inspirational insight.

Travel back to the hotel where you can enjoy the rest of the evening exploring at your leisure, with dinner included.

Optional Activity: Hatsvali Cable Car

$10 USD (paid on tour, pricing subject to change) Ride the Hatsvali Cable Car up Mount Zuruldi (2347 metres) to enjoy magnificent panoramic views of the surrounding area (weather dependent - subject to closures).

Please note: Activities on Days 19 and 20 may be swapped

Overnight: Hotel Lahili or similar, Mestia
Meals included: Breakfast; Dinner

The Itinerary

Day 20 Mestia - Ushguli - Mestia

Today you will explore the beautiful Svaneti Region which is surrounded by mountains, glaciers, high peaks and waterfalls. You'll be driven in 4x4 vehicles to Ushguli Village which is a community of four villages at the head of Enguri Gorge. It's considered one of the highest continuously inhabited settlements in Europe at 2100 metres above sea level and, due to its particularly inaccessible location, has kept a timeless feel. The road to Ushguli passes by the villages of Ipari and Kala where the small churches in these villages contain beautiful frescos and murals dedicated to the history of the region.

From here you will enjoy a walk where you may view the Shkhara Glacier, the surrounding villages contain old Svan Towers and buildings that make Ushguli part of the UNESCO World Heritage-listed sites. In the evening you will return to the hotel where you will spend the rest of the evening at your own leisure with dinner included.

Please note: Activities on Days 19 and 20 may be swapped

Overnight: Hotel Lahili or similar, Mestia
Meals included: Breakfast; Dinner

Day 21 Mestia - Zugdidi - Batumi

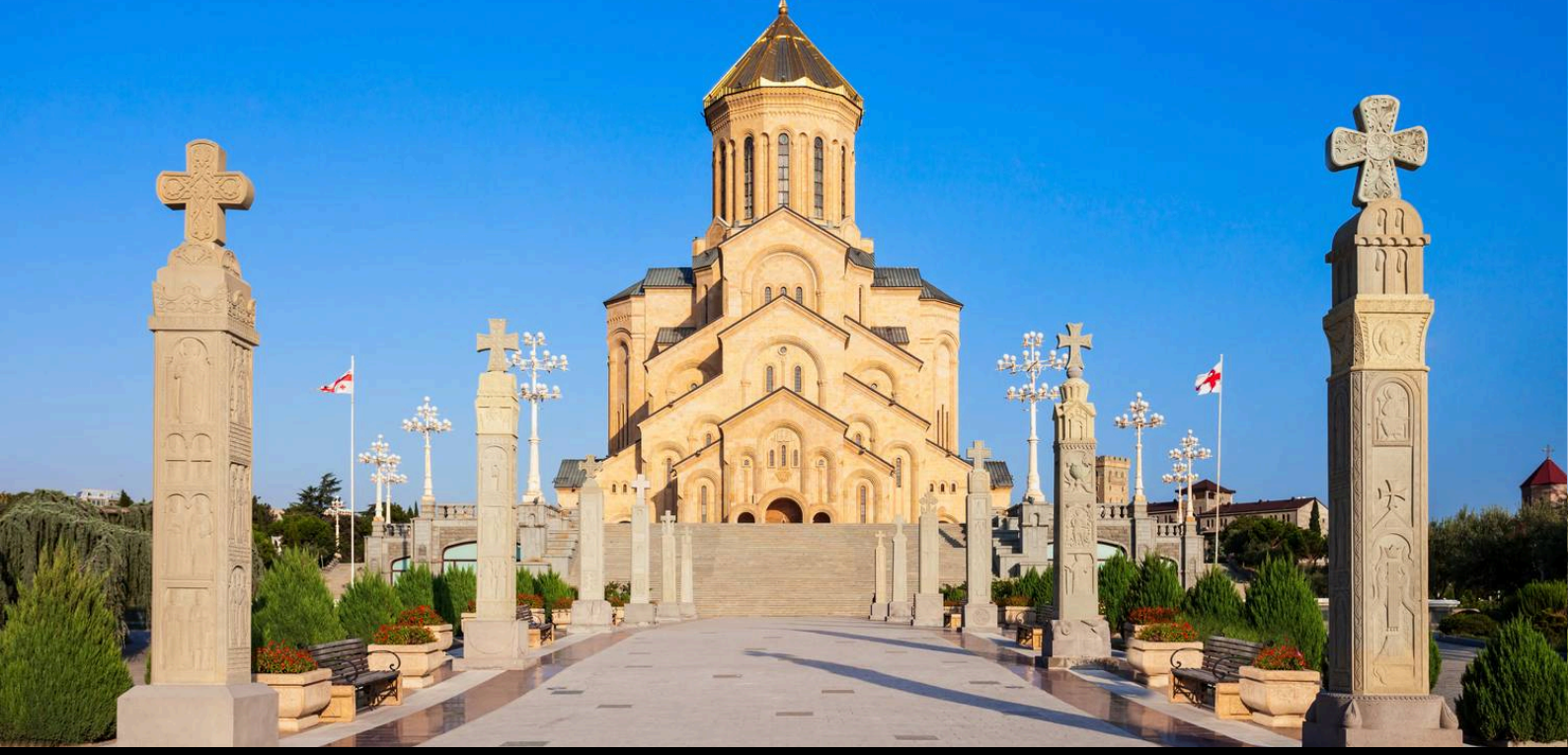
Today, after breakfast, you'll depart to the small village of Chkhoria near Zugdidi. Here you will find the ethnographic village of Sisa Tura where the history and traditions of the Samegrelo region are collected and revived with traditional facilities and unique household items located under the open sky. There is an artificial lake in the ethno-village too where you can fish, walk in nature, taste traditional dishes during lunch and enjoy the Kolkhic peace. Next, you'll drive to the Neo-Gothic Dadiani Palace in Zugdidi where the History and Architecture Museum is considered to be one of the most eminent palaces in the Caucasus. Afterwards, you'll continue onwards to Batumi after an approximately 250 kilometre travel day, this is the second largest city in Georgia and also happens to be positioned on the shores of the Black Sea.

Overnight: Salvador Batumi or similar, Batumi
Meals included: Breakfast; Lunch

Day 22 Batumi - Botanical Garden - Petra Fortress - Batumi City Walk

Today you'll head out on a tour of Batumi, beginning at the Batumi Botanical Garden which is unique for the combinations of species from completely different climatic zones. Enjoy taking a walk in the garden and photographing the views of Black Sea shores.

You'll then visit the Petra fortress which is located on the shores of the Black Sea, between the resort Tsikhisdziri and the town Kobuleti in the Adjara province, West Georgia. The fortress is situated on a hill where beautiful views over the Black Sea and Kobuleti beach can be enjoyed. Petra held an important strategic



The Itinerary

position at the crossroads of the route linking Georgia with Asia. Nowadays, the complex integrates the ruins of the fortress and a 200-metre long and 100-metre wide citadel, located on two neighbouring rocky seaside hills, a large 6th-century three-nave basilica, as well as the remains of an urban settlement that includes a bathhouse, water cistern, more than 300 burials of Late Bronze, Hellenistic, Roman and medieval periods.

You'll then return to Batumi for a walking city tour, starting from Europe Square near the statue of Medea by Davit Khmaladze. After learning the story about the Golden Fleece (Greek legend) and the history of the Adjara region, you'll walk through the narrow old streets to the Piazza Square to look at the Poseidon statue in front of the Batumi Drama Theater. The Old Batumi streets bring you to the Batumi Port where you'll walk around the Georgian Alphabet Tower, visit the Ali & Nino moving sculpture by Tamara Kvesitadze, stroll the Batumi boulevard and enjoy the show of dancing fountains. Finish the day back at the hotel for an evening at leisure.

Overnight: Salvador Batumi or similar, Batumi
Meals included: Breakfast

Day 23 Batumi - Tbilisi

Today depart Batumi and return to Tbilisi (approximately 360 kilometres) for one final evening before you depart home.

Overnight: Holiday Inn Express or similar, Tbilisi
Meals included: Breakfast

Day 24 Depart Tbilisi, Georgia - Australia (or New Zealand)

Today at the appropriate time, transfer to the airport for your return flight home to Australia (or New Zealand)

Meals included: Breakfast; In-Flight

Day 25 Arrive Australia (or New Zealand)

Meals included: None

Tour Inclusions

HIGHLIGHTS

Discover the very best of the Caucasus region on a small group tour

Marvel at the contrast of old and new in Baku's UNESCO-listed Old City area

Explore the ancient Silk Road town of Sheki, nestled amongst Azerbaijan's beautifully forested mountains

Visit Georgian wine tunnel cellars carved into the Caucasus Mountains

Travel by 4x4 to remote Gergeti Holy Trinity Church and explore Darial Gorge and Gveleti Waterfalls

See the UNESCO-listed Mtskheta historical monuments from the 6th century BC

Explore Tbilisi, the South Caucasus' cosmopolitan capital

Enjoy traditional Georgian and Armenian cooking classes

Journey by 4x4 to the highest permanently inhabited settlement in Europe, the village of Ushguli

Witness mountains, glaciers and waterfalls from Mestia in the beautiful Svaneti region

Visit Lake Sevan, which is often referred to as the pearl of Armenia

Explore the beautiful Armenian resort town of Dilijan, also known as 'Little Switzerland'

Discover one of the world's oldest cities on a guided city tour of Yerevan, Armenia

Experience the mediaeval cave city of Vardzia which is carved into the slopes of Erusheti Mountain

Immerse yourself in the beautiful and historic Petra fortress, located on the shores of the Black Sea near Batumi

FLIGHTS

Return international full-service flights (economy class), surcharges may apply. (Excludes Trip Only option)

ACCOMMODATION

18 nights of 4-star hotel accommodation

4 nights of 3-star hotel accommodation

DINING

28 meals, including a traditional Georgian lunch

ESSENTIALS

English-speaking tour guides

Airline taxes and surcharges

TRANSPORT

Transportation by private air-conditioned vehicles

TRANSFERS

Return airport transfers (Excludes Trip Only option)

Important Information

**Please note: All information provided in this brochure is subject to both change and availability. Prior to purchase please check the current deal for up-to-date information. If you have already purchased this deal, the terms and conditions on your Purchase Confirmation apply and take precedence over the information in this brochure.*

Booking Information

After purchase, you will receive a receipt and a Purchase Confirmation, directing you to an online Passenger Information Form. You must complete the Passenger Information Form within 72 hours of purchase.
Any special requests, preferences and optional extras MUST be clearly stated in your Passenger Information Form. Any change requested after submitting your Passenger Information Form cannot be guaranteed, is strictly subject to availability and will incur surcharges as outlined in the Schedule of Fees below.

Please note: All countries and territories have different entry requirements in relation to vaccinations, quarantine/isolation periods and travel restrictions. Due to the evolving nature, we would ask all of our customers to monitor, meet and adhere to the specific requirements of their intended destination(s) in the lead-up to and immediately before travel, as well as any requirements post-travel upon their return.

Our Policies

Cancellation & Refund Policy

By placing a booking with us, you acknowledge the following important information:

- **we act as your booking agent** ; TripADeal is a booking services provider, and curates the Travel Offers available on our website. We act as your booking agent, and we receive payment for the Booking Services as part of the booking price, however, we do not provide any of the Travel Services (flights, accommodation, tours or other products or services) included in your booking – the Travel Services are provided by a number of third party Travel Suppliers.
- **each booking is unique** ; our Travel Offers are made up of a variety of different components and are, during the booking process, uniquely tailored to suit your requirements, for example, departure dates and ports, flight and room upgrades, tour inclusions, etc.
- **changes/modifications to your booking may not be possible** ; once your booking has been made, changes or modifications may not be possible, and where possible, may incur a fee. It is important to ensure that the information you provide during the booking process is accurate and up to date, and that you read the Travel Offer carefully before placing your order.
- **Travel Offers are a package** ; our Travel Offers have been curated into package offerings and must be used as a package – individual components cannot be used independently of the full package offering.
- **our Travel Offers are generally non-refundable;** in order to provide great value Travel Offers, we work with a variety of Travel Suppliers to find the best deals – this often means the Travel Suppliers' offerings are non-refundable to ensure the best price. We recommend that you obtain travel insurance as soon as you make a booking with us.

To read more about our Cancellation and Refund Policy, please click here.

General Terms & Conditions

By placing your booking with us, you acknowledge and agree to our Terms and Conditions, Privacy Policy and Cancellation Policy.

Offer Essentials

This Travel Offer is valid for travel on selected dates until the 25th October 2027.
Minimum group size 10, maximum group size 20 per vehicle.
This Travel Offer is priced per person based on a twin share.

Departure Dates & Surcharges

See checkout for live dates and availability.

Single Traveller Supplement

For solo travellers, a mandatory single supplement of $1,410 applies.

Please note: Accommodation for single customers who are travelling on a tour or cruise package may be in a single room, depending on availability.

Child Policy

- No child discounts are offered. The full price applies to all children travelling with their parents.
- Valid for children 12 years old and over.

Please note: Children must be accompanied by a responsible adult 18 years old and over to travel. No unaccompanied minors are allowed.

Flights

(Flight information for options excluding Trip Only)

Departure Cities

Sydney, Melbourne, *Brisbane, Perth, *Adelaide, *Auckland

Departure City Surcharges

Brisbane: $200 per person
Adelaide: $350 per person
Auckland: $800 per person

International Full-Service Flight(s)

- Cabin Class: Economy Class

Please note:

- *If ticketed with Emirates, you may fly with their partner airline FlyDubai from Dubai to Baku (3 hour flight) and meal & regular luggage allowance will be provided but entertainment may be unavailable.*
- *We cannot accommodate one-way flights. Travellers must take all included flights within the package, and any flights intentionally forfeited will result in later flights being subject to cancellation.*

Please note: From Australia or New Zealand, the flying journey to your destination may take up to 29 hours, with up to 2 stops. This is provided as a guide only - actual flight duration can vary depending on availability

Important Information

and airline schedules. Your booking's final details will be confirmed to you via email once available.

Preferred Airline Surcharge

- Cabin Class: Economy Class
- Qatar Airways: $250 per person
- Emirates: $250 per person

Please note:

- *Preferred airlines are subject to availability. If we are unable to fulfil your request, the above extra cost will be refunded.*
- *On any upgrade purchase, short-haul flights and domestic flight sectors are not guaranteed.*
- *In the event that a purchased stopover package and a purchased preferred airline upgrade are not compatible, you will have the option to receive a refund for the preferred airline upgrade or be offered an alternative stopover city option, e.g if you choose to fly with Singapore Airlines you cannot stopover in Dubai.*
- *Preferred airline refers to the marketing carrier and could include codeshare partners.*

Arrive Early & Stay Behind Options

Fly out and return home up to 60 days pre and post your tour dates.

Arrive Early

Baku, Azerbaijan - From $300 per person, subject to availability.

Stay Behind

Tbilisi, Georgia - From $300 per person, subject to availability.

Please note:

- ***Exclusions:***

  This fee does not include extra nights' accommodation, meals or airport transfers.

- ***Cancellations & Changes:***

  Flight booking changes or cancellations after air tickets have been issued are not guaranteed and may incur additional fees and fare difference, subject to the airline cancellation and change policies. Flight changes are subject to availability at the time of booking.

- ***High-Season:***

  A high-season Arrive Early or Stay Behind can be purchased for an additional charge, subject to availability. For pricing, please refer to the cart.

- ***+ 60 days:***

  You can fly out up to 60 days before your package's start date, and/or return home 60 days after your package's end date. Should you wish to fly out or return home for more than 60 days from the tour, please contact us to request availability. Additional costs may apply.

- ***Estimated dates:***

  Your estimated departure, return, and arrival dates are all subject to availability and may vary. The confirmed schedule for all flights will be provided when you receive your flight tickets.

- *High season surcharges apply to flights departing between the below date ranges:*
- *12th December 2026 - 26th January 2027*
- *19th March 2027 - 28th April 2027*
- *19th June 2027 - 18th July 2027*
- *11th September 2027 - 10th October 2027*
- *10th December 2027 - 3rd January 2028*

Stopover Packages

Not available.

Flight Class Upgrades

Business or Premium Economy Class: For pricing, please refer to the payment cart at checkout.

Please note:

- *Flight upgrades are subject to availability and pricing changes (if we cannot fulfil your request, the upgrade cost will be refunded).*
- *On any upgrade purchase, short-haul flights and domestic flight sectors are not guaranteed.*

Missed Flights

If you fail to arrive for your outbound flight, you risk all flight and land arrangements in your destination being automatically cancelled by the airlines and land operator, respectively. Additional fees may apply to reinstate these services. If you miss your flight for whatever reason, please contact us as soon as possible to make arrangements.

Trip Only Option

If you choose to remove international flights from your package, your holiday may be shorter, as travel days for flights are not included in the Trip Only package. You will receive an email confirmation when minimum numbers have been met and the departure is guaranteed.
We recommend making further travel arrangements, such as flights, after you have received confirmation of a guaranteed departure.
TripADeal assumes no liability for financial losses incurred due to travel arrangements made prior to confirmation of guaranteed departure.
Note: The Trip Only Package does not include return international airfares or airport transfers. At the conclusion of the tour, you will be responsible for booking your own onward travel.
Click here for full Trip Only terms and conditions (see section 4.1)

Accommodation

Accommodation Used

4-Star Properties (Self-Rated)

- Baku, Azerbaijan: Baku Sapphire Bayil Hotel or similar.
- Sheki, Azerbaijan: Sheki Palace Hotel or similar.
- Telavi, Georgia: Telavi Holiday Inn or similar.
- Gudauri, Georgia: Marco Polo Hotel Gudauri or similar.

Important Information

- Tbilisi, Georgia: Tbilisi Holiday Inn Express or similar.
- Kutaisi, Georgia: Kutaisi Inn or similar.
- Batumi, Georgia: Batumi Salvador or similar.
- Yerevan, Armenia: Ani Central or similar.

3 Star Properties (Self-Rated)

- Mestia, Georgia: Lahil Hotel or similar
- Gyumri, Armenia: Tomus Hotel or similar.

Please note: Accommodation/rooms offered are based on a lead-in room type and are subject to availability based on seasonality. In the instance a property is not available, a similar standard of accommodation will be provided. Properties will be confirmed and included in your travel pack, which you will receive 4-6 weeks before travel.

Extra Nights

Not available.

Please note: If you are interested in booking additional nights of accommodation pre or post-tour, please wait until you receive your travel documentation approximately 4-6 weeks before departure for the confirmed list of hotels. If booking your own additional accommodation directly with the hotel, please be aware that you may be required to change rooms at the start/end of your tour.

Maximum Room Capacity

2 people.

Triple Share

Not available.

Bedding Configuration

Twin or double (subject to availability).

Optional Tours/activities

- Gobustan Archaeological Reserve & Mud Volcanoes - $160 per person.
- Gori, Stalin's Museum & Uplistsikhe Day Tour - $95 per person.
- Aregi factory & Armenian cooking class - $170 per person.

Please note:

- *The optional tours listed above must be purchased on checkout or over the phone before submitting your passenger information form (subject to availability).*
- *Some tours require minimum numbers to operate.*

Exclusions

- Visa fees and requirements
- Domestic transfers and flights not stated in the deal offer
- Meals/beverages not stated in the deal offer
- Optional gratuities/tipping
- Optional activities/tours
- Personal expenses
- Travel insurance
- Any costs associated with an interruption to your tour as a result of an airline schedule change or cancellation

Please note: A daily City Tourist Tax (or a Docking Tax for cruise visitors) is charged in some European destinations. They are paid directly to the hotel or cruise company, and cannot be prepaid. Further details will be included in your travel.

Please note: Return international flights and transfers to and from the tour are not included in the Trip Only option.

Gratuities/tipping

Land

Gratuities (tips) are not included for the services of the tour leader (when available) and driver throughout the tour. The recommended tip is $4 USD per person per day. This covers the guide/leader and the driver and will be collected on tour.

Please note: Tipping for services provided is always a matter of personal discretion; however, please be aware that many locals consider tipping part of their normal remuneration, and they may approach you for payment; there's no need to be intimidated by the request.

Other Important Information

TOUR GUIDE VS. TOUR LEADER

Tour Guide

Often locals with intimate knowledge of an area, its culture, and history. Their role entails providing commentary, routing the tour, and seeing that people have a good time. They are a licensed, qualified expert who supplies specific information on the history, art, architecture and culture of the city/village/attraction where they are guiding the tour. The guide meets the group at the required place and leaves it at the end of the tour; they do not travel with the group.

Tour Leader

An experienced person tasked with ensuring the smooth operation of tours, as well as providing practical support to passengers throughout the whole trip. Their role primarily includes assisting with accommodation, transportation between locations, and communication with tour guides at each stop. A tour leader may provide general guidance around a city or village and offer information on the place visited on the bus. However, they are not required to have specific art, architecture, or historical knowledge. They are not allowed to provide a guided tour or commentary of a city/village/attraction once there and, if caught doing so, can be fined.

Please note: Tour leaders/guides are not a standard inclusion in all travel offers. Tour leaders/guides will only be made available when required to enhance the experience of the destination featured.

CLIMATE & AVERAGE TEMPERATURES

Baku, Azerbaijan

Baku has a temperate semi-arid climate with hot and humid summers, cool and occasionally wet winters, and strong winds all year long.

Tbilisi, Georgia

The city experiences very warm summers and moderately cold winters. Like other regions of Georgia, Tbilisi receives significant rainfall throughout the year with no distinct dry period.

Mestia, Georgia

Important Information

The climate of Mestia is humid and is influenced by the air masses coming in from the Black Sea throughout the year. Average temperatures and precipitation vary considerably with elevation.

Yerevan, Armenia

Yerevan features a continental-influenced steppe climate with long, hot, dry summers and short, but cold and snowy winters. This is attributed to Yerevan being on a plain surrounded by mountains and to its distance from the sea and its effects.

FLIGHTS

Seat Selection & Frequent Flyer Points

We do not arrange seat selection. It is essential to highlight that some airlines do not allow pre-selected seats. We strongly suggest you contact the airline directly with seating allocation requirements and/or arrive at the airport earlier to arrange your seating. While we do not add frequent flyer member details to bookings, you can do this directly with the airline once you have your flight information.

Passport Validity

Customers must provide valid passport details either at the time of purchase or no later than 45 days before the departure date. Failure to do so may result in the cancellation of the booking. Customers will be responsible for any costs and fees incurred in this instance.

COACH TOUR

Meals

For meals not included, the tour leader (when available) will offer assistance with reservations, suggestions and directions to local restaurants. It is your responsibility to notify us of any dietary requests/requirements.

Please note: We will do our best to meet your requests/requirements; however, we cannot guarantee that we will always be able to.

Luggage

You will be responsible for all your personal belongings whilst on tour. You must carry your own luggage from the vehicle to the hotel room and back to the vehicle. The driver will assist with the uploading and unloading of bags from the vehicle.

OTHER

Mobility

If you require wheelchair access please contact our friendly sales and service team to inquire on your behalf.

Weather

We always suggest referring to an online source for the most up-to-date weather information for your destination/s.

Fitness Level Required

Adventure (and spontaneity) create some of the best travel memories. Bear in mind, your home schedules and timings might not be adhered to on tour - it's all part of the fun!
A moderate level of fitness will be required. Expect a moderate pace of touring with a focus on guided tours that may include full days with extended activity, guided city tours or nature walks. You will require a general level of fitness for unassisted navigation of stairs and inclines, longer distances with possible periods of standing when visiting sites, walking on sloping, uneven ground or elevations. You will be responsible for your own luggage and have the ability to board all modes of transport without assistance.

Please note:

- *On Day 6, you will be required to walk approximately 700m (approx. 300m of this is up stairs) from the Azerbaijan side to the Georgian side of the border. There are no cars inside the neutral zone to transfer the luggage and no car can currently cross the border.*
- *Many areas may be inaccessible to wheelchairs or mobility scooters, where the unassisted use of personal walking sticks and other aids may be required. Although some assistance may be available, every traveller should be self-reliant during all aspects of their travel.*
- *It is expected that every traveller must be self-reliant and able to undertake all aspects of their own travel. Please speak to your booking agent about your personal circumstances and any assistance requirements to ensure this tour is right for you.*
- *If you have any concerns, please consult your healthcare provider prior to purchase/travel.*

Sightseeing

Please note: If entry to a site is affected by changes in operating hours or public holiday closures, your itinerary, where possible, may be adjusted, or a similar activity will be offered in its place (subject to availability).

Shopping

Shopping overseas can be a daunting and confusing experience, especially when there is a language barrier. Please be very cautious when foreign currencies and prices are involved. If paying by credit card, please pay close attention to the amount you are being charged and keep all your receipts. Do not make any purchases you are not comfortable with or feel pressured into. If you are uncertain or need assistance with the language barrier, please seek assistance from your Tour Guide/Leader. Please refer to our Terms and Conditions regarding shopping for further information.

Visas

Georgia

Australian passport holders can visit Georgia without a visa for periods of up to 12 months. You need travel insurance in Georgia. Check the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Georgia e-Visa Portal for details.

Azerbaijan

A tourist visa is required for Azerbaijan if travelling on an Australian passport. Electronic visas (e-visa) are for single entry, 30-day stays are available online through Azerbaijan's State Agency for Public Service and Social Innovations here: https://evisa.gov.az/en#. Allow at least

three business days for online applications to be processed and ensure your passport is valid for at least three months from the expiry date of the e-visa.
If your passport contains visas/stamps from the disputed territory of Nagorno-Karabakh, you'll likely encounter difficulties at Azerbaijan border control points and could be refused entry into Azerbaijan.

Armenia

Australian passport holders can visit Armenia without a visa for up to 180 days per year.

Important:

- *Please start arranging your visa three weeks before departure to account for any delays due to consulate operating hours.*
- *Visa rules are subject to change. Please check with the nearest embassy, consulate or immigration department of the destination/s you are visiting once you receive your travel documentation to ensure you have the most up to date information.*
- *It is your responsibility to be travel-ready and ensure that you are aware and comply with any destination or travel requirements, including the validity of all required travel documents.*
- *Passengers who are not Australian citizens must also check with the respective consulate or visa agency to determine what their visa requirements are and what personal identification is required.*
- *It is also important to note that some areas of employment, such as journalism, government authorities and charity organisations, may have additional restrictions in applying for visas. This may, in turn, affect the type of application required.*

Travel Insurance

Embarking on your next trip is exciting, and while you hope the unexpected does not happen, it is best to be prepared. We strongly recommend you take out travel insurance when making your booking. Whether it's a potential medical emergency, a flight cancellation, a delayed suitcase, or an unforeseen event, it's important to ensure you're adequately protected. For more information or advice visit https://www.tripadeal.com.au/travel-insurance

Schedule Of Fees

Voluntary Changes

This includes booking changes requested by you, including but not limited to those changes requiring an airline ticket or a Purchase Confirmation reissue.

- Changes - $100 per booking and any additional charges applied by the airline/cruise company/accommodation/other travel providers.

Name Changes Due To Passenger Error

If the incorrect name has been provided, charges of $100 per booking and any additional charges applied by the airline/cruise company/accommodation/other travel providers.

Supplier Fees

In the event the tour package you have purchased is unable to proceed, and/or a Travel Supplier is unable to fulfil the tour due to external circumstances (Limitation of Liability e.g. a Force Majeure event), there may be a fee or amount of money that is withheld by our Suppliers and is unrecoverable. This may be due to non-refundable airline tickets, cancellation penalties with cruise cabins or unrecoverable payments with our land/accommodation partners. If refunds are not available from Suppliers, we will endeavour to obtain a travel credit on the best terms available and communicate these outcomes to you. In the event we are unable to obtain a refund or travel service credit, or part thereof, this cost is passed on to the customer as a Supplier Fee.