

Classical Tour to Azerbaijan, Georgia, and Armenia

Key information

Duration: 13 days / 12 nights

Best season: April - October

Tour type: Small group of 2-13 people

What's included:

Airport transfers, accommodation in hotels 12 nights (hotels with free WiFi, double/ twin rooms), breakfast, 3 bottles of water per day (0.5lt), all transfers in air-conditioned vehicles, English-speaking guide service for all days, all admission fees, 4-wheel drive vehicle for Gergeti Trinity Church, wine tasting in Signaghi.

What's not included:

Flights, visa fees, and medical insurance

Itinerary in brief

Day 1 - Arrival in Baku

Day 2 - Gobustan - Baku

Day 3 - Baku city tour

Day 4 - Nij - Sheki

Day 5 - Lagodekhi border - Signaghi - Tbilisi

Day 6 - Mtskheta - Tbilisi City Tour

Day 7 - Ananuri - Gudauri - Gergeti - Tbilisi

Day 8 - Telavi - Tsindandali - Batonis Tsikhe - Tbilisi

Day 9 - Sadakhlo border - Goshavank - Sevan - Yerevan

Day 10 - Yerevan City Tour - Echmiadzin - Zvartnots - Yerevan

Day 11 - Khor Virap - Noravank - Yerevan

Day 12 - Garni - Geghard - Yerevan

Day 13 - Departure



Detailed Itinerary

Day 1

Meeting at the airport. Transfer to the hotel. Free day in Baku. Baku is the capital of Azerbaijan and its scientific, cultural, and industrial center. After the second oil boom in 2006, the city became modern with unique, extraordinary, jaw-dropping masterpieces. During your free time, you can just stroll in the city center, feel the atmosphere, have a cup of tea or coffee in local cafes, and admire the attractive architecture.

Overnight: *Hotel in Baku*

Day 2

The day will start with a trip out of Baku to Gobustan National Park. The area is known for its petroglyphs, mud volcanoes, and gas stones. All this heritage is protected by UNESCO. In the Gobustan Museum, you will explore the different archaeological finds of this area. Later, you will feel like strolling around the Mars surface while exploring the grey-beige cracked earth with the mud volcanoes. After the tour to Gobustan, you will be driven back to Baku.

Overnight: *Hotel in Baku*

Meals: *Breakfast*

Duration: *5-6 hours*

Length: *150 km*

Day 3

Today you will have a Baku sightseeing tour including all the important historical and architectural sights. You will see the Flag Square, the House of Government, the Philharmonic Theatre named after M. Magomayev, and the Baku Mayor's Office. Then the tour will continue to the Old City, which has preserved its ancient architecture and narrow cobbled streets to this day. The Old City Tour will include the Palace of the ShirvanShahs (15th century), the symbol of the city – Maiden Tower (9th century), caravanseray, mosques, and more.

Later in the day, you will visit the Heydar Aliyev Cultural Center, a masterpiece of modern architecture designed by Zaha Hadid. The tour will also include a stop at the Azerbaijan Carpet Museum, where you can explore the rich history and craftsmanship of Azerbaijani carpet weaving.

Overnight: *Hotel in Baku*

Meals: *Breakfast*

Duration: *5-6 hours*

Length: *60 km*

Day 4

Your first stop on the fourth day will be the Diri Baba Mausoleum in Maraza village. The next stop will be in the city of Shamakhi, with its largest mosque in the Caucasus. Then, you will head to Nij village, where you will forget about modern life and feel in a special world. Here is a unique small church of Udi people. There are only a few thousand Udi people in the world today, and the majority, approximately 4000, live in this area and village in Azerbaijan. They have roots in Caucasian Albania. They managed to preserve their traditions, language and culture. Today they practice Orthodox Christianity, and you will be welcomed with their kindness to see their church. Finally, you will reach your last destination, Sheki town, and will start a guided tour. The sightseeing tour will include the Upper Town and the magnificent



Palace of Sheki Khans. The palace once served as a summer residence of khans and nowadays impresses with its lavish design and surrounding chinar trees. The Shebeke craft workshop will be the last destination.

Overnight: *Hotel in Sheki*

Meals: *Breakfast*

Duration: *7-8 hours*

Length: *300 km*

Day 5

On this day, you will head to Georgia. After crossing the Azerbaijan–Georgia (Lagodekhi) border, you will meet your Georgian representatives and begin your journey toward Tbilisi. Along the way, you won't miss the chance to stroll through the cozy streets of Signaghi, a picturesque town often referred to as the "City of Love." Despite its small size, Signaghi is rich in historical and cultural heritage, offering breathtaking views, charming architecture, and a warm, welcoming atmosphere. After your visit to Signaghi, you will continue to Tbilisi, where you will stay overnight. Tbilisi is considered one of the most cosmopolitan cities in the South Caucasus. Its vibrant atmosphere and the seamless blend of modern life with ancient history leave a lasting impression on every visitor.

Note: *You will cross the land border from Azerbaijan to Georgia on foot. There will be a walk of approximately 700 m from the Azerbaijan customs area to the Georgia customs area, which includes a few uphill sections. For your comfort, we recommend packing lighter luggage that can be easily wheeled or carried.*

Overnight: *Hotel in Tbilisi*

Meals: *Breakfast*

Duration: *5-6 hours*

Length: *280 km*

Day 6

After breakfast, you'll have a short trip to Mtskheta, which was the first capital of Georgia from the 3rd century BC to the 5th century AD. The town is considered the religious centre of Georgia. Our excursion will start with a visit to the Cathedral of the 11th century – Svetitskhoveli. The next sight to visit is Jvari Temple, located at the top of the hill, which offers a fascinating view of the confluence of the two rivers Kura and Aragvi. After your return to Tbilisi, you'll continue with a city tour including an in-depth exploration of the old town. The trip will start from the historic district of Metekhi, where you will see the Assumption Church located on the picturesque hill. Next stop will be the Bridge of Peace – designed by a well-known Italian architect; it is one of the most famous city landmarks. Hereafter, you will go up to the Narikala Fortress, situated on a hill. You will reach the fortress by the cable car, and at the top, a spectacular view of the city opens. Going down by foot, the excursion will continue to the sulfuric baths – a famous royal bath complex (XVII-XIX centuries), standing on the warm natural sulphur springs. That is one of the main attractions of the Old Town. Stroll around cosy Shardeni Street, named after the French traveller Jean Chardin. The street has an architecture resembling Paris and is full of cosy cafes, boutiques, and interesting galleries. The way will continue to the Juma Mosque located on the Botanical Street. Visit to Meydan Square, one of the central squares of Old Town. Excursion to Sioni church. There is kept one of the greatest relics of Georgia, the cross of St. Patriarchate.

Overnight: *Hotel in Tbilisi*

Meals: *Breakfast*



Duration: 5-6 hours

Length: 60 km

Day 7

In the morning, you will head to Ananuri Fortress, located in an amazing place on the shore of the Zhinvali reservoir and surrounded by green velvet hills. The fortress was founded in 1720 with a defensive purpose. The tour will proceed to the Gudauri resort. The town is considered one of the most popular ski destinations in Georgia. Although it's tourist season starts in winter, Gudauri is no less attractive in summer and autumn: green mountains, sunlit meadows strewn with fragrant flowers, fields with peacefully grazing cows, silence, and absolute idyll! In the Stepantsminda settlement, you will go up the hill to visit Gergeti Trinity Church (14th century) situated at an altitude of 2170 m at the foot of Mount Kazbek. From the top opens an unforgettable view of the famous Mount Kazbek. Return to Tbilisi.

Overnight: Hotel in Tbilisi

Meals: Breakfast

Duration: 7-8 hours

Length: 250 km

Day 8

In the morning, you will drive to the east of the country, to Kakheti – the main winemaking region of Georgia. Your tour will start with an exploration of Telavi – the centre of the Kakheti region. The tour will continue to Tsinandali estate, which is the patrimony of the famous Georgian dynasty – Chavchavadze. The estate is known for its amazing labyrinth, planted with exotic trees and cellars, where the unique collection of Georgian and European wine is preserved. The next sight to visit is the Batonis Tsikhe fortress museum of the Georgian King Erekle II. At the end of the day, you will have a tour around the well-known winery Khareba and have a chance to taste local wines, as well as have a master-class on baking Georgian national bread, shoti. Then, you will return to Tbilisi.

Overnight: Hotel in Tbilisi

Meals: Breakfast

Duration: 7-8 hours

Length: 250 km

Day 9

After breakfast, you will transfer to the Georgian-Armenian border at Sadakhlo. Once you pass through customs, your pleasant journey through Armenia begins. Your first stop will be in the scenic Tavush region, where you'll visit the historic Goshavank Monastery. The journey continues to the charming resort town of Dilijan, renowned for its arts and crafts, lush green landscapes, and fresh, healing air. From there, you will travel to Gegharkunik Province, home to the breathtaking Lake Sevan, one of the highest freshwater lakes in the world, situated at an altitude of 1,900 meters above sea level. By evening, you will arrive in Yerevan.

Overnight: Hotel in Yerevan

Meals: Breakfast

Duration: 9-10 hours

Length: 350 km



Day 10

Today you will have a city tour around Yerevan, the ancient capital of Armenia, which was founded in 782 B.C. Armenians are proud that Yerevan is 29 years older than Rome. During the city tour, you will walk around the centre of the city and visit the Cascade, Opera and Ballet Theatre, Mashtots Avenue, and Republic Square. You will head to Echmiadzin town – the religious center of all Armenians worldwide. Hereafter, the adoption of Christianity in 301 AD, one of the first Christian cathedrals in the world – Echmiadzin Cathedral was built. It is the seat of the Supreme Patriarch of the Catholicos of all Armenians. The cathedral keeps an important religious relic – the Holy Lance spear. In 2000, it was listed as a UNESCO site. You'll see the ruins of Zvartnots temple (the 7th century, UNESCO World Heritage Site), which was a miracle of its time. The trip will end with a visit of the Genocide Memorial – a solemn reminder of the first genocide of the 20th century.

Overnight: *Hotel in Yerevan*

Meals: *Breakfast*

Duration: *5-6 hours*

Length: *40 km*

Day 11

The day will start with a trip to Ararat Province, where one of the holiest sites in Armenia, Khor Virap Monastery proudly stands. You will climb up a small hill to explore the monastery and enjoy the breathtaking view of Biblical Mount Ararat. The tour will continue through a narrow canyon to the valley of red rocks, right where Noravank Monastery is located – built in the 13th century, it is a masterpiece of Armenian architect Momik. On the territory of the monastery, amazing khachkars are scattered all around – cross-tones designed by Momik.

Overnight: *Hotel in Yerevan*

Meals: *Breakfast*

Duration: *7-8 hours*

Length: *240 km*

Day 12

Today, you will have a 1-hour drive to the Canyon of the Azat River. Our destination is Geghard Monastery. This unique monastery is carved into nearby rocks, and the surrounding cliffs compose a great part of it. In 2000, it became a UNESCO heritage site. The trip leads us to Garni village, well known for its Garni temple – the only surviving example of Hellenistic architecture in the region. Back in Yerevan, you will have an excursion to the History Museum of Armenia – the main historical museum of the country, known for its Archaeological, Numismatic, and Ethnographic collections.

Overnight: *Hotel in Yerevan*

Meals: *Breakfast*

Duration: *6-7 hours*

Length: *90 km*

Day 13

Transfer to the airport, departure.



Booking terms and conditions

Once we receive your application and confirm all tour details with you, we will send a deposit invoice. After the deposit of 200 EUR/USD/GBP per person (depending on the tour price) is received, we will start your hotel reservation and other service bookings and will send your Tour Voucher with all the trip details.

Payment Terms

After you have booked the tour, it is necessary to make a non-refundable deposit of 200 EUR/USD/GBP, which will provide our coordinators with the possibility to start organising a trip (hotel reservation, food, transportation, etc.). Final payment could be made after your arrival on the spot. We reserve the right to cancel your booking and apply the relevant cancellation charges (detailed below) if we do not receive all payments on time.

Cancellation of the tour

If you or a member of your group wants to cancel the tour, please inform our company as soon as possible in writing. Please note that the prepayment of 200 EUR/GBP/USD is non-refundable; however, you can use it throughout the year and book another tour. In this case, our company will have to charge an extra 200 EUR/GBP/USD for re-booking the hotel.

Rights and obligations

Tours provided by our company are planned for many months before their inception and are not subject to change or cancellation. Under the obligation of forced circumstances (weather, holidays), we can make some changes in the itinerary; however, all that relates to services and attractions will remain unchanged. Please note that our tours require a minimum number of participants – 2 persons. We reserve the right to cancel the trip if the tour does not have the minimum number of participants. We will inform you about the cancellation of the tour no later than 30 days before the start and will do a full refund of the amount paid, including the prepayment.

We also request immediately and promptly report all complaints and any claims during the tour. If possible, all problems will be solved. If the tourist does not report any complaint, the compensation will not be implemented.

Please also note that the company AraraTour is not liable for services not included in the tour price. Our responsibility is limited only to the extent provided by our tour.

Force majeure or any other event which is beyond our control and which is not preventable by reasonable diligence on our part frees both parties from liability or obligation. In case of Force majeure, we don't issue any refund.

Insolvency or bankruptcy insurance

Tour operator Arara guarantees the refund of clients' money for unfulfilled services even in the case of the company's insolvency or bankruptcy.

