

Moto Tour to Armenia – 9 days

Key information

Duration: 9 days / 8 nights

Best season: May - September

Tour type: Small group of 3-13 people

What's included:

Airport transfers, accommodation as per itinerary in double rooms, meals: full board (breakfasts, lunches, dinners), English speaking motorcycle guide in the backup car, 4-wheel drive vehicle support, technical support (bike mechanic in the backup car), motorcycle rental (Yamaha XT660R or similar), all entrance fees as per program, 1 bottle of water per day (0.5lt.)

What's not included:

Flights, visa fee, medical insurance

Itinerary in brief

Day 1 - Arrival - Free time in Yerevan

Day 2 - Echmiadzin - Dashtadem Fortress - Anipemza - Gyumri

Day 3 - Spitak - Pushkino - Stepanavan - Kurtan - Odzun - Haghpat

Day 4 - Haghpat - Akhtala - Noyemberyan - Ijevan - Parz Lake - Dilijan

Day 5 - Sevan - Hayravank - Selim Pass - Smbataberd - Hermon

Day 6 - Karmrashen - Herher - Tatev - Devil's Bridge - Kapan

Day 7 - Goris - Khndzoresk - Yeghegnadzor

Day 8 - Yeghegnadzor - Noravank - Areni - Lanjar - Urtsadzor - Garni - Yerevan

Day 9 - Departure



Detailed itinerary

Day 1

Arrival at the airport, transfer to hotel. Yerevan is the capital of Armenia, its largest city and the administrative, cultural, and industrial centre. Yerevan is often referred to as the city of contradictions where modernity is interweaving with antiquity. It is filled with a cosy atmosphere; there is no hustle and bustle and you will feel friendliness and hospitality. More interesting facts about Yerevan, you will learn the next day during your guided city tour.

Overnight: *Hotel in Yerevan*

Day 2

Ride to Echmiadzin town – the religious center of all Armenians around the world. Here you will have an excursion to Echmiadzin Cathedral (the first official Christian church in the world) and to Hripsime Church. The tour continues to the Dashtadem Fortress, which has been a substantial fortress of 10th – 19th centuries. The complex includes the reservoirs, the Khan palace, the citadel, remaining of the first and second circles one once mighty walls. Ride to Anipemza – a watching point of Ani city of 4th century, one of Armenian capitals, well known also as city of thousand and one churches. Anipemza is located on the closed Turkish-Armenian border, from where you can see the ruins of the ancient city. The tour continues to Gyumri- the second-largest city and the cultural center of Armenia.

The length of the route: *160 km (20 km normal asphalt / the rest is middle broken asphalt)*

Overnight: *Hotel in Gyumri*

Meals: *Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner*

Day 3

The day will start with a ride to Lori province. Pass through Spitak town, which was demolished by huge earthquake in 1988. The town was reconstructed and it is hardly visible even a hint on the earthquake. Ride to Vanadzor- the third largest city in Armenia. It is distinguished by its wonderful nature. Then you will drive by magnificent road through charming village of Pushkino. The tour continues to Stepanavan- the resort town in Northern Armenia. Here you will visit Botanical Garden, which has more than hundred sorts of coniferous trees. Time permitting ride through Kurtan Gorge where you will be able to enjoy a wonderful panorama. Next stop is Odzun- major and historic village in the Lori Province of Armenia. Here are some Armenian church complexes, which are located in the wonderful surroundings of the nature. Excursion continues to the Monastery of Haghpat which is included in the list of UNESCO heritage.

The length of the route: *150 km (30 km badly broken asphalt/ 1 km ground / 64 km middle broken asphalt / 55 km good asphalt)*

Overnight: *Hotel in Haghpat*

Meals: *Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner*

Day 4

Morning ride to Akhtala Fortress of 10th century located on the highland surrounded by deep gorges on three sides. Akhtala Monastery is one of the most beautiful ones in Armenia with bright frescoes. Ride on to Crystal Lake located in the lush forest. The road dramatically turning and twisting through towering cliffs, green hills, nice villages and wheat fields. Next stop is in Dilijan resort town, often called Armenian Switzerland due to its forests and hilly area.

The length of the route: *190 km (60 km bad broken asphalt / 50 km middle broken asphalt / 40 good asphalt)*

Overnight: *Hotel in Dilijan*

Meals: *Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner*



Day 5

Start the day ride to Sevan Lake located on 1900 m above sea. Visit Hayravank Monastery located on the shore providing beautiful view overlooking on the lake. Continue ride to Vardenyats or Selim Pass (2410 m), where Selim Caravanserai of 10th century is located. Selim Pass once was a section of the Great Silk Road. Ride to Artabyunk village and start off road accent to King Smbat Fortress of 5th century. You will be rewarded by breathtaking view on the surrounding mountains and small villages scattered around. It's so quiet around and the air is so pure that it seems like you're cut off from the world. Continue to hotel in Hermon village for rest and overnight.

The length of the route: 160 km (157 km normal asphalt / 3 km ground)

Overnight: Hotel in Hermon

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Day 6

This day's ride is off the beaten path to the villages of Karmrashen and Herher. The road passes by Herher reservoir and Vayots Sar extinct volcano with perfect conic shape with a big crater. After off road ride head to the south to Tatev Monastery of 10th century, dramatically standing on the edge of a 370 m deep canyon. Here you have chance to ride the longest cable car in the world. Time permitting visit to Devil Bridge, natural bridge of 30 m. length of 30 meters with natural mineral water pools under it. Ride on to Baghaberd fortress and Kapan medieval bridge.

The length of the route: 190 km (155 km normal asphalt / 35 km ground)

Overnight: Hotel in Kapan

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Day 7

Morning ride to Goris, red rood town. Continue to Khndzoresk Cave Town where people leaved until mid-20th century. Old and new Khndzoresk towns are located on the opposite banks of deep canyon connected with hanging bridge of 160 m. Ride to Yeghegnadzor town for rest and overnight. Turning and twisting road provides fantastic view on the surrounding nature high cliffs, water reservoirs and endless mountains.

The length of the route: 200 km (125 middle broken asphalt / 69 km good asphalt / 6 km ground)

Overnight: Hotel in Yeghegnadzor

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Day 8

Morning visit to Noravank Monastery located in the red rock valley, surrounded by sharp cliffs. The road passes through deep canyon where sun hardly reaches the bottom two hours a day. Visit to Areni 1 Cave where recently archaeologists found the oldest leather shoe in the world and old wine jars and 6000-year-old grapes stones. Continue to Azat reservoir located in Khosrov state reserve by picturesque narrow road being used very rare. Further drive to the Geghard Cave Monastery listed in UNESCO world heritage sites in built in single rock. Tour continues to Garni village, where the Hellenistic-inspired "Garni" temple is located. It is built with 24 columns, by which in the ancient time people have been able to predict the time. From here opens a wonderful view. Evening ride back to Yerevan.

The length of the route: 240 km (200 middle broken asphalt / 40 km good asphalt)

Overnight: Hotel in Yerevan

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Day 9

Transfer to the airport, departure.



Booking terms and conditions

Once we received your application, confirmed all tour details with you, we will send a deposit invoice. After the deposit of 50-100 euro per person (depending on the tour price) is received, we will start your hotel reservation and other service booking 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 50-100 euros, which will provide our coordinators with the possibility to start organizing 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 at the due 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 form. Please, note that the prepayment (50-100 euros) 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 100 euros for re-booking the hotel.

Rights and obligations

Tours provided by our company are planned for many months before its inception and are not the subject of 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 any tour will 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 the 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 company's own insolvency or bankruptcy.

