

“INTERNATIONAL CENTER FOR CAUCASUS TOURISM”

Seven Days Tour in East Georgia

Regions: Shida Kartli, Kakheti, Mtskheta – Mtianeti, Tbilisi

Price of a tour 580.0 EUR, excluding cost of air ticket.

Number of people in a group - from 25 to 35



Flag of Georgia



Coat of Georgia



Capital City of Georgia Tbilisi

Population of Georgia 3.5 mln

Tbilisi



Program

Tour includes two meals, i.e. breakfast and dinner (lunch could be added, if requested). Groups are met at Airport by comfortable bus with a professional driver and a guide. Representative of ICCT, i.e. Tour Manager accompanies groups during seven days

Day I

- Meeting groups at Tbilisi airport(the first day's schedule depends on the time of arrival)
Tbilisi International Airport



- Move to Tbilisi (12 km)
- Setting up at Tbilisi Hotel "Astoria"
- Breakfast at Tbilisi Hotel "Astoria"



- Visit of Tbilisi National Museum

Georgian National Museum unifies several leading museums in Georgia. The museum was established within the framework of structural, institutional, and legal reforms aimed at modernizing the management of the institutions united within this network, and at coordinating research and educational activities. Museum has become more famous for Zezva and Mzia **the oldest European skeleton remains**. They were found in Dmanisi, an archaeological site in southern Georgia. The two remains were of *Homo georgicus* – an extinct species of hominid that lived between *Homo habilis* and *Homo erectus*.¹





- Climb in Narikala Fortress by cable car

Narikala is an ancient fortress overlooking Tbilisi, the capital of Georgia, and the Mtkvari River. In Tbilisi, Narikala dates right back to the 4th century, when it was a Persian citadel. Most of the walls were built in the 8th century by the Arab emirs, whose palace was inside the fortress.

The fortress consists of two walled sections on a steep hill between the sulfur baths and the botanical gardens of Tbilisi. On the lower court there is the recently restored St Nicholas church. The Church of St. Nicholas, inside the fortress, was rebuilt in the 1992.



- Walk in Old Tbilisi



- Dinner at Tbilisi Hotel “Astoria”
- Rest at Tbilisi Hotel “Astoria”

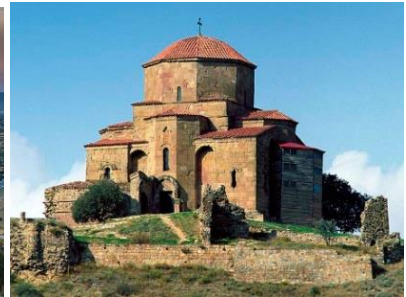
DAY II

- Breakfast at Tbilisi Hotel “Astoria” 08:00
- Move to Mtskheta (12 km) 09:00
- Setting up at Mtskheta Hotel “Aragvi” 10:00



- Visit to Jvari Monastery (14km) 10:00

Jvari Monastery is the sixth-century Georgian Orthodox monastery near Mtskheta, eastern Georgia. Along with other historic structures of Mtskheta, it is listed as a World Heritage Site by UNESCO. Jvari is a rare case of the Early Medieval Georgian church that survived to the present day almost unchanged



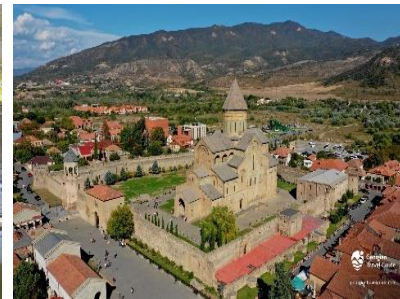
- Visit to Shio Mghvime Monastery (30 km) 14:00

The Shio-Mgvime Monastery is a medieval monastic complex in Georgia, near the town of Mtskheta. It is located in a narrow limestone canyon on the northern bank of the Mtkvari River, some 30 km from Tbilisi, Georgia's capital.

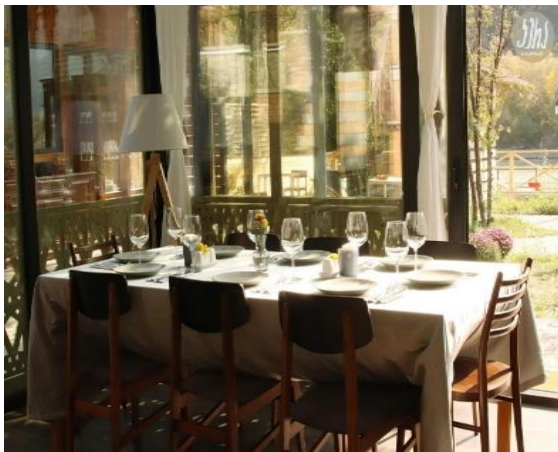


- Visit to Mtskheta Historical sites including Svetitskhoveli Cathedral 17:00
- The **Svetitskhoveli Cathedral** (literally the **Cathedral of the Living Pillar**) is an Orthodox Christian cathedral located in the historic town of Mtskheta, Georgia, to the northwest of the Georgian capital Tbilisi. A masterpiece of the Early and High Middle Ages, Svetitskhoveli is recognized by UNESCO as a World Heritage Site. It is currently the second largest church building in Georgia, after the Holy Trinity Cathedral.

Mtskheta is a city in Mtskheta-Mtianeti province of Georgia. One of the oldest cities of Georgia and its former capital, it is located approximately 20 kilometers north of Tbilisi, at the confluence of the Mtkvari and Aragvi Rivers



- Dinner at Restaurant “Kera” 20:00
- https://www.tripadvisor.com/Restaurant_Review-g1598759-d19393225-Reviews-KERA_Restaurant-Mtskheta_Mtskheta_Mtianeti_Region.html



- Rest at Mtskheta Hotel “Aragvi” 22:00



Day III

- Breakfast at Restaurant “Kera” 08:00
- Move to Gori (67 km) 10:00
- Visit to Stalin Museum 11.00

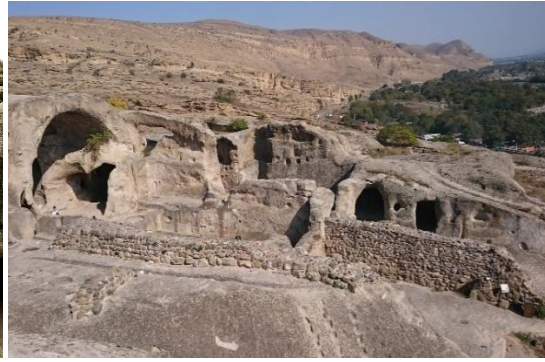
Joseph Stalin Museum is in Gori, Georgia dedicated to the life of Joseph Stalin, the leader of the Soviet Union, who was born in Gori. The Museum retains its Soviet-era characteristics.



- Visit to Uplistsikhe Complex (15 km) 14:00

Uplistsikhe literally, "the lord's fortress") is an ancient rock-hewn town in eastern Georgia, some 10 kilometers east of the town of Gori, Shida Kartli.

Built on a high rocky left bank of the Mtkvari River, it contains various structures dating from the Early Iron Age to the Late Middle Ages, and is notable for the unique combination of various styles of rock-cut cultures from Anatolia and Iran, as well as the co-existence of pagan and Christian architecture. Uplistsikhe is identified by archaeologists as one of the oldest urban settlements in Georgia. Strategically located in the heartland of ancient kingdom of Kartli (or Iberia as it was known to the Classical authors), it emerged as a major political and religious center of the country. The town's age and importance led medieval Georgian written tradition to ascribe its foundation to the mythical Uplos, son of Mtskheto, and grandson of Kartlos.



- Back to Mtskheta (78 km) 18:00
- Dinner at restaurant “Kera” (78 km) 20:00
- Rest at Mtskheta hotel “Aragvi” 22:00

DAY IV

- Breakfast at Restaurant “Kera” 08:00
- Move to Kazbegi (132 km) 10:00
- Setting up at Kazbegi Guest House 13:00
<https://www.facebook.com/Ias-Guest-House-in-Kazbegi-112926230484809/>

- Visit to Gergeti Trinity Church 15:00
Gergeti Trinity Church is a popular name for Holy Trinity Church near the village of Gergeti in Georgia. The church is situated on the right bank of the river Chkheri, at an elevation of 2170 meters, under Mount Kazbegi



- Walk around Kazbegi 17:00 -19:00

Stepantsminda, is a townlet in the Mtskheta-Mtianeti region of north-eastern Georgia. Historically and ethnographically, the town is part of the Khevi province. It is the center of the Kazbegi Municipality.

Kazbegi is a district of Georgia, in the region of [Mtskheta-Mtianeti](#) in east-north Georgia.

The main settlement is Stepantsminda, accounting for about half of the total population.

Kazbegi Municipality is situated in the upper valley of the Tergi River, which goes on to traverse the Georgia–Russia border to the north and eventually drains into the Caspian Sea in Dagestan, Russian Federation.

- Dinner at Kazbegi Guest House Restaurant 20:00
Mtianeti food:



- Rest at Kazbegi Guest House

22:00

Day V

- Breakfast at Kazbegi Guest House 08:00
- Driving to Signaghi “Town of Love “ (273 km) 09:00

Signagi or Signaghi is a town, walled in like a fortress, situated in Georgia's easternmost region of Kakheti and the administrative center of the Signagi Municipality. Although it is one of Georgia's smallest towns,^[4] Signagi serves as a popular tourist destination due to its location at the heart of Georgia's wine-growing regions, as well as its picturesque landscapes, pastel houses and narrow, cobblestone streets. Located on a steep hill, Signagi overlooks the vast Alazani Valley, with the Caucasus Mountains visible at a distance.



- Move to Telavi. (76 km) Setting up at Telavi Hotel” Zuzumbo” 17:00
<https://zuzumbo.ge/>
- Dinner at Zuzumbo restaurant 20:00

Kakheti cuisine and wine [Rtveli](#) is a traditional vintage and rural harvest holiday in Georgia accompanied by feasts, musical events and other celebrations. The tradition of Rtveli dates back to ancient times, having its roots in the festivity of mid-Autumn abundance and variety. It is a big occasion in Georgia when the whole nation comes together to honor ancient traditions of winemaking.



- Rest at Telavi Hotel ” Zuzumbo”

22:00

Day VI

- **Breakfast at Telavi Hotel** 08:00
- **Walk around Telavi Agricultural Market** 10:00

Telavi is the main city and administrative center of Georgia's eastern province of Kakheti. Its population consists of some 19,629 inhabitants. The city is located on the foothills of the Tsiv-Gombori Range at 500–800 m above sea level.



Telavi Bazar (Market)



- **Visit to Tsinandali Museum (10 km)** 12:00

Prince Alexander Chavchavadze, the founder of the Georgian romanticism turned the estate in the village of Tsinandali, which he inherited from his father into cultural and intellectual center of the country, the status it preserves to this day. The place regularly hosts exhibitions, concerts, literary events and master classes. The complex in Tsinandali embraces the memorial house, a landscape garden, a historical winery, wine cellar, hotel and a café. The vineyards have been restored and wine production has resumed. We offer you a pleasurable and informative experience: you will look into the background of the noble Chavchavadze family, who played a significant part in the national history; enjoy the views of the garden, have a look at the winery and sample the “Tsinandali” (first produced by the Chavchavadzes) etc. Georgian wines and round off the visit at the historical hotel.



- Visit to Shuamta Monastery (16 km) 15:00

The Old **Shuamta** is a Georgian Orthodox **monastery** in the Kakheti region. It is located on a forested mountain about Shuamta means "between the mountains", which clearly refers to the isolated and picturesque location amidst the deciduous forests of Gombori of the three buildings of the old Shuamta monastery. There are two monasteries in the village of Shuamta each of which once was important religious centers in Christian Georgia. Dzveli Shuamta (Old Shuamta) and Akhali Shuamta (New Shuamta) were built in different epochs and differ in the style of their structure.

Dzveli Shuamta or Old Shuamta consists of several temples built in the V – VII centuries. The very first of these structures is a small church in the foreground.

Akhali Shuamta or New Shuamta was built later, in the XVI century not far from Old Shuamta. The monastic complex consists of the church of the Virgin, the bell tower, and outbuildings. The new Shuamta is an active nunnery. The walls of the monastery are decorated with unique frescoes of the XVII century.



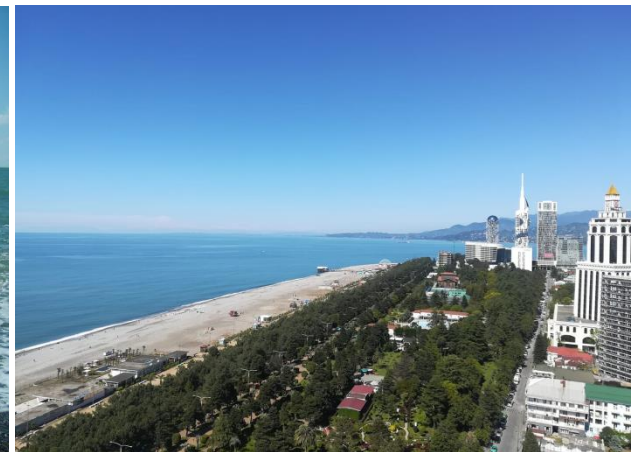
- Event at Telavi Hotel Restaurant: Wine degustation, baking of Georgian bread, making of Churchkhela (Georgian sweet) 19:00
- Farewell dinner - party at Telavi Restaurant 20:00
- Rest at Telavi Hotel 22:00



DAY VII

Drive to Tbilisi International Airport (14 km) Start Time depends on Departure Schedule

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