



Gergeti Trinity Church

Wonders of Georgia

Privately escorted tour - 9 days/8 nights

Bordered by Russia, Armenia, Azerbaijan and Turkey, Georgia is situated at the crossroads of Europe and Asia, its culture reflecting the influence of diverse ancient civilisations. Georgia is one of the most beautiful countries on Earth, with spectacular natural beauty and dramatic mountain ranges and with its centuries-old unique tradition of wine making, the country is a paradise on earth for lovers of wine and cheese.

Inclusions

- 8 nights accommodation with breakfast in 3 & 4-star hotels
- Meals - 2 lunches, 3 dinners, bottled water daily
- Arrival/departure transfers by car
- Transportation by A/C vehicle
- Escorted throughout by **English speaking** guide
- Sightseeing as specified

Your hotels

- **Tbilisi** - Tiflis Palace
- **Tsinandali** - Radisson
- **Stepantsminda/Kazbegi** - Rooms
- **Akhaltsikhe** - Lomsia

Hotels of a similar standard may be substituted.

Day 1 Tbilisi

Arrival in Tbilisi, where you will be met and transferred to your hotel. Overnight Tbilisi.

Day 2 Tbilisi

After breakfast, you begin your sightseeing tour of this ancient city from the Old Town, with its winding lanes and leafy courtyards, overhung by wooden balconies. You will see the 13th century Metekhi Church, the Synagogue, Sioni Cathedral (dating from the 6th-7th centuries) and 6th century Anchiskhati Church. Then you'll be driven to the Mother Georgia statue and walk down to the 4th century Narikala Fortress and exotic brick-domed Sulphur Baths. Continue with a visit to the stunning treasury of the Georgian State Museum (closed Mondays). Overnight Tbilisi. **B**

Day 3 Tbilisi to Signaghi, Kondoli & Tsinandali

Today you explore the Kakheti wine region, offering superb views of the Great Caucasus Mountains. In the fortified town of Signaghi you will visit a small ethnographic museum displaying some paintings by Georgia's most beloved artist - Pirosmiani. Enjoy lunch with a local family and try some of their home made wine and visit a local wine cellar for a tasting. Continue to Tsinandali for a tour of a local duke's estate. Dinner and overnight Tsinandali. **BLD**

Day 4 Tsinandali to Mtskheta & Stepantsminda

After breakfast, head north, stopping at Mtskheta, Georgia's ancient capital and religious centre. You will visit the UNESCO World Heritage sites of Jvari and Svetitskhoveli. The 6th century Jvari

monastery is perched on a rocky mountain top overlooking Mtskheta. Svetitskhoveli, the royal cathedral of Georgia, was used for centuries as the coronation and burial place of the Georgian monarchs. It is considered to be one of the holiest places in Georgia. Continue up the Georgian Military Highway and visit the 17th century fortified church complex of Ananuri, overlooking the turquoise waters of the Zhinvali reservoir. Overnight Stepantsminda. **B**

Day 5 Stepantsminda

Today you visit the remote 14th century Gergeti Monastery, dramatically perched on a rocky outcrop 2170m above sea level. You have the option of walking (1.5-3 hrs depending on your pace and fitness level) or travelling by car. Overnight Stepantsminda. **BL**

Day 6 Stepantsminda to Gori, Uplistsikhe & Akhalsikhe

This morning, you drive to the town of Gori, the heart of the Kartli region and birthplace of Josef Stalin. Explore the ancient cave town of Uplistsikhe - the oldest cave town in Georgia, once a flourishing city as one of the major stops along the Silk Road. Continue your journey to Akhalsikhe via the spa-town of Borjomi, famous for its mineral springs. Dinner and overnight Akhalsikhe. **BD**

Day 7 Akhalsikhe & Vardzia

Today you drive to Vardzia, the magnificent cave town of the Golden Age. This awe-inspiring cave complex stretches over half a kilometre and consists of 3,000 caves over 19 tiers. It's up to you how much of the complex you wish to explore. The tiny church hewn from the rock features some beautiful 12th century frescoes. During your trip you will also see the Khertvisi fortress and visit the fortress of Rabat (closed on Mondays). Rabat was occupied and liberated by Turks, Mongols, Arabs and Russians during its chequered history, resulting in a fascinating combination of different architectural styles. Dinner and overnight Akhalsikhe. **BD**

Day 8 Akhalsikhe to Tbilisi

After breakfast, return to Tbilisi. Overnight Tbilisi. **B**

Day 9 Tbilisi

Tour services end after breakfast with your transfer to the airport. **B**



Tour prices & departures

Prices shown per person in AUD.
Daily departures Apr-Oct 2020.

Departures	Twn	Sgl
1-30 Apr, 1 Jul-31 Aug	2979	3825
If only one person on tour		5229
1 May-30 Jun, 1 Sep-31 Oct	3171	4039
If only one person on tour		5464

■ Supplement applies for Fri & Sat nights in Tsinandali & Kazbegi

Discover more

This is a suggested itinerary and can be tailor made to your own requirements.