

# Armenia

*make your dream come true*



📍 1 Paronyan str., Yerevan 0015,  
Republic of Armenia  
☎ +374 10 22 94 95  
☎ +374 11 22 94 95  
☎ +374 91 08 70 97  
✉ [incoming@travelarmenia.am](mailto:incoming@travelarmenia.am)  
🌐 [www.travelarmenia.am](http://www.travelarmenia.am)

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# Welcome to Armenia!

Hospitable capital of Armenia, Yerevan - older than Rome,  
greet you here with its warm atmosphere,  
rich history and delicious cuisine.

Travel Armenia staff will be highly pleased to serve our best to you and  
shall ask for our generous support for a very basic common mutual interest.

We hereby look forward to serve you and may request you for  
your kind support and co-operation.

We are a full-service travel agency, catering to everyone from backpackers  
to luxury travellers. We love to share the beauty and culture of Armenia with  
the world. We pride ourselves on our customer service  
and are available 24\*7.

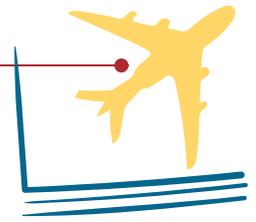
Travel Armenia, we pride ourselves on offering our customers responsive,  
competent and excellent service. Our customers are the most important part  
of our business, and we work tirelessly to ensure your complete satisfaction,  
now and for as long as you are a customer."

"I am also happy to inform you that I will be your primary point of contact at  
the company, and I encourage you to contact me at any time with your  
questions,  
comments and feedback."

Anna Davidyan  
Director

15  
years in market

# Helpful Hints about Armenia



## 1. The airlines

Our exceptionally good relations with the International Airlines enable us to come up with very good discounts for our clients. The cheapest flights to



## 2. The climate

Armenia is often described as a sunny country. The climate is highland continental, dry with four seasons. Temperatures can vary considerably between seasons. Summer is dry and sunny, lasting from June to mid-September.

Winter is short and quite cold with plenty of snow. In the mountains the average summer temperature ranges between +10 and +22°C, and in the winter temperatures range between +2 and -14 °C. In plain lands the average January temperature is -5 °C, and July temperature is +25 °C.

## 3. Time zone

Current Offset: UTC/GMT +4 hours

## 4. Food

The cuisine reflects the history and geography where Armenians have lived as well as incorporating outside influences. In Armenia there is a restaurant for each taste



- Armenian national Cuisine
- Georgian Cuisine
- Home - made food
- European
- Continental
- Snack menu
- Sea Food
- Mediterranean
- Vegetarian



## 5. Top 10 Must See in Armenia

- Top 10 Must See in Armenia
- The city centre of ancient Yerevan
- The cave city of Khndzoresk
- Tatev Monastery
- Lake Sevan
- The symphony of Stones
- Mamrot Qar waterfall
- Armenian Switzerland-Dilijan
- The World's First Winery- Areni village

## 6. Shopping/Entertainment Centres

- Dalma Garden Mall
- Tashir Street Shopping Gallery
- Cascade Complex
- Photo Atelier Marashlyan
- Vernissage- a famous flea market in the heart of Yerevan

## 7. Visas

The passport needs to be valid during the whole period of stay in the Republic of Armenia.

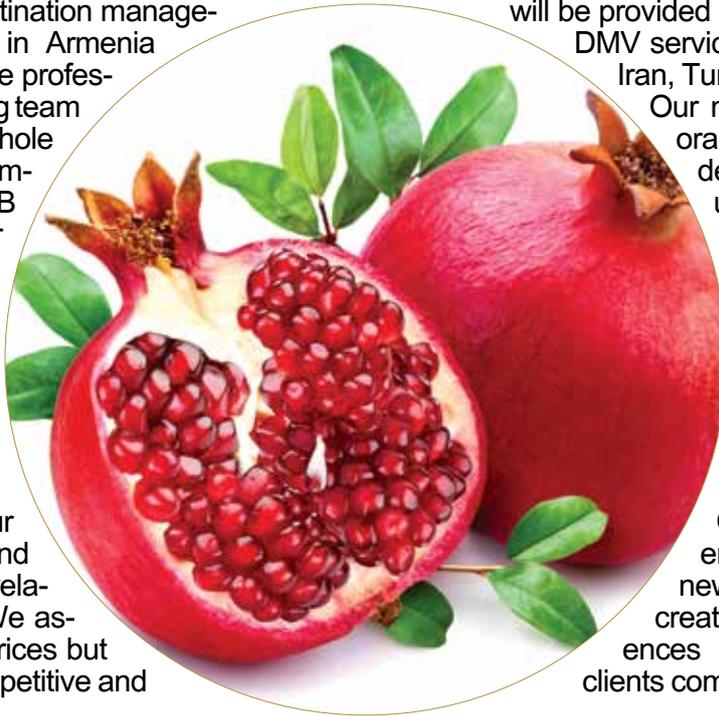


Visitors from the US and from EU countries can visit Armenia for up to 180 days without a visa; citizens from most other countries can obtain an Armenian visa when entering the country.

# Who is Travel Armenia?

Travel Armenia is a destination management company based in Armenia since 2003. We do have professional staff, hard working team assistance during the whole process of time. Our company is operating on B2B models and assists tour operators and agents with highest quality and value products in our destination.

We connect Tour Operators from all over the world and offer them all the hotels, resorts and services in our destination and around the world to build the relationship in countries. We assure that not only our prices but our service is really competitive and



will be provided in high quality. We cover DMV services in Armenia, Georgia, Iran, Turkey.

Our mission is to offer memorable Holidays through the development of our product department and innovation systems. Our value is to ensure our colleagues that we do have strong partners in Armenia with high spirit of team work, high level of service and new products that emerging for every market.

Our Objective is to deliver the best products with new rates and services and create unforgettable experiences and memories for our clients coming to Armenia.

# Why Travel Armenia?

	Requested speaking guides for every country		Best negotiated hotel contracts		Open 6 days a week
Full-fledged ground services		Response within 24 hours		Multiple payment options	
	Company owned and fully insured vehicles		24/7 emergency number provided		Car rental
Multi linguistic team		All type of meals available on request		DMC for several destinations	

## Our services

Leisure travel



Group departures



Business travel



Adventure tours



School tours

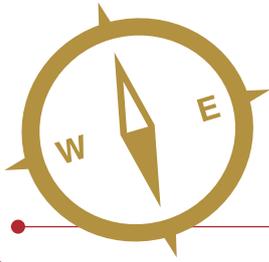


Cultural & wellness tours



Mice





# Tour to Armenia

8 days / 7 nights

**Day 1:** Upon arrival at Zvartnots International Airport, you will be met by our company representative and will be transferred to your preferred hotel for check-in and rest.

## Day 2: Yerevan City Tour - Brandy Factory - Echmiadzin - Zvartnots - Yerevan

In the morning at the hotel, you tour guide and around Yerevan treasures we tion will start from Square, North-Opera House, open air Cas-which will im-unique art exam-Mother Arme-from where you panoramic view parture to Holy thedral (4th c.) 20km far from



after breakfast will meet your start the city tour to discover the have. Explora-the Republic ern Avenue, Swam Lake, cade Monument press you with its ples. Visit also nia Monument can see a unique to Yerevan. De-Echmiadzin Ca-which is about the capital city.

In this holy place one will be impressed by the spiritual atmosphere around and can hit a candle just for his/her dreams. Drive back to Yerevan with a stop at the ruins of Zvartnots Temple from 7th c. Here we are also going to have lunch. Our next stop is Brandy Factory where you will be introduced to the brandy making techniques and have a degustation of 2 types of brandy. Welcome dinner in a local restaurant with Armenian folk music. Overnight at the hotel in Yerevan. (B/L/D)

## Day 3: Yerevan - Khor Virap - Areni - Noravank - Goris

Sightseeing tour to the cradle of civilization to Khor Virap Monastery which is located very close to the Biblical Mount Ararat and border with Turkey. The importance of Khor Virap Monastery is connected with Grigor Illuminator who has been imprisoned with the church for 13years for disseminating Christianity all over Armenia. Departure to Vayots Dzor region to visit local Areni wine factory where we have the opportunity to taste local homemade wine assortments. Lunch in a local cave cafe tasting local barbeque. Sightseeing at Noravank Monastery (13th c.) which is surrounded by mountains covered by red stones. The beauty of the surrounding mountains one can only see with his/her own eyes, as description can never give the real beauty. Departure to Syunik region to Goris region for dinner and overnight. (B/L/D)



#### Day 4: Goris - Tatev Monastery - Khndzoresk - Goris

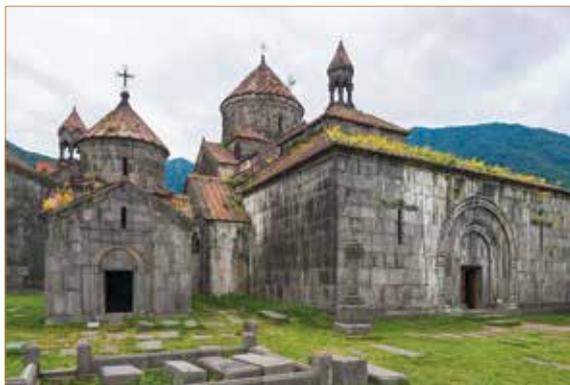
After breakfast we will start exploring the city of Goris with all its beauty and natural monuments. The region is famous for its green mountains and beautiful natural formations where you can find caves which were inhabited previously. Our first stop will be Khndzresk cave town where we can find a lot of signs of past settlements. The caves which you are going to discover were hewn out local dwellers and used as houses. If you wish to see the caves from a close eye, than you have the chance to reach with a rope bridge which is dancing when you are putting your foot on it'. Lunch in a local restaurant. Continue tour to the monastic complex of Tatev which is considered to be an architectural masterpiece from 10th c. The outward appearance of the monastery is severe and iconic that can take your breath away. There's a natural monument called Devil's Bridge on the way to the monastery which you are going to visit. Return to the hotel for dinner and overnight. (B/L/D)

#### Day 5: Goris - Karahoungue - Selim - Sevan - Dilijan

If it is hard to believe that Armenian Stonehenge is older than Stonehenge in England, than you are more than welcome to visit our Karahunge - an open air ancient observatory from 6mil B.C. Departure to Lake Sevan through Selim pass which has been an important trade point in famous Silk Road. Lunch in a local restaurant to taste local fish. Sightseeing on the peninsula where Sevanavanq is located. We need to climb up many stairs to reach the monastery from where opens a spectacular view to the "blue-eyed" lake. Drive to the resort town of Dilijan for dinner and overnight. (B/L/D)



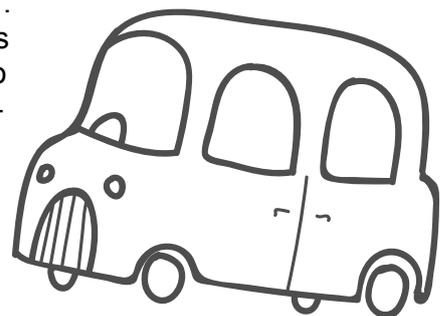
#### Day 6: Dilijan - Goshavank - Haghpat - Sanahin - Yerevan



In the morning after breakfast we can have walk through a museum street of Dilijan looking around the architectural masterpieces from 19th c. Visiting of Goshavank Monastery (13th c.) which is located in the woodlands of Dilijan. Our next discoveries will be monasteries which are included in the UNESCO World Heritage. By its architectural value the monastic complexes of Haghpat (976 AD) and Sanahin (966 AD) should be include in your "must-to-see" list in Armenia. Lunch in a local restaurant. Drive back to the capital for dinner and overnight. (B/L/D)

#### Day 7: Yerevan - Garni - Geghard - Matenadaran

Visit Tsitsernakaberd Memorial and the museum of victims of Armenian Genocide. Today we are going to visit Geghard Monastery which is hewn out from a cave and included in the UNESCO World Heritage. The monastery was built in 4th c. and also has the name of Ayrivank. Next stop us going to be Garni Pagan Temple- the only Hellenistic temple surviving in Armenia from 1st c. Lunch will be organized in a local house where we have the opportunity of watching Armenian flat bread "lavash" baking ceremony in an underground heater called "tonir". Here we will learn also the way of making Armenian sandwiches called "brduch" with bread and cheese. Drive back to Yerevan to visit the depository of manuscripts - Matenadaran. in a local restaurant and overnight at the hotel in Yerevan. Visit Megerian Carpet Factory to learn about the old Armenian Carpet type and the method of preparation. Here we are also going to have Farewell dinner. (B/L/D)

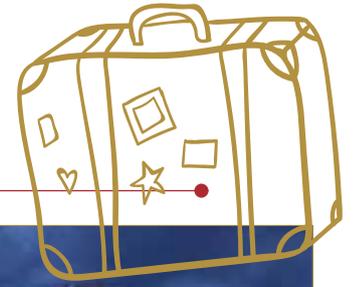


#### Day 8: Departure

Transfer to the airport. Departure home.

# Pilgrimage Tour

## 8 days / 7 nights



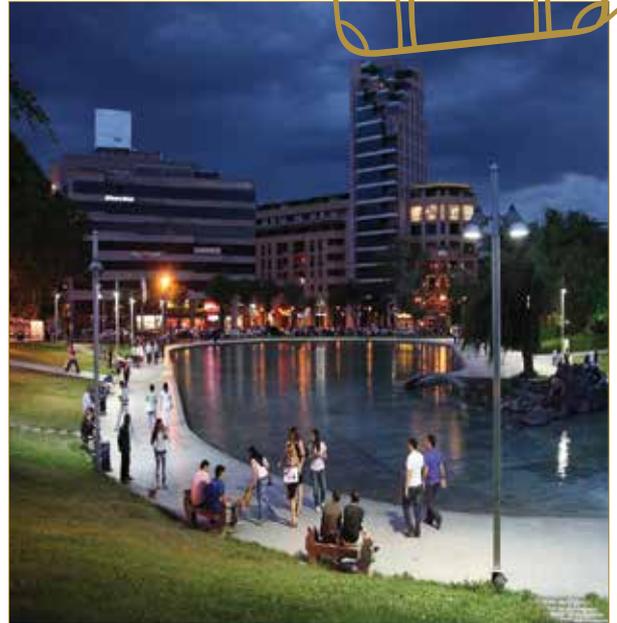
### Day 1: Yerevan

Arrival in Yerevan, transfer to hotel.

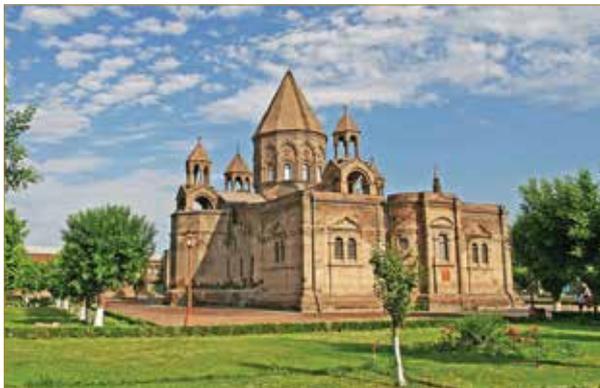
### Day 2: Yerevan

Breakfast at the hotel.

City tour around Yerevan - the ancient capital of Armenia. Explore the uniqueness of the city streets; you will enjoy the warm atmosphere, friendly smiles of local people and unique coloring of this wonderful ancient city-Opera House, Cascade Complex, Republic Square, the Governmental Building, Statue of Victory, the Stadium and the canyon of Hrazdan. Lunch at the restaurant. Visit to Tsitsernakaberd - the Armenian Genocide memorial complex - dedicated to the victims of the Armenian Genocide. Lunch at the restaurant/a traditional Armenian cuisine. Free evening. Dinner at the restaurant.



### Day 3: Yerevan - Echmiadzin - Zvartnots - Yerevan



Breakfast at the hotel.

Drive to Echmiadzin Cathedral, the mother church of the Armenian Apostolic Church, located in the city of Vagharshapat. Continue trip to the Saint Hripsime Church, the seventh Armenian Apostolic century church. It is one of the oldest surviving churches in the country. Lunch at the restaurant. Visit to Zvartnots, a complex of structures erected in the middle of the 7th century near Echmiadzin, is of extreme architectural value. Lunch at the traditional Armenian restaurant. Come back to Yerevan. Dinner at the restaurant.

### Day 4: Yerevan - Garni - Geghard - Yerevan

Breakfast at the hotel.

Next visit to Matenadaran - a repository of ancient manuscripts. It holds one of the world's richest depositories of medieval manuscripts and books in Armenian and many other languages. The trip starts from Geghard Cave Monastery, contains a number of churches and tombs. The complex of medieval buildings is set into a landscape of great natural beauty, at the entrance to the Azat Valley Continue to the Temple of Garni, is the best-known structure and symbol of pre-Christian Armenia. It is the only known Greco-Roman colonnaded temple in Armenia. Succeeding the "lavash" (the Armenian traditional bread baking ceremony). Lunch in the village atmosphere. Come back to Yerevan. Dinner at the restaurant.



## Day 5: Yerevan - Khor-virap - Noravank - Yerevan

Breakfast at the hotel.

Drive from Yerevan to Khor Virap Monastery. Khor Virap's notability as a monastery and pilgrimage site is attributed to the fact that King Tiridates III of Armenia, initially imprisoned Gregory the Illuminator, here for 14 years. The trip continues to Noravank Monastery. The monastic complex includes the church of S. Karapet, S. Grigor chapel with a vaulted hall, and the church of S. Astvatsatsin (Holy Mother of God). Lunch at the restaurant. Come back to Yerevan. Dinner at the restaurant.



## Day 6: Yerevan - Amberd - Saghmosavank - Yerevan



Breakfast at the hotel.

Start day with a visit to Amberd Fortress, the site started as a Stone Age settlement. The name translates to "fortress in the clouds" in Armenian. Lunch at the restaurant. Next stop is the Saghmosavank, the 13th-century Armenian monastic complex. The main structures of the monasteries are the Church of Zion in Saghmosavank and the Church of Karapet in Hovhannavank. Visit to the Armenian Alphabet Monument. In 2005, the Armenian alphabet celebrated its 1600th birthday. In commemoration, it was given a gift of 39 giant, carved

Armenian letters, strategically placed near the final resting place of the man who created the alphabet, Mesrop Mashtots. Lunch in a local restaurant. Come back to Yerevan. Dinner at the restaurant.

## Day 7: Yerevan - Sevan - Dilijan - Yerevan

Breakfast at the hotel.

The road will take us to Lake Sevan, which is going to be one of the highlights of your trip. Climb the stairs up on the peninsula from where opens a fascinating view to the "blue-eyed" lake. Sightseeing tour on the peninsula. Lake Sevan is considered to be one of the largest sweet lakes in the world at an altitude of 1897 meters above sea level. Lunch at the restaurant. Continue trip to Dilijan, usually called Armenian Switzerland or Little Switzerland by the locals, it is one of the most important resorts of Armenia Leisure time in the heart of Armenian nature. Enjoy lunch in a local restaurant with Armenian traditional dishes. Come back to Yerevan. Gala dinner at the restaurant.



## Day 8: Yerevan - "Zvartnots" International Airport

Breakfast at the hotel. Transfer to airport, departure





# Velo Tour In Armenia

8 days / 7 nights

*Our greetings, dear guests!!! During the tour you will be get acquainted with the nature of the northern nature, will visit to many medieval monasteries, to be informed about the main historical and cultural achievements of the country.*

## Day 1:

Meeting and greeting in the airport, transfer to the hotel, have a time to relax.

## Day 2: Yerevan - Sevan - Martuni - Yeghegnadzor

Trip begins in the morning, at 9.00 clock. We provide the bicycles per guest. The total mileage for this day is 150 km, when only 60 km we pass by car. From Sevan to Yeghenadzor-Vayots Dzor Province. On the route, we pass by the Lake Sevan. We want to inform you that there are many different fishes, which are typical for these regions.

Succeeding Martuni, we will be expected approximately 40 km lifts. The Selim Pass has a unique beauty, where you can feel the real sense of nature. In the evening, have a visit to Yeghegnadzor, where we have a dinner and prepare for the next day.



## Day 3: Yeghegnadzor - Jermuk

Our third day begins at 10.00 clock, in the morning. On this day we have a visit to Jermuk city- a spa town, where much of the country's mineral water comes from. The town is full of Soviet hotels and sanatoriums, some of which have been renovated to high standards. The countryside at this very high elevation resort is worth the visit as well, with canyons, forest and wildlife to explore. Here you have a time to get the mineral services in the sanatoriums. The resort area is small and manageable enough to handle on foot. In fact, the whole area has a lot of trees, open spaces, views, interesting old sanatoriums and is really nice to wander around on foot.



## Day 4: Jermuk - Sisian (85km)

The day starts the visit to Sisian- a pleasant if unremarkable town, always cooler than Yerevan. It is a good base to visit Ughtasar Mountain, and the thousands of petroglyphs on top. A river runs through the town, which has an ancient church called Sisavan on top of a small rise in the center. This territory is well-known for its waters-Zor-Zor, Zuygaxbyur, Katnaghbuyr, Yotnaghbyur, Mukhuturyan and Shaki



Waterfalls. Today's way is a bit impenetrable, but more and more we approach to Syunik Province- the natural beauty of the places where we put our foot, will attract in all its glory.

So, let's speak about our next destination the Armenian Stonehenge- Zorats Karer or Karahunj. Zorats Karer is a prehistoric archaeological site near the town of Sisian. The phrase Zorats Karer is literally translated from Armenian as Army Stones. Traditional Armenian lunch. Lead to Sisian city- located on Vorotan River. Overnight in Hyuratun guest-house.



### Day 5: Sisian - Khndzoresk (53 km)

Early breakfast in Sisian, to have a time for photo shooting and continue our exploration to new destination- Khndzoresk. Nowadays, Khndzoresk is frequented mostly by local livestock, which graze amongst the caves, some of which have been converted to stables or storage spaces. Visitors are welcome to explore the cave system, but a trip across the gorge is not for the faint of heart.

The mileage of cycling is 50 km for our next destination- Khndzoresk. Our tents and sleeping bags will be transferred by car. In Khndzoresk, we will be camping - to have an opportunity to feel the warmth of the fire and admire a clear starry night.



### Day 6: Khndzoresk - Tatev (48km)

Early breakfast in Khndzoresk , our next visit to the direction of Tatev village. The village is famous of the Monastery of Tatev - the 9th-century Armenian Apostolic monastery. Tatev is known as the bishopric seat of Syunik and played a significant role in the history of the region as a center of economic, political, spiritual and cultural activity.

### Day 7: Tatev - Yerevan

In the afternoon, after exploring the territory of Tatev Monastery, drive back to Yerevan city. On the way, we will taste the treasures of Armenian cuisine in a warm atmosphere.

### Day 8: Yerevan - "Zvartnots" International Airport

Breakfast at the hotel. Transfer to airport. Departure.

# Hiking Tour In Armenia

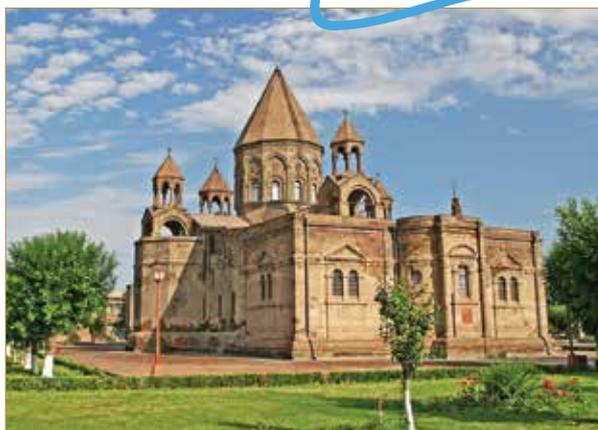
8 days / 7 nights

## DAY 1: Departure From Home Country

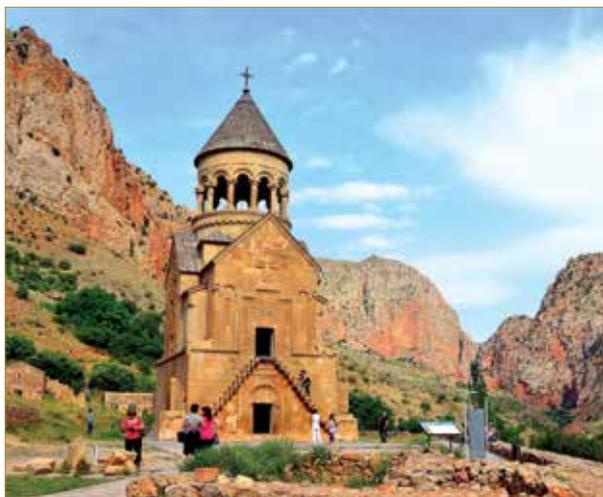
Arrival in Yerevan, meeting, transfer to hotel. Rest.

## DAY 2: Yerevan - Echmiadzin - Zvartnots - Yerevan

Breakfast at the hotel. City tour around Yerevan - the ancient capital of Armenia. Explore the uniqueness of the city streets; you will enjoy the warm atmosphere, friendly smiles of local people and unique coloring of this wonderful ancient city-Opera House, Cascade Complex, Republic Square, the Governmental Building, Statue of Victory, the Stadium and the canyon of Hrazdan. Visit to Tsitsernakaberd - the Armenian Genocide memorial complex - dedicated to the victims of the Armenian Genocide. Drive to Echmiadzin Cathedral, the mother church of the Armenian Apostolic Church, located in the city of Vagharshapat. Continue trip to the Saint Hripsime Church, the seventh Armenian Apostolic century church. It is one of the oldest surviving churches in the country. Lunch at the restaurant. Visit to Zvartnots, a complex of structures erected in the middle of the 7th century near Echmiadzin, is of extreme architectural value. Visit to "Ararat" brandy factory with degustation. Back to hotel for overnight.



## DAY 3: Yerevan - Khor-virap - Amaghu Canyon - Noravank - Goris



Breakfast at the hotel. Sightseeing tour to historical Khor-Virap monastery (4-17th cc) with a beautiful view to the biblical Ararat Mountain, where Noah's arch cast anchor. Continue the trip towards Areni village and visit Areni wine factory to taste wine made from the special sorts of Areni grape. Start hiking through the stunning nature of Vayots Dzor province. End up hiking near Noravank 13th c. (means "New Monastery") a masterpiece of Armenian architecture, which is situated in a narrow gorge and encircled, by tall, sheer, brick red cliffs. Trip to Goris - a beautiful city with a very charming regional style of stone architecture surrounded by high mountains and some great rock formations striving to the sky with ancient cave settlement. Accommodation in Goris.

## DAY 4: Goris - Tatev - Khndzoresk - Yeghegnadzor

Breakfast at the hotel. Start hiking to Halidzor fortress, which is known also as Hanants Desert. Continue hiking to the natural bridge called Devil's Bridge. Drive to the 9th century Tatev monastic complex located on a large basalt plateau (1500m) near the village of the same name in part of Zangezur. Drive 20 minutes and appear in a fantastic cave village with a picturesque view to the ruins of an old village, churches, tombs, nature, springs and a new bridge that spans the gorge. Khndzoresk is an ideal place for hiking. Explore every corner of these man-made dwelling places. Picnic-lunch on the way. Drive to Yeghegnadzor. Accommodation in Lucytour hotel\*\*\*.

## DAY 5: Yeghegnadzor - Selim Caravansaray - Sevan - Dilijan



Breakfast at the hotel. Drive to Lake Sevan through Selim Pass. A walk on mountain road from the height 2400m down to the panorama of Sevan. Picnic lunch on the way. Continue trip to Lake Sevan - one of the highest freshwater lakes in the world at 1897 meters above sea. Stop at Sevanavank - the monastic complex located on a peninsula at the northwestern shore of Lake Sevan. Drive to the spa town Dilijan, usually called Armenian Switzerland or Little Switzerland. Accommodation in Dilijan.

## DAY 6: Dilijan - Parz Lich - Goshavank - Yerevan

Breakfast at the hotel. Trip to Parz Lich located near Dilijan town. Sightseeing. First, we visit Goshavank, a medieval fairy-tale monastic complex in the village of Gosh. Picnic lunch on the way. From here, we start our hike through the forest to the Lake Gosh. It has such a pristine beauty and the setting is simply magical. In some parts, it's a strenuous climb. It takes from about 1.5 hours to get here. Come back to Yerevan. Overnight at the hotel.



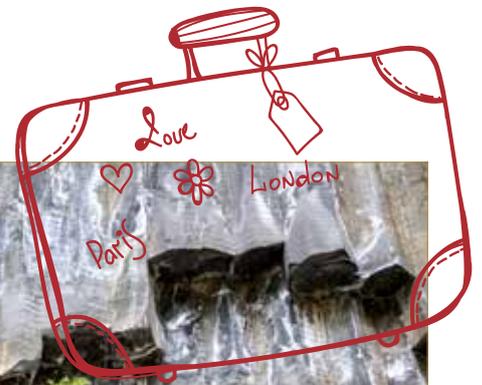
## DAY 7: Yerevan - Garni - Havuts Tar - Geghard - Yerevan



Breakfast at the hotel. Trip to pagan temple of Garni. Hiking to Havuts Tar monastery complex built in 11th-13th centuries and Geghard River gorge. Drive to Geghard Monastery - the Cave Monastery. While the main chapel was built in 1215, the monastery complex was founded in the 4th century by Gregory the Illuminator at the site of a sacred spring inside a cave. It is listed as a UNESCO World Heritage Site. Enjoy lunch in the courtyard of a family in Garni with the master-class of lavash. Jeep tour in the canyon of Garni, where you will see the well-known "the symphony of stones". Come back to Yerevan. Gala-dinner with national show. Overnight at the hotel.

## DAY 8: Departure

Breakfast at the hotel. Transfer to airport



# Gourmet Tour In Armenia

7 days / 6 nights

TRAVEL ✓

*Come and meet people who elaborate exclusive spizits, maintain traditions and pass them on from generation to generation. Discover a land where life goes at the rhythm of its vineyards, where the main art is growing vines and making the best cognacs.*

## Day 1: Yerevan

Arrival in Yerevan, transfer to hotel. Check-in at the hotel. City tour around Yerevan - the ancient capital of Armenia. Explore the uniqueness of the city streets; you will enjoy the warm atmosphere, friendly smiles of local people and unique coloring of this wonderful ancient city-Opera House, Cascade Complex, Republic Square, the Governmental Building, Statue of Victory, the Stadium and the canyon of Hrazdan. Visit to Tsitsernakaberd - the Armenian Genocide memorial complex - dedicated to the victims of the Armenian Genocide. Dinner at the traditional Armenian restaurant with national folk show, where you will taste one of the national Armenian dishes - a khashlama. Khashlama



is a favorite for Armenian food lovers who enjoy natural, plain flavors. It is a generic name for any dish of boiled meat. In its basic version, it is boiled lamb, mutton, or beef seasonal with salt and herbs.

## Day 2: Yerevan - Oshakan - Amberd - Yerevan



Breakfast at the hotel. Drive to Oshakan - best known for the Saint Mesrop Mashtots Cathedral, which is the burial place of Saint Mesrop Mashtots, the creator of the Armenian alphabet. The excursion to the "Armenia Wine" wine Factory with the degustation of wines. Lunch at the factory. Drive to Amberd - rare historical site that survived and reached us in a good condition from the 7th century. Some say that it was built in the 11-13th centuries, attributing it to the near located church. Amberd means "fortress in the clouds"; the name is due to its location 2300 meters above sea level. Lunch at the restaurant. Drive back to Yerevan. Free time in Yerevan. For dinner, you will taste Harissa - an Armenian dish from the Ararat plain. It is a thick porridge made from korkot (dried or roasted cracked wheat) and fat-rich meat, usually chicken or lamb. Herbs

were substituted for meat in harissa when Armenian religious days required fasting and penance. The extremely long cooking process is an essential part of the harissa tradition. The dish is traditionally served on Easter day. It is still prepared by many Armenians around the world and is also considered the national dish of Armenia.

## Day 3: Yerevan - Khor-Virap - Areni - Noravank - Yerevan

Breakfast at the hotel. The excursion to the Brandy - Wine - Vodka Factory "NOY" with the degustation of cognac. Continue trip to Khor Virap Monastery (17-18 centuries). Enjoy the impressive view of Mount Ararat. Visit to Areni wine factory with wine degustation. Visit to Noravank Monastery (13 century). Lunch at the local restaurant. Drive back to Yerevan. Visit to "Megerian Carpet" factory. The Megerian Family has been involved in selling, restoration and production of fine rugs for over four generations. To participate in the carpet-weaving master class in Megerian Carpet Museum. Dinner and master class with a well-known Armenian cook.

## Day 4: Yerevan - Garni - Geghard - Yerevan



Breakfast at the hotel. The excursion to the brandy factory "ArArAt" with the cognac degustation. Drive to the Temple of Garni (the 1st c.) - the classical Hellenistic temple. On the way have a visit to the Arch of Charents. Next visit to the Monastery of Geghard (the 13th c.) - being partially carved out of the adjacent mountain, surrounded by cliffs. It is listed as a UNESCO World Heritage Site. Lunch at the local house with mulberry vodka tasting and have a master class of Armenian national bread "lavash". Drive back to Yerevan. Dinner in a restaurant, where you will taste "tjvjik". Tjvjik is a dish of fried liver and kidneys with onions. Traditionally it was made with beef liver, but nowadays any liver can be used to prepare tjvjik, also plums, heart and kidneys

may be added optionally. It is simple to prepare this dish. First, the onion is fried, then different herbs are added and finally the pieces of liver are added to the pan and fried until ready.

## Day 5: Yerevan - Sevan - Dilijan - Ijevan - Yerevan

Breakfast at the hotel. Trip to Sevan. Excursion through Sevan Peninsula and Sevanavanq (IX century). From the North-West opens a beautiful view to Lake Sevan. Continue trip to Dilijan, usually called Armenian Switzerland or Little Switzerland by the locals, it is one of the most important resorts of Armenia Leisure time in the heart of Armenian nature. Enjoy lunch in a local restaurant with Armenian traditional dishes. Trip to Ijevan, main center of Tavush region, which is famous for its unique nature. Excursion to Ijevan Wine Factory, one of the leaders in export of Armenian wine and cognac. Here on the territory of the plant there will be a tasting of Armenian wines. Drive back to Yerevan. Dinner at the restaurant, where you will taste Armenian "qyufta" with wheat and mushrooms. Qyufta is a dish which is prepared with the meatball is ground or minced meat rolled into a small ball, sometimes along with other ingredients, such as bread crumbs, minced onion, eggs, butter and seasoning.



## Day 6: Yerevan - Echmiadzin - Zvartnots - Yerevan

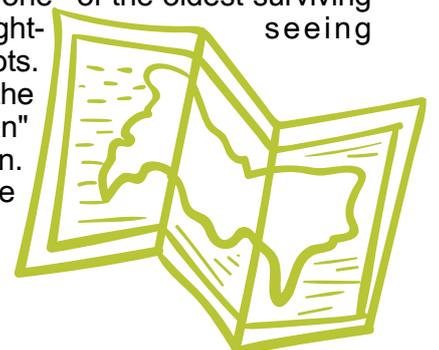


Breakfast at the hotel. Continue trip to Etchmiatsin city - the regional center of Armenia. Have a visit to the Mother Cathedral of Holy Etchmiadzin (the 4th century). Not to be missed visit to "Machanents" Art and Tourism Center. Here you participate in "Dolma making" master-class. Armenian tolma is made of minced meat, onion, rice, different types of spices all mixed together. Later the stuffing is rolled up in grape leaves. Tolma may also be made with cabbage leaves - especially for vegetarian dolma served during the Easter Fast. Lunch in the same center. Visit to Saint Hripsime Church (the 7th c.) - one of the oldest surviving churches in the country. Sightseeing around the ruins of Zvartnots. Come back to Yerevan. On the way to Yerevan, visiting "Maran" winery with wine degustation. Dinner at the restaurant, where

you will taste Armenian soup with "aveluk".

## Day 7: Yerevan - "Zvartnots" International Airport

Breakfast at the hotel. Transfer to airport. Departure.



# Armenia - Georgia

10 days / 9 nights

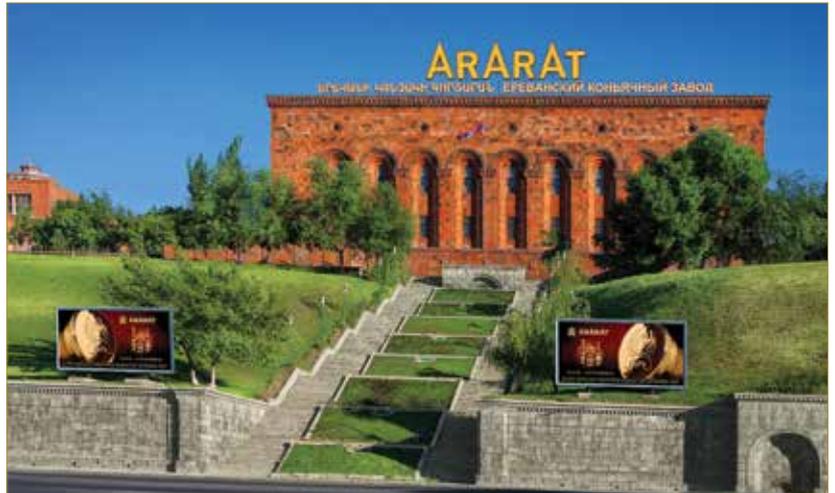
**Day 1:** Departure from home country

## Day 2: Arrival - Yerevan City tour - Echmiadzin - Zvartnots - Brandy Brandy Company

Arrival at Zvartnots International Airport. Meet and greet transfer to the hotel. Rest.

After breakfast start city tour around Yerevan the history of which dates back to 8th century B.C.

We will be strolling through the narrow streets of Yerevan, which are mixture of old and modern culture. Visiting of Republic Square, Northern Avenue, Opera House, Swam Lake and Cascade Monument where you can find unique art samples. Visit Tsitsernakaberd Memorial and the museum of victims of Armenian Genocide. Departure to Echmiadzin Cathedral (UNESCO World Heritage) which is located about 20km from the capital city. In this holy place, one will be impressed by the spiritual atmosphere around and can hit a candle just for his/her dreams. Lunch in a local community tasting local dishes. Drive back to Yerevan with a stop at the ruins of Zvartnots Temple (7th c.). Our journey will continue to Brandy Factory where you will learn about the history of famous Armenian brandy and have some degustation. Overnight at the hotel in Yerevan. (B/L/-)



TRAVEL ✓



### Day 3: Yerevan - Khor Virap - Areni Winery - Noravank - Yerevan



Sightseeing tour to the cradle of civilization to Khor Virap Monastery, which is located very close to the Biblical Mount Ararat and border with Turkey. The importance of Khor Virap Monastery is connected with Grigor Illuminator who has been imprisoned with the church for 13 years for disseminating Christianity all over Armenia. Drive to Vayots Dzor region to visit Areni winery. Lunch in a local cave cafe tasting local homemade barbecue. Here Sightseeing at Noravank Monastery (13th c.) which is surrounded by mountains covered by red stones. The beauty of the surrounding mountains one can only see with his/her own eyes, as description can never give the real beauty.

Departure back to Yerevan. Overnight at the hotel in Yerevan. (B/L/-)

### Day 4: Yerevan - Matenadaran - Garni - Geghard - Vernissage

After breakfast visit to the depository of manuscripts - Matenadaran where one can find the world's largest manuscripts collection. Departure to Geghard Monastery, which is hewn out from a cave and is included in the UNESCO World Heritage. The monastery was built in 4th c. and also has the name of Ayrivank. Next stop us going to be Garni Pagan Temple- the only Hellenistic temple surviving in Armenia from 1st c. Lunch in a local house with Armenian flat bread "lavash" baking ceremony in an underground heater called "tonir". Here you will learn also how to make Armenian local sandwiches with "lavash" and cheese. Drive back to Yerevan to visit Vernissage flea market for some shopping which is opened only on weekends. Overnight at the hotel in Yerevan. (B/L/-)



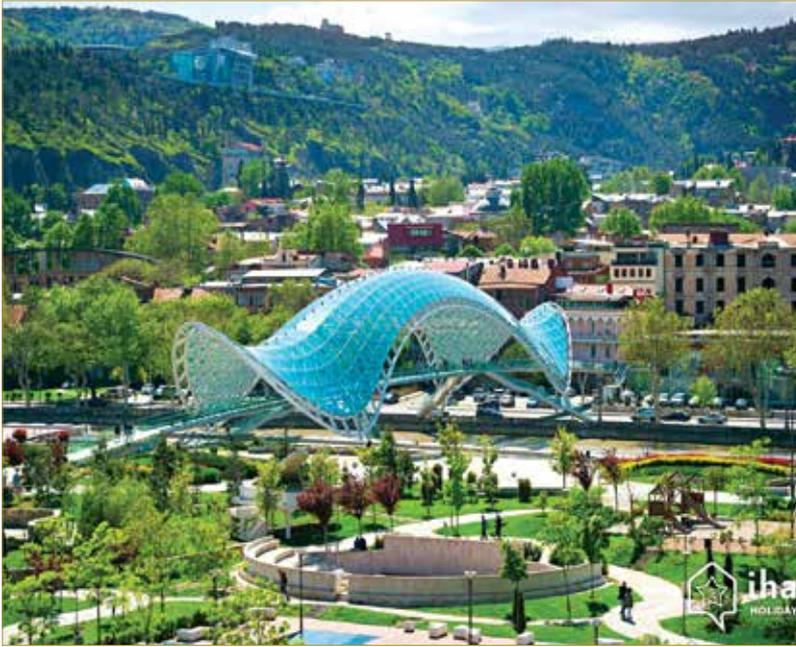
### Day 5: Yerevan - Lake Sevan - Dilijan - Haghpat - Sadakhlo border - Tbilisi



After breakfast, departure to Lake Sevan located which is about 70 km from the capital located in Gegharkunik region. Here, in Lake Sevan, which has a very beautiful peninsula, we are going to climb many stairs up to see the churches located in the peak, from where opens also a beautiful view to the "blue-eyed" lake. Continue our tour to the resort town of Dilijan, which is "Little Switzerland" of Armenia famous for its stunning nature landscapes. We are going to have some walk at the streets of Dilijan to explore the architectural solution from 19th c. Lunch in a local restaurant. Road takes us to Lori region where we still have the chance to visit UNESCO World Heritage Site

- Haghpat Monastic complex (976 AD). By its architectural value, Haghpat is one of the outstanding monasteries of Armenia, which is enlisted in "must-to-see" places. Departure to Armenian-Georgian Sadakhlo border. Change guide and driver and transfer to Tbilisi Hotel. Overnight in Tbilisi. (B/L/-)

## Day 6: Tbilisi - Mtskheta - Tbilisi



Breakfast at the hotel. Then we drive to Mtskheta, UNESCO world heritage site and former capital of Georgia - Mtskheta. Excursion includes visit to "Jvari Church" or Holy Cross Church - Built in the VI century, it is placed on the hill overlooking the conflux of the two rivers. According to the history, the church is also very notable monument of the country. Next site is "Svetitskhoveli Cathedral". The name translates as "a life-giving pillar". The Cathedral was built in XI century and became a cradle of Christianity in Georgia. The holy robe of Jesus Christ, which was buried here, makes the Cathedral the most important place of the country. Have a lunch at a local restaurant.

Afterwards, walking tour in old district of the city. Founded by Vakhtang Gorgasali, the Georgian King of Kartli (Iberia) and made into a capital in the 6th century, Tbilisi is a significant industrial, social, and cultural center. Tour includes following sightseeings: Metekhi Church, erected on the cliff, overlooking the Mtkvari River; the famous Sulfur Baths, also located in Old Tbilisi, on the other side of the river. In the same district, we lift up by cableway on Narikala Fortress. Called the mother fortress of Tbilisi, Narikala is an ancient symbol of city's defence. It was established in the 4th century, around the period when the city itself was founded. Visit Meidani square and walk on Shardeni Street with its fashionable, cozy cafes and art galleries, passing along the Sioni Cathedral and Anchiskhati Basilica. The tour takes you to Rustaveli Avenue, where attractions such as the Tbilisi Opera and Ballet theatre, Rustaveli Theatre, different art galleries and cafes will draw your attention and provide a cosmopolitan atmosphere. Overnight in Tbilisi. (B/L/-)

## Day 7: Tbilisi - Signaghi - Gurjaani - Gremi - Kvareli

Breakfast at the hotel. Today we drive to Kakheti region to the east part of Georgia and the cradle of Georgian wine. First we drive to visit Signaghi "city of love". Excursion in the city, that stands on the ruined fortress (2.5 km length of the walls), with towers and entrances of the XVIII century, which is still preserved. Climbing on any of this tower you can observe stunning beauty of Alazani Valley. Afterwards drive to Gurjaani and visit the Gurjaani all saint church. Afterwards have a lunch at a local family in Gurjaani with wine. Afterwards drive to visit the Gremi monastery complex from the middle ages. Gremi was one of the most important cities on the Silk Road and the center of Kakheti region. Finally drive to Kvareli. Overnight in Kvareli. (B/L/-)

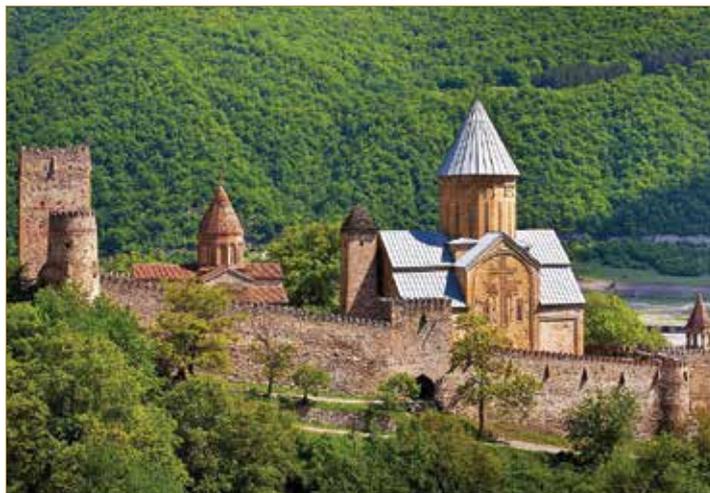


## Day 8: Kvareli - Alaverdi - Tsinandali -Tbilisi

Breakfast at the hotel. Afterwards drive and visit the Alaverdi cathedral from the XI century. Then we drive to Tsinandali and visit house museum of Prince Aleksandre Chavchavadze, with beautiful garden and wine cellar. Alexander Chavchavadze inherited this village, lying in the Alazany River valley, from his father, Prince Garsevan. He refurbished the estate, constructed a new Italianate palace and built a decorative garden in 1835. It was the place where Chavchavadze frequently entertained foreign guests with music, wit, and - most especially - the fine vintages made at his estate winery (marani). Familiar with European ways, Chavchavadze built Georgia's oldest and largest winery where he combined European and centuries-long Georgian winemaking traditions. The highly regarded dry white Tsinandali is still produced there. Have a lunch at a local restaurant. Then visit Telavi, main city of the region, excursion there. Finally drive to Tbilisi. Overnight in Tbilisi(B/L/-)



## Day 9: Tbilisi - Ananuri - Kazbegi - Tbilisi



Breakfast at the hotel. Today we drive to Kazbegi, mountain region of the country. On the way, we pass Ananuri Castle and Jinalvi water reservoir of amazing beauty. Stop and see different local hand made things (thick felt, embroidery, iconographic painting). A stunning drive from Gudauri along the Tergi River will bring us to Stepantsminda - the main town in the region. Have a lunch at a local restaurant. Visit Kazbegi surroundings. From center, we drive through beautiful valleys and woodlands to visit Gergeti Trinity Church located at 2170m. You may observe one of the highest glaciers in the Caucasus - Mt Kazbegi (5047m). Return to Tbilisi. Overnight in Tbilisi. (B/L/-)

## Day 10: Tbilisi-Airport (Tbilisi)

According to the flight time transfer to the Airport. Departure.



# Guaranteed Departures to Armenia

**\*\*389 Euro per person**

**Tour operator commission - 10% from the package price**

**Minimum number of participants - 2 members**

**Maximum number of participants - 12 members**

**Every Thursday to Monday starting from March 8th to 22nd of November 2018**

**Day by day itinerary**



## **Day 1: Thu: Arrival - Departure from home country**

Arrival at Zvartnots International Airport. Meet and greet transfer to the hotel. Rest

## **Day 2: Fri: Yerevan City Tour - Echmiadzin - Zvartnots**

In the morning after breakfast start city tour around Yerevan the history of which goes back to 8th c. A.D. We will be strolling through the narrow streets of Yerevan which are mixture of old and modern culture. Visiting of Republic Square, Northern Avenue, Opera House, Swam Lake and Cascade Monument where you can find unique art samples. Visit Tsitsernakaberd Memorial and the museum of victims of Armenian Genocide. Departure to Echmiadzin Cathedral (UNESCO World Heritage) which is located about 20km from the capital city. In this holy place one will be impressed by the spiritual atmosphere around and can hit a candle just for his/her dreams. Drive back to Yerevan with a stop at the ruins of Zvartnots Temple (7th c.). Overnight at the hotel in Yerevan. (B/-/-)



## **Day 3: Sat: Yerevan - Khor-Virap - Noravank - Yerevan**



Morning departure to Khor Virap Monastery (4-17cc.) which is located very close to the Biblical Mount Ararat. Here's the closest point to the mount where we can make a photo stop. The significance of the church is connected with Grigor Illuminator who was prisoned in the church for 13years for adapting Christianity as state religion. Departure to Vayots Dzor region. Visit Noravank (means New Monastery) Monastery (13th c.), which is a masterpiece of Armenian architecture located in the narrow gorge and encircled with red-stoned mountains which gives one the harmony of nature and culture. Departure back to the capital. Leisure time on your own and overnight at the hotel in Yerevan. (B/-/-)

## Day 4: Sun: Yerevan - Lake Sevan - Garni - Geghard - Yerevan



After breakfast departure to Geghard Monastery (13th c.) - a monastery which is hewn out from a cave. The monastery had been originally named Ayrivank meaning "the Monastery of the Cave". The name commonly used for the monastery today, Geghard, or more fully Geghardavank meaning "the Monastery of the Spear" The monastery is also included in the UNESCO World Heritage list.

Continue our journey to Garni Pagan Temple from 1st c. The temple was built by Armenia King Tiridates and was dedicated to the God of Sun Mithra. Garni is the only Hellenistic temple existing nowadays in Armenia. The stairs of the temple are made huge and high which means that every human being climbing up the stairs is condescending to God of Sun.

The road will take us to Lake Sevan which is going to be one of the highlights of your trip. Climb the stairs up on the peninsula from where opens a fascinating view to the "blue-eyed" lake. Sightseeing tour on the peninsula. Lake Sevan is considered to be one of the largest sweet lakes in the world at an altitude of 1897 meters above sea level. Drive back to Yerevan. Overnight at the hotel in Yerevan. (B/-/-)

## Day 5: Mon: Departure home

Transfer to the airport. Departure home!



**\*\* 389 Euro per person sharing DBL/TWIN room**

### 70 Euro per single room supplement

#### The rate includes:

- 4 x nights' accommodation in a 3\* Shirak Hotel in Yerevan
- Transfers and transportation according to the program
- English speaking guide escort during the sight-seeing tours
- Only breakfasts at the hotel
- Entrance fees where necessary
- 1 bottle of complimentary water

#### The rate does not include

- Flights
- Travel Insurance
- Meals and alcoholic beverages
- Armenia Visa fees (6USD if required)
- Tips and Portage

### Pre/Post accommodation at 3\* Hotel

DBL room occupancy - 55 Euro per person  
SGL room occupancy - 65 Euro per person

### Supplement for 4\* hotel

DBL room occupancy - 65 Euro per person  
SGL room occupancy - 80 Euro per person

### Supplement for 5\* hotel

DBL room occupancy - 120 Euro per person  
SGL room occupancy - 165 Euro per person

### Meals

12 Euro per person per lunch  
16 Euro per person per dinner

# Useful Hints for Travelling to Armenia

- **Tatev Monastery**

Tatev Monastery is a 9th century historical monument. It is one of the oldest and most famous monastery complexes in Armenia. During medieval times Tatev Monastery was a vital scholastic, enlightenment and spiritual center and played a singular role in the country's history.

- **Armenian Bread "Lavash"**

"Lavash" is a soft, thin unleavened flat bread made in a tandoor and eaten all over the Caucasus, Western Asia and the areas surrounding the Caspian Sea. Lavash is one of the most widespread types of bread in Armenia, Azerbaijan, Iran and Turkey.

In 2014, "lavash, the preparation, meaning and appearance of traditional bread as an expression of culture in Armenia" was inscribed in the UNESCO Representative List of the Intangible Cultural Heritage of Humanity. In 2016, making and sharing flatbread (lavash, katyrma, jupka or yufka) in communities of Iran, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan and Turkey was inscribed on the list as well.



- **Chess: Why Armenia dominates the chess world?**

The country's obsession with chess transcends all age groups. Chess has been one of Armenia's most popular sports since Tigran Petrosian, the Armenian King of Chess, became a world champion in 1963. The country currently boasts one of the largest per capita numbers of chess grandmasters in the world. Current President Serzh Sarkisian heads the Armenian Chess Federation. He personally supported the national team during its Olympiad triumphs.

- **"Khachkars" -one of Armenian Symbols, Unique Armenian Cross Stones**

Khachkars are outdoor steles carved from stone by craftspeople in Armenia and communities in the Armenian diaspora. Khachkar (Cross-stone) is a unique Christian art heritage which has become the signature of Armenia. You can see them in other countries as well, but be sure, they have been carved and installed by Armenians for a special reason.



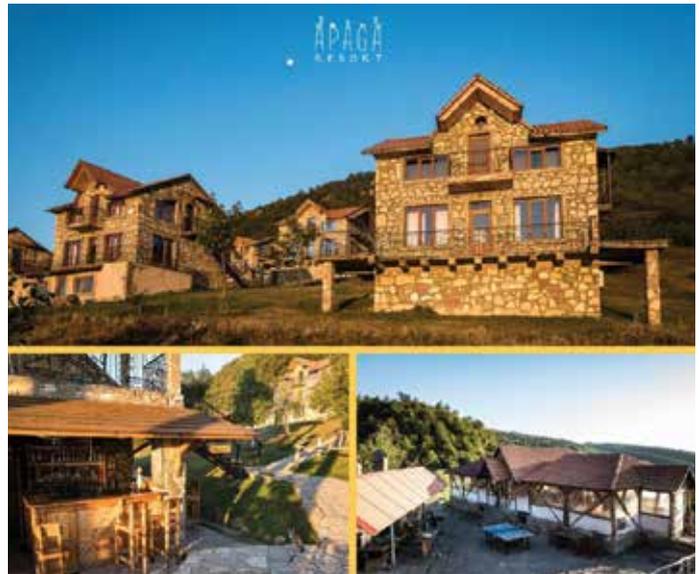
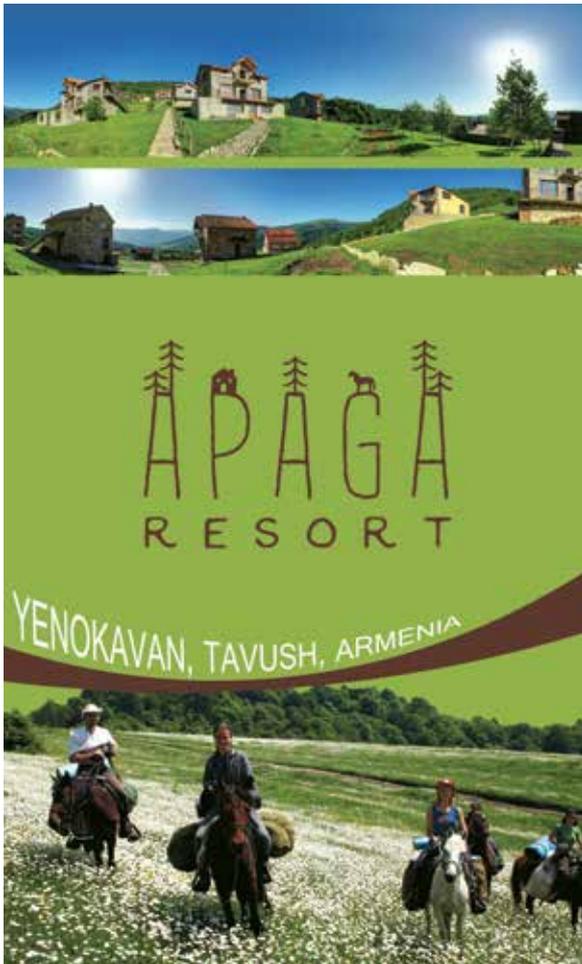
- **The World's Oldest Leather Shoe**

The world's oldest known leather shoe has been found in an Armenian cave. Stuffed with grass, perhaps as an insulator or an early shoe tree, the 5,500-year-old moccasin-like shoe was found exceptionally well preserved-thanks to a surfeit of sheep dung-during a recent dig in an Armenian cave. Shoes of this age are incredibly rare, because leather and plant materials normally degrade very quickly.

- **Armenian "Duduk"**

The duduk (doo-dook) is an ancient double-reed woodwind flute made of apricot wood. It is indigenous to Armenia. It is commonly played in pairs: while the first player plays the song, the second plays a steady drone, and the sound of the two instruments together creates a richer, more haunting sound. Many people know it as a "flute", Armenians call it "duduk" or "tsiranapogh", but one thing is obvious: Armenian Duduk is an "Intangible heritage of humanity".





Yenokavan Village,  
Tavush Region 4008 Armenia  
+ 374 60 65 06 51  
+ 374 91 29 07 99  
[www.apaga.info](http://www.apaga.info)





# GRAND HOTEL YEREVAN

LUXURY HOTEL

14 Abovyan Str., Yerevan 0001, Armenia

+ 374 10 59 16 00

+ 374 10 59 16 99

[marketing@grandhotelyerevan.com](mailto:marketing@grandhotelyerevan.com)

[www.grandhotelyerevan.com](http://www.grandhotelyerevan.com)



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YEREVAN CITY CENTRE

4 / 2 Grigor Lusavorich Str.,

Yerevan 0015, Armenia

+ 374 11 555 333

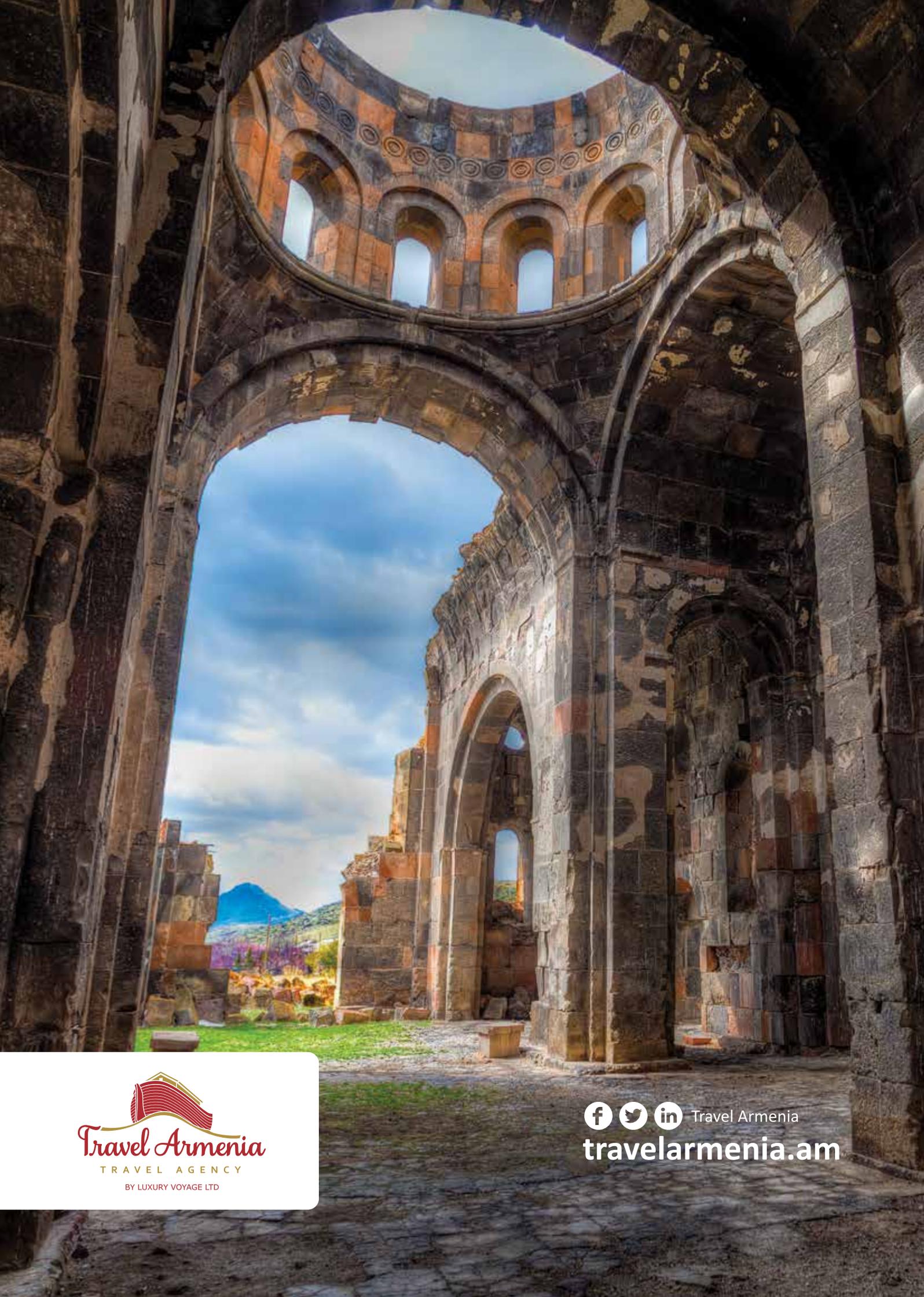
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📍 1 Paronyan str., Yerevan 0015,  
Republic of Armenia  
☎ +374 10 22 94 95  
☎ +374 11 22 94 95  
☎ +374 91 08 70 97  
✉ [incoming@travelarmenia.am](mailto:incoming@travelarmenia.am)  
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