

VISIT THE TOP WONDERS OF ARMENIA

9 Days/ 8 Nights

Day 1. Arrival

Day 2. City tour /Yerevan

Breakfast. We will start the tour in the capital of Armenia: Yerevan. For years this city has been known as a “pink city” because of the colour of the stone used in construction. We begin with a visit to Republic Square, Mashtoc Avenue, the House of Opera and Ballet and Cascad Park. Then we will visit the Manuscript Museum of Armenia, which is called Matenadaran; here all the ancient Armenian manuscripts are kept. Next, we will visit Erebuni museum and the Genocide Memorial known as Tsitsernakaberd. Dinner will be at a traditional Armenian restaurant where you may taste the masterpieces of Armenian cuisine. Overnight in the hotel. (B/-/D)

Day 3. Yerevan – Garni – Geghard - Yerevan

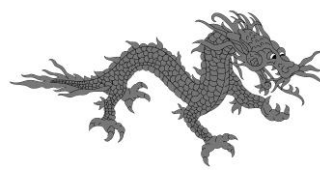
Breakfast. We start with a trip to Garni. This Pagan Temple was built in the 1st century AD. It is the only temple that has been preserved from the pagan times in Armenia. It was devoted to the god Mihr, who was the god of cleanness. In 1679 it was destroyed by earthquake. In the 1975 the Temple was restored. Then we continue our trip to Geghard Monastery. It’s name comes from the legendary lance that was used to pierce the body of Christ. It has been kept here for centuries. Though the exact foundation of the monastery is unknown,

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Tel: +44 1344 243 223

e-mail: info@gosomewheredifferent.co.uk

Web: www.gosomewheredifferent.co.uk



the present complex was built in the mid – 13th century. Afterwards we will visit a local house where you will have the chance to see and participate in the preparation of Armenian national bread: lavash. It is very thin and usually sold in very large forms. It is usually cooked in a ground oven: “tonir”. In 2015 it was inscribed in the UNESCO intangible heritage list. Here we can enjoy the “Armenian fast food” with lavash and cheese. You will also have the opportunity to see pottery being made and can also participate in this process. We then return to Yerevan and overnight at hotel. (B/L/-)

Day 4. Yerevan - Khor Virap – Areni – Noravank – Karahunj - Goris

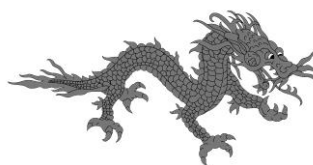
Breakfast. We start with a trip to Khor Virap Monastery (4-18th cc.). This monastery is very prominent because of its history; Gregory the Illuminator, who introduced Christianity to Armenia, was imprisoned here for about 13 years as at that time there was a prison in the place of the monastery. Here we can enjoy the spectacular views of the sacred Ararat Mountain - an immortal symbol of Armenia. After Khor Virap we will drive to the Armenian Wine Village Areni. This village is very famous for its red wine we will have the chance to taste the wine. We then continue the trip to Noravank - a monastery of the 12th century situated among amazing sheer rocks of a twisty gorge. In Noravank we will have a meeting with the priest who will tell you about the religious life and traditions of Armenia. We will explore the ancient observatory of Karahunj quite similar to Stonehenge in England. The columns sit like soldiers on a hill. The 204 stones near Sisian have been ascribed with mystical, fertility and cosmic powers. We then drive to Goris. Overnight in Goris. (B/L/-)

Day 5. Goris – Tatev – Khndzoresk - Goris

Breakfast. We will continue our trip visiting the monastic complex of Tatev. Formerly it was a very famous educational center in Armenia and all famous contemporary scientists and philosophers were educated there. It used to accept students from abroad as well. Here we can use the world’s longest rope way, which has a length of 5700 m. We will visit the cave village of Khndzoresk. Afterwards, we drive back to Goris. Dinner will be at a local house where we will enjoy the specific meals typical of that region. The meal will be accompanied by beautiful music played by the host. In the evening you may enjoy the night view of the small city which is very beautiful. (B/-/D)

Day 6. Goris –Selim – Noraduz - Sevan – Dilijan

Breakfast. Today we are going to ride the pathways that have been used by the travellers of the Great Silk Road. We will drive through the Selim Caravanserai, which served as an important center of exchange, trade and lodging during the times of the Great Silk Road. We will visit to Noraduz and then drive to Lake Sevan which is one of the largest lakes in the world. It has astonishingly blue water. Here we can enjoy the breathtaking scenery of the beautiful lake whilst on a cruise of Lake Sevan. At lunch, we can taste the “Ishkhan” fish of Lake Sevan. This fish is an irreplaceable part of Armenian culinary culture. Next, we will visit Sevanavank Monastery which is situated on the Sevan Peninsula. There are two monasteries actually; one of them was destroyed but the other still stands. They were built in the middle Ages, around the 10th century. Afterwards, we will drive to Dilijan. We will take a walk along Sharambeyan Street, which is one of the oldest streets of the city, where we can buy souvenirs and see the life of the small city. During the walk you will breathe the clean mountain air. After this relaxing walk we will have dinner with a local family and taste the traditional meals of this region. Overnight in Dilijan. (B/L/D)



Day 7. Dilijan – Sanahin – Haghpat -Yerevan

Today we will visit two unique masterpieces of Armenian architecture of 10th-14th centuries: the monasteries of Sanahin and Haghpat which are UNESCO World Heritage Sites. Literally the name "Sanahin" in Armenian means "this one is older than the other," which probably means that this monastery is older of than Haghpat. These two monasteries are very close to each other and can be easily seen together. Both are located on an uneven plateau, separated by a deep crack formed by a small river that flows into the river Debed. Haghpat Monastery was one of the largest religious, cultural and educational centers of medieval Armenia. Afterwards, when we return to Yerevan, we will taste Armenian national dishes in a beautiful restaurant. (B/-/D)

Day 8. Yerevan – Ejmiatsin – Zvartnoc –Yerevan

Breakfast. We will start our excursion to the centuries-old monuments of Ejmiatsin and Zvartnots. These sites are listed on the UNESCO World Heritage list. Zvartnots Temple was built in the 7th. Here we will enjoy the fantastic concert by the choir. Our next visit is to the spiritual center of Armenia: Ejmiatsin. The Cathedral of Ejmiatsin, founded in 303, is the official residence of the Catholicos of Armenia. We will also visit the museum of Ejmiatsin where supposedly a small part of Noah's ark is kept. We then return to Yerevan. In the evening you may enjoy the night life of modern Yerevan. Dinner will be at a very beautiful restaurant. Overnight in Yerevan. (B/-/D)

Day 9. Departure

Breakfast. Transfer to the airport. Say goodbye to Armenia.

3* Hotel

Per Pax	2	4	6	8	10	15	20	25	30	SGL	Full Board
GBP	835	615	565	515	485	475	445	440	430	185	70
Euro	945	695	640	585	550	535	505	500	485	210	80
USD	1110	925	750	685	645	630	590	585	570	245	95

4* Hotel

Per Pax	2	4	6	8	10	15	20	25	30	SGL	Full Board
GBP	890	665	625	575	535	530	505	495	485	215	70
Euro	1005	755	705	650	605	600	570	560	550	245	80
USD	1335	885	865	765	710	705	670	660	645	285	95

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The Price Includes

- Hotel accommodation in Yerevan and Regions
- Transportation according to programs with high class mini vans /busses
- Professional English speaking guide
- HB /as indicated in the program/
- Entrance fees
- A bottle of water per person per day

The price excludes

- Alcohol drinks
- Meals not specified
- Extra charges
- Personal wastes

Note :

Vernissage/market of art crafts/ is open only on Saturdays and Sundays

All museums are closed on Mondays /Matenadaran is closed on Mondays and Sundays

Tatev Cable car is closed on Mondays