BEST OF

TOUR DOSSIER ASPIRATIONAL TRAVEL TO

GEORGIA, ARMENIA & AZERBAIJAN

Tel: +44 (0) 20 30 51 76 40 info@best-of-caucasus.co.uk www.best-of-caucasus.co.uk

Trekking in Georgia - Kazbegi Region - 8 days





This 8 day holiday to Georgia gives you the chance to discover this delightful corner of the Caucasus on foot. Enjoy breathtaking views of the mountains and explore centuries-old monasteries as you hike with a knowledgeable local guide. You'll see the charming capital Tbilisi, as well as the spectacular gorges and valleys of the scenic Kazbegi region.

DEPARTURE DATES: 25.05.2024; 01.06.2024; 08.06.2024; 15.06.2024; 22.06.2024; 29.06.2024; 06.07.2024; 13.07.2024; 20.07.2024; 27.07.2024; 03.08.2024; 10.08.2024; 17.08.2024; 24.08.2024; 31.08.2024.

ITINERARY

Day 1 - Tbilisi

Today you'll arrive in Tbilisi, the Georgian capital, where you'll be met by our driver for your transfer to a centrally located hotel. Settle in and enjoy a leisurely evening. Overnight in Tbilisi. (D)

Day 2 - Tbilisi - Mtskheta - Kazbegi

Today we'll set off by road and drive to the ancient capital and religious hub of Mtskheta. There, you'll find two impressive UNESCO World Heritage sites, the Djvari Church, which dates from the 6th century and the later Svetitskhoveli Cathedral, constructed in the 11th century. From there, we pick up the Georgian Military Highway which leads us to Gudauri, one of Georgia's premier ski resorts. The scenery is dramatic here, with snow-capped peaks rising from lush green valleys. This is the Great Caucasus and it's undoubtedly one of the country's most beautiful areas. Overnight in Stepantsminda. (B, D)

Day 3 - Gergeti Church - Gveleti waterfall

Today the walking starts in earnest. To reach the incredible hilltop Gergeti Trinity Church we warm up with a leisurely stroll through woodland and open meadows. There's a bit of an altitude gain to reach the church, but the views from the top are worth the climb. It's situated at 2170 m above sea level - its jaw-dropping setting has a backdrop of Mt Kazbegi and its glacier. This peak stands at 5047m above sea level, making that glacier one of the highest in the Caucasus. We'll descend and drive by road to Dariali Gorge to begin our hike to Gveleti Waterfall. Afterwards we'll enjoy a dinner and also khinkali making (traditional Georgian dumplings) with a local host family. Overnight in Stepantsminda. (B, D) Hiking notes: Gergeti Trinity Church - Distance: 4 km; ↑↓435m (walking time: 3-4 hours). Gveleti - Distance: 4 km; ↑↓300m (walking time: 1-2 hours).

Day 4 - Sno Gorge - Mount Chaukhebi

We set off this morning for the village of Juta, located at 2165 m above sea level in the spectacular Sno valley. Time stands still in these parts. In summer, sheep graze the surrounding meadows and things are done pretty much as they've always been done. This is the starting point for our hike to Mt Chaukhebi, through flower-strewn Alpine pastures. Returning to Juta on foot we'll then hop in our vehicle to return to Kazbegi in time for dinner.

Day 5 - Truso Valley - Gudauri

After a short drive we reach the trailhead for our walk along the scenic Truso Gorge. The route takes us through remote villages and past ancient towers built in the Middle Ages. The area is known for its Alpine lakes, mineral water springs and travertines, the limestone deposits left by hot springs. Rarely will you find so few people in such a picturesque location. At the end of the afternoon we'll drive back to Gudauri in time for the evening meal. Overnight in Gudauri. (B, D) Hiking notes: Truso Valley - ↑↓400m (walking time 5 hours).

Day 6 - Gudauri - Khada Gorge - Tbilisi

Another day, another incredible gorge: today we set off for a hike along the delightful Khada Gorge. Our walk will take us to the Khada Fortress, once a stronghold defending the road that linked the Northern and Southern Caucasus. Today, it's a remote and peaceful place, littered with towers, graves, waterfalls and mineral springs.

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Near Bedoni, one has a high concentration of iron, making it a little sour on the palate. When we reach the village of Quesheti, our driver will take us back to Tbilisi. Overnight in Tbilisi. (B, D) Hiking notes: Khada Gorge - & & arr;150m & darr;850m (walking time 5 hours).

Day 7 - Tbilisi

Round off what we hope has been an incredible trip with a sightseeing tour of charming Tbilisi. The old town has a host of historic sites and we'll work our way round, taking in the 13th century Methekhi Church, Antchiskhati Church dating from the 6th century and the 12th century Sioni Cathedral as well as an ancient synagogue. From Narikala Fortress, reached from the river by cable car, there are superb views across the city. Finally, we'll visit the treasures of the Georgian National Museum and take a walk along Rustaweli Avenue, the city's busiest and most important thoroughfare. Tonight, we've laid on a farewell dinner during which you can share the highlights of your trip. Overnight in Tbilisi. (B, D)

Day 8 - Tbilisi

Today marks the end of the tour. Our driver will escort you to the airport in good time for your flight. We hope you've enjoyed Georgia's magical scenery and hope to see you again one day. (B)

TOUR INCLUSIONS AND OPTIONAL EXTRAS

Included

International flights Accommodation Guided tours & cultural programme English - speaking guides Half board meals Evening entertainment Ground transportation Airport transfers

Not included

Personal travel insurance Optional excursions Lunches

Practical information

About Best of Caucasus company Book with confidence - covid FAQs Contact our travel consultants

AVAILABLE PACKAGES

COMFORT - 3* PACKAGE

Dates	Excl. flights	Incl. flights*	Single suppl.
25/05/2024 - 01/06/2024	£1495	£1895	£275
01/06/2024 - 08/06/2024	£1495	£1895	£275
08/06/2024 - 15/06/2024	£1495	£1895	£275
15/06/2024 - 22/06/2024	£1495	£1895	£275
22/06/2024 - 29/06/2024	£1495	£1895	£275
29/06/2024 - 06/07/2024	£1495	£1895	£275
06/07/2024 - 13/07/2024	£1495	£1895	£275
13/07/2024 - 20/07/2024	£1495	£1895	£275
20/07/2024 - 27/07/2024	£1495	£1895	£275
27/07/2024 - 03/08/2024	£1495	£1895	£275
03/08/2024 - 10/08/2024	£1495	£1895	£275
10/08/2024 - 17/08/2024	£1495	£1895	£275
17/08/2024 - 24/08/2024	£1495	£1895	£275
24/08/2024 - 31/08/2024	£1495	£1895	£275

31/08/2024 - 07/09/2024	£1495	£1895	£275
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PREMIUM - 4* PACKAGE

Dates	Excl. flights	Incl. flights*	Single suppl.
25/05/2024 - 01/06/2024	£1595	£1995	£275
01/06/2024 - 08/06/2024	£1595	£1995	£275
08/06/2024 - 15/06/2024	£1595	£1995	£275
15/06/2024 - 22/06/2024	£1595	£1995	£275
22/06/2024 - 29/06/2024	£1595	£1995	£275
29/06/2024 - 06/07/2024	£1595	£1995	£275
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24/08/2024 - 31/08/2024	£1595	£1995	£275
31/08/2024 - 07/09/2024	£1595	£1995	£275

ALTERNATIVE TOURS AND TAILOR-MADE ARRANGEMENTS

In addition to organized group tours, we also offer individual trips. This could be an entirely separate holiday arrangement or an extension to a regular "Best of Caucasus" trip. Whether you would like to travel independently, or just with the group of your friends or colleagues, we can help to realise your holiday plans. Depending on your preference for either comfort or budget, we can help you to design the ideal itinerary and provide the optimal value-for-money quote. Please <u>contact us for a quote</u>.

Based on your chosen tour we believe you might be interested in alternative trips listed below:

- > Great Georgian Discovery with Trekking Extension 13 days (GE-11), Price from £2,195, 13 days
- > <u>Hiking in Armenia 10 Days (AM-05)</u>, Price from £1,395, 10 days
- > Great Georgian Discovery 11 days (GE-03), Price from £1,795, 11 days
- > <u>A Holiday in Georgia: from the Mountains to the Black Sea Batumi 10 days (GE-10)</u>, Price from £1,495, 10 days

HOW TO BOOK

Step 1 - Choose Your Holiday & Departure Dates

It is important that you choose a trip that is well suited to your interests, capabilities and experience. All our staff has first hand experience of a range of Best of Caucasus holidays and will be happy to talk to you about your chosen trip, enabling you to assess its suitability. We also recommend that you read the descriptions of the relevant region, general information about our services, booking conditions, and trip dossiers carefully. Once you know what tour is right for you, as well as your departure dates, you can start your booking.

Step 2 - Complete the Booking Form

Online: log on to <u>www.best-of-caucasus.co.uk</u> and open the tour you wish to book and click "Book now". To provide you with a more personalised and relevant experience in all your contact with Best of Caucasus, when you book online we ask you to register on our system. Once registered you can retrieve your bookings, update newsletter subscriptions, passenger and emergency contact details, submit special dietary requests, view invoices and receipts, download trip documents.

Email: alternatively, you can book your tour per email - <u>info@best-of-caucasus.co.uk</u>, or

Phone: call us on +44 (0)20 30 51 76 40

When booking by email or over the phone please confirm your personal details (full name and address), chosen tour, departure date, package type (hotel category), and available upgrades.

Step 3 - Confirmation of your booking

On receipt of your booking form, we will make any necessary reservations for you and send you confirmation invoice,

including the flight details, and additional information about your destination: advice on visas, vaccinations and what to take. The invoice will also show you the exact due date of the payment.

Step 4 - Payment

Please note, if your departure date is more than 56 days you will need to pay the deposit, which should cover the full cost of the flight (if applicable), plus 10% of the land-only arrangements (minimum £100) per person towards your tour. The outstanding payment must be made 56 days prior to departure. If you book less than 56 days before departure, full payment must be made at the time of your booking. You can make your payment by bank transfer, debit or credit card, cheque, bankers draft or postal order. You will find all relevant payment details in your invoice.

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On request we can organise an additional programme for you, please <u>inquire</u> about the price and availability of the optional excursions.

Please find below some space to write down your queries or comments regarding this trip.

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