# 5 Day Tour Golden Fleece Cultural & Sightseeing Tours

#### **Overview**

Golden Fleece

Starts from: KUTAISI

Available: MAY-OCTOBER

Distance: 663 km Duration: 5 DAYS

Type: Private Cultural Tour

The private tour **Golden Fleece** follows the trail of the Argonauts – Jason and a group of the mythical heroes from the ancient Greece who traveled to the early Georgian kingdom of Colchis for their quest to find the Golden Fleece.

The tour starts and ends in Kutaisi, <a href="Imereti">Imereti</a> region, and includes two more regions - <a href="Samegrelo">Samegrelo</a> and Zemo <a href="Svaneti">Svaneti</a>, nested in remote and inaccessible Great Caucasus mountains in the west Georgia. Visit Ushguli, the village, which is included in UNESCO list, towns <a href="Mestia">Mestia</a>, <a href="Zugdidi">Zugdidi</a> and <a href="Tskaltubo">Tskaltubo</a>, Prometheus karst caves and see the beautiful pikes of <a href="Ushba">Ushba</a> (4 700m), Tetnuldi (4,858m) and <a href="Shkhara">Shkhara</a> (5,193m).

Welcome to Georgia!

#### Tour details

• Code: GH-27

Starts from: Kutaisi

Max. Group Size: 15 Adults

Duration: 5 Days

#### **Prices**

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## Sights to Visit

- Ushguli Community
- Bagrati Cathedral
- Prometheus Cave
- Mestia Museum
- Dadiani Palace
- Kutaisi
- Mestia
- Lamaria
- Svaneti
- Samegrelo
- Enguri Dam
- Imereti
- Zugdidi

### **Itinerary**

# DAY 1: ARRIVAL. KUTAISI INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT

Distance: 27 km (30 min)

Arrival in Kutaisi International Airport. Transfer to the hotel.

Overnight in Kutaisi.

# DAY 2: KUTAISI - PROMETHEUS CAVE - ENGURI DAM - MESTIA

Driving distance: 243 km (5 h 31 min)

After breakfast at the hotel check out and start the tour to **Caucasus mountains**.

<u>Tskaltubo</u> town is next to Kutaisi, visit <u>Prometheus Cave</u>. Discovered in 1984, <u>Prometheus Cave</u> is one of the biggest and beautiful karst caves in Georgia. Take a walk along the 1.2 km long underground trail that is open for visitors and enjoy the look of stalagmites, stalactites and colorful curtains of pre-historic times. At the very end of the caves there is an optional boat trip, which operates if the underground river level is good for navigation.

Drive to the north-west and make a stop near the **Enguri hydroelectric dam**, one of the tallest concrete arch dams in the world with a height of 271.5 m.

Follow Enguri river upward stream to Zemo (upper) **Svaneti**. The mountain road is attractive, roaring waterfalls, panoramic views, narrow canyons – take time and make several photo stops.

Arrive in town <u>Mestia</u> – the administrative center of **Svaneti**.

Overnight in Mestia.

#### **DAY 3: MESTIA - USHGULI - MESTIA**

Driving distance: 95 km (3 h 16 min)

After breakfast at the hotel leave for one of the most attractive and exotic villages in Europe – **Ushguli** (2,100 m).

**Ushguli** is a community of four villages that is included in UNESCO World Heritage Sites list, as one of the highest continually inhabited places in Europe. There are about 200 self-defensive medieval towers in the village, which stand as a statement of equality, pride and bravery.

Visit <u>Lamaria</u> church. Take a walk towards <u>Shkhara</u> Glacier – the highest mountain in Georgia (5193 m).

In the evening drive back to **Mestia**.

Overnight in Mestia.

#### **DAY 4: MESTIA - ZUGDIDI - KUTAISI**

Driving distance: 251 km (4 h 51 min)

After breakfast, check out and leave for Kutaisi. If the weather is clear, take time and visit Hatsvali mountain lift (optional) towards Zuruldi (2340 m). The cable car operates only in calm weather. Fantastic panoramic overview opens on Great Caucasus mountains and on double pikes of <u>Ushba</u> glacier.

 \*Optional: Mestia museum keeps amazing collection of manuscripts, early medieval icons, wall paintings and unique ethnographic collection. Don't skip the site and visit museum before leaving Mestia.

Drive to Zugdidi -administrative center of Samegrelo region.

 \*Optional: Visit <u>Dadiani Palace</u> and its History and Architectural Museum – the former residence of the Mingrelian dukes. The museum complex includes: palaces of the <u>Samegrelo</u> queen Ekaterine Chavchavadze-Dadiani and Prince Niko Dadiani, court church, and the <u>botanical</u> garden.

After the tour in <u>Zugdidi</u> drive back to Kutaisi. Leisure evening.

Overnight in Kutaisi.

# DAY 5: DEPARTURE FROM KUTAISI INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT

Distance: 47 km (1 h 16 min)

Breakfast at the hotel.

Kutaisi city sightseeing and its surroundings.

Visit <u>Bagrati Cathedral</u> named after King Bagrati III
Bagrationy Dynasty. <u>Bagrati Cathedral</u> was built in early
11th century(1003) and presents a masterpiece of Georgian
medieval church architecture. The cathedral stands on the
hill at the heart of Kutaisi and is considered as a symbol of
the city.

Transfer to **Kutaisi International Airport** for departure.

### **Inclusions**

#### Included

#### Staff:

Private professional guide/driver service during the tour

#### **Transport:**

- 2 x transfers from/to Kutaisi airport by a comfortable car to the Kutaisi hotel
- Private transportation with good condition car for 5 days
- Additional transport 4 x 4 WD Jeep Delica service to Ushguli - on day 3

#### Accommodation in the hotels:

- 2 x nights in Kutaisi 4\* hotel Kutaisi Inn (or similar)
- 2 x nights in Mestia 3\* hotel Lahil (or similar)

#### Meals:

• 4 x Breakfasts - days 2, 3, 4, 5

#### **Entertainment and other:**

- 2 x bottles Water per person daily
- Excursions in accordance with the program
- Entrance fees in accordance with the program
- All taxes

#### **Excluded**

- Visa Fees
- Insurance
- Flight tickets
- Meals and alcoholic beverages

#### **More Info**

#### **Additional Info**

**<u>Dress code</u>** applies in churches and places of worship

1 person from the group will be FREE of charge if 10 and more adults are traveling together

### **Cancellation Policy**

Cancellation is free of charge prior 7 days of the starting day.

• The booking deposit 60 \$ is non-refundable.

If Tourist cancels the booked tour for some reasons not depending on Tour Operator, the following sums are kept back as a fine:

- 50% of the total cost of tourist product in case of tour cancellation 7 days or less prior to the tour;
- 100% of the total cost of the tourist product due to the Tourist's failure to appear.

# Gallery













