

17 Day Georgian Holidays

Cultural Holidays

From: 2060 €

Overview

Tour takes off in the capital [Tbilisi](#), and travels through every corner of [Georgia](#). Visitors are going to sightsee major cities and towns, provinces in the highlands of the Greater and Lesser **Caucasus mountains**, the shores of the **Black Sea**, natural wonders of the West Georgia, traditional wine-making areas in the east, and all major historico-cultural monuments of the country.

Tour is accompanied by professional and experienced guide and driver that will make your journey smooth, informational and unforgettable.

[Preview or download tour description file \(PDF\)](#)

Tour details

- Code: CHGH-02
 - Starts from: Tbilisi
 - Group Size: 12 Persons
 - Duration: 17 Days
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Sights to Visit

- [Svetitskhoveli](#)
- [Ushguli](#)
- [Bagrati Cathedral](#)
- [Gelati Monastery](#)
- [Jvari Monastery](#)
- [Sataplia Cave](#)
- [Uplistsikhe caves in Georgia](#)
- [Vardzia](#)
- [David Gareja](#)
- [Ananuri Architectural Complex](#)
- [Khertvisi Fortress](#)
- [Narikala Fortress](#)
- [Rabati Castle](#)
- [Holy Trinity Cathedral of Tbilisi](#)
- [Metekhi Church](#)
- [Gonio](#)
- [National Museum](#)
- [Bodbe Monastery](#)
- [Ioseb Stalin State Museum](#)
- [Svaneti Ethnographical Museum](#)
- [Tsinandali Museum](#)
- [Dadiani Palaces Historical Museum](#)
- [Gergeti Trinity Church](#)
- [Gremi Church of the Archangels](#)
- [Numisi Winery](#)
- [Twins Wine Cellar](#)
- [Bridge of Peace](#)
- [Batumi Botanical Garden](#)

Itinerary

DAY 1: TBILISI INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT – TBILISI

Meeting at the airport. Transfer to the hotel in Tbilisi.

Overnight at the hotel in [Tbilisi](#).

DAY 2: TBILISI CITY TOUR

After Breakfast at the hotel we start the exploration of the capital of [Georgia](#) – [Tbilisi](#). During the full day city tour we will visit the major attractions of the city. We start from the [Holy Trinity Cathedral](#) of Tbilisi (Sameba), the main Christian Orthodox cathedral in [Georgia](#). [Sameba](#) is also one of the tallest orthodox Christian churches in the world. Tour continues to [Metekhi Church](#), built in the 13th c. and located on the bank of the river [Mtkvari](#), on Metekhi Plateau. From [Metekhi](#) we move to [Rike Park](#), take an aerial cableway and ride up to the [Narikala Fortress](#). Ancient fortress of [Narikala](#) dates back to the 4th century, and is located on a mountain overlooking [Tbilisi](#). Throughout history [Narikala](#) served as a main fortification of the city. From [Narikala](#) we stroll down to the old districts of [Tbilisi](#) and visit several interesting sites: [Legvtakhevi](#) canyon with a small river and waterfall, natural [Sulfur Bathhouse District](#), [Shardeni street](#), [Meidan square](#) and the surrounding area that is full with outdoor cafes, art galleries and souvenir shops.

On day 1 we are also going to visit two museums: [Tbilisi History Museum](#) and [National Museum of Georgia](#) on [Rustaveli Avenue](#). [National museum of Georgia](#) has vast collection that includes artifacts from different periods of human history – from Paleolithic era till the medieval times, and rich ethnographic and archaeological collections presenting Georgian history, culture and art.

Overnight in [Tbilisi](#).

DAY 3: TBILISI – DAVID GAREJA – SIGNAGI

On day 3 after breakfast at the hotel we drive to David Gareja semi-desert to explore [David Gareja Monastery](#) in the caves of Gareja hill. Established in the 6th century, complex integrates hundreds of cave cells, living areas, churches and chapels. Part of the complex is located on the territory of Azerbaijan.

From [Gareja](#) we continue our way to **Kakheti** – major wine-producing region of [Georgia](#) – and arrive in [Signagi](#). [Signagi](#) is a small town located on the eastern foothills of **Gombori** mountain range, overlooking the valley of river **Alazani** and surrounded by the defensive medieval curtain walls.

Overnight in [Signagi](#).

DAY 4: SIGHNAGI – BODBE – VELISTSKHE – TSINANDALI – NAPAREULI – GREMI – TELAVI

Day 4 is dedicated to the exploration of **Kakheti**. After breakfast we drive to [Bodbe monastery](#) – originally built in 9th c. and renovated in 17thc., monastery nowadays functions as a nunnery, and is a popular pilgrimage site for the locals, as well as travelers. The monastery is closely associated with St. Nino – the Enlightener of [Georgia](#), and her relics are buried there.

From Bodbe we drive to village **Velistsikhe** and visit [Numisi Wine Cellar Museum](#). [Numisi](#) is one of the oldest wine cellars in **Kakheti**.

From **Velistsikhe** we head to **Tsinandali** and visit [House Museum of Alexander Chavchavadze](#). Alexander Chavchavadze was Georgian nobleman, military figure of Russian Imperial army, romanticist poet and a public figure of 19th century. Nowadays, Chavchavadze's residence, garden and wine cellar in Tsinandali operates as a museum.

After paying a visit to **Tsinandali** we drive to **Napareuli village**, located in inner **Kakheti** on the left bank of **Alazani** river. In **Napareuli** we are going to visit [Twins Wine Cellar Museum](#), where visitors can observe the whole process of making wine in transparent 500-liter pitchers: pressing, boiling, natural filtration etc.

Afterwards we drive to [Gremi](#). Architectural monument of [Gremi Royal Citadel](#) and the [Church of Archangels](#) is a remnant of a medieval town of Gremi that functioned as the capital of Kingdom of **Kakheti** in the 16th-17th centuries. Nowadays complex is composed of the Church of Archangels, a three-story castle, a bell tower and a wine cellar, and encircled by a medieval wall with turrets and towers.

After sightseeing [Gremi](#), we drive to [Telavi](#) town for dinner and overnight.

Overnight in [Telavi](#).

***OPTIONAL:** Visitors can taste Georgian Kvevri wine in both Numisi and Twins wine cellar museums for an additional fee. Kvevri is one of the major distinctive features of the traditional Georgian wine-making culture – a massive clay vessel buried in the ground where wine is fermented and stored.*

DAY 5: TELAVI – MTSKHETA – ANANURI – GUDAURI

On day 5 we after breakfast we leave [Telavi](#) and depart for **Mtskheta**. **Mtskheta** is a town located at the confluence of the rivers **Aragvi** and **Mtkvari**. Town served as a capital of ancient Kingdom of Iberia and is famous for two of its historical and architectural monuments: [Jvari Monastery](#) and [Svetitskhoveli Cathedral](#). Both of these monuments are recognized by the UNESCO as World Heritage Sites.

From **Mtskheta** sightseeing we continue our trip to the **Greater Caucasus** mountains. We drive on Georgian Military Highway and head to the north, towards the ski resort [Gudauri](#). On our way we make a stop at the [Ananuri Architectural Complex](#) (16th-17th c.c.) near **Zhinvali reservoir**, which integrates medieval fortification with churches and local feudals' residential buildings inside.

From [Ananuri](#) we continue our way to the north and get to [Gudauri](#) (2196 m).

Overnight in [Gudauri](#).

DAY 6: GUDAURI – KAZBEGI – GERGETI – DARIALI – GUDAURI

After breakfast at the hotel we start a full-day exploration of **Caucasus** mountains. We travel to **Kazbegi** (Stephantsminda) town – the administrative center of **Khevi** province. On our way we make a stop at the Cross Pass (2395 m) to taste local natural mineral waters. After arrival in **Kazbegi** we take an easy walk (approx. 2 hours) to **Mount Gergeti**. [Gergeti Trinity Church](#) (14th century) is situated on top of the mountain. From there we can enjoy panoramic views of **Kazbegi** town and **Kazbegi Glacier** (5047 m).

From **Gergeti** we return to **Kazbegi** town, and head to **Dariali** gorge and **Gveleti** waterfalls.

In the evening return to [Gudauri](#).

Overnight in [Gudauri](#).

DAY 7: GUDAURI – GORI – UPLISTSIKHE – KUTAISI

On day 7 we depart for Kartli region. After breakfast we leave [Gudauri](#) and drive to [Gori](#) – a town serving as regional capital of **Shida** (Inner) Kartli. We are going to visit House Museum of [Joseph Stalin](#) in [Gori](#), as the town is the birthplace of the Soviet leader.

From [Gori](#) we head to the [Uplistsikhe Cave Complex](#), dated as early as 1st millennium BC. Comprised of different chambers, tunnels, and streets, [Uplistsikhe](#) is an ancient rock-hewn town that served as an important political, economic and religious center of the region in the pre-Christian times.

From [Uplistsikhe](#) we continue our journey to the western parts of [Georgia](#) and get to [Kutaisi](#) city, administrative center of **Imereti**. On our way we make a few stops at the **Rikoti** pass and visit pottery and farmers' markets.

In the evening we arrive in [Kutaisi](#) and have excursions to two of its major historico-cultural sites: [Gelati Academy and Monastery](#) and [Bagrati Cathedral](#). Both of these monuments were built during the Georgian Golden Age and nowadays are included in the UNESCO World Heritage Sites list.

Overnight in [Kutaisi](#).

DAY 8: KUTAISI – ZUGDIDI – MESTIA

After breakfast on day 8 we are going to visit market in **Kutaisi** where local farmers are selling eco-friendly fruit and vegetables, as well as local Imeretian cheese.

Afterwards we head to [Sataplia Caves](#) and Natural Reserve, located in about 10 km from **Kutaisi**. **Sataplia** Natural Reserve is unique for its relict deciduous forests, karst caves and well-preserved footprints of dinosaurs.

From [Sataplia](#) we continue our journey to **Samegrelo** and drive to **Zugdidi**. **Zugdidi** is a town that serves as an administrative center of **Samegrelo-Zemo Svaneti** province. In **Zugdidi** we are going to visit [Dadiani Palaces](#) and its History and Architectural Museum. Complex comprises of two palaces, church and a botanical garden spread on 67 ha. Museum functions in the palaces of Mingrelian noble family Dadiani and houses various ethnographic, archaeological collections.

From **Zugdidi** we drive to the north and arrive in mountainous **Svaneti** province. On our way we make a stop at the **Enguri Dam**, one of the highest concrete arch dams in the world, constructed on the river **Enguri**. Afterwards we arrive in **Mestia** – administrative center of **Svaneti**.

Overnight in **Mestia**.

DAY 9: MESTIA – USHGULI – MESTIA

On day 9 we start exploration of **Svaneti** region. **Svaneti** is a mountainous region surrounded by the peaks and glaciers of the Greater Caucasus mountains. Province has become a popular tourist attraction for its well-preserved authentic architecture and lifestyle from medieval times.

After breakfast at the hotel we drive to the **Ushguli** community – one of the highest continuously inhabited places in Europe. **Ushguli** is comprised of 4 villages and has been included in UNESCO World Heritage Sites List. On our way to **Ushguli** we make a few stops at the villages of **Ipari** and **Kala** and to take a look at village churches with medieval frescos and murals.

We can also make an easy hike towards the foothills of **Shkhara Glacier** – the highest mountain peak in **Georgia**.

In the evening we get back to **Mestia** and visit **Margiani Museum**. Located in an ancient Svan housing estate, **Margiani Museum** presents authentic Svan lifestyle and dwelling to its visitors.

Overnight in **Mestia**.

DAY 11: MESTIA – BATUMI

On day 11 we start our trip by visiting Svaneti Museum of [History and Ethnography](#). Collection of museum includes various ethnographic and archaeological artifacts, old Georgian manuscripts, Georgian Orthodox icons painted in the Svan style etc.

Afterwards we leave **Svaneti** and drive to the south towards [Batumi](#) – the capital of the Autonomous Republic of **Adjara** and second largest city of [Georgia](#), located on the shores of the **Black Sea**.

In the evening after arrival in [Batumi](#) we are going to make a short city tour, visit **Piazza square** and take a walk on the boulevards of the city.

Overnight in [Batumi](#).

DAY 12: BATUMI – GONIO-BATUMI BOTANICAL GARDEN – BATUMI

After breakfast we head to [Gonio](#), 10 km from [Batumi](#), and visit [Gonio Fortress](#) – an archaeological site and historical monument, dating from 1st c. AD. [Gonio](#) was a well-fortified Roman city in Colchis in 2nd c. AD. Later it came under Byzantine rule.

Afterwards we drive to the Green Cape, where [Batumi Botanical Garden](#) is located. Officially opened in 1912 and later expanded during Soviet times, [Batumi Botanical Garden](#) has a vast variety of plants and trees from different climate zones.

In the evening we return back to [Batumi](#) city.

Overnight in [Batumi](#) hotel.

DAY 13: BATUMI – BORJOMI – AKHALTSIKHE

On day 13 we leave [Batumi](#) and drive to **Borjomi** spa-resort. After arrival we take a walk in the [Borjomi Park](#) and taste famous natural mineral waters from the springs. Mineral waters of **Borjomi** have been famous since the early 19th c., and are exported to more than 40 countries of the world.

Our trip continues to [Akhaltsikhe](#), a historical town and administrative center of **Samtskhe-Javakheti** region, South [Georgia](#).

Overnight in [Akhaltsikhe](#) hotel.

DAY 14: AKHALTSIKHE – VARDZIA

Day 14 is dedicated to exploration of [Akhaltsikhe](#) and its surrounding area. First we visit [Rabati Castle](#). The complex consists of the castle of 14th c., several churches, a mosque, synagogue, and a museum. The museum houses different manuscript, book, photo, archaeological and numismatic collections.

Continue exploration of **Samtskhe - Javakheti** province and drive along **Mtkvari** river to [Vardzia](#) monastery. On our way to Vardzia we make a short stop by the ruins of ancient [Khertvisi fortress](#).

[Vardzia](#) is a medieval monastery, founded in the 12th century during the reign of Queen Tamar of [Georgia](#). Located on the bank of river **Mtkvari**, complex is cut in rock and consists of multiple chambers, cave dwellings, churches and chapels situated on different floors and tiers.

Overnight in [Vardzia](#).

DAY 15: VARDZIA – TBILISI

On day 15 after breakfast we depart for [Tbilisi](#). We are going to pass through Javakheti volcanic plateau and make a few stops at the alpine lakes of **Sagamo** and **Paravani**, as well as the largest artificial lake of [Georgia](#) – Tsalka reservoir.

In the evening we arrive in [Tbilisi](#).

Overnight in [Tbilisi](#).

DAY 17: TBILISI – TBILISI INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT

Breakfast and check-out from the hotel. Transfer to the Tbilisi International Airport.

DAY 16: FREE DAY IN TBILISI

Breakfast and overnight in [Tbilisi](#) hotel.

DAY 10: MESTIA AND ITS SURROUNDINGS

Breakfast at the guesthouse. Visit Svaneti Museum of [History and Ethnography](#), which houses old Svan manuscripts, ethnographic and archaeological items, Georgian Orthodox icons painted in Svan style, etc.

Walk up to the tower-museum of **Margiani** (12th c.) to see how the locals were living in the medieval times. Have lunch in one of the local restaurants.

After lunch visit villages of **Latali** and **Lemjeri** located near **Mestia** town notable for its churches with medieval decorations, frescos and murals.

Dinner and overnight in **Mestia**.

Inclusions

Included

Staff:

- Professional English speaking guide service during the tour
- Professional driver service during the tour

Transport:

- 2 x APT-HTL transfers by a comfortable Climate Controlled car, minibus or bus
- Transportation with a comfortable Climate Controlled car, minibus or bus

Accommodation in the hotels:

- 4 x nights-Tbilisi
- 1 x night-Sighnaghi
- 1 x night-Telavi
- 2 x nights-Gudauri
- 1 x night-Kutaisi
- 3 x nights-Mestia
- 2 x nights-Batumi
- 1 x night-Akhaltzikhe
- 1 x night-Vardzia

Meals:

- 16 x Breakfasts-on days 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17
- 6 x Dinners-on days 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9

Entertainment and other:

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

Excluded

- Visa Fees (when needed)
 - Insurance
 - Flight tickets
 - Early Check Ins/Late Check outs
 - Alcoholic beverages
 - Extra personal fees
 - Services not mentioned in the program
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More Info

Additional Info

Cancellation Policy

Cancellation is free of charge prior 31 days of the starting day.

- The booking deposit 30 Euro (or a special sum for group tours and half day tours) is non-refundable in case of cancellation of the tour after booking has been confirmed. The fee is kept as a deposit on the Tourist's account for future booking(s).

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

- 10% of total cost of tourist product in case of cancellation 30 days prior to the tour;
- 50% of total cost of tourist product in case of tour cancellation 15-7 days prior to the tour;
- 90% of total cost of tourist product in case of tour cancellation 7 and fewer days prior to the tour;
- 99% of total cost of tourist product due to the Tourist's failure to appear at the airport no more than 2 hours prior to departure or non-admission on the flight owing to circumstances beyond the Tour Operator's controls.