



TAMADA *tour*

Georgia – a fairy-tale country, 9 days

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Additional information

Tour rates include: **accommodation** in comfortable *** hotels with **twin rooms and bathrooms**. **Additional accommodation** in the nights of arrival and departure. **Board:** two meals a day – **hotel breakfasts and substantial dinners in restaurants** serving Georgian and European cuisine. **Transfer** to hotel and from hotel to airport, **sightseeing in a small group** of 16 people, **care under** an English-speaking resident guide, who is available for you the whole staying, **care under** the Management of Tamada Tour in Georgia, **wine and chacha tasting, entrance to each and every chargeable places and more other attractions** like **Georgian feast Supra, shopping on local bazaars and marketplaces**, culinary workshops and visiting places tourists usually don't go to.

DAY 1. DEPARTURE

Participants gather at the airport. Check-in. Flight to Georgia.

DAY 2. TBILISI (distance: 20km)

Arrival in Tbilisi where we'll be welcomed by Tamada Tour guide, transfer from the airport to hotel. Rest. Breakfast. Sightseeing the beautiful capital city of Georgia: Tsminda Sameba (20th cent.), fortress of Narikala (6th - 8th cent.), tserkov Anchiskhati Basilica of St. Mary (5th - 6th cent.), tserkov Metekhi (13th cent.), Tbilisi Sioni Cathedral (11th -12th cent.), and the Tbilisi sulfur baths including the world famous Orbeliani Baths (19th cent.). Taking a gondola lift to see the monument of the Mother of a Georgian (20th cent.). Sightseeing the Tbilisi old town and monuments on Rustaveli Avenue: The Freedom Monument, the house of the former Parliament, theater, opera

erected in oriental style, philharmonic hall, the Kashveti tserkov (19th cent.), and old-time Palace of Caucasus Viceroy. Free time and dinner in restaurant with live music and dancing. Accommodation in hotel.

DAY 3. TBILISI – ANANURI – GUDAURI – STEPANTSMINDA - TBILISI (distance: 306 km)

Breakfast. We go through the Georgian Military Road to Stepantsminda (Kazbegi) to see an inactive volcano Mount Kazbek (5,033 m over the sea level). On the way to our destination we'll admire a magnificent fortress of Ananuri (16th – 17th cent.) which is located on the large water reservoir Zhinvali and by off-road cars we'll go to the world famous Gergeti Trinity Church (2170 m above the sea level), from which the snow-capped peak of the Kazbek can be spotted. Return to Tbilisi. Dinner on the go. Accommodation in hotel.



DAY 4. TBILISI-MTSKHETA-GORI-UPLISTSIKHE-KUTAISI (distance: 230 km)

Breakfast. We head to Mtskheta - the former capital of the Kingdom of Iberia, where we can admire monuments enlisted in the UNESCO Intangible Cultural Heritage List. We go up to the Jvari tserkov (6th -7th cent.) with a breathtaking view on the city and two main rivers Mtkvari and Aragvi. The next place is the Svetitskhoveli Cathedral (11th cent.) famous for religious artifacts and impressive frescoes. Free time. Another destination is nunnery Samtavro (4th cent.) in which Georgian rulers who converted to Christianity in 337 on behalf of the whole country are buried. The plan is to visit a rocky city of Uplistsikhe (5th cent.) a former home for rulers and a center of pre-Christian cult. We'll go to Gori a city famous for being a

birthplace of Joseph Stalin. We go further through the Surami Pass in order to get to one of the oldest urban complexes in the world – Kutaisi (17th -15th cent. B.C.) to recognizable for legends about Jason and Prometheus. Dinner. Free time. Volunteers can take a walk to the city center to see theater and opera house and a fountain with reproduced sculptures which were found in Georgia 5,000 years ago. Accommodation in hotel.

DAY 5. KUTAISI-GELATI-THE CAVE OF PROMETHEUS-BATUMI (distance: 179 km)

Breakfast. Sightseeing a present-day headquarters of the Georgian Parliament (since 2012) and the Bagrati Cathedral (6th cent., reconstructed in the 20th cent.), the Gelati Monastery (12th – 13th cent.) with its three tserkvs and Gelati Academy in which studied prolific Georgian and Greek philosophers. Moreover, the king David IV of Georgia (known as David the Builder) was buried in that place. The last attraction is the Cave of Prometheus. We'll go to Batumi - a seaside city located on the Black Sea coast. We'll go to the charming Botanical Garden (19th cent.). Dinner in restaurant. Free time. Evening concert with dancing fountains. Accommodation in hotel.

DAY 6. BATUMI-SARPI-GONIO (distance: 20 km)

After breakfast free time for sun baths and swimming, walk across the seaside boulevard where you can see harbor and the impressive Alphabetic Tower – an impressive sculpture depicting Georgian alphabet. Coffee break, free time. We go off to Sarpi, the westernmost point of Georgia located near the border with Turkey overlooking the mosque with minaret. On the way back, we can admire Gonio-Apsaros (2nd cent. B.C.), the Roman fortress, where as the legend has it Saint Matthias is buried. Dinner in Batumi. Accommodation in hotel.

DAY 7. BATUMI-BORJOMI-AKHALTSIKHE (distance: 326 km)

Breakfast. We head to Akhaltsikhe, which used to be headquarters for Russian army in tsarist times. Another attraction is the SPA resort town of Borjomi. Then, we take a walk across Borjomi Central Park (20th cent.) to taste this exquisite, sanative water directly from the spring. Dinner in restaurant. Accommodation in Akhaltsikhe.



DAY 8. AKHALTSIKHE-VARDZIA-TBILISI (distance: 327 km)

Breakfast. The first destination is the medieval architectural phenomenon: the town of Vardzia (12th – 13th cent.) - a cave monastery excavated in mountains at the height of 1,300 m above the sea level. We'll go sightseeing Khertvisi fortress (2nd

– 12th cent.) which was said to be destroyed by Alexander the Great and a medieval slave market. A small coffee break and return to Tbilisi. Dinner in restaurant. Accommodation in hotel in Tbilisi.



DAY 9. DEPARTURE

Preparation for departure. Dry provisions for breakfast. Transfer to airport.