

**PREMIUM**

**11D8N**

# GREAT CAUCASUS

TOUR CODE: MGYDA (Validity: Apr - Oct 2017)

*The spectacular mountain scenery, wonderful walks and picturesque old villages with ancient towers are all part of a trip to the Great Caucasus.*



SEVANAVANK MONASTERY, ARMENIA



## HIGHLIGHTS

### AZERBAIJAN

- Baku
- Maiden's Tower
- Shirvan Shahs' Palace
- Memory Alley
- Gobustan
- Market Square
- Maraza village
- Shamakhi
- Juma Mosque
- Yeddi Gumbez Mausoleum
- Lahic
- Sheki Khans Palace

- Metekhi Temple
- Narikala Fortress
- Sulfuric Bath Houses
- Sharden
- Mtskheta
- Svetitskhoveli Cathedral
- Monastery of St. Nino

### ARMENIA

- Haghpat monastery
- Dilijan
- Lake Sevan
- Sevanavank Monastery
- Garni Monastic Complex
- Erebuni Museum
- Etchmiadzin Cathedral

### GEORGIA

- Sighnaghi Town
- Bodbe Monastery
- Tbilisi
- Holy Trinity Cathedral



## DELICACIES

### Meal Plan

8 Breakfasts, 7 Lunches, 8 Dinners

### Specialities

- Georgian dish with cheese
- Traditional meal with folk music
- Grill Trout

## 4-5★ HOTELS

**AZERBAIJAN** Kempinski

**SHEKI** Palace

**TBILISI** Holiday Inn

**DILIJIAN** Haghartsin

**ARMENIA** Hilton Double Tree

\*Note: Hotels subject to final confirmation. Should there be changes, customers will be offered similar accommodations as stated in this list.

### DAY 1

#### SINGAPORE > BAKU

##### Meals on Board

Assemble at Singapore Changi Airport for your flight to Baku – the capital and largest city of Azerbaijan.

### DAY 2

#### BAKU

##### Dinner

Upon arrival, meet up with our local guide and begin city tour in **Baku**, the commercial hub of Azerbaijan. Start your walk in **Icheri Sheher** – the old part of the city, visit to **Maiden's Tower** and the **Shirvan Shahs' Palace** UNESCO Heritage site. Continue to the Memory Alley **Shehidler Khyabany** that opens up a great panoramic view of Baku city.

### DAY 3

#### BAKU > GOBUSTAN > BAKU

##### Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Today start excursion to Mud volcanoes and Museum of rock paintings "**Gobustan**". Gobustan (the territory of Gobu) is famous for its archeological monuments. Travel 30 miles southwest of Baku along the Caspian shore to the volcanic desert, where rocks covered with drawings stand amidst chaos of stones and mountains. There are more than 4,000 rock drawings left by artists of the Neolithic period. Thereafter, end of the day tour by visit to **Medieval Caravanserai** and **Market Square** with numerous art studios

and souvenir stalls.

### DAY 4

#### BAKU > SHAMAKHI > LAHIC > SHEKI

##### Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

In the morning, depart to Baku and drive to Sheki town. On the way, visit **Diri Baba mausoleum** in **Maraza village**. Continue to **Shamakha** and have a sightseeing of historical **Juma Mosque**, **Yeddi Gumbez Mausoleum**, and the **Shirvan Shah's family grave yard**. Drive through Girdimanchay River's canyon to visit Lahic, the 5th century place rich in its historic and architectural values. Lahic is an ancient village with charming eye-catching sidewalks inlaid by stones. It is famous for medieval water supply and sewage systems as well as traditional workshops making jewelry, copperware, carpets, pottery, daggers, and iron tools. Continue driving to **Sheki** for an overnight stay.

### DAY 5

#### SHEKI > SIGHNAGHI > TBILISI

##### Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

This morning, check out from hotel and start sightseeing tour in **Sheki**. Visit **Sheki medieval fortress**, **Sheki Khans Palace**, **local History Museum** and bazaar. Depart Sheki and head towards border with **Georgia**. After completed border formalities, start exploring the Eastern part of Georgia famous for its viticulture and winemaking traditions. Visit

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to **Bodbe Monastery** and **Sighnaghi Town**, one of the crossroads of the Great Silk Road surrounded by defensive walls with 23 towers. In the afternoon, head to **Tbilisi** for overnight.

## DAY 6 TBILISI

*Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner*

In the morning, have sightseeing tour in Tbilisi. Visit the **Holy Trinity Cathedral**, one of the largest orthodox cathedrals in the world. Continue to **Metekhi Temple** and **Monument of Vakhtang Gorgasali**, the legendary founder of Tbilisi. Visit to **Narikala Fortress** to enjoy breathtaking panoramic view of the city. Walk down to the district of **Sulfuric Bath Houses** passing by the only mosque in Tbilisi. Stroll through the Sharden area full of narrow streets with cozy cafés, wine tasting bars, souvenir shops, and breathe in the living past.

## DAY 7 TBILISI > MTSKHETA > SADAHLO > DILIJAN

*Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner*

After breakfast, drive to **Mtskheta**, one of the oldest towns, the cultural and religious centres of Georgia, it is included in the UNESCO world heritage list. Visit **Jvari Church**, a true architectural masterpiece of the early Medieval Period overlooking the confluence of Argyvi and Mtkvari rivers from the top of the hill. Then we visit **Svetitskhoveli**, the main cathedral of **Mtskheta** and a sacred place where the

robe of Christ is being kept. While here, you will visit **Monastery of St. Nino** at Bodbe, a Georgian Orthodox monastic complex. Then head to **Sadakhlo**, the border crossing to **Armenia**. Visit **Haghpat monastery**, UNESCO World Heritage Site. Stunning example of Armenian traditional architecture erected in 10-13th centuries stands on a hillside beautifully overlooking Debed River. Tonight will stay at Dilijan.

## DAY 8 DILIJAN > SEVAN > GARNI > GEGHARD > YEREVAN

*Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner*

Drive to **Lake Sevan**, "The Jewel of Armenia", it is one of the largest high-mountainous fresh water lakes in the world. Visit the **Sevanavank Monastery**, which is situated on the northwest part of the lake. Continue to the **Garni Monastic Complex**, which houses several historical and architectural monuments of the Hellenistic and early Christian era. In 2011, the Garni Complex received the prestigious award of the UNESCO-Greece Melina Mercouri International Prize. You will have your dinner and spend the night in Yerevan.

## DAY 9 YEREVAN > EREBUNI > EJMIATSIN > YEREVAN

*Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner*

One of the oldest cities of the world, Yerevan is famous as a pink city and calls visitors with its humble and at the same time splendid

landscapes. Start city tour visiting the **Yerevan History Museum**, its extraordinary collection of Bronze Age artefacts makes it Armenia's preeminent cultural institution and an essential stop on every visitor's itinerary. Next you will visit **Erebuni Museum**, it holds valuable and unique samples of the Urartian culture and displays 1,500 exhibits found during the excavations in **Yerevan**. You will then head to the **Etchmiadzin Cathedral**, the mother church of the Armenian Apostolic Church, which is located in the city of **Vagharshapat**. According to scholars it was the first cathedral built in ancient Armenia and is considered to be the oldest cathedral in the world.

## DAY 10 YEREVAN > TBILIS > SINGAPORE

*Breakfast, Meals on board*

After breakfast, drive towards Georgia and transfer to the airport for your flight home.

## DAY 11 ARRIVAL IN SINGAPORE

We hope you enjoyed your vacation with EU Holidays and we look forward to seeing you again for your next trip.

*Tipping Guideline: ((based on 11D8N)*

- USD 88 per person

*Note: Due to unforeseen circumstances, the sequence of the itinerary may be subject to change without prior notice. Visa is required to travel to Azerbaijan and Armenia.*