

TID8N GREAT CAUCASUS

MCGYDW | Winter Nov 2023 – Mar 2024



COUNTRY FOCUSED

Immerse yourself in the unique and vibrant offerings of the Caucasus, from its ancient churches and archaeological wonders to its diverse and dramatic landscapes; this destination will blow you away with its beauty and unforgettable sights.

VIEW OF OLD COLORFUL TOWN AND KURA
MTKVARI RIVER UNDER BRIDGES IN SUMMER TBILISI

SCAN FOR
DIGITAL COPY



Whisper
System



HIGHLIGHTS

AZERBAIJAN

- Heydar Aliyev Center
- Shirvanshah Palace
- Maiden Tower
- Gobustan National Park
- The Petroglyph Museum
- Mud Volcanoes
- Diri Baba Mausoleum
- Lahich
- Sheki Khans' Palace

GEORGIA

- Local Winery
- Sighnaghi Town
- Mtskheta
- Jvari Monastery
- Svetitskhoveli Cathedral
- Narikala Fortress
- Tbilisi Old Town City Tour
- Leaning Tower
- Ananuri Complex
- Russia-Georgia Friendship Monument
- Gergeti Trinity Church

ARMENIA

- Dilijan Town
- Lake Sevan Boat Ride
- Sevanavank Monastery
- Yerevan City Tour
- Armenian Genocide Memorial
- Garni Pagan Temple
- Geghard Monastery
- Echmiadzin Cathedral
- Zvartnots Cathedral
- Khor Virap Monastery

EU TRAVEL TIPS

• Fly in Azerbaijan Out Armenia - No Backtrack



DELICACIES

Meal Plan

8 Breakfasts, 8 Lunches, 8 Dinners

4-5★ HOTELS

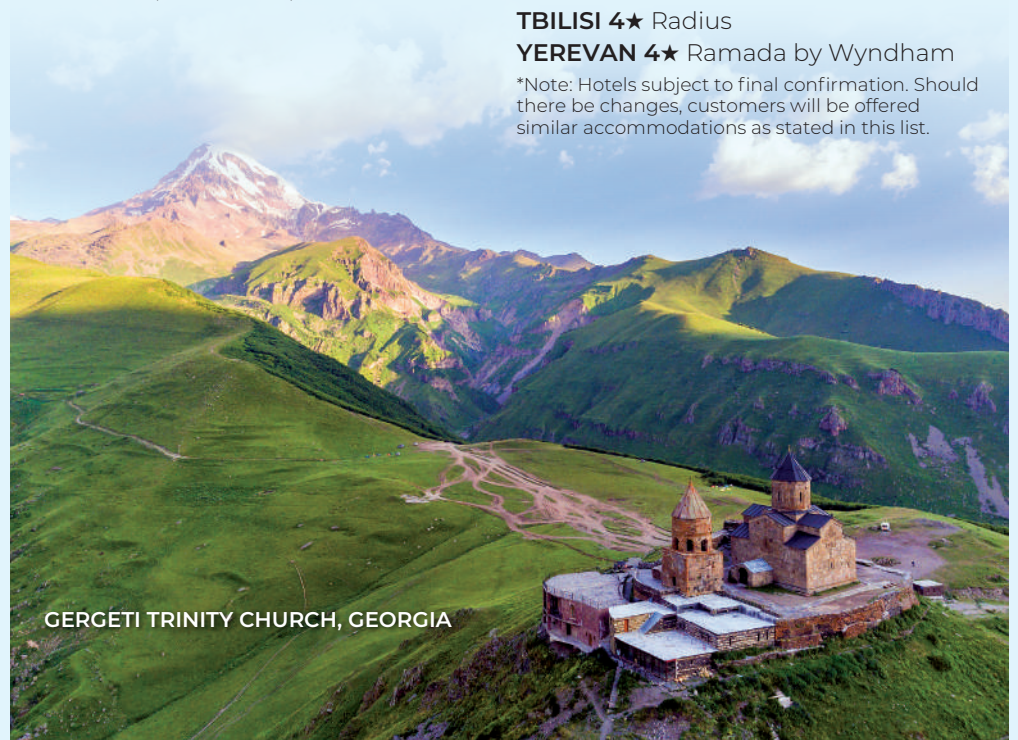
BAKU 5★ Hyatt Regency

SHEKI 5★ Marxal

TBILISI 4★ Radius

YEREVAN 4★ Ramada by Wyndham

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



GERGETI TRINITY CHURCH, GEORGIA

01 HOME ▶ BAKU (AZERBAIJAN)

Meals on Board

Assemble at the airport for your flight to **Baku**, the capital and commercial hub of Azerbaijan.

02 BAKU ▶ QOBUSTAN ▶ BAKU

Lunch - Chicken Saj, Dinner - Assorted Kebabs

Upon arrival, you'll be welcomed by your Azerbaijan guide and depart for a city tour of Baku. Stop for some photos at the **Heydar Aliyev Center** (out view), an iconic architectural landmark designed by Zaha Hadid with signature flowing curves. Then proceed to **Icheri Sheher**, the oldest part of the city. Visit the **Shirvanshah's Palace**, **Maiden Tower**, old caravanserais, and a market square brimming with numerous art studios and souvenir stalls. Thereafter, indulge in scenic vistas of modern Baku and the Flame Towers on your coach. Continue on to **Gobustan National Park** to visit the **Petroglyph Museum** and explore rock carvings dating back to 40,000 BC. The Gobustan Rock Art Cultural Landscape is a UNESCO World Heritage Site. If the weather permits, drive to the mud volcanoes in Gobustan Reserve (change of vehicle), where you'll find almost half of the world's **mud volcanoes**. Return to the city for an authentic local dinner at the museum-like traditional restaurant for some tasty Azeri food.

03 BAKU ▶ SHAMAKHI ▶ LAHICH ▶ SHEKI

Breakfast, Lunch - Grilled Fish, Dinner - Lamb Pilaf

Leaving Baku, depart for the Caucasus Mountains in the northwest of Azerbaijan. On the way, stop by the **Diri Baba Mausoleum** in Maraza Village. Visit the charming village of **Lahij**, a centre of Azerbaijani handicrafts, before arriving at the historic town of Sheki. Visit the **Sheki Khans' Palace** with its magnificent frescos and exquisite stained-glass work.

04 SHEKI ▶ GEORGIA BORDER ▶ KAKHETI ▶ SIGHNAGHI ▶ TBILISI

Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Enjoy early breakfast before head towards the border to meet your Georgian guide. Visit **Winery Khareba**, the unique wine cellar located in the tunnel carved out of the rock. Enjoy wine tasting

along with the local Chacha and lunch at the restaurant. Then travel on to **Sighnaghi**, a small town lined with buildings in the style of South Italian classicism, mountain fortress walls surrounding Sighnaghi's old part of the town and towers around offering stunning views of the Alazani Valley. Drive to Tbilisi for the night.

05 TBILISI ▶ MTSKHETA ▶ TBILISI

Breakfast, Lunch, Folk Show Dinner
After breakfast, drive to **Mtskheta** – the ancient capital of eastern Georgia. Visit its wealth of UNESCO Heritage Sites, such as the **Jvari Monastery**, a medieval monument perched on a cliff top overlooking the city and **Svetitskhoveli Cathedral**, a masterpiece of the Early Middle Ages. Afterwards return to Tbilisi, take in the sights and sounds of the capital as you embark on a city tour of Tbilisi's Old Town. Ascend to the ancient **Narikala Fortress** by cable car, soaking up the panoramic views of the city. Next to **Meidan Square**, from there you'll wind your way along narrow streets and stroll past the patterned balconies and colourful facades that are so characteristic of this city. See the famous **leaning clock tower** next to Rezo Gabriadze Theatre. As night falls, enjoy a traditional Georgian meal and be entertained by folk dances and musical performances at a local restaurant.
Note: Cable car rides are subject to weather conditions.

06 TBILISI ▶ ANANURI ▶ STEPANTSMINDA ▶ TBILISI

Breakfast, Lunch, Thai Dinner
Drive north towards the northern part of Caucasus along the well-known Georgian Military Road. Along the way, stop by **Ananuri**, a 17th-century castle complex situated along the shimmering turquoise waters of Aragvi River. Snap some photos at the **Russia-Georgia Friendship Monument**, a cylindrical viewpoint that offers breathtaking vistas of the Caucasus mountain range. From Gudauri, a drive along the Terek River will bring you to **Stepantsminda** – the main town in the region. From here, change to 4WD vehicle through beautiful valleys and lush woods to the iconic **Gergeti Trinity Church**. On a clear day you might even be able to catch a glimpse of one of the highest glaciers in the Caucasus snaking down Mt Kazbek. Return to Tbilisi for dinner and a night's rest.

07 TBILISI ▶ ARMENIA BORDER ▶ DILIJAN ▶ LAKE SEVAN ▶ YEREVAN

Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Get an early start this morning as you head south to the Georgian-Armenian border. After immigration, meet your Armenian guide and drive to **Dilijan**. Strolling at the Sharambeyan Street, which is one of the oldest streets of the city, you may buy souvenirs and see the life of the small city. After lunch, drive to **Lake Sevan** which is one of the largest high-mountain freshwater lakes in the world. Enjoy boat rides on the Lake Sevan to admire the beauty of blue pearl of Armenian highland. Afterwards visit the **Sevanavank Monastery** which is situated on Sevan Peninsula. Then head towards to Yerevan for overnight.



08 YEREVAN ▶ GARNI ▶ GEGHARD ▶ YERAVAN

Breakfast, Local House Lunch, Chinese Dinner

Begin Yerevan city tour to see the **Cascade Monument**, **The House of Opera**, **Republic Square** and **Mashtoc Avenue**. You will have chances shopping at the **Gum Market** offers a variety of fresh and dry fruits, nuts and teas. Continue to the **Armenian Genocide memorial complex** on the hill of Tsitsernakaberd. Before a scenic drive brings you to **Garni**, you will meet a local family who will teach you how to make Armenia's national flatbread lavash paired with cheese and greens. Photo stop at **Charents Arch** for stunning view of Mount Ararat. Discover the pagan **temple of Garni**, which stands on a high plateau overlooking an



11D8N Great Caucasus



CASCADE, YERAVAN



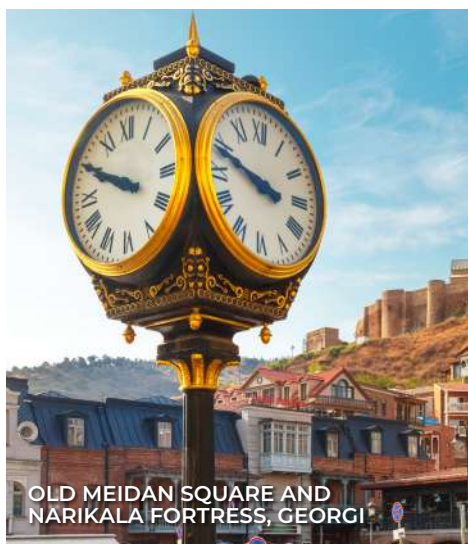
KHOR VIRAP MONASTERY

incredibly beautiful scene. Continue your discoveries with the astonishing monastic complex of **Geghard** with its architectural solution churches drilled into the solid rock.

09 YEREVAN ▶ ECHMIADZIN ▶ ZVARTNOTS ▶ KHOR VIRAP ▶ YEREVAN

Breakfast, Local School Lunch, Dinner

Head to visit the first cathedral built in ancient Armenia **Echmiadzin Cathedral** and the 7th century ruins of **Zvartnots Cathedral**, an outstanding monument of world architecture. Both sites are listed on UNESCO World Heritage list. Tuck into an authentic lunch in a local art

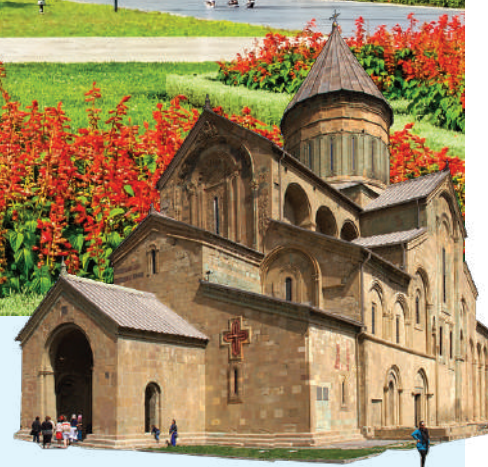


OLD MEIDAN SQUARE AND NARIKALA FORTRESS, GEORGI

school before departing for the beautiful **Khor Virap Monastery** – its excellent location on a spur above the Ararat Valley offers spectacular views of the majestic Mount Ararat. Tonight, you'll end with a Farewell Dinner in a traditional Armenian tavern, paired with folk songs and dance.

10 YEREVAN ▶ HOME

Breakfast
Enjoy some free time to explore at leisure before transferring to Yerevan Airport for your flight home.



Suggested Excursions:

Additional activities that complement your holidays will be at your own discretion and is entirely optional.

*minimum group size may apply and subjected to weather condition.

- Garni Gorge by 4WD: USD15
- Day tour to Gyumri City with lunch: USD80

Service Fee Guideline:

(based on 11D8N)

- USD110 per person

Notes:

- A minimum group size of 15 passengers is required for a confirmed departure.
- The sequence of the itinerary, flight schedules and hotels are subject to change without prior notice in the event of unforeseen circumstances.
- Entry visa is required to Azerbaijan.
- During the crossing of border, a short walk with the luggage will be required due to custom regulations.

11 HOME SWEET HOME

We hope you have had enjoyed your trip with our company. We look forward in seeing you again for your next trip.