

Best of Armenia - 8 days

AM-02

This eight day tour offers the chance to travel to many of Armenia's most important cultural sites. You'll tour many of the country's captivating monasteries - each has a spectacular setting and you won't tire of such a varied programme. As well as the monasteries of Geghard, Sevanavank, Noravank, Khor Virap, Sanahin and Haghpat, you'll get the chance to explore Armenia's delightful capital Yerevan, taste local wine in Areni and also to visit the spa town of Dilijan.

DEPARTURE DATES: 02.06.2022; 09.06.2022; 16.06.2022; 23.06.2022; 30.06.2022; 07.07.2022; 14.07.2022; 21.07.2022; 28.07.2022; 04.08.2022; 11.08.2022; 18.08.2022; 25.08.2022; 01.09.2022; 08.09.2022; 15.09.2022; 22.09.2022; 29.09.2022; 06.10.2022; 13.10.2022; 20.10.2022; 27.10.2022; 03.11.2022; 10.11.2022.

ITINERARY

Day 1 - Yerevan

We'll meet you at the airport and transfer you to your centrally located hotel in the Armenian capital Yerevan. Overnight in Yerevan. (D)

Day 2 - Yerevan - Ejmiatsin - Zvartnots - Yerevan

Yerevan's a charming capital and though it boasts plenty of Soviet-era architecture, there's also much history and a vibrant café culture. This morning's city tour will show you such highlights as the Singing Fountains of Republic Square, the antiques and crafts of the Vernissage market and the ancient manuscripts of the Matenadaran. You'll get the chance to orient yourself as we take the escalators to the top of the Yerevan Cascade, from where Mount Ararat is visible on a clear day. This afternoon's programme takes us to the oldest cathedral in the country at Echmiadzin and also to the 7th century Zvartnots Cathedral. Dinner tonight is in Yerevan. Overnight in Yerevan. (B, D)

Day 3 - Yerevan - Garni - Geghard - Yerevan

Close to Yerevan you'll find two very different but equally compelling sights: the Temple of Garni and Geghard Monastery. 1st century Garni is an Ionic pagan temple built in Greco-Roman style. It was destroyed in a 17th century earthquake but was built three centuries later. Nearby Geghard Monastery is on the UNESCO World Heritage List. Founded by Gregory the Illuminator, you'll see through to the church below from a hole in the floor. There's also a spring which Armenians consider sacred. From there, we'll head back to Yerevan where you can get to know the city a little better. Overnight in Yerevan. (B, D)

Day 4 - Yerevan - Khor Virap - Noravank - Areni - Yerevan

In the morning, the snow-capped peak of Mount Ararat across the border in Turkey looms large on the horizon. It's just one of the reasons why a visit to Khor Virap Monastery is so rewarding. Noravank Monastery's location if anything is even more fantastic. Approach along a narrow canyon and this religious complex appears, famed for its carvings of Jesus with Peter and Paul. Steep steps run up the outside of the church above its door and the views from the first floor, if you can handle the ascent, are incredible. Last stop today is at Areni, where we'll taste local wines at a popular winery. Overnight in Yerevan. (B, D)

Day 5 - Yerevan - Sevan - Dilijan

We'll take an excursion out of Yerevan to visit Armenia's most beautiful lake. Sevanavank Monastery is located on a hilltop and from it there are breathtaking panoramic views of the lake. In the churchyard, take a look at the intricately carved stones, known as khatchkhars. From Sevan, we'll drive to the nearby spa town of Dilijan, where we can visit the Geological Museum and Art Gallery which displays archaeological pieces and works of art. There are also plenty of craft workshops in town where you can pick up a souvenir or two. Overnight in Dilijan. (B, D)

Day 6 - Dilijan - Haghpat - Sanahin - Lermontovo - Goshavank - Dilijan

The twin monasteries of Haghpat and Sanahin face off across the Debed Canyon. Haghpat is a mediaeval complex largely completed in the 9th century. Grey stone is topped with terracotta roof tiles, but it's the floor that's most interesting - the holes in it were originally designed to keep wine cool. Sanahin is Haghpat's twin; its

name means "older than that one". The floor of the cavernous interior is covered with tombstones, though it's considered good luck to step on them as it's thought doing so will free the dead of their sins. From there, we'll head to the village of Lermontovo, named after the Russian poet Mikhail Lermontov, who's often called "the poet of the Caucasus". Our final stop is at the 12th century monastery of Goshavank before we return to Dilijan for dinner. Overnight in Dilijan. (B, D)

Day 7 - Dilijan - Yerevan

Today, we'll retrace our steps and return to Yerevan. The drive takes about two hours from Dilijan so there'll be plenty of time today to fit in some independent sightseeing. Overnight in Yerevan. (B, D)

Day 8 - Yerevan

After what's been a fascinating and enjoyable week, it's time to return to the airport in good time to catch your flight home. (B)

TOUR INCLUSIONS AND OPTIONAL EXTRAS

Included

[International flights](#)
[Accommodation](#)
[Guided tours & cultural programme](#)
 English - speaking guides
[Half board meals](#)
[Evening entertainment](#)
[Ground transportation](#)
[Airport transfers](#)

Not included

[Personal travel insurance](#)
[Optional excursions](#)

Practical information

[About Best of Caucasus company](#)
[Book with confidence - covid FAQs](#)
[Contact our travel consultants](#)

AVAILABLE PACKAGES

COMFORT - 3* PACKAGE

Dates	Excl. flights	Incl. flights*	Single suppl.
02/06/2022 - 09/06/2022	£1295	£1695	£175
09/06/2022 - 16/06/2022	£1295	£1695	£175
16/06/2022 - 23/06/2022	£1295	£1695	£175
23/06/2022 - 30/06/2022	£1295	£1695	£175
30/06/2022 - 07/07/2022	£1295	£1695	£175
07/07/2022 - 14/07/2022	£1295	£1695	£175
14/07/2022 - 21/07/2022	£1295	£1695	£175
21/07/2022 - 28/07/2022	£1295	£1695	£175
28/07/2022 - 04/08/2022	£1295	£1695	£175
04/08/2022 - 11/08/2022	£1295	£1695	£175
11/08/2022 - 18/08/2022	£1295	£1695	£175
18/08/2022 - 25/08/2022	£1295	£1695	£175
25/08/2022 - 01/09/2022	£1295	£1695	£175
01/09/2022 - 08/09/2022	£1295	£1695	£175
08/09/2022 - 15/09/2022	£1295	£1695	£175
15/09/2022 - 22/09/2022	£1295	£1695	£175
22/09/2022 - 29/09/2022	£1295	£1695	£175
29/09/2022 - 06/10/2022	£1295	£1695	£175
06/10/2022 - 13/10/2022	£1295	£1695	£175
13/10/2022 - 20/10/2022	£1295	£1695	£175
20/10/2022 - 27/10/2022	£1295	£1695	£175
27/10/2022 - 03/11/2022	£1295	£1695	£175
03/11/2022 - 10/11/2022	£1295	£1695	£175
10/11/2022 - 17/11/2022	£1295	£1695	£175

PREMIUM - 4* PACKAGE

Dates	Excl. flights	Incl. flights*	Single suppl.
02/06/2022 - 09/06/2022	£1495	£1895	£195
09/06/2022 - 16/06/2022	£1495	£1895	£195
16/06/2022 - 23/06/2022	£1495	£1895	£195

23/06/2022 - 30/06/2022	£1495	£1895	£195
30/06/2022 - 07/07/2022	£1495	£1895	£195
07/07/2022 - 14/07/2022	£1495	£1895	£195
14/07/2022 - 21/07/2022	£1495	£1895	£195
21/07/2022 - 28/07/2022	£1495	£1895	£195
28/07/2022 - 04/08/2022	£1495	£1895	£195
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25/08/2022 - 01/09/2022	£1495	£1895	£195
01/09/2022 - 08/09/2022	£1495	£1895	£195
08/09/2022 - 15/09/2022	£1495	£1895	£195
15/09/2022 - 22/09/2022	£1495	£1895	£195
22/09/2022 - 29/09/2022	£1495	£1895	£195
29/09/2022 - 06/10/2022	£1495	£1895	£195
06/10/2022 - 13/10/2022	£1495	£1895	£195
13/10/2022 - 20/10/2022	£1495	£1895	£195
20/10/2022 - 27/10/2022	£1495	£1895	£195
27/10/2022 - 03/11/2022	£1495	£1895	£195
03/11/2022 - 10/11/2022	£1495	£1895	£195
10/11/2022 - 17/11/2022	£1495	£1895	£195

ALTERNATIVE TOURS AND TAILOR-MADE ARRANGEMENTS

In addition to organized group tours, we also offer individual trips. This could be an entirely separate holiday arrangement or an extension to a regular "Best of Caucasus" trip. Whether you would like to travel independently, or just with the group of your friends or colleagues, we can help to realise your holiday plans. Depending on your preference for either comfort or budget, we can help you to design the ideal itinerary and provide the optimal value-for-money quote. Please [contact us for a quote](#).

Based on your chosen tour we believe you might be interested in alternative trips listed below:

- > [Discover Armenia, Georgia and Azerbaijan - 16 days \(CT-02\)](#), Price from £2,745, 16 days
- > [Highlights of Iran and Armenia - 15 days \(CT-04\)](#), Price from £2,595, 15 days
- > [Great Armenian Discovery - 10 days \(AM-03\)](#), Price from £1,695, 10 days

HOW TO BOOK

Step 1 - Choose Your Holiday & Departure Dates

It is important that you choose a trip that is well suited to your interests, capabilities and experience. All our staff has first hand experience of a range of Best of Caucasus holidays and will be happy to talk to you about your chosen trip, enabling you to assess its suitability. We also recommend that you read the descriptions of the relevant region, general information about our services, booking conditions, and trip dossiers carefully. Once you know what tour is right for you, as well as your departure dates, you can start your booking.

Step 2 - Complete the Booking Form

Online: log on to www.best-of-caucasus.co.uk and open the tour you wish to book and click "Book now". To provide you with a more personalised and relevant experience in all your contact with Best of Caucasus, when you book online we ask you to register on our system. Once registered you can retrieve your bookings, update newsletter subscriptions, passenger and emergency contact details, submit special dietary requests, view invoices and receipts, download trip documents.

Email: alternatively, you can book your tour per email - info@best-of-caucasus.co.uk, or

Phone: call us on **+44 (0)20 30 51 76 40**

When booking by email or over the phone please confirm your personal details (full name and address), chosen tour, departure date, package type (hotel category), and available upgrades.

Step 3 - Confirmation of your booking

On receipt of your booking form, we will make any necessary reservations for you and send you confirmation invoice, including the flight details, and additional information about your destination: advice on visas, vaccinations and what to take. The invoice will also show you the exact due date of the payment.

Step 4 - Payment

Please note, if your departure date is more than 56 days you will need to pay the deposit, which should cover the full cost of the flight (if applicable), plus 10% of the land-only arrangements (minimum £100) per person towards your tour. The outstanding payment must be made 56 days prior to departure. If you book less than 56 days before departure, full payment must be made at the time of your booking. You can make your payment by bank transfer, debit or credit card, cheque, bankers draft or postal order. You will find all relevant payment details in your invoice.

On request we can organise an additional programme for you, please inquire about the price and availability of the optional excursions.

Please find below some space to write down your queries or comments regarding this trip.

A large area for handwritten notes, consisting of two columns of horizontal dotted lines.