

## Archeological Tour to Georgia

Escape the modern world and take a journey into the ancient archaeological sites of Georgia. From the medieval settlements to ancient cave towns, this Archaeological Tour to Georgia covers the most important must-see archaeological spots, stories and legends of this hidden country.

### Key information

Duration: 10 days / 9 nights

Best season: May – Beginning of October

Tour type: Small group / individual (starting from 2 persons)

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### What's included:

Transfer to / from the airport, accommodation in hotels (in double/twin rooms), breakfast, all transfers are performed by air-conditioned/heated cars/buses, English-speaking guide service during all days, all admission fees, wine tasting

### What's not included:

Air tickets, visa fee, medical insurance, lunches and dinners

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### Itinerary in brief

Day 1 - Arrival

Day 2 - Tbilisi City Tour

Day 3 - Mtskheta - Jvari - Svetitskhoveli - Dzalisa - Ananuri - Tbilisi

Day 4 - Bolnisi - Arukhlo - Bolnisi Sioni - Dmanisi - Tbilisi

Day 5 - Aspindza - Vardzia - Chobareti - Rabati - Akhaltsikhe

Day 6 - Borjomi - Vani - Sataplia - Kutaisi

Day 7 - Bagrati - Gelati - Tbilisi

Day 8 - Kakheti - David Gareji - Bodbe - Sighnaghi - Telavi

Day 9 - Tsinandali - Gremi - Shumi - Tbilisi

Day 10 - Departure



## Detailed itinerary

### Day 1

Arrival at the airport and transfer to the hotel.

*Overnight: Hotel in Tbilisi*

### Day 2

Archaeological tour to Georgia starts with the visit to the open-air Ethnographic Museum, located near Turtle Lake. The museum represents traditions of different regions of Georgia, illustrating traditional houses and farm buildings. During the excursion around the Old Town we visit to Sioni Cathedral (the V-VII centuries) and the oldest church in Tbilisi (VI century) - Anchiskhati church. After discovering the most historic part of the city sulphur baths, we reach Narikala Fortress by the cable car. Trip leads us to Betlemi Street where we explore city's unique and oldest buildings. Our last stop is at Georgian National Museum which offers the permanent exhibition "The Archaeological Treasury" and temporary exhibitions which are held periodically at the museum.

*Overnight: Hotel in Tbilisi*

*Meals: B*

### Day 3

This morning we make a short drive to the ancient city of Mtskheta. First we explore Svetitskhoveli Cathedral (XI century) – one of the most sacred places in Georgia. The robe of Jesus Christ is buried within the cathedral. Then tour continues to Jvari Monastery (VI century) which stands on a high hill overlooking the confluence of two majestic rivers Aragvi and Kura (Mtkvari). Trip leads us to Armaztsikhe-Bagineti open museum which is a Roman period archeological site. Our next stop is at Dzalisa Archeological Roman period site (Polish-Georgian Excavations). After exploring the medieval fortress of Ananuri, we drive back to Tbilisi.

*Overnight: Hotel in Tbilisi*

*Meals: B*

### Day 4

After breakfast we drive to Bolnisi town located in Kvemo-Kartli region to discover Arukhlo – Neolithic period Archeological site (German-Georgian excavations). After visiting to Tsughrughasheni church which is a Georgian architectural monument of the Golden age (XIII century), we continue to Bolnisi Local Museum. Next treasure on our way is Bolnisi Sioni basilica built in 478 – 493 years, where was found the first Georgian inscription. Trip leads us to Dmanisi - the motherland of the first Europeans. Here we visit Dmanisi Historical & Architectural Museum-Reserve which represents the medieval city site, where are held archeological finds.

*Overnight: Hotel in Tbilisi*

*Meals: B*

### Day 5

Leaving Tbilisi this morning we travel to Aspindza – urban-type settlement. First we visit Vardzia – cave monastery complex dating back to the 12th century. Thousands of caves have been carved out in the rock and form endless chain of passages and floors of caves. Then we discover Chobareti Georgian – Australian Excavations – Early Bronze period (Kura-Araxes culture). Our next archeological site is Rabati Fortress, where we explore the archaeological artifacts, ethnographic objects, church, mosque and synagogue. At the end of the day we drive to Akhaltsikhe to visit the Archeological Museum.

*Overnight: Hotel in Akhaltsikhe*



*Meals: B*

### **Day 6**

Today we head to Borjomi – beautiful resort, known for its spectacular nature and mineral water. Here we try mineral water from the spring in the Mineral Water Park and continue to Vani Archaeological Site (from 700 BC to 100 AD). Our next stop is at Sataplia forest reserve with a cave and prehistoric footprints of dinosaurs. Trip leads to Kutaisi Museum where we explore the unique items held in the museum.

*Overnight: Hotel in Kutaisi*

*Meals: B*

### **Day 7**

This day begins with the visit to Bagrati Cathedral - a masterpiece of medieval Georgian architecture and the symbol of united Georgia. After strolling through the ruins in the complex we continue to Gelati Monastery (XII century). This UNESCO Heritage Site is one of the most well-preserved frescoes of Georgian iconography. The complex comprises a monastery, an academy and a church.

*Overnight: Hotel in Tbilisi*

*Meals: B*

### **Day 8**

After breakfast we drive to Kakheti – the picturesque region, where the best and exclusive wines are made with love. First we discover the unique David Gareji monastery. This complex consists of 20 monasteries of the VI century, each of which is carved into the rock. Next we visit Bodbe convent, which is one of the major pilgrimage sites in Georgia, as here was buried St. Nino – the founder of Christianity in Georgia. Trip ends with the visit to Signaghi. This “town of love” is one of the scenic cities in Kakheti region with cozy streets, red roofed small houses and with a very charming atmosphere.

*Overnight: Hotel in Telavi*

*Meals: B*

### **Day 9**

On the last day of our trip we visit Tsinandali – the patrimony of famous Georgians-Chavchavadzes. This place is known of its amazing labyrinth-gathered with exotic trees in it and with cellars, where the unique collection of Georgian and European wine is preserved. The town of Gremi is our next place to visit. This old capital of Kakheti Kingdom was an important trading point on the famous Silk Road for centuries. At the end of the day wine tasting in Shumi winery awaits us.

*Overnight: Hotel in Tbilisi*

*Meals: B*

### **Day 10**

Transfer to the airport, departure.



### **Booking conditions**

The contract between you and MyGeo is considered confirmed once we received your application, discuss all the details and receive your deposit of € 50 (per person). Immediately after that, you will receive a tour voucher confirming all the details.

### **Payment terms**

As noted above, first you need to make a non-refundable deposit of € 50. That will provide our managers with the opportunity to start the tour organization. The final payment can be made after your arrival in Georgia in cash or by credit card.

### **Cancellation of the tour by the clients**

If you or one of the group members has to cancel the tour for any reason, please let us know in written form. Please, keep in mind that in this case, the deposit of 50 euros cannot be refunded.

### **Cancellation of the tour by the company itself**

Our organizers start to plan the tour many months before its beginning, and from our side the tour cannot be changed or canceled. However, due to the unforeseen circumstances such as weather conditions, we can make some adjustments to the route. But everything else will remain unchanged.

Please, note that the minimum number of participants in our tours is 2 people. If the tour does not have the minimum number of people, we will have to cancel the tour. In this case, we will notify you of the cancellation no later than 30 days before your tour beginning, and will refund the full amount, including the prepayment.

### **Rights and obligations**

In case of unavoidable force majeure circumstances, both parties are released from the obligations and responsibilities. If during the tour you have any complaints and dissatisfaction, please immediately inform us about that. We will do our best to solve the problem. If you do not inform us about that, then at the end of the tour, we will not provide the compensation. We also are not responsible for anything that does a tourist in his/her free time outside of the tour program.

