

# **Georgian Art Route**

Georgian art has evolved for millennia. With roots in rich archaic and ethnic traditions, it has grown along with the development of the Georgian statehood, starting from the ancient kingdoms of Colchis and Iberia. From the ancient monuments and fascinating old buildings to the contemporary art galleries and museums, there are so many reasons to travel to Georgia to develop your artistic skills and explore your passion for painting, sculpture, architecture and design. With our exclusive Art Tour to Georgia you will visit all must-see art places, get acquainted with the masterpieces of Georgian painters, explore art galleries and various museums. You will feel the tradition of Georgian art and get inspired for your new art ideas.

# **Key information**

Duration: 7 days / 6 nights Best season: May - October Tour type: Small group / individual (starting from 2 persons)

### What's included:

Private airport transfers according to your arrival time, Accommodation in hotels for 6 nights (in double rooms), Meals: breakfast, All transfers in air-conditioned/heated cars/buses, English speaking guide service for all days, All admission fees (Narikala cable car, National Gallery, Sighnaghi Museum, Mirzaani Niko Firosmani museum, David Kakabadze Museum, Prometheus cave, Batumi Botanical garden), Wine tasting and master-class (Khareba winery)

### What's not included:

Flights, Visa fee, Medical insurance, Lunches and dinners

# Itinerary in brief

Day 1 - Arrival Day 2 - Art Tour to Tbilisi Day 3 - Kakheti - Sighnaghi - Khareba Day 4 - Bagrati - Gelati - Kutaisi Day 5 - Prometheus Caves - Adjara Museum - Batumi Day 6 - Batumi - Mtskheta - Tbilisi Day 7 - Departure



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# **Detailed itinerary**

# Day 1

Arrival at the airport, transfer to the hotel. Free day to communicate with the city. From this very moment, your acquaintance with Georgia will start. In recent years, more and more tourists from around the world are choosing Georgia as an attractive tourist destination. Its fantastic mountain landscapes, unique culture and mouth-watering national cuisine don't leave anyone indifferent. With the help of our professional guide, you will plunge into the local culture and reveal lots of secrets. After your check-in at the hotel, you can stroll around the city centre, have a cup of coffee in the cosy cafes and feel the hospitality of Tbilisi.

**Overnight:** Hotel in Tbilisi **Meals:** Breakfast

# Day 2

Our Art Tour begins with city tour around Tbilisi – the charming capital of Georgia. Georgian National Gallery is an ideal place to start exploration of Georgian art. Here we can find temporary exhibitions such as "Georgian fine art masterpieces of the early 20th Century" and various permanent exhibitions. We visit Leselidze and Shardeni streets, famous with different art galleries and cozy cafes to have a cup of coffee. Tour leads us to the unique building decorated with colorful stained glass windows, which is located on Betlemi Street. The building's balconies are decorated with exquisite carvings and ornaments. After, we continue to the old town to explore some of the most colorful sites of this ancient city - Metekhi Temple, Narikala Fortress with a marvelous panoramic view of the city and Sulfur Baths, dating back to the time of Arab Khalifs. Our next stop is Tbilisi flea market – an open-air fair, where diverse souvenirs from the past soviet time can be found.

**Overnight:** Hotel in Tbilisi **Meals:** Breakfast

# Day 3

After breakfast we travel to Sighnaghi. This cozy city, called also "the town of love", is one of the scenic towns in Kakheti region with red roofed small houses. Sighnaghi is also famous for its amazing architecture and beautiful landscapes. The excursion will continue to Sighnaghi Historic-Ethnographic Museum which features diverse ethnographic material: musical instruments, weapons, vestments and items reflecting the lifestyle of the town. Signagi museum exhibits 16 paintings of famous Georgian painter Niko Pirosmani born in Kakheti's village Mirzaani; thereby the early period of his artistic career was affiliated with Kakheti. Next we visit Georgian winery "Khareba" where you will get acquainted with the art of Georgian traditional wine and cuisine. You will enjoy an interesting master class of national bread baking and churchkela making (national sweet).

**Overnight:** Hotel in Tbilisi **Meals:** Breakfast

# Day 4

This morning we travel to western Georgia to explore Kutaisi. The first UNESCO world heritage site in our tour program is Bagrati Cathedral (XI century). It is distinguished for its elegant proportions, grand size, facade composition, ornaments and relief carvings. We visit David Kakabadze Kutaisi Fine Art Gallery. The gallery houses collections of XIX-XX centuries Georgian artists: paintings, drawings, sculptures and applied art samples. The next treasure on our way is Gelati Monastery – the other UNESCO site of Georgia, unique for its mosaics and wall paintings. Gelati represents the flourishing medieval architecture. The complex comprises a monastery, an academy and a church with one of the most well-preserved frescoes of Georgian iconography.





# **Overnight:** Hotel in Kutaisi **Meals:** Breakfast

### Day 5

Today's excursion takes us to Prometheus Caves – one of the longest caves of Europe. They are characterized by the variety of underground rivers and breathtaking views on stalactites and stalagmites. After the boat ride on the underground river, we drive to Batumi – the pearl of Black sea, the most modern city and the best place for feeling the contemporary art. We visit Adjara State Art Museum which hosts paintings by famous Georgian and foreign artists (Niko Pirosmani, D. Kakabadze, L. Gudiashvili, E. Akhvlediani, S. Bakalovich, A. Zomer, A. Turn, N. Ignatov, A. Zankovski). Most of the visible monuments are situated in Batumi Art Center – the home of the Batumi State Symphony Orchestra, Batumi State Cappella, Batumi State Musical Center Opera Studio, Musical Theatre of Youth, and quartet "NOTA". Tour continues to Kemal Turmanidze Art Salon. It's a private studio owned by Kemal Turmanidze – a prominent master of a special woodcarving technique and a guardian of the distinctive traditions of living Georgian heritage. The master will show us his studio and his works and will demonstrate the techniques for us. On our way to the Batumi Boulevard, we stop to explore one of the most popular symbols of modern Batumi - Ali and Nino statue. This statue is a symbol of the eternal love and mutual understanding between nations. Walking around the Batumi Boulevard, we enjoy dancing fountains, Holy Mother Virgin's Nativity Cathedral, Batumi Sea Port, St. Nikoloz church, Piazza, Statue of Medea, and Alphabetic tower. At the end of the day, those who wish can enjoy cycling on the boulevard or visiting nice art cafés like Fanfan.

**Overnight:** Hotel in Batumi **Meals:** Breakfast

# Day 6

This day takes us to Tbilisi with short snack and coffee stops. On the way to Tbilisi we visit the ancient town <u>Mtskheta</u> - the spiritual heart of Georgia and a UNESCO World.

**Overnight:** Hotel in Tbilisi **Meals:** Breakfast

# Day 7

Transfer to the airport, departure.



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# **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  $\notin$  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  $\in$  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.

