



# TRAVEL ITINERARY 11 DAYS / 10 NIGHTS LAND OF THE GOLDEN FLEECE

Ancient Greek legends told of a fabulously wealthy land where Jason and the Argonauts stole the Golden Fleece from King Aeetes with the help of his daughter Medea. It was a distant land that was reached by the Black Sea and down the River Phasis. The actual site of this legendary kingdom has never been found but the Greeks must have been greatly impressed by the Colchis region of Georgia, through which the River Phasis (currently the Rioni River) runs, for such stories to have been born. Georgia contains immense cultural and historical heritage, being host to 150 museums and 12,000 historical landmarks, 3 of which are included in the UNESCO World Heritage list. Georgian traditional cuisine is one of the richest in the entire world. Georgia's beauty is legendary and takes many forms. From the cobbled streets and hidden squares of old Tbilisi to the breathtaking Caucasus Mountains, it is a varied destination and bound to delight even the most hard-ened of travelers.

#### DAY 1

Arrive in Tbilisi. Meet in the airport and transfer to Museum hotel Orbeliani. Dinner and overnight

#### DAY 2: TBILISI - MTSKHETA -ANANURI-KAZBEGI (B)

Breakfast at the hotel.

Drive to the direction of Mtskheta and visit the ancient capital and religious center of Georgia, Mtskheta (300 years old), and see its historical places: Jvari Church (6th century) and Svetitskhoveli Cathedral (11th century), where the Robe of Christ is buried.

Both Jvari and Svetitkhoveli are UNESCO World Heritage sites. A stunning drive from Mtskheta along the Military highway will bring you to Kazbegi. On your way to Kazbegi, rafting on the river Aragvi.

Afterwards you pass Ananuri Castle and Jinvaly water reservoir of amazing beauty. Overnight at Rooms Hotel Kazbegi.









#### DAY 3: KAZBEGI (B)

#### Breakfast at the hotel.

From Kazbegi 1.5- 2 hours walk up through beautiful valleys and woodland leads you to Gergeti Trinity Church located at 2170 m. Back to the Rooms hotel Kazbegi / Dinner and Overnight.



#### DAY 4: KAZBEGI - VFLISTSIKHE - KVTAISI (B,L)

After breakfast drive on to Gori town lying on the route of the Great Silk Road. Located in Eastern Georgia, Uplistsikhe (literally "Lord's Fortress") is an abandoned rock-hewn town, which once have played an important role in Georgian history. The place was founded in the late Bronze Age, around 1000 BC, and continued to be inhabited until 13th century AD. Between the 6th century BC and the 11st century AD, Uplistsikhe was one of the most important political and religious centers of pre-Christian Kartli – one of the predecessors of the Georgian state. Lunch break / afterwards drive to Kutaisi / check in the hotel Bagrati 1003 / Dinner and Overnight



#### DAY 5: KUTAISI - MARTVILI CANYONS -MESTIA (B,D)

After early breakfast exploring the cave of Prometheus and drive to the direction of Samegrelo Region. You will have the possibility to take a boat and explore the Dadianis' Path, mountain river gorge, limestone natural bridges, overview platforms, waterfalls and etc. Lunch break / Drive to Mestia / Dinner and overnight stay at the hotel.

### DAY 6: MESTIA - USHGULI - MESTIA (B,D)

#### Breakfast at the hotel.

Svaneti is Georgia's most mysterious mountain region is like a fairy tale come to life. The fabled region is renowned for its enchanting stone villages, punctuated by the famous defensive towers, and populated by a fiercely independent race, known as the Svans. Visiting the Svaneti Ethnographic museum. Drive to Ushguli (the highest settlement in Europe), visiting Ushguli's Lamaria. Afterwards back to Mestia / Culinary aster class of making traditional Svanetian food "Kupdari" Dinner and overnight at the hotel.

# DAY 7: MESTIA - BATUMI (B)

After breakfast drive to the direction of Batumi / Check in the hotel. Batumi—the "Pearl of the Black Sea," as it is often called—is located in the autonomous republic of Adjara. European architects undertook numerous projects in Batumi at the beginning of the 20th century, and today it remains a hub of architectural innovation. Visiting to Batumi Boulevard and Musical Fountains, St. Barbara's Church, St. Nikoloz church, Statue of Medea, Piazza, Batumi Sea Port, Alphabetic Tower, Moving sculpture of Ali and Nino / Dinner and overnight at Sheraton Batumi

## DAY 8: BATUMI - FREE DAY (B)

Breakfast at the hotel / free day / culinary master class of making Adjarian Khachapuri (optional)

### DAY 9: BATUMI - TBILISI (B.D)

Breakfast at the hotel. Drive back to Tbilisi (apx 5 hours) Tbilisi evening walking tour with tour guide. Your journey of discovering will take in the Sioni Cathedral and the 6th century Anchiskhati Basilica, the oldest church in the city, imposing 4th century ruins of the Narikala Fortress, which once dominated the city from its hilltop setting. Exploring the tiny and colorful streets of Tbilisi, buy some souvenirs. Dinner and Overnight at the hotel.

#### DAY 10: TBILISI - SIGHNAGHI -TBILISI (B,D)

Drive on to Kakheti- the largest wine producing region of Georgia, if you are after a relaxing time in discovering a totally new culture with unique wines and food that is still at the beginning of its fast-growing wine tourism, the Kakheti region is the place to be. Take a walk in the fortified town of Sighnaghi. Lunch and wine degustation at the Farmer's house, you will see how Georgian sweet "Churchkhela" (walnuts coated in grape juice and flour) is made and Georgian bread "Shoti" is baked. Drive back to Tbilisi / Overnight.









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