

Byroads
Inspiring Escorted Journeys

South Caucasus





SOUTH CAUCASUS

DISCOVER AZERBAIJAN, GEORGIA & ARMENIA

16 DAYS

AZERBAIJAN, GEORGIA & ARMENIA



DEPARTS FROM:
BAKU



MAX GROUP SIZE:
14 PEOPLE



PHYSICAL LEVEL
MODERATE

Nestled at the crossroads of Europe and Asia the South Caucasus is a truly captivating region. Like a trove of hidden gems, Azerbaijan, Georgia and Armenia await you on this immersive Byroads journey through time and tradition.



HIGHLIGHTS

- Old Baku
- Gobustan petroglyphs
- Mud volcanoes
- Heydar Aliyev Centre
- Ateshgah Fire Temple
- Flaming Mountain
- Sheki Khans Palace
- Caravanseraï stay
- Begaso Family Winery
- Gremi Archaeological Complex
- Bodbe Monastery
- Royal town of Sighnaghi
- Old Tbilisi
- Village of Mtskheta
- Gergeti Church
- Ananuri Castle
- Stalin Museum
- Uplistsikhe Cave Town
- Hagpat Monastery
- Sevanavank Monastery
- Armenian Genocide Memorial
- Garni Temple & Etchmiadzin
- Khor Virap Monastery & Mt Ararat
- Noravank Monastery

MEET YOUR HOST



Every Byroads tour is supported by an experienced Byroads Escort – a true travel professional with a genuine passion for travel and people, and who is also great company. They take care of all the nitty-gritty details to ensure your trip runs smoothly – and you can focus on enjoying the moment.

ITINERARY

DAY 1: FRI 28MAY2727 - BAKU

Arrive at Baku Airport and transfer to your hotel. Settle in and take some time to relax before meeting your group this evening. Your adventure through the fascinating Caucasus region begins in Azerbaijan's vibrant capital.

DAY 2: SAT 29MAY27 - BAKU

Take a guided tour of Baku's atmospheric walled historical centre, where narrow lanes and ancient buildings reveal the city's rich past. Wander through the beautiful Palace of the Shirvanshahs, once home to Azerbaijan's ruling dynasty, and later visit the National History Museum to discover more about the country's fascinating history. (B)

DAY 3: SUN 30MAY27 - BAKU

Take time to explore the striking Heydar Aliyev Centre, with its museum, gallery and fascinating exhibitions. Later, drive to Highland Park for panoramic views across the city and its spectacular Caspian Sea coastline. As evening falls, visit the memorial flame and admire Baku's famous trio of Flame Towers illuminating the skyline. (B)

DAY 4: MON 31MAY27 - GOBUSTAN, ATESHGAH AND BAKU

After an early breakfast, drive south to Gobustan National Park. Be guided through its ancient petroglyphs and museum before exploring the remarkable landscape of mud volcanoes. Marvel at the Fire Temple of Ateshgah, once a centre of Zoroastrian fire worship, then stop at Yanar Dag, the Flaming Mountain, where natural gas creates an extraordinary, ever-burning fire. Return to Baku. (B)

DAY 5: TUE 1JUN27 - SHAMAKHA, LAHIJ AND SHEKI

Rise early and head west towards Sheki. En route, wander through the ancient family graveyard of the Shirvanshahs at Shamakha, once an important centre of power. Travel through spectacular mountain scenery to the ancient village of Lahij, renowned for its traditional crafts and atmospheric stone streets. In Sheki, be guided through the ornate Sheki Khans Palace, one of the region's architectural treasures. (B)

DAY 6: WED 2JUN27 - GEORGIAN BORDER AND KAKHETI

Cross into Georgia and enjoy lunch with a local Georgian family in the village of Sabue. Learn about the unique qvevri wine-making tradition before enjoying a glass of fine Georgian wine at the Begaso family's winery. Continue to the impressive Gremi Archaeological Complex, built during the 16th century, before overnighting in the beautiful Kakheti wine region. (BL)

DAY 7: THU 3JUN27 - SIGHNAGHI AND TBILISI

Explore the expansive Bodbe Monastery, a major pilgrimage site to Saint Nino, just 2km from the royal town of Signaghi. Enjoy lunch overlooking the stunning Alazani Valley, then wander the old cobblestone streets of Signaghi, known as the City of Love. Later, continue to Tbilisi and settle into your hotel for your three-night stay. (B)

DAY 8 AND 9: FRI 4 & SAT 5JUN27 - TBILISI

Embark on a guided walking tour of Tbilisi, exploring the city's major highlights, historic streets and distinctive architecture. Stop at some of its charming coffee houses and bars and soak up the vibrant atmosphere. Wander the sprawling Open Air Museum of Ethnography to learn more about Georgia's diverse cultural traditions. Tonight, experience the warmth of local hospitality with traditional cuisine, music and dancing. (2B, 1D)

DAY 10: SUN 6JUN27 - JVARI, MTSKHETA, KAZBEGI AND GUDAURI

Drive north through breathtaking mountain scenery and visit the 6th-century Jvari Church, dramatically perched above the landscape. Wander through UNESCO-listed Mtskheta, Georgia's former capital and one of the country's oldest settlements. Then take a 4WD to the sublime Gergeti Trinity Church, with magnificent Mount Kazbegi looming behind. Take time to admire the spectacular scenery and capture some unforgettable photographs before relaxing in Gudauri. (B)

ITINERARY

DAY 11: MON 7JUN27 - ANANURI, GORI, UPLISTIKHE AND MTSKHETA

Reflect on Georgia's often turbulent history as you wander through the old castle complex of Ananuri and visit the Stalin Museum in Gori. Clamber over the ancient rock-hewn cave town of Uplistikhe, once a centre for pagans, Arabs and Christian kings. End the day with an unforgettable dinner and warm hospitality in the home of a local South Ossetian family. (BD)

DAY 12: TUE 8JUN27 - ARMENIAN BORDER, VANADZOR AND DILIJAN

Heading south, cross into Armenia to explore the ancient Haghpats Monastery, built between the 10th and 14th centuries. In Vanadzor, meet a local artist skilled in the medieval Christian Armenian art of crafting khachkar, the distinctive Armenian cross-stones. Continue through Armenia's beautiful mountain landscapes towards the forested town of Dilijan. (B)

DAY 13: WED 9JUN27 - LAKE SEVAN AND YEREVAN

Stroll the ruins of Sevanavank Monastery on the edge of Lake Sevan, the largest body of water in the Caucasus region. Stop to enjoy a tour of the Megheryan carpet factory and discover the skill behind Armenia's famous handwoven rugs. This afternoon visit the sombre yet peaceful Armenian Genocide Memorial to remember the 1.5 million Armenians exterminated during and after WW1 by the Ottoman government. Spend your first night in Yerevan. (BD)

DAY 14: THU 10JUN27 - GARNI, GEGHARD, ETCHMIADZIN AND YEREVAN

Rise early and visit the Temple of Garni, the only standing Greco-Roman colonnaded building in Armenia. Travel to Geghardavank, also known as the Monastery of the Spear, where tradition holds that the spear that wounded Christ on the Cross was stored for 500 years. Marvel at UNESCO-listed Etchmiadzin Cathedral, the mother church of the Armenian Apostolic Church, originally built in the early 4th century. (B)

DAY 15: FRI 11JUN27 - KHOR VIRAP, NORAVANK, ARENI AND YEREVAN

Drive to the Ararat plain and Khor Virap Monastery, dramatically backdropped by magnificent Mount Ararat. Continue to the 13th-century Armenian monastery of Noravank and its beautiful Holy Mother of God Church, set among striking red cliffs. In the village of Areni, sample local wines made from fruits such as pomegranate and apricot. Return to Yerevan for your final night. (B)

DAY 16: SAT 12JUN27 - YEREVAN

Breakfast concludes your tour. Take some final time to enjoy Yerevan before departing. Taxis to the airport are available, or Byroads can organise a transfer on request. (B)

WHAT'S INCLUDED

GUIDES

- ✓ Byroads tour host and national and local guides

TRANSPORT

- ✓ Arrival transfer, private minibus, 1 day in 4WD

ACCOMMODATION

- ✓ 15 nights (3 to 4-star hotel average, *caravanserai 2-star)

MEALS

- ✓ 15 breakfasts, 2 lunches, 2 dinners

TICKETS

- ✓ Entrance fees to indicated sites

WHAT'S NOT INCLUDED

We'd love to do it all for you. But there are a few things you'll need to arrange yourself. This includes you:

- Visa
- Travel insurance (compulsory)
- Departure transfer
- International flights
- Additional meals and drinks
- Cash for tipping kitty
- Optional tours
- Spending of a personal nature
- Laundry



GETTING THERE: FLIGHTS AND TRANSFERS

You can book your flights online or via your travel agent. Emirates, Qatar, and Etihad Airlines operate flights to Baku through the Gulf, and you can stop over en route.

Your arrival transfer is included in your tour cost – however, your departure transfer is not. We can organise one upon request.

ACCOMMODATION

Byroads accommodation is a destination unto itself. We choose our hotels carefully to ensure a seamless transition from your day exploring to a night of relaxation. Think traditional architecture blended with modern comforts – and plenty of views.

HIGHLIGHTS INCLUDE:



Shah Palace Hotel, Baku

This 4-star hotel is brilliantly located in historic Baku Old City. Luxuriously decorated, its architecture combines stunning classical and national patterns.



Babaneuris Marani Hotel Boutique Winery

Nestled in the foothills of the Caucasus and surrounded by vineyards, this 4-star hotel and winery has stunning views.



Marco Polo Hotel

Generously appointed, this 4-star mountain chateau hosts everything you need for a luxurious stay, including a restaurant and pool.

THE FINER DETAILS

DATES AND PRICES

DATE	TWIN SHARE	SINGLE SUPPLEMENT
28 May 2027	*5900 USD	*1210 USD
Due to the volatility of international currencies, trip fees are calculated in USD. However, you will be charged in Australian dollars. Currency conversion is based on Westpac Banking Corporation's buying rate on your balance due date.		

* Provisional 2027 Price

Additional expenses

Tipping is customary, so please allow extra funds for the tipping kitty. This will pay your local and national guides, drivers and porters.

MEALS

Breakfast is included daily. An additional 2 lunches and 2 dinners are also included. Elsewhere, you can enjoy the delicious variety of local food on offer. Meals typically cost between 10-15 USD for lunch and 20 USD for dinner.

DOCUMENTATION

Once we've received your final payment, we'll post you a comprehensive field guide. It's a physical document you can keep handy to inform your travels. It also includes all relevant tour and accommodation information you need to book your visa.

VISAS

Australian and New Zealand passport holders are CURRENTLY not required to have a visa for Georgia or Armenia however they do need a visa for Azerbaijan.

Other passport holders, please contact us for the latest information.

READY TO PACK YOUR BAGS?



BOOK ONLINE NOW
(available 24/7)

Or visit: www.byroads.com.au/portfolio_page/byroads-booking-form/



Got questions? Contact us at travel@byroads.com.au