



## Tour: Iran - Armenia (The Two Religions)

Duration: 9 days / 8 nights  
Period: May - November  
Suitable for FITs and groups





## **BRIEF ITINERARY**

- 1 day / Departure from home country**
- 2 day / Arrival in Iran / City tour in Tabriz**
- 3 day / Kandovan village / Lake Urmiyeh**
- 4 day / Iran / Iran-Arm border / Goris**
- 5 day / Goris / Tatev / Noravank / Yerevan**
- 6 day / City tour in Yerevan / History Museum / Garni / Geghard**
- 7 day / Yerevan / Lake Sevan / Noraduz / Goshavank / Yerevan**
- 8 day / Yerevan / Khor Virap / Echmiadzin / Zvartnots / Yerevan**
- 9 day / Departure**

## **DESCRIPTIVE ITINERARY**

### **1 day / Departure from home country - Iran**

Departure for Iran.

### **2 day / Arrival in Iran / City tour in Tabriz**

Arrival in Tabriz. Meeting and transfer to hotel. After a short rest in the morning start the city tour which includes a museum of Azerbaijan, the complex Il Goli, the Blue Mosque, an old house Qajar and Grand Bazaar. Overnight at hotel in Tabriz.

### **3 day / Kandovan village / Lake Urmiyeh**

In the morning departure for the rocky village near Kandovan Osku. The houses carved in volcanic rocks are called " Karaan ". Karaans were cut in Lahar ( volcanic mudflow ) of Mount Sahand. After the eruption of Sahand these materials were moved and formed the rocks of Kandovan. Continue on to the lake and the city Urmiyeh. The Urmiyeh Lake is the largest lake in the Middle East, and the sixth largest salt water lake in the world, with an area of approximately 5,200 km<sup>2</sup>. Overnight at hotel at the lake.

### **4 day / Iran / Iran-Arm border / Goris**

Breakfast at the hotel. Check out. Drive to Iran-Armenia border on Agarak (Meghri). Border formalities, guide and driver change and drive to Goris. Drive to the city Goris - a small city with about 20,000 inhabitants, beautifully framed by high mountains. Overnight in Goris.

### **5 day / Goris / Tatev / Noravank / Yerevan**

Breakfast at the hotel. Drive to Halidzor village, take the world's longest aerial tramway and visit Tatev monastery (UNESCO World Heritage) which is an architectural masterpiece dating back to the 10th c., often called a monastery built on the edge of nothing. Continue to Noravank monastery – great religious and cultural center of 13th c. It is situated over a narrow gorge and is famous not only for its natural and architectural beauty but also for being built by famous Armenian architect Momik. Drive to the capital city of Yerevan. Check in at the hotel. Overnight in Yerevan.

### **6 day / City tour in Yerevan / History Museum / Garni / Geghard**

Breakfast at the hotel. City tour in Yerevan by car or bus with a stop for a panoramic view. Visit History Museum and drive to Garni village. Lunch in a local house participating at Armenian traditional bread "lavash" baking process. Visit Garni Pagan temple (1<sup>st</sup> cent. A.D.) – the only one in all CIS countries and the cave monastery of Geghard (12-13 cen. UNESCO). Return back to Yerevan. Overnight in Yerevan.



**7 day / Yerevan / Lake Sevan / Noraduz / Goshavank / Yerevan**

Breakfast at the hotel. Drive to Noraduz – a huge cemetery with hundred medieval and modern Armenian cross stones. Continue to lake Sevan. Admire world's second highest and largest alpine freshwater lakes and visit the peninsula. Continue the tour to the forested Tavush region and visit Goshavank monastery. Return back to Yerevan. Overnight in Yerevan.

**8 day / Yerevan / Khor Virap / Echmiadzin / Zvartnots / Yerevan**

Breakfast at the hotel. Drive to Khor Virap monastery which offers the closest view to the Biblical Mt. Ararat (in Turkish territory). Visit Echmiadzin - the religious center of Armenia. Visit one of the 1<sup>st</sup> Christian churches of the world (301- 303 AD.) and the 7<sup>th</sup> cen. churches Hripsime and Zavrtnots UNESCO. Return back to Yerevan. If week end visit Vernissage open air handcraft market. Overnight in Yerevan.

**9 day / Departure**

Transfer to airport. Departure home.