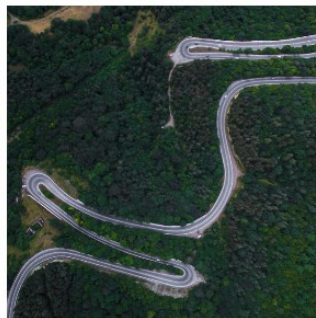




# Tour: ARMENIA – NAGORNO KHARABAGH

Duration: 9 days/8 nights  
Bets period: April – November  
Suitable for fits and groups



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## DRAFT ITINERARY

- Day 1: Departure from homeland
- Day 2: Arrival / Yerevan city tour
- Day 3: Yerevan / Echmiadzin / Zvartnots / Khor Virap / Yerevan
- Day 4: Yerevan / Noravank / Tatev / Goris
- Day 5: Goris / Shushi / Gandzasar / Tigranakert / Stepanakert
- Day 6: Stepanakert / Khndzoresk / Karahoung / Jermuk
- Day 7: Jermuk / Selim / Noraduz / Sevan
- Day 8: Sevan / Garni / Geghard / Yerevan
- Day 9: Departure

## DESCRIPTIVE ITINERARY

### Day 1: Departure from homeland

### Day 2: Arrival / Yerevan city tour

Arrival in international Zvartnots airport in Yerevan -the capital of Armenia. Meet the guide at the airport and private transfer to the hotel. Short rest or overnight depending on flight schedule. Breakfast at the hotel. Start city tour in Yerevan - the city older than Rome. Stop over the Cascade monument to have a panoramic view to the city. Visit State History Museum and the Legendary Ararat Brandy Factory. Dinner at a traditional restaurant with live music. Evening stroll in Republic Square to enjoy the Singing Fountains. Overnight in Yerevan

### Day 3: Yerevan / Echmiadzin / Zvartnots / Khor Virap / Yerevan

Breakfast at the hotel. Visit Tsitsernakaberd memorial dedicated to the victims of 1915 Genocide. Continue to the religious center of Armenia and visit Echmiadzin cathedral of 4<sup>th</sup> cen, and the ruins of Zvartnots church of 7<sup>th</sup> cen. Drive to Khor Virap monastery to enjoy the best and the closest view to the beautiful and biblical Mt. Ararat. Return back to Yerevan. Overnight in Yerevan.

### Day 4: Yerevan / Noravank / Tatev / Goris

Breakfast at the hotel. Drive to Vayots Dzor region and visit Noravank monastery of 10-14 cen. and the beautiful Gnishik canyon that leads to the monastery. Drive to Syunik region. Visit Tatev monastery 10-15 cen. taking world's longest aerial tramway which flies over the spectacular Vortan river canyon. Tatev is known as the bishopric seat of Syunik and played a significant role in the history of the region as a center of economic, political, spiritual and cultural activity. In the 14th and 15th centuries the monastery hosted one of the most important Armenian medieval universities, the University of Tatev, which contributed to the advancement of science, religion and philosophy, reproduction of books and development of [miniature painting](#). Drive to Goris. Overnight in Yerevan.

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**Day 5: Goris / Shushi / Gandzasar / Tigranakert / Stepanakert**

Breakfast at the hotel. Drive to Shoushi town which has been a great educational and political center of Nagorno Kharabagh, and today's second largest city in Nagorno Kharabagh. Visit Khazanchetsots church. Continue to Gandzasar monastery 10-13 cen. which is a unique monument of medieval architecture and monumental sculpture, which by right ought to be regarded as an encyclopedia of 13th-century Armenian art. Drive to Tigranakert which is a ruined Armenian city dating back to the Hellenistic period. Thanks to the excavations started since 2005 a 5 cen. basilica was opened as well as ancient citadel walls. Return back to the capital Stepanakert. Overnight in Stepanakert.

**Day 6: Stepanakert / Khndzoresk / Karahoungue / Jermuk**

Breakfast at the hotel. Check out from the hotel. Drive to Khndzoresk village widely famous for its canyon with picturesque rock formations and ancient cave settlement. The artificial caves, some of which are currently used as stables and warehouses, used to be inhabited till the 1950s. In the end of the 19th century Old Khndzoresk was the biggest village of Eastern Armenia. In the beginning of the 20th century the community had 8300 inhabitants (1800 households). Continue exploring Syunik province sightseeing and visit Karahoungue ancient astronomical observatory of 6000 years old history. Arrival to resort town of Jermuk famous for its hot springs and mineral water brands bottled in the town. It is attractive for its fresh air, waterfalls, artificial lakes, walking trails, the surrounding forests and mineral water pools. Overnight in Jermuk.

**Day 7: Jermuk / Selim / Noraduz / Sevan**

Breakfast at the hotel. Check out. Drive to Gegharkunik region via Selim pass visit Orbelians caravanserai 14 cen. built on the former routes of Great Silk Road. Located at the southern side of Vardenyats Mountain Pass at a height of 2410 meters above sea level, Orbelian's Caravanserai is the best preserved caravanserai in the entire country. Continue the pass arriving the western shores of Sevan lake which is world second highest and largest alpine freshwater lake and visit Noraduz village cemetery where a lot of Armenian cross stones are laid. Arrive to Sevan peninsula which offers a magnificent view to the lake's blue waters. Overnight in Sevan.

**Day 8: Sevan / Garni / Geghark / Yerevan**

Breakfast at the hotel. Check out. Drive to Kotayk region and visit Garni Pagan temple (1<sup>st</sup> cent. A.D.) – the only one in all CIS countries and the cave monastery of Geghark (12-13 cen. UNESCO). Return back to Yerevan. Free time for shopping. Visit Vernissage open air handcraft market and food market if time permits. Overnight in Yerevan.

**Day 9: Departure**

Transfer to the hotel. Departure.



**POSSIBILITY TO EXTEND THE TOUR TO IRAN.**

**Notes:**

The order of the itinerary is subject to be revised.

Museums are closed on Mondays.

Scarves are required for women to enter in Armenian Orthodox churches.

Short trousers aren't acceptable in the church both for women and men.

Wind and rain coats, hat, sun cream and comfortable shoes should be in every luggage.