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13 DAYS

Azerbaijan, Georgia + Armenia



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EMAIL: tour@airbornetours.com

Day 1 Check In Flight for Baku, Azerbaijan

Check in for flight to **Baku**, the capital of Azerbaijan.

Day 2 Arrive Baku, Azerbaijan

(L, D)

On arrival in Baku, proceed for city tour. Start with a tour of the “**Old City of Baku**” (**Icherisheher**). Several historical-architectural monuments like the **Shirvanshakhs Palace**, the symbol of Baku city, **The Maiden Tower**, **Karavansaray** are concentrated in the Icherisheher - where 1300 families are still living. In a word it is an ancient city in the modern city. Visit medieval market square and carpet workshop-art studio. In the evening walk along **Baku Boulevard** which is the second largest boulevard in the world with boat tour included.

Day 3 Baku – Absheron Peninsula – Gobustan Reserve

(B, L, D)

After breakfast, enjoy an excursion to historical sites in **Absheron Peninsula**. Visit the **Gobustan Reserve** – an open air museum littered with Neolithic rock drawings. Just 65km south of Baku, Gobustan has some 4000 inscriptions that date back 12,000 years ago. Visit **Ateshgah** – the Fire Worshippers’ Temple located in Surakhany village. Visit **Yanar Dagh** – a visually stunning natural gas fire which blazes continuously on a hillside. Flames shoot into the air 10feet from a thin porous sandstone layer.

Day 4 Baku – Shemakha –Sheki

(B, L, D)

Visit **Diri Baba Mosque in Maraza Village**. Continue to **Shemakha** to visit the historical **Juma Mosque**. **Sheki** is one of the most famous and ancient places of Azerbaijan. Situated 700 m (2297 ft.) above sea level surrounded by the mountains and forests of oak trees, this ancient city was long famed as a silk centre and an important stop on the Great Silk Route. Our Sheki tour will visit the 18th century **Khan’s summer palace** with magnificent frescos and exquisite stained glass work and **Sheki History museum** with artifacts from several periods, especially for pieces relating to silk manufacturing and trade.

Day 5 Sheki – Signagi – Bodbe – Tbilisi, Georgia

(B, L, D)

We then drive to Azerbaijan - Georgia border. After border formalities, we cross the Georgian border to **Signagi**. **Signagi** is a fortified royal town surrounded by a defence wall with 23 towers built by King Erekle II in 18th century. The town had many gates through which Georgia was connected to Europe and Asia by various trade routes. Stroll through tiny and cozy streets of Signagi and enjoy amazing view of Alazani Valley. Visit a **local winery** and taste Georgian traditional wine. Continue on to **Bodbe Monastery Complexes** which holds the tomb of St Nino, the Cappadocian maiden who converted the Georgian people to Christianity. Continue to **Tbilisi**, capital of Georgia. Tbilisi is one of the ancient capitals of the world, situated in the valley of the river Mtkvari.

Day 6 Tbilisi City Tour

(B, L, D)

Full day city tour of **Tbilisi**. Known as a capital of Georgia from 5th century the city is extraordinary for its turbulent history, elegant and remarkable architecture, destroyed and restored through centuries but keeping entire style of Georgian orthodox religion and traditions. Walk through **old city**. Visit to **Metekhi church** dated 13th century, use cable car to visit **Narikala fortress** from 4th century and **Statue of mother of Georgia**. Visit to **Abanotubani Bath district** and **Sioni Cathedral** (one of the most famous and oldest temple in Georgia). Enjoy a **traditional Georgian city restaurant with folk performance**.

Day 7 Tbilisi – Mtskheta – Ananuri – Kasbegi	(B, L, D)
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After the breakfast, you will drive towards **Mtskheta**, situated about 20km from Tbilisi. It was here that the Georgians embraced Christianity in the beginning of the 4th century. Today, the town and its architectural monuments are included in the **UNESCO World Cultural Heritage list**.

Our journey will continue along the Georgian Military Highway to **Kazbegi**. We will make a halt at the **Ananuri architectural complex**, which was the residence of the Eristavi (the rulers) of Aragvi. The complex comprises various buildings that were used for worship, fighting and household purpose in the past. The main church of the Holy Virgin is the focal point of the fortress. The facade of the church is decorated with exquisite relief and ornaments; a picturesque lake opens up from the base of the Ananuri fortress.

Then, we continue our way through the more and more mountainous landscape up the valley. We will drive across the “Cross” Pass (2395 m) and arrive in Kazbegi, which is located at 1700 meters above sea level.

In the evening, you will **have dinner at a local family where you can participate in cooking khinkali – a local dish**.

Day 8 Kasbegi – Gergeti – Tbilisi	(B, L, D)
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We visit the **Gergeti Trinity Church** located at a height of 2127m above the village of Stepantsminda. The beautiful road will take you through the forest and up to the vast plateau where the glorious church stands tall at the very end of the cliff. Upon your approach, admire the incredible views of the mighty Mount Kazbeg (5047m) and the fabulous Kazbegi Valley. This is also considered to be the very mountain that was mentioned in Greek mythology as the eternal prison of demi-god Prometheus that was chained to the mountain in Caucasus as a punishment for stealing fire and gifting it to human kind. We then drive back to Tbilisi.

Day 9 Tbilisi – Sadakhlo – Yerevan, Armenia	(B, L, D)
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Transfer to the Georgian – Armenian border at **Sadakhlo**.

Visit **Haghpat Monastery**, a masterpiece of religious architecture. Tour **Lake Sevan and Sevan Monastery** – the emerald of Armenia which is one of the world’s greatest high altitude freshwater lake. Continue journey to Yerevan.

Continue to **Yerevan**, the capital and largest city of Armenia and one of the world’s oldest continuously inhabited cities.

Day 10 Yerevan – Khor Yirap – Etchmiadzin – Yerevan	(B, L, D)
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Visit **Khor Virap Monastery** (4-17 cc) with its fascinating **view of Mount Ararat**. The monastery has always been a place of pilgrimage for Armenians. Visit holy **Etchmiadzin** with the Mother cathedral; and its surroundings. Excursion to **Garni**, the only pagan temple in Armenia and the incredible **Christian Monastery of Geghart**, partly carved out of solid rock between 11-13th century.

Day 11 Yerevan – Vardzia – Tbilisi	(B, L, D)
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Cross the Armenia – Georgia border at Bavra. Drive to the south-western region of Samtskhe-Javakheti to visit **Vardzia**, the magnificent cave town of the Golden age. The cave complex stretches over half a kilometre and once consisted of some 3000 caves and was one of the best example of Georgia’s renaissance. There’s a church hewn from rock with amazing frescoes, refectories, dwelling quarters, wine cellars etc. Enroute we will visit **Khertvisi Fortress**.

Day 12 Depart Tbilisi	(B, L)
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Stroll along **Rustaveli Avenue** – the main street of Tbilisi. Visit the **Holy Trinity Cathedral of Tbilisi** – 3rd largest Eastern Orthodox Church in the world.

In the afternoon, transfer to airport for flight home.

Day 13 Arrive Home

Dept date: 28 Sep to 10 Oct 2020

TOUR FARE

TWIN SHARE – RM9,500 PER PAX (10pax)

– RM8,500 PER PAX (16pax)

SINGLE SUPP – RM2,155

Excludes

- International Flights
- Travel Insurance

Proposed Flight by Qatar Airways

QR 853	Kuala Lumpur – Doha	0225 – 0455
QR 351	Doha – Baku	0730 – 1120
QR 358	Tbilisi – Doha	2125 – 2330
QR 848	Doha – Kuala Lumpur	0205 – 1500

Economy Airfare from MYR5,600.00pp (subject to change)