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9 day Hiking Trip in Armenia & Georgia

Day 1

This trip begins with a city tour in Yerevan, bustling city having a history of over 2700 years. The cuneiform inscription proving Yerevan was built in 172 AD is in the History Museum of Armenia. You will start your tour with a short walk in the city center, and then visit Armenia History Museum. Excursion in History museum is fascinating Journey through the pages of Armenian History. After lunch you will head to Geghard Cave Monastery, partly carved pure rocks. Garni Pagan Temple is the only preserved in the Caucasus region. You will be back to Yerevan and have opportunity to feel the pulse of Yerevan night life as our itinerary starting from the second day gets you to the regions to hiking routes of this ancient country.

Overnight: Hotel in Yerevan **Meals:** Breakfast

Day 2

This day you will hike to the highest mountain of Armenia. You will reach Amberd Fortress, the first point of our hiking adventure. Stone lake is located on the elevation of 3200 m on the slope of mount Aragats, an extinct volcano. You will hike from here to southern peak of Aragats (3879 m) (*total hike duration 5-7 hours*). After hiking you will visit Saghmosavank Monastery dramatically standing on the edge of Kasakh River Canyon. In the evening you will head to Dilijan resort town for rest and overnight.

Overnight: Hotel in Dilijan **Meals:** Breakfast

Day 3

This day you will be transferred to Cristal Lake to start hike in Dilijan National Park along stunning forest trails, cross the wildly beautiful Areguni Pass and reach Goshavank Monastery, named after the great scholar of the 13th century Mkhitar Gosh (*trail length 8km*). End the day with drive to Dilijan. This cozy town captures the spirit of rural Armenia. You will visit Old Dilijan complex on historic Sharambeyan Street and observe the weaving carpets by local women at Tufenkian Carpet Showroom.

Overnight: Hotel in Dilijan **Meals:** Breakfast

Day 4

After breakfast at hotel you will head to Gomer Village near Ijevan where we you will take a short transfer to the Lastiver trailhead. A wonderful forested route into the most unspoiled and rugged area of north-eastern Armenia as you will head into a deep gorge before descending to cascading waterfalls and the most scenic meadows in Armenia, perhaps Armenia's best-kept secret. Explore ancient caves of Lastiver (*traï length 20 km*). In the evening you'll be back to town of Ijevan for rest and overnight.

Overnight: Guesthouse in Ijevan **Meals:** Breakfast

Day 5

This day you will be transferred to Omalo in Georgia, this area is known for its tranquility and also it is National Park. You will find here breathtaking nature and hospitable people. In Telavi we will change our car as road changes to off road conditions. En route you will visit Alaverdi Cathedral, and then reach Omalo, a place forgotten by God and people, here your guesthouse is located.

Overnight: *Guesthouse in Omalo* **Meals:** *B, D*

Day 6

We start our hiking from Omalo to Dartlo (2.300 meters above sea level), (*trail length 25 km / 8 hours*). Light, extensive and aromatic pine forests form the natural decoration of the middle and lower flow of the Tusheti Alazani. Everywhere you will enjoy fine landscapes, deep gorges and meadows. Average temperature in July is about 13-15°C.

Overnight: *Guesthouse in Omalo* **Meals:** *Full board*

Day 7

After early eco breakfast, you'll be hiking from Omalo to Shenako and Diklo to see a wonderful picturesque Kazbegi mountain close to Dagestan. The villages are quite distanced from one another and in gravest historical times, they communicated to one another via sentry fortresses. The way across the gorge in Tushetia runs from Dagestan only, with all other approaches being the saddle-shaped depressions on the mountain ridges with narrow paths suitable for horse riding only (*trail length 12km/duration 5 hours*).

Overnight: *Guesthouse in Omalo* **Meals:** *Full board*

Day 8

This day will be an easy walking day to Tushetia National Reserve, enjoy Keselo ancient fortress for the best photographic view. Tushetia itself with the nomadic and romantic lifestyle of the Tushetians and summer icon-holidays has always attracted visitors. The traditional hospitality of the Tushetians guaranteed a safety to tourists or visitors. (*trail length 5 hours*) Second half of day we visit Tushetia National Museum.

Overnight: *Guesthouse in Omalo* **Meals:** *Full board*

Day 9

This day is dedicated to Tbilisi exploration, after breakfast you'll head to capital of Georgia, one of Europe's prominent cultural and historic centers. This ancient city is the converging point of two cultures: Asian and European. Just a walking evening to see the small yards encircled by galleries, steep street stairs and houses with patterned balconies create picturesque images of Old Tbilisi. Have a delicious dinner at your pace in one of restaurants offering rich traditional cuisine.

Overnight: *Hotel in Tbilisi* **Meals:** *Breakfast*

Day 10

Departure day.