

just
TRAVEL

When the journey begins...!



Armenia - a dream to come true...

Armenia - a country as ancient as world
Full of mountains, strength, incredible nature,
century-old treasures...

- Interested in the oldest temples?
- Want to see the Biblical mountain Ararat?
- Would be delighted to taste the famous Armenian brandy?

WELCOME TO ARMENIA !

Ancient-Amiable Armenia

The landing of Noah's Ark on Mount Ararat and stories of the Silk Road are only a few of the wonders that make Armenia unique.

This ancient kingdom, described as a "Land of Stones", offers travelers many exciting discoveries into a rich and diverse culture that combines old traditions with a curiosity towards the modern world.



Yerevan, the capital

Yerevan, the present capital of Armenia, is one of the oldest cities in the world. It was founded nearly 2800 years ago in the time of ancient Babylon.

Today it's a modern city with imposing architecture, museums and places of interest, Café and clubs offer a chance to enjoy Armenian folk-jazz music and spend wonderful evenings...

The Ararat mountain posing proudly from the border, makes the city view more than picturesque...



The Ararat Mountain

Armenia is a unique place hidden from the wind by the high mountains and warmed with the passionate sun...

Mountain Ararat, the height of which is more than 5000m, dominates over the Ararat Valley.

According to Bible it was on the top of the Ararat mountain that Noah's Ark landed.
On a clear day the mountain seems almost within touching distance...

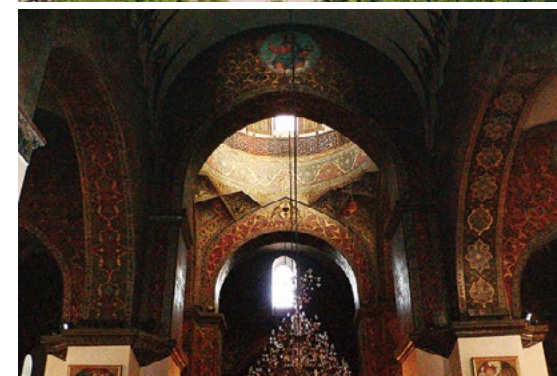


Echmiadzin Mother Cathedral

One of the major tourist destinations is the Holy See of Echmiadzin, the Mother Cathedral of the world's oldest Christian nation.

The name Echmiadzin (descent of the only begotten) comes from a legend, according to which St. Gregory the Illuminator saw Christ descending and with a golden hammer indicating the location for the cathedral in a dream.

Now Echmiadzin is the residence of the Catholicos, the head of the Armenian Apostolic Church.



Cathedrals of St. Gayane and St. Hripsime

Within a short distance away from the Cathedral there are two more churches that are worth visiting: St. Gayane church and St. Hripsime Cathedral (7th century), which were built in honor of Christian virgins killed by the Armenian King for spreading Christianity.



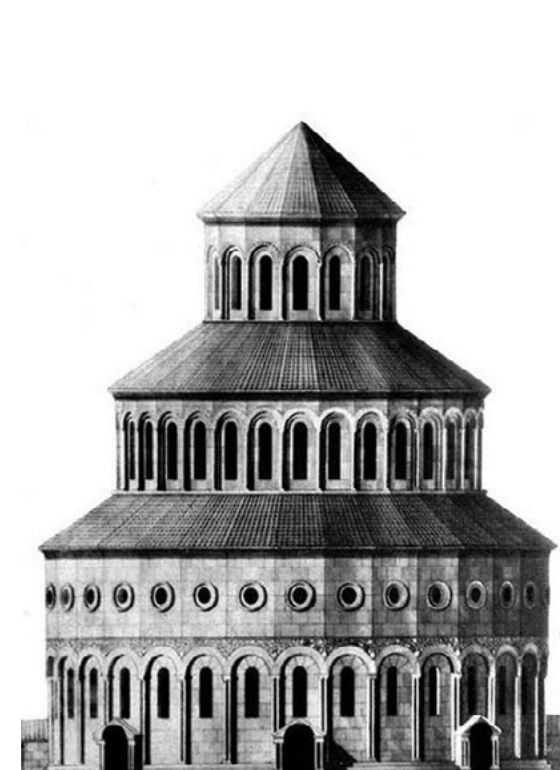
Zvartnots Cathedral

Zvartnots Cathedral are the ruins of the 7th century church. It was built at a time when much of Armenia was found under Byzantine control and during the early invasions of Armenia by Muslim Arabs.

Construction of the Cathedral began in 642 under the guidance of Catholicos Nerses III, who built the majestic cathedral dedicated to St. Grigor at the place where a meeting between King Trdat III and Gregory the Illuminator was supposed to have taken place.

Zvartnots remained standing up until the end of the 10th century; afterwards, historical sources are silent as to the cause of its collapse.

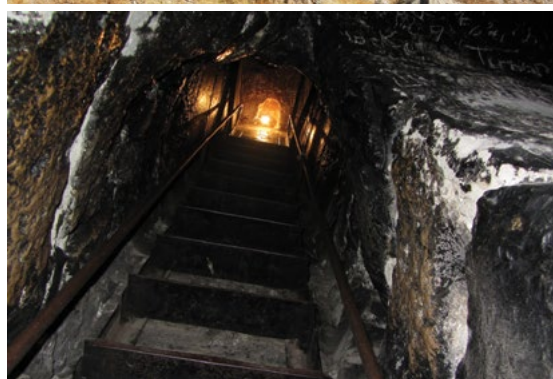
Zvartnots remains were uncovered at the start of the 20th century together with the Catholicos palace and a winery.



Khor Virap Monastery

About as close as one can get to the mountain is the Khor Virap Monastery. Khor Virap is the legendary site where King Trdat III imprisoned Saint Gregory the Illuminator in an underground cell for 13 years for preaching Christianity. When King Trdat III was inflicted with madness by God as punishment and then cured by St. Gregory, he converted to Christianity, and in 301 AD established Armenia as the first Christian Kingdom.

Today it is one of the most visited places in Armenia and visitors can still descend into the dungeon where St. Gregory was held captive.



Mount Aragats

On the southern slopes of Mount Aragats sits the Amberd Castle (means “a fortress in the clouds”) and Church, positioned above the Amberd river.

Built in the 10th and 11th centuries, this outstanding example of Armenian secular architecture has withstood many conquests throughout the centuries.

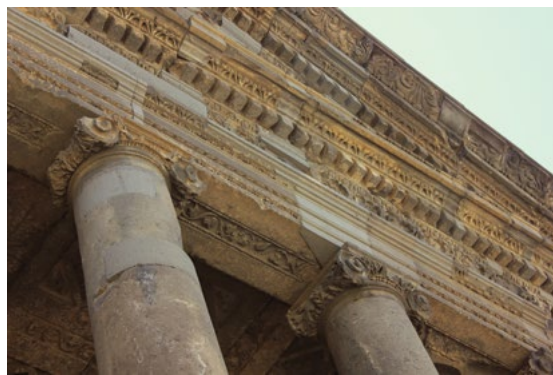
Not far below the summit is the fascinating Stone Lake (Kari Lich).



Garni Temple

Garni architectural complex is the pre-eminent example of Hellenistic culture in Armenia today. This pagan temple originally was built in the 1st century AD for the God Mithras. After the arrival of Christianity in the 4th century, it was used as a hunting lodge by Kings.

Of particular interest is the bathhouse located in the northern part of the site. It as a well preserved hypocaust and one of the floors is decorated with mosaic reproducing a well known late Hellenistic iconographic type, depicting Greek mythological figures.



Geghard Church

The architecture of Geghard Monastery can be described as a symphony in stone as it was built into a cave.

Geghard means spear, because here was kept the spear with which a roman soldier pierced Christ on the cross. Two disciples of Jesus – Bartholomew and Theodore brought it to Armenia and since then it has been kept in Geghard Monastery.

Now the spear is in the Holy See of Echmiadzin.

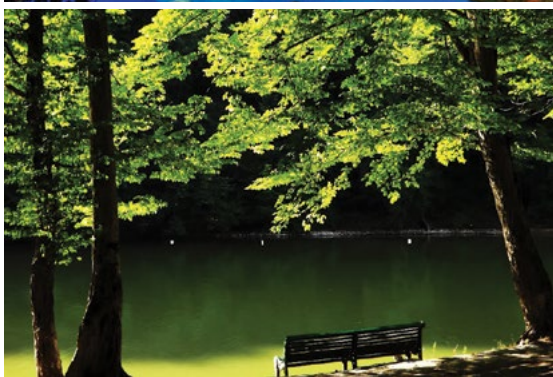


Dilijan - Parz Lake

Dilijan is a green city located in the northern Armenian Province of Tavoush. The forested city is one of the most important resorts of Armenia, situated in Dilijan National Park.

Parz Lake is one of Dilijan's most attractive natural sites. It is situated in the northern part of the town at a height of 1400 meters.

The Aghstev River with its tributaries gives peculiar charm to the general town landscape.



Dilijan - Haghartsin and Goshavank Monasteries

Dilijan's most popular religious site is Haghartsin Monastery (UNESCO heritage), which consists of three churches - St. Gregory, St. Stepanos and St. Astvatsatsin. There are a number of khachkars in the complex.

Goshavank Monastery of the 12th century was one of Armenia's prominent theological centers in the Middle Ages.

Dilijan has also numerous luxury hotels and sanatoriums of high level, which create a chance to enjoy the beauty of nature and the historical sites. The town is also rich in its mineral curing water fountains.





Tatev Monastic Complex

The vast complex was built on a natural plateau above a deep valley through which the river Vorotan flows. The large irregular enclosure is virtually inaccessible having three built sides that overhang the river gorge with its precipitous rocky slopes, and the fourth side, towards north, fortified with walls and towers with the precise scope of defense against foreign invasions. One of the “unique features of the monastery is the Church of Holy Virgin, 1087, which is built on the rampart and accessed by a steep flight of steps from within the complex. The monumental Church of St Paul and St Peter, 895/906, is the focal point of the complex and was the main cathedral of Syunik.

The Monument “Gavazan”, erected in 904 in the yard, is a unique architectural work, an octahedral pillar with a khachkar towering on it. As a result of seismic tremors and, even at a touch of human hand, the pillar tilts and then returns to the initial position.

The world’s longest ropeway (5.7 km), named “Tatev Wings”, links the village of Halidzor to Tatev Monastery over the spectacular gorge of Vorotan river.

Devil's Bridge - Satani Kamurj

The deepest part of the Vorotan gorge is between Tatev and Arzhis (700-800 m). Here, the gorge is so narrow that even the sunrays do not reach the bottom of it. The “Devil’s Bridge”, the most beautiful and the most amazing natural miracle of Vorotan gorge is in one of the deepest parts of it. This natural bridge is 30 m long and 50-60 m wide and it is a short, yet significant part of the road from Goris to Tatev. The mineral water that spills of from sources inside rocks, has painted the walls of Vorotan gorge with rose and yellow colors. During many ages the lime from healing travertine springs, was thrown from one wall to the other, creating a great rocky arch over a furious river. From the sides of the bridge are hanging charming stalactites and from the rocky slopes are dribbling cascades. In some parts where there, are hot springs, natural bathes have occurred by the nature’s grace and they can be used for medical purposes. The area underneath the bridge resembles a huge stalactite cave.



Lake Sevan - “The Blue Pearl”

Lake Sevan is situated in the central part of Armenia at the altitude of 1900m above sea level.

The most famous cultural monument is Sevanavank Monastery. Initially the monastery was located on an island, but the fall of the water level turned it into a peninsula.

The region is famous for its fish – Sevan trout, bojak and winter bakhtam species.

There are numerous beaches along the entire lake shore.





Lake Sevan

Noravank

Noravank is a 13th century monastery located 122km from Yerevan in a narrow gorge made by the Darichay river. The gorge is known for its tall, sheer, brick-red cliffs, directly across from the monastery.

The complex includes the church of St. Karapet, St. Grigor chapel with a vaulted hall, and the church of St. Astvatsatsin. The latter is the latest masterpiece of Momik, who worked on it till the last days of his life.

Narrow steps on the façade lead up to the entrance to the church/oratory. Here you can see a fine relief sculpture over the doors, Christ flanked by Peter and Paul.



Tsaghkadzor

Tsaghkadzor (valley of flowers) is a city and a popular health resort in Armenia. The city is located 50km north of Yerevan, on the southeastern slope of Teghenis Mountains, at a height of 1750m above sea level.

The infrastructure of tourism is highly developed in Tsaghkadzor, with many luxurious hotels, resorts and amusement facilities.

Tsaghkadzor ski resort is located just above the town. During the recent years the ski resort was fully modernized. All ropeway lifts are in exercise, stretching from the end of the first stage towards an opposite hilltop. The skiing season in Tsakhkadzor normally starts mid December and stretches well into March with the top slopes often fit for skiing in April.

The Olympic Sport Complex of Tsaghkadzor was thoroughly overhauled in 2008 and is now open to all visitors.



Jermuk

Jermuk is a town-resort in the southern Armenian province of Vayots Dzor. It is famous for its hot springs and its brand of mineral water. The town is considered to be attractive for its waterfall, the natural bridge, the lake, its forests with walking trails and mineral water pools.

One of the most attractive nearby destinations is Gndevank Monastery, located just 10 km west of Jermuk. This monastery is more than 1000 years old.



Karahunge

Karahunge (Zorac Qarer) is the Armenian equivalent for Stonehenge and is 3500 years older than England's Stonehenge and 3000 years older than Egyptian pyramids. It was an ancient observatory, the total area of which is 7 hectares. According to the scientist's findings, a temple consisting of 40 stones built in honor of the Armenians' main God, Ari, meaning the Sun, is situated in the central part of Karahunge. Besides the temple, it had a large and developed observatory, and also a university that makes up the temple's wings. They sit like soldiers on a hill, huddled in formation. The 204 stones near Sisian province have been ascribed with mystical, fertility and cosmic powers, but rarely have ancient monuments caused such a sensation in astronomical circles.



Matenadaran

Matenadaran (Institute of Ancient Manuscripts) is the only place which boasts having an extraordinary collection of 17000 miniatures. The oldest parchments date back to the fifth and sixth centuries. The majority of manuscripts are research works of ancient scholars on theology, astronomy, astrology, alchemy, geography, history, medicine, poetry and music.



Martiros Saryan Museum

The greatest Armenian artist Martiros Saryan was born in 1880 in the Armenian town of New Nakhichevan, situated near the Don river in Russia (presently in Rostov-on-Don). Saryan's ancestors originated from Ani - the ancient capital of Armenia. The Saryans usually spent the summer in a small house built by their father Sarkis. Saryan would recall his childhood years in the steppe with special inspiration: 'I saw everything appear in the glow of the sunlight - slender corn and grass alternately, covered with myriad flowers, with bees and butterflies hovering above... All that impetuously attracted me. I was charmed. I entered the grain field dipping myself into the world of dreams. The childish perception of the world forever designated the role of the natural sunlight and sheer colors in the artist's visual perception of the world.



Sergey Parajanov Museum

Sergey Parajanov's unmistakable films are rarely watched, often admired and usually regarded as some of the most important movies of the 20th century.

While equally important, Sergey Parajanov is significantly less known than his peers Fellini, Tarkovsky, Antonioni, Godard, though at various times, these great film-makers have called Parajanov a "genius", a "master" and a "magician".

The phenomenal film-maker is also a famous artist, whose collage masterpieces never let anyone indifferent.

Parajanov lived a very difficult life, spending years in Soviet jails.



Yerevan Brandy Company

Yerevan Brandy Company is the producer of the world-famous brand of Armenian brandy ArArAt, production of which started in 1887 by an Armenian merchant Nerses Tairyan. Later Russian industrial company “Shustov & Sons” bought the factory from the founder and started the delivery of ArArAt brandies to the court of Russian Tsar Nikolay the II. The fame of Armenian brandies became even higher during the Soviet period, inspiring such great consumers as Winston Churchill.

Ararat brandies are prepared with deep inspiration, century old traditions and care. They are organic in all situations, they satisfy various tastes and customs of connoisseurs of Armenian brandy all over the world.





Opera and Ballet Theatre

National Academic Opera and Ballet Theatre was officially opened in 1933. The ground-breaking of the Opera-Theatre took place in November 1930 during the celebrations of the 10th anniversary of Soviet Armenia. Swan Lake by Pyotr Tchaikovsky was the first ballet performance in 1935. In 1938 it was named after Alexander Spendiaryan, great Armenian composer, author of opera Almast. Since it was opened, the Armenian National Opera and Ballet Theatre has performed more than 200 different operas and ballets by Armenian, Russian and West European composers.

Malkhas Jazz Club

Whenever you visit Yerevan, you should take the chance to listen to Armenian Jazz.

“Malkhas Jazz Club” offers jazz music programs every day from 21:00 up to 02: 30. In the afternoon the club is an ideal place where one can have a full rest, enjoy dishes of Armenian cuisine. “Malkhas Jazz Club” is a place of quite high quality and level. It is the meeting point of fans of music, jazz musicians and simply of people with good music taste. Here you have the chance to listen to the music of such famous performers as Malkhas Jazz Band, Art Voices, Cross-Road, Time-Report, Aramo, Shushan Petrosyan, etc. are. After midnight the founder of the Club and the famous jazzman Levon Malkhasyan plays for the club visitors.



Nightlife in Yerevan

Yerevan nightlife is rich, fascinating and overwhelming. There are many stylish clubs, night clubs, bars and restaurants and other entertainment facilities in Yerevan that will help you relax and have good time regardless you are alone, with family or with friends.

Yerevan nights are legendary themselves. Especially during the summer when the entire city is packed with side walk cafes full of people. City center itself looks like a big cafe.



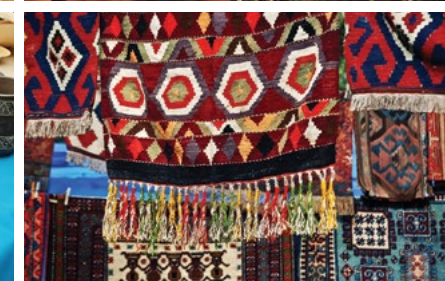






Armenian cuisine





We will organize your:

- sightseeing in Armenia
- transfers
- hotels and accommodation
- weddings
- corporate events
- incentive tours

