

AMAZING ARMENIA

June 14 - 28, 2026

DAY 1 – JUNE 14 - SUNDAY

Flight from US to Armenia. (Travel Day)

DAY 2 – JUNE 15 - MONDAY (Travel Day)

Arrival in Yerevan (evening)

Meeting at the airport. Transfer to the hotel in Yerevan and Hotel accommodation.

OVERNIGHT IN YEREVAN

DAY 3 – JUNE 16 - TUESDAY

Breakfast served

YEREVAN CITY TOUR!

Our day of touring we'll begin in the heart of Armenia – Yerevan.

Yerevan... the rose-colored capital of Armenia... It is named as such because most of its buildings have traditionally used a pink shade of "tuf" stone which is quarried in Armenia. This is an unmistakable and prominent feature of Yerevan's cityscape.

As we get acquainted with Yerevan, we start from the very beginning of its history, **Erebouni Fortress and museum**. The fortress was founded in 782 B.C., 29 years before Rome, the "Eternal City", was built. Our next stop is essential to all who visit Armenia...

Tsitsernakaberd memorial and museum to the 1915 Genocide, which is one of the most impressive monuments in Yerevan. **Lunch**

Cafesjian Sculpture Garden. The Cafesjian Center for the Arts is dedicated to bringing the best of contemporary art to Armenia and presenting some of the best of Armenian culture to the world.

OVERNIGHT IN YEREVAN

DAY 4 – JUNE 17 - WEDNESDAY

Breakfast served

Today we will visit **Garni**, which is the rare pre-Christian pagan temple maintained in Armenia, dating back to the 1st century AD. Today we'll have an opportunity to follow the whole process of how one of the finest jewels of Armenian cuisine is created, **"lavash" (flat bread)**, in a **"tonir" (ground oven)**. The preparation, meaning and appearance of traditional flat bread as an expression of culture in Armenia has been inscribed on UNESCO's Representative List of the Intangible Cultural Heritage of Humanity. **Lunch**

Then we will reach **Geghard (Cave monastery) (UNESCO)** architectural complex (12-13th centuries), carved out of one monolithic rock. Due to the extraordinary acoustics, when the local singer begins to sing in this chamber it is hard to believe a large choir isn't singing... be aware it is only one man...**HAY VORDATS TUN** - Under the auspices of the Mother See of Holy Etchmiadzin and the Armenian General Benevolent Union Children's Centers foster the creativity of every student.

The talents of the Centers' aspiring artists, dancers, gymnasts, musicians and singers are exemplified by its award-winning Performing Arts Troupes.

OVERNIGHT IN YEREVAN

DAY 5 – JUNE 18 - THURSDAY

Breakfast Served

SERVICE DAY (TBD)

OVERNIGHT IN YEREVAN

DAY 6 – JUNE 19 - FRIDAY

Breakfast served

In the morning we'll start with a trip to **Dilijan: "A piece of Switzerland in Armenia"** - Earth and sky, woods and fields, rivers, the mountains become excellent schoolmasters, and teach some of us know more than we can ever learn otherwise... The old approach in the new century. "**Old Town Dilijan**" complete with craftsmen workshops, small shops with traditional Armenian products and crafts, museums, and ultimately showing typical 19th century living with all its local customs and handmade wood furnishings..... We will also visit the 10-13th century **Goshavank Monastery**, nestled in the forest. **Lunch.**

Next is **Lake Sevan** – the emerald of Armenia, a blue eyed beauty under the sky. Lake Sevan is one of the largest freshwater lakes in the world, situated at an altitude of 1,897 meters above sea level. The most picturesque view of Lake Sevan is seen from the peninsula atop which **Sevan Monastery** (9th c.) towers over the lake.

OVERNIGHT IN YEREVAN

DAY 7– JUNE 20 - SATURDAY

Breakfast Served

SERVICE DAY (Half Day)

Assembled food packs for the families who still live in "domiks" (overseas shipping container houses) scattered throughout Gyumri in extreme poverty. Many of them are unable to provide for their family's needs including warm clothes, nutritious food, heat and electricity for their homes and other basic necessities.

OVERNIGHT IN YEREVAN

DAY 8 – JUNE 21 - SUNDAY

Breakfast Served

We embark on our journey to the land of ancient treasures of Christian history (UNESCO). At the Mother See of Holy **Etchmiadzin**, the "*religious capital*" and the seat of the Supreme Patriarch-Catholics of all Armenians.

]Participation in **DIVINE LITURGY**.

Then, admire the Monasteries of Sts. **Hripsime and Gayane Churches** (7th c) dedicated to these faithful nuns, 3rd century followers of Christ who were martyred. **Lunch.**

Driving through the fertile plains of the Ararat valley, we will reach **Khor Virap Monastery** – the beginning of the History of Christianity in Armenia, magnificently set against the towering slopes of the Biblical Mountain, Ararat. We have some quite spectacular photo opportunities before a landscape of unparalleled beauty and majesty. The monastery is the site where St. Gregory the Illuminator was incarcerated and is a pilgrimage destination for every believer. It is especially a time to reflect upon the work of our Church's patron saint, Gregory the Illuminator, who spread the light of Christianity in Armenia and inspired King Trdat to proclaim Christianity as a state religion in 301, which had a determinate impact on the Armenia people and their history.

OVERNIGHT IN YEREVAN

DAY 9 – JUNE 22 - MONDAY

Breakfast served. CHECK OUT

Driving through the fertile plains of the Ararat valley, you will reach **Khor Virap Monastery** – the beginning of the History of the Christian nation in Armenia, magnificently set against the towering slopes of the Biblical **Mountain of Ararat**. You have some quite spectacular photo opportunities before a landscape of unparalleled beauty and majesty. The monastery is the site where **St. Gregory the Illuminator** was incarcerated and is a pilgrimage destination for all Christian believers, as well as having had a determinate impact on the Armenia people and their history. Next, we will take the path through the narrow gorge, revealing **Noravank Monastery**, nestled inside the deep red landscape of the *tuf* stone mountains. **Lunch.**

To close today's tour, we'll visit the village of **Khndzoresk** – Prehistoric era, a cave village and exotic rock formations. This village looks like a vertical multi-storied rocky amphitheater.

CHECK IN

DINNER & OVERNIGHT IN GORIS

DAY 10 – JUNE 23 - TUESDAY

Breakfast Served

In the morning we'll enjoy a ride on the state-of-the-art **Aerial Tramway of Tatev** - spanning 5.7 kilometers across the spectacular Vorotan River Gorge, which offers a spectacular journey with a breathtaking view of the river gorge below. Most significantly, it will link you to one of the jewels of Armenia's medieval legacy - **Tatev Monastery**.

Upon arrival on the 'Wings of

Tatev' we will have time to discover the expanse of the monastery which was founded in the 4th century, becoming an important religious and educational center of medieval Armenia in 9-10th centuries.

in the 12th century in the territory of two earlier churches. *Lunch.*

Drive back to Yerevan.

OVERNIGHT IN YEREVAN

DAY 11– JUNE 24 - WEDNESDAY

Breakfast served

We will visit the **Komitas Park and Pantheon**, which holds the grave monuments and remains of many outstanding figures of Armenia's artistic world, including Arno Babajanyan, William Saroyan, Gomidas Vartabed, Aram Khatchatryan, and is the home of the Komitas Museum, which houses many of the personal belongings and artwork of the beloved Vartabed and musicologist. **MEGERIAN RUG Factory & Showroom:** Which brings together time-honored traditions and a range of exquisite aesthetics to create objects of art for modern living and you will become acquainted with the ancient technology of Armenian carpet making.

Visit to **"NOY" ARARAT Brandy, Wine Factory:** "...one does not drink brandy, one derives pleasure from it." Just let's do it in one of the oldies factories in "NOY" Yerevan Brandy factory.

"Yerablur" Military Pantheon to honor the memory of innocent Armenian soldiers who offered their lives for our Homeland. *Lunch.*

OVERNIGHT IN YEREVAN

DAY 12 – JUNE 25 - THURSDAY

Breakfast Served - TOUR & SERVICE DAY

Today we have an opportunity to discover the 18th-19th century unique and indigenous architecture of the second largest city of Armenia - **Gyumri**. Walking around we'll visit one of the churches that has the oldest icon in the city, **"Seven Wounds of Virgin Mary"**. This is how the church is referred to by the locals, though it was consecrated as "Mother of God" church. A short walk across the square will take us to the **Holy Saviour' Church**. The architectural masterpiece of it was derived from the design of the

Cathedral of Ani. Between the churches in the **square of Vardanants** we'll pause for a moment at the monument dedicated to the Battle of Avarayr. Which includes at the helm the historic martyr and saint Vardan Mamikonyan (commander-in-chief) who led the Armenian army's campaign against Sassanid Persia. **Lunch.**

Next visit is the **Debi Arach Children's Center in Gyumri**. The Paros Foundation launched the Children's Center in Gyumri on April 15, 2015 with the help of generous donors. The center, which provides 180 children each week the necessary academic, psychological, social and humanitarian support, has since been a source of positivity in this city.

Distribution of **Groceries** for families. Following the 1988 Spitak Earthquake, thousands of people were left homeless in the city of Gyumri. Many of these families took refuge in the overseas shipping containers (domiks) that were shipped into Armenia loaded with humanitarian relief supplies. Although more than a quarter century has passed since the earthquake, this depressive reality still remains. Currently, more than 1,800 families still live in domiks.

OVERNIGHT IN YEREVAN

DAY 13 – JUNE 26 - FRIDAY

Breakfast served

Let's head today to the north-west of Armenia towards Mt. Aragats, which are the highest peaks in Armenia and the fourth highest ones in the Armenian Highland. Aragatsotn Region is very famous for "**Armenian Alphabet Park**." Standing next to a small pool of water and with the tall Holy Cross hovering in the background lays a monument of 39 giant carved Armenian letters in stone and statues of famous Armenians. The park was dedicated to the creator of the Armenian language, Saint Mesrop Mashtots, which he created over 1600 years ago and is still spoken today. **Saghmosavank ("Monastery of the Psalms")** is located on the right bank of the Kasakh River. This was one of the richest and most prominent spiritual and cultural centers of the Middle Ages. After that we'll drive up towards the village of **Oshakan**, you will see the church which is built over the grave of Mesrop Mashdots. **Lunch.**

"Armenian Wine" Winery – as they say "let's discover Armenia in their wines with its indigenous grapes and terroir diversity". Armenia is notorious for its ancient winemaking but yet there are still new regions being developed and undiscovered 'riches' being cultivated in these new regions.

OVERNIGHT IN YEREVAN

DAY 14 - JUNE 27 - SATURDAY

Breakfast Served

FREE DAY

EVENING: *FAREWELL DINNER* in a typical Armenian Restaurant with live Armenian music completing your journey with unforgettable memories.

OVERNIGHT IN YEREVAN

DAY 15 - JUNE 28 - SUNDAY

Up bright and early!

TRANSFER TO ZVARTNOTS INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT

HAVE A NICE FLIGHT!!!

****Itinerary is subject to change at any time**