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|  | **Art of Travelling – Travels in Armenia & Georgia**  **booking@art-travel.am** |

**PHOTOGRAPHY TRAVEL TOUR**

Guaranteed Group tour with arrival every Tuesday, 100% confirmation!

01.03.2024-15.11.2024

Duration: 4 nights / 5 days

**MONDAY**

Arrival at Zvartnots International Airport. Transfer to the hotel. Overnight in Yerevan.

**TUESDAY**

Breakfast at the hotel

***Within this group tour you will visit Lake Sevan, the pearl of Armenia, one of the largest freshwater high mountain lakes in Eurasia, and the Sevanavank monastery. Next you will travel to Dilijan, often nicknamed as "Switzerland in Armenia" for its fantastic natural forests. This is followed by the ancient monasteries of Goshavank and Haghartsin.***

*Departure: 10:00. Duration: 9-10 hours*

*The tour is conducted alternately in English and Russian languages.*

**Lake Sevan**, the "blue pearl" of Armenia, is the largest lake in the Caucasus and one of the largest mountain freshwater lakes in the world. Its area is 1400 square kilometers and it is located at an altitude of 1900 meters above sea level. From **Sevanavank Monastery** there is a beautiful view of Lake Sevan.

We continue to the resort town of **Dilijan**, which attracts people with its unique nature and mild climate.

**Optional lunch** in a local traditional restaurant at your own expense.

**Goshavank Monastery** was constructed with the participation of Mkhitar Ghosh, an outstanding scientist and writer, author of numerous parables and fables. Next your will see another masterpiece of Armenian architecture, a vivid example of harmony between nature and architecture - **Haghartsin Monastery**. The monastery was recently renovated with a donation from Sheikh Sultan bin Mohammad Al Qasimi, the Ruler of Sharjah, who was very impressed with the monastery during his visit.

Overnight in Yerevan

**WEDNESDAY**

Breakfast at the hotel

***Within this group tour you will see some of Armenia's most popular sights. The first stop is at Khor Virap Monastery, the closest point to the sacred Mount Ararat in Armenia. This is where Christianity in Armenia originated. After that you will have a stop at the Azat reservoir surrounded by gorgeous landscape. Next on the route is the only pagan temple in Armenia - Garni. You will have an opportunity to watch the process of baking lavash (Armenian thin bread). Lastly you will be surprised by the splendor of the 13th century Geghard monastery, partially carved out of the rock, which is included in the UNESCO World Cultural Heritage List.***

*Departure: 10:00. Duration: 8-9 hours*

*The tour is conducted alternately in English and Russian languages.*

**Khor Virap** is considered one of the holy places of the Armenian Apostolic Church. According to legend, Gregory the Illuminator was imprisoned there in a deep pit for preaching Christianity.

**The Azat reservoir** (1050 meters above sea level) was created for irrigation of the Ararat valley. The reservoir is surrounded by mountains and has delighted visitors over the years.

The pagan **temple of Garni** is the only Hellenistic monument of its kind preserved in Armenia, a marvelous temple dedicated to the Sun God Mitra.

**Optional lunch** in a local traditional restaurant at your own expense.

Lavash is one of the most popular culinary highlights of Armenia and is an integral part of Armenian cuisine. During this **master class** you will see the millennia-old technique of lavash baking in a tandoor (special earth oven) and taste it with fresh herbs and delicious local cheese.

The famous **Geghard Monastery** was built in the 12th-13th centuries. At first it was called Hayrivank ("cave monastery"), and then it was renamed into Geghard ("spear"), with which, according to legend, a Roman legionary pierced Christ and the relics of which were kept in the monastery for a long time.

Overnight in Yerevan

**THURSDAY**

Breakfast at the hotel

***Within tour you will first visit the wine factory "Hin Areni", where you will have a tour and tasting of famous wines. Next on the route is the Shaki waterfall, which opens its striking beauty before all visitors. You will also visit Tatev Monastery, which historically was a great spiritual, scientific and political center. You can get to the monastery by the longest reversible cable car in the world - "Tatever".***

*Departure: 08:30. Duration: 13-14 ч*

*The tour is conducted alternately in English and Russian languages.*

The village of Areni has been the cradle of Armenian winemaking for thousands of years. The **Hin Areni winery** masterfully showcases historical and local varieties of Armenian grapes.

Next you will see the **Shaki Waterfall** and can admire its indescribable beauty.

**Optional lunch** in a local traditional restaurant at your own expense.

**Tatev Monastery** is one of the most beautiful architectural monuments in Armenia. It was founded in the 9th century on the site of an ancient sanctuary. Its favorable strategic location in an inaccessible place favored the creation of powerful fortifications here.

You can get to the monastery by the **"Wings of Tatev" cable car**. The ropeway is almost 6 km long and stretches along the deep gorge of the Vorotan River and over the hills covered with dense forests.

**FRIDAY**

Breakfast at the hotel

Transfer to Zvartnots International Airport.

***Program is subject to change due to organizational reasons without reducing the scope of services provided!***

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| **The price includes** | **The price doesn’t include** |
| - Transfers airport – hotel / hotel - airport;  - BB Accommodation for 4 nights in Yerevan in standard DBL rooms;  - Professional tour guide: ENG + RUS alternately;  - Air-conditioned vehicles;  - **Bottled water and buns;**  - Entrance tickets according to the program;  **- WiFi in vehicles on tour;**  - Vehicle and passenger insurance;  - Wine tasting;  - Master class in lavash baking and tasting. | o Airline tickets;  o Health Insurance;  o Drinks and gratuities;  o Lunches (optional lunches on tour approx. 3 500 AMD – 4 500 AMD. Only cash payment)  o Optional tours:   * Walking city tour in the center of Yerevan on arrival or departure day (minimum 2 persons):   o Dinners;  o Any services not mentioned in the section “The price includes” |