

# welcome to Georgia





**2000** meters above sea level  
Europe's highest settlement in Europe Ushguli



Accommodation facilities more than **2000**



**12000** Historical monuments and visitor centers over

**8** National parks and **31** Protected areas



**525** Endemic breeds of grapevineed areas

Mineral water / springs more than **2400**



**56%** Inbound tourism increase

Up to **150** cultural events  
Up to **43** festivals





## Georgia listed among top 16 destinations to travel in 2016 by CNN

Georgia - a land of medieval architecture, timeless culture and staggering scenery, Georgia is simply stunning.



## Archaeological Discovery Hints to Georgia Being World's Oldest Wine Producer

The scientists believe that the site contains artefacts that could once and for all prove that Georgia is the oldest wine producing country in the world.



## First Europeans. 1.8 million year old hominid discovered in Georgia (BBC)

The Remains of what may be the earliest human ancestors to migrate from Africa into Europe have been found in Georgia.



## World Bank: By 2025 Georgia - Premier Tourism Destination

President of the World Bank has named Georgia among the most successful countries regarding its tourism and infrastructure development.



## Lonely Planet:

Georgia is widely recognized as the land where man first learned to tame the wild grapevine, around 6000BC.



## UNESCO: Ancient Georgian traditional Qvevri winemaking method

Inscribed in 2013 (8.COM) on the Representative List of the Intangible Cultural Heritage of Humanity



## Telegraph:

Tbilisi – among the European cities you never thought to visit - but probably should



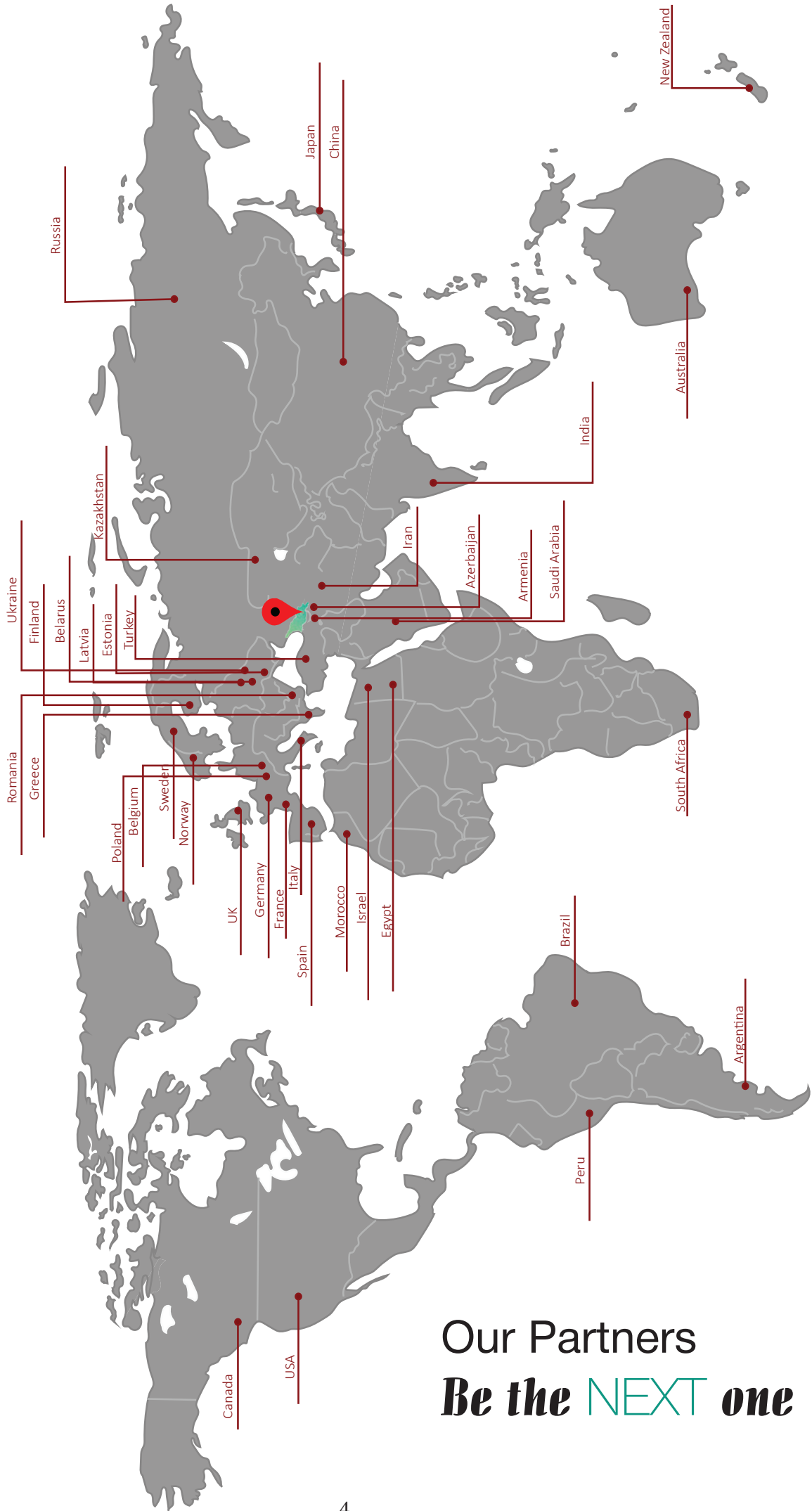
## Vogue:

Forget Red, White, and Rose—Orange Wine Is What You Should Be Sipping This Fall.



## Telegraph:

The world's most beautiful churches. Gergeti Church



Our Partners  
*Be the **NEXT** one*

## **Why choose Step in Georgia**

You choose Step in Georgia, we plan your trip and give a chance to explore Georgia's unique nature, culture, history, cuisine and enjoy every day of your stay. We offer complete blend of tourism services oriented on high quality and affordable prices.

## **Our personal approach**

Whatever you choose from the services, Step in Georgia always follows the basic formula of team's dedication, which consists of persistent work, ethic maintenance, the process of making that leads to success. Every visitor is a special guest and needs a special approach.

## **Step in Georgia your loyal and trusted friend during your trip to Georgia**

We work 24/7 for the best service. You are in trustful hands. Georgians are known for their hospitality. Every tourist is our personal guest. So we do everything for their comfortable trip and unforgettable experience.

## **Every vocation is a special occasion**

For those who have little time available but want to capture as much as possible of good holiday, those who want to get to know a place they've never seen or go back to place visited before, those who love adventures and are keen to new experiences, but want to rely on punctual and timely assistance. Our qualified team is at your disposal with plenty of tips and exhaustive information to enable you to enjoy every minute of your holiday and make it unforgettable.

## **Plan my trip**

Let us plan your trip! You have to rest, relax, enjoy your trip! The target of Step in Georgia is to organize everything for your extraordinary vacation.

## **Trips tailored/designed to inspire**

Tours in Georgia can be organized through year round summer, autumn, winter and spring. Hence, Georgia is a unique country that can offer holiday tours at the seaside, snow covered picks and ski resorts, breathtaking landscapes and mountains, wonderful grottos, ancient and modern constructions, chance to taste unforgettable flavors of Georgian cuisine, take part in making traditional Georgian dishes and taste hundreds of species of wine.

## **Quality is in details**

Full attention to every detail from the very beginning of planning the tour, 24 hour assistance to our customers in every step, till the departure of Step in Georgia's guests. Dedicated workstyle of the team and satisfied guests are our priority. Multi-choice programs make every instant pleasurable and unforgettable. Step in Georgia is always by your side. Contact us to be informed of new proposals, receive valuable information before you plan your trip and be the first to get the best offers.



Experience more than ten years.....

Various fields of activities.....

Wide network of services.....

Reliable partners worldwide....

Friendly and helpful environment....

Successful business enrolment

# Our History

Step in Georgia is a branch of International Relations Centre Ltd, holding company successfully operating on local and international markets. Our team counts more than 10 years of dedicated work in tourism and education.

Our specialized departments offer a diversity of services and long term relationship with partners. Dedicated workstyle of the team has made a name for a brand signifying quality and reliability. Operating successfully for years International Relations Centre Ltd is awarded with trustfulness and loyalty of the clients as well as its partners.

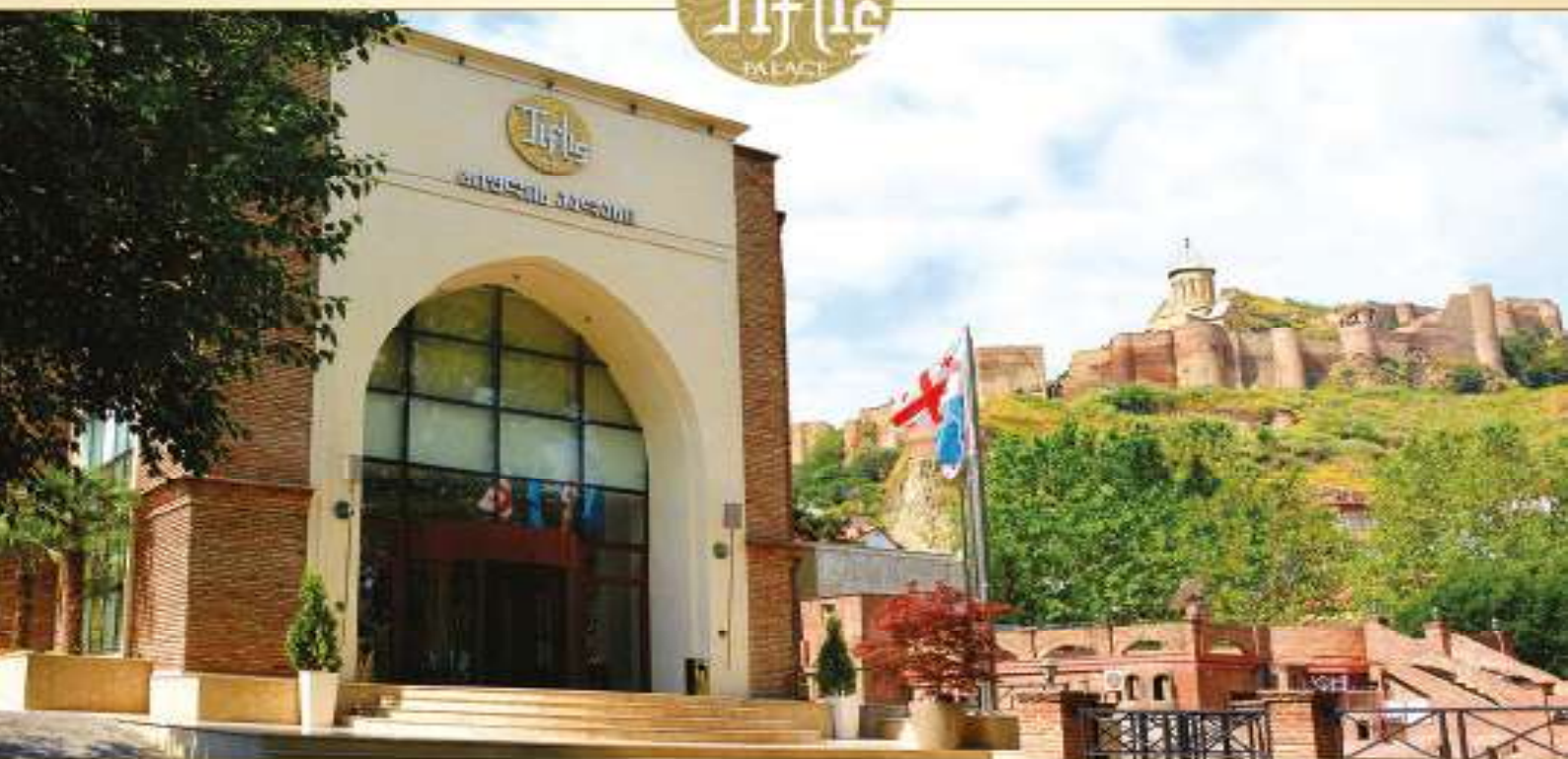
International Relations Centre combines three different directions: Education, Tourism and Medical Tourism. We are proud of the fact that with our support and effort people can get desired results, enabling themselves to make a step forward to their better lives and successful achievements. With IRC's help and support hundreds of students from different countries are undergoing undergraduate programs at leading universities in Georgia. IRC is proud of investing a small contribution to their future profession formation and subsequent career advancement.

Step in Georgia is happy to offer complete blend of touristic services. Having combined extensive network of services: transportation, transfer, air tickets, interesting and exciting tour packages, MICE/ Team building, entertainment, high class services, reliability, client's satisfaction, tailored to client's needs, VIP services, flexible reporting etc. Step in Georgia is able to surprise guests/clients with diversity of fascinating, carefully designed, customer oriented tours and sights, a wide choice of holiday tours at any time of year.

Given the fact that Georgia is rich in healing springs and resorts, Step in Georgia is actively engaged in Medical Tourism - a fast growing industry in Georgia.



*The City*  
**that** Loves You



*Palace of Hospitality*

3, Gorgasali str. 0103, Tbilisi, Georgia

Tel: (+995) 32 2000245

[www.tiflispalace.ge](http://www.tiflispalace.ge)

## Tbilisi - The City of Tolerance

Have you ever been to a city where you can find Christian Orthodox, Armenian Gregorian and Roman Catholic churches, a synagogue, a mosque and a Zoroastrian temple all within a 5 minute walk of each other? Then you should definitely come to Georgia and visit our - multi-ethnic, multi-cultural, multi-religious capital city on the crossroads of history, a city neither European nor Asian but a heady blend of both East and West.

Georgia's ancient and vibrant capital city spreads out on both banks of the Mtkvari River, and is surrounded on three sides by mountains. The most widely accepted variant of the legend of Tbilisi's founding says that in the mid-5th century AD, King Vakhtang I Gorgasali was hunting in the heavily wooded region with a falcon.

The King's falcon allegedly caught or injured a pheasant during the hunt, after which both birds fell into a nearby hot spring and died from burns. King Vakhtang became so impressed with the hot springs that he decided to cut down the forest and build a city. The name Tbilisi derives from the Old Georgian word «tbili», meaning warm.

Archaeological studies of the region indicate human settlement in the area early as the 4th millennium BC. Few of the earth's small cities offer the visitor as much as Tbilisi, the city where everyone can find something to his own mind and interests: truly fabulous walks, fantastic modern architecture, tiny streets, carved wooden balconies, richly frescoed churches and Art Nouveau. Combine this with the legendary Georgian hospitality and you have a unique travel destination.

So you are welcome to come and explore it!

Tbilisi's main attractions:

Essential Tbilisi: Narikala fortress, Sulphur bath, dry bridge bazaar, Aerial Cable Car, old town, freedom square, funicular, leghvtakhevi

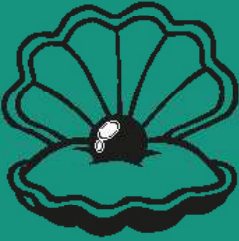
Parks and gardens: Rike park, vake park, vera park, 9th April and Giorgi Leonidze Parks  
The National Botanical Garden of Georgia, turtle lake

Tbilisi Museums: Georgian National Museum, Museum of Fine Arts, Open Air Museum of Ethnography, State Museum of Silk, Tbilisi History Museum, The National Gallery, Zurab Tsereteli Museum of Modern Art

Churches: Anchiskhati Basilica, Catholic Church, Great Synagogue, Kashveti, Metekhi Church, Mosque, Sioni Cathedral, The Holy Trinity Cathedral of Tbilisi and etc.





*Adjara the  of Caucasus*



## Black Sea Coast

When it comes to perfect beaches, incredible cuisine, and jaw-dropping art and history, the the Black Sea coast holds treasured travel secrets. Ready for an odyssey across the storied sea that gave birth to the world's most enduring myths and legends?

The combination of seaside resorts and mountainous areas makes Ajara an ideal tourist destination. The resorts located at 1500-2000 m above sea level have excellent conditions for visitors all four seasons of the year.

Sea beaches, mountain ridges, crystal waterfalls, stone gorges, bottomless lakes, foamy rivers and many many other beautiful natural attractions are concentrated in this small nook of the earth. Well-known Adjara resorts with their fine beaches attracting numerous tourists are especially picturesque. But it's not only the pleasures of nature that make Adjara a popular vacation spot. There the holiday makers can experience the unique exotic flavor of this place expressed in the motley mix of eastern and western cultures – try delicious national dishes, become eyewitnesses of traditional life of the Adjarians, take pleasure in sightseeing, and buy original souvenirs.

Summer at the Georgian sea coast starts already at the end of May or beginning of June. The weather is usually hot, so you can breathe fresh sea air and swim, if the water is warm enough. Actually the best time for swimming in the sea is from middle of June till end of September. The water is really enjoyable, and the beautiful landscapes just make your vacation as good as it can be.

Each Georgian sea resort has its own peculiarities. Batumi is a center of nightlife and entertainment, famous for its discos, clubs, cafes and long beautiful promenade, where you can cycle or have a pleasant walk before giving in to dancing. Batumi Botanical Garden is an attraction for those who love nature: you can spend the whole day walking there!

Kobuleti, Chakvi, Gonio and Kvariati are good places for a peaceful vacation with family. If you spend your vacation in Kobuleti, you can visit Kintrishi Protected Area, see beautiful waterfalls, typical Ajarian arch bridges, walk in the forest, learn more about Georgian flora and fauna.

Ureki with its magnetic sand is a really good place for improving your health. Anaklia is a small climatic resort which has a lot of space, interesting architectural objects - from ancient fortress to ultra-modern bridge. Recently it started hosting music festivals. So, pack your bag, come to Georgia and treat yourself. You deserve it.

*«We really enjoyed our stay in Batumi. Everything was perfect: the planning process, the accommodations, the logistics, the itinerary, even the weather!. The drive to/from the beach was breathtaking with dramatic landscapes along the coastline. The only regret is that we couldn't spend more time.»*

**Elsa**

*«Our itinerary really allowed us to immerse ourselves and explore so much over 10 days. I would definitely use this agency again and recommend to anyone looking to travel to Kobuleti.»*

**Tomek & Anna, Poland**

*«We had a fantastic journey to Adjara Region and we will remember it for a life time. Travel is all about the "stories" that are created... and thanks to Step in Georgia we have wonderful stories to tell our family and friends.»*

**Marius, Lithuania**



# Kazbegi



## Georgian Military Highway

The Georgian Military Road is a highlight to any trip to Georgia, and one of South Caucasus' most scenic roads, steeped in trade, wars, and legends.

The road is 198km long and runs between Tbilisi (capital city of Georgia) and Vladikavkaz across the Great Caucasus Range.

This ancient passage across the Caucasus towards Vladikavkaz in Russia provides the quickest access from Tbilisi to the high Caucasus, leading to the spectacular Kazbegi area – a highlight of any trip to Georgia. As you head north from Tbilisi, the road clings to the side of the turquoise Zhinvali Reservoir and passes beautiful Ananuri and Gudauri ski resort before crossing the 2379m Jvari Pass then descending the Tergi valley to the small town of Kazbegi (staphantsminda), a superb base for walking, climbing and bird-watching.

Above the town of Kazbegi like a fairy castle, rises Gergeti Trinity Church. It was built in the 14th century, so it's an amazing experience to climb up to it, but in fact ascent goes quite easy taking only an hour walk up the serpentine road and a thorny forest. Very often it happens that alpinists conquering the peak spend the night near the church to become acclimatized to new conditions. The architecture in the Gergeti Trinity Church is a traditional one for Georgia, although it is the only cupola church in the northern part of Georgia. A small bell tower is situated near the church, decorated with few bas-reliefs. The church itself is quite simple: only bas-reliefs and ordinary patterns decorate the massive stone blocs and the windows almost don't let any light creating mysterious twilight.

Mount Kazbegi – in Georgian known as Mkinvartsveri ("Ice-Top"), this perpetually snow-covered giant is, at 5047m, one of the highest peaks in the Caucasus. Kazbegi is steeped in legend: the ancient Greeks believed that Prometheus was chained to the rocky flanks of the mountain as a punishment for stealing fire from the Gods and giving it to mortals, while Christian legend tells that the manger of Christ was brought to Kazbegi and is still hidden somewhere hereabouts. Whether you believe these tales or not, climbing the mountain is sure to be an unforgettable experience.



*«What a great trip! A hilarious group and a perfect balance between high peaks of mountains, locals who welcomed us like old friends, dazzling architecture and Georgian food and wine of course.»*

**Noa Benda**



## The Highest Settlement in Europe



## Svaneti

Sometimes, the incredible landscapes seen in pictures are much closer than tourists might think. The best example of this, is Svaneti: beautiful, wild and mysterious - an ancient land locked in the Caucasus, so remote that it was never tamed by any ruler. Uniquely picturesque villages and snow-covered, 4000m-plus peaks rising above flower-strewn alpine meadows provide a superb backdrop to the many walking trails. Svaneti's emblem is the koshki (defensive stone tower), designed to house villagers at times of invasion and local strife (until recently Svaneti was renowned for its murderous blood feuds).

Svaneti is divided into Upper (Zemo) and Lower (Kvemo) Svaneti. Green and beautiful Upper Svaneti offers the best walking and climbing as well as the strongest traditions. The walking season lasts from about early June to mid-October, though some routes can be waterlogged early or late in that period.

Svaneti also has a rich church-art heritage of its own, and many tiny village churches boast frescoes 1000 years old. This mountain retreat, with its own unwritten language, largely unintelligible to other Georgians, is regarded as a bastion of Georgian traditions, as can be witnessed at the numerous Svan festivals of which probably the most famous is Kvirikoba.

Svaneti History & Ethnography Museum – The largest part of this rich collection is nowadays kept in Svaneti Museum of History and Ethnography together with the materials discovered during archeological excavations, unique engravings and manuscripts. Guests of this newly rehabilitated museum have amazing opportunity to visit 6 permanent exposition halls. Among the displayed exponents, visitors also can discover Svanetian domestic items, clothing, weapons and armor.

Highest peaks in Svaneti:

- Shkhara 5068m
- Ushba 4700m
- Tetnaldi 4617m

*«Our travel agency (“Step in Georgia”) was from very beginning very professional and friendly. In three rounds of emails we fine-tuned our 12 day itinerary. We explored the remote Svaneti region with walks to the base of Mount Ushguli, Mount Shkhara and Mount Chalaadi. Spending time among the locals, we learnt about their unique culture. There is no hesitation on our side and our ranking is an absolute five star, we are sure that next year we will visit Georgia again with this company.»* **Daniel, Jonathan, Susanne, Patrick, Alice, CA**



## Extreme

Extreme tourism is defined as the recreational travel to engage in dangerous or physically risky sports or other activities. This niche form of traveling has become increasingly popular among thrill-seeking enthusiasts. Luckily there are plenty of extreme tourist attractions in Georgia to fully satisfy your craving for gut-wrenching adventure.



An extreme environment is one in which there exist difficult environmental conditions for human survival. They include deserts, ice sheets, mountains and rainforests. All activities involved in these environments include an element of risk, and often include a lot of physical exertion. Tourist activities count as extreme tourism includes rock climbing, rafting, bungee jumping, ice walking and paragliding.

Extreme tourism has expanded in popularity in recent years, as people search adventure. Many people do not want packaged holidays in huge mass tourist resorts and are looking for something different in a holiday. This is where Extreme tourism comes in.



### Georgia's main extreme attractions

- **Caving**
- **Rafting**
- **Alpinism**
- **Paragliding**
- **Rock Climbing**
- **Mountain Biking**
- **Horseback Riding**





## Krubera – The World’s Deepest Cave

Krubera Cave, is the deepest known cave on Earth. It is located in the Arabika Massif, one of the largest High-mountain limestone karst massifs in the Western Caucasus region of Georgia. This mountain block contains several hundred caves that started to develop when the mountains started to rise more than 5 Million years ago. Five of these caves are deeper than 1,000 meters;

Formation of caves in Arabika Massif continues up to this day. Climate here is wet - in winter thick layer of snow forms (which may close the narrow entrance in Krubera Cave) and each spring it is thawing and causes flash floods. Water here is very cold (what slows down the karst processes) but abundant (what facilitates karst processes).

Krubera is 2197 meters deep and is the only known cave on Earth deeper than 2,000 meters. Krubera Cave is a 16,058 meters long cave system which for most part consists of deep, vertical wells which are interconnected with passages. The cave starts high in the mountains, at an altitude of 2,256 meters, with a narrow entrance. Krubera Cave often is very narrow and had to be carved at many places to allow safe passage. At other places, the passageway is as large as subway tunnel.

The cave now is very popular destination for the expeditions coming from many countries.

At the depth of 200 meters, the cave divides into two main branches: Non-Kuybyshevskaya (explored to the depth of 1,293 m in 2008) and Main (2,197 m deep). At the depth of 1,300 meters the cave further divides into numerous branches.

When speleologists started exploring the cave, one of the hardships they faced were flooded tunnels called «sumps.» When they encounter a sump, cavers have to put on scuba gear and charge ahead. One of the sumps – the deepest one - has been dived up to 52 m depth.

In the period from October 23 to November 18, 2009, Robert Erhard and Darko Baksic, members of the Velebit Speleological Section, the Speleological Committee of Croatian Mountaineering Association and the Croatian Mountain Rescue Service, took part in an expedition into Krubera / Voronya. During the expedition they’ve made a lot of photographic and film material, passed the 2,000 m mark and descended into the Game Over chamber, situated at -2,080 m.



# MARCO POLO HOTEL

GUDAURI



## Snow and Ski

Georgia - an ideal place for winter sports enthusiasts, especially for those interested in skiing and snowboarding. Whether you're an inexperienced beginner or a well-trained veteran of the ski slopes, Step in Georgia offers some fantastic deals on ski holidays to some great locations around Georgia, with some of the best skiing facilities for you. We've been organizing exciting ski trips and we know what skiers and snowboarders are looking for. When you travel with us you can relax safe in the knowledge that we will look after you all the way.

### Gudauri

1990 m - 3279 m (Difference 1289 m)  
57 km22 km25 km10 km7 /  
Heli-skiing  
GEL 30,- / approx. 12,- (Day ticket main season)

### Bakuriaini

1740 m - 2672 m (Difference 932 m)  
17 km7 km6 km4 km14  
GEL 30,- / approx. 12,- (Day ticket main season)

### Goderdzi

1724 m - 2366 m (Difference 642 m)  
8 km3 km4 km1 km

### Hatsvali

1800 m - 2450 m (Difference 650)  
4.4 km2.6 km1.8 km0 km  
1GEL 15,- / approx. 6,- (Day ticket main season)

### Tetnaldi

2265 m - 3040 m (Difference 775 m)  
25 km Heli-skiing

## Free ride and Heli-Skiing permitted

Georgian Ski resorts: Gudauri and Mestia - "Mecca" for the lovers of backcountry skiing. Abundant powder, breathtaking vistas and wide open slopes make heliskiing in Georgia an incredible experience.

Hiring a guide lets you get the most out of the area and to explore the thrill of fresh virgin snow. Heli-skiing Gudauri has some of the finest high altitude powder in Europe, offering virtually unrestricted access up to 4,200 meters.

One of the newest heliskiing destinations in the world is just a short flight from central Europe in the beautiful Caucasus Mountains of Georgia. From this secret skiing spot, Svaneti, you can ski some of the highest peaks in Europe, at more than 5,000 meters tall and stretching across an expansive terrain of 1800 square kilometers. In Svanetia, you can ski dry and deep powder along the Layla Range, or some of the best spring corn below the massive peak of Tednaldi.





## Cultural tourism in Georgia

Cultural tourism is one of the largest and fastest-growing global tourism markets. Culture and creative industries are increasingly being used to promote destinations and enhance their competitiveness and attractiveness.

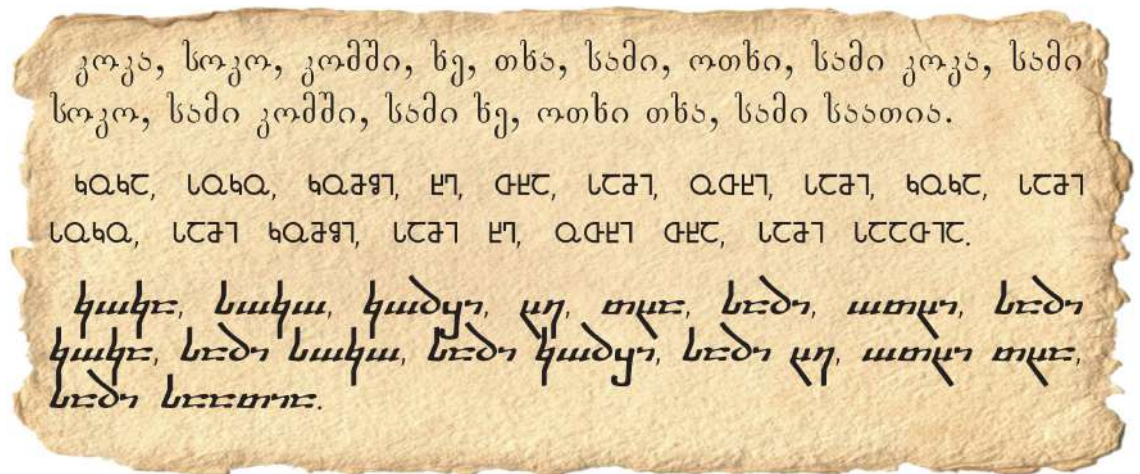
According to the World Tourism Organization, cultural tourism accounts for 37% of global tourism, and furthermore affirms that it will continue to grow 15% each year.

Georgia contains immense cultural and historical heritage, being host to 150 museums and 12,000 historical landmarks, 3 of which are included in the UNESCO World Heritage list:

- Bagrati Cathedral and Gelati Monastery (1994)
- Historical Monuments of Mtskheta (1994)
- Upper Svaneti (1996)

Georgian alphabet is a part of UNESCO's intangible Cultural Heritage Representative List!

The nomination was submitted to UNESCO in 2015 and its main goal was to emphasize that the evolution of Georgia's written language has produced three alphabets – Mrgvlovani, Nuskhuri and Mkhedruli as well as their harmonious co-existence in modern reality.



## Archaeology

Many countries have ancient beginnings. But very few can, like Georgia, trace their history back nearly two million years. The discovery of 1.8 million year old remains in the hills just south of Tbilisi provides the missing link in human expansion between Africa and Europe.

There are many reasons to come to Georgia, and gold is just one of them. Our museums and even stories are encased with gold: gold statues and figurines, belts and crowns from ancient tribes and peoples, like the Colchis. It was the Colchis, Georgia's ancient people, who are widely believed to have inspired some of our most famous visitors: Jason and the Argonauts.

Existing Fascinating Sites (like Dmanisi, Vani and Nokalakevi) make Georgia an Ideal Place for Archaeological Tours.

## Pilgrimage tourism

As one of the first countries in the world to convert to Christianity, in just the 4th century AD, today Georgia is proud to provide full religious freedom. While the majority of the country is Christian, Georgia has always been a home for people who belong to different religions... It is one of the few countries where churches, mosques, synagogues and chapels co-exist peacefully side by side.

In Georgia, there are a huge number of monasteries, churches and holy places that tourists can visit, the most popular tours among pilgrims.



## Agritourism

Georgia have been providing Agricultural, Horticultural Tours, and Agribusiness Tours since 2005. Experience farm and ranch life first-hand, explore our farmers markets, indulge in local produce and farm-raised meats and please your palate with a wine tasting or local brew. Food is mostly homegrown and organic, cultivated by small-scale farmers and delivered daily to the bustling markets and souks around the country.

Every agricultural tour Step in Georgia designs is fully customized to the needs of your tour groups. We tailor the budget, visits, type of accommodation, vehicles used, locations and every other aspect to match your group's requirements.



## ECO parks and bird watching

For now the whole Protected Areas cover 467 221,5 ha and it is 6,7% of the whole territory of Georgia. About 75% of Protected Areas are covered by forest. There are 18 state reserves, 5 national parks, 9 managed reserve, 3 natural monuments and 1 protected landscape. Georgia is one of the most ecologically diverse countries in the world, with climatic zones ranging from subtropical to high alpine to semi-desert.

Georgia is also home to vast expanses of completely unspoiled wildernesses, including one of Europe's largest national parks. Georgia is a perfect destination for eco-tourism lovers who believe in reducing their carbon footprints. Botanists and zoologists will simply enjoy their stay while birdwatchers will revel in the adventure of a lifetime as there are close to 360 endemic species of birds, making it a dream destination for birdwatchers.





*We just returned from a 10 day trip to Georgia with 5 family members. Step in Georgia worked with me to plan every detail of the trip. Everything went according to schedule and without a single hitch! Our agent lined up a trip to satisfy every single member in our group. We will never forget this trip of a lifetime! We started with 3 days, 2 nights in the West Georgia-Tskaltubo. The resort we stayed at and the activities planned were awesome! The food was wonderful.*



## Family Holidays in Georgia

The fast pace of modern life can make it hard to find the time to really appreciate your loved ones. That's why it is so important to get your family holiday just right.

It can be tricky finding the perfect holiday that offers something for everyone in the family. So I am here to tell you about the destination that you will wish to show your kids before they are "too cool" to travel with parents, and that will be a much more exciting experience than sending them off to summer camp.

Need inspiration for planning a trip with the family? Get the most out of your getaway by picking one of these best family vacation types everyone will love.

City vacation;    Ski vacation;    Beach vacation;  
Active and adventurous Vacations;    Gourmet Culinary Vacation

City Vacation / Tbilisi—you'll be able to take a glance to the history of the city from early centuries to nowadays by walking in narrow streets of the city and explore the religious and secular architecture. Here you will find different religious buildings- churches, synagogues, mosque as well as famous 19th century houses with wooden multicolored balconies; your kids will love admiring architectural wonders of the ancient world.

Ski Vacation / Georgia—an ideal place for winter sports enthusiasts, especially those interested in skiing and snowboarding. Whether you're an inexperienced beginner or a well-trained veteran of the ski slopes, Step in Georgia offers some fantastic deals on ski holidays to some great locations around Georgia, with some of the best skiing facilities for you. We've been organizing exciting ski trips and we know what skiers and snowboarders are looking for. When you travel with us you can relax safe in the knowledge that we will look after you all the way.

Beach Vacation / The Black Sea coast is very attractive in its own way in every season. Mild climate, warm sea, fresh fish, flavorful coffee Batumi style, evergreen Botanical Garden, trips to mountainous Ajara, cycling, sunsets on the coast... it might be a great idea!

Active and adventurous Vacations Vacation—Adventure travel is more than a vacation. It's a chance to get to know your world better by putting yourself on a first-name basis with the people, places, and things that make it worth exploring. Adventure Tourism allows for new destinations to market themselves as truly unique, appealing to those travelers looking for rare, incomparable experiences. Thrill-seekers look no further than Georgia's adventure attractions:

Kayaking & Rafting;    Backpacking / Hiking / Trekking;    Horseback riding  
Cycling / Mountain biking;    Caving;    Zipline rides

Gourmet Culinary Vacation- ready to see Georgia through an itinerary of unforgettable sensory experiences ?You will have the possibility to go behind the scenes and mingle with culinary chefs and restaurant owners, they will give a hands-on demonstration on how to make traditional dishes such as Khinkali, khachapuri and other plates.

Well, If you're still looking for a dose of inspiration, here are some more.

Ancient Cave towns: Among the few notable cave towns in the world, the Georgian ones are of very special interest. Uplistsikhe, David Gareji monastery, and the world-famous cave town of Vardzia are nominated for the UNESCO World Heritage list. Exploring all of these places, can be interesting for your children.

Sataplia nature reserve and the cave of Prometheus—Family excursions can be fascinating, if you go to Imereti, where you can find two interesting caves. In one of them, Sataplia, there are preserved dinosaur footprints! Isn't it a great attraction for every curious child?

Finally, why not head off on a self-drive holiday? You can set your own pace, stay in hotels, holiday or camp parks, and be totally free to create your own holiday. It's a great adventure for families and will give you fantastic memories without breaking the bank



# The Cave Towns



## Ancient Cave towns

Among the few notable cave towns in the world, the Georgian ones are of very special interest. Uplistsikhe, David Gareji monastery, and the world-famous cave town of Vardzia are nominated for the UNESCO World Heritage list.

Located in Eastern Georgia, Uplistsikhe (literally “Lord’s Fortress”) is an abandoned rock-hewn town, which once have played an important role in Georgian history. The place was founded in the late Bronze Age, around 1000 BC, and continued to be inhabited until 13th century AD. Between the 6th century BC and the 11st century AD, Uplistsikhe was one of the most important political and religious centers of pre-Christian Kartli – one of the predecessors of the Georgian state.

Archaeologists have unearthed numerous temples and findings relating to a sun goddess, worshipped prior to the arrival of Christianity. When Christianity arrived in Georgia, the city lost importance in favor of the new centers of Christian culture, most notably Mtskheta and Tbilisi.

At the top of the complex is a Christian stone basilica, dating from the 10th century. The rock-cut structures include a large hall, called Tamaris Darbazi, pagan places of sacrifice, dwellings, as well as functional buildings, like a pharmacy, a bakery, a prison, and even an amphitheater. The rock-cut structures are connected by tunnels, while other tunnels had the purpose of an emergency escape route.

David Gareji monastery was founded in the 6th century on the slopes of the Gareji hills by one of the thirteen Syrian Fathers, Father David (Garejeli). Those fathers were missionaries from Mesopotamia promoting and spreading Christianity, the respected founders of many monasteries and holy places around Georgia. The frescoes here are superb. Some of them date as far back as the 9th and 10th centuries. The Golden Age of Georgia is directly reflected in the incredible 11th – 13th century frescoes.

The incredible cave town of Vardzia dates back to Queen Tamar’s reign, nearly a thousand years ago. Her father, King George III started the foundation of the complex, while Queen Tamar continued its construction. Many frescoes date back to the beginning of the XII century. The complex itself consists of small chapels, bell towers, secret tunnels, monks’ caves as well as a fully functioning monastery to this day. Set in the most serene and stunning countryside, its beautiful location captures your imagination and brings you back to the era of Queen Tamar’s reign.



«We had an amazing trip in Georgia, this tiny country has a huge potential, i am a solo traveler highly interested in cultural tourism. I will come back for sure as i was in Georgia only for 4 days and believe me its not enough» Mileta Hevčuk, Slovenia



# Wedding in Georgia



# Endless Tourism Possibilities

## Wedding in Georgia

Georgia has so much to offer as a romantic wedding and holiday destination: stunning scenery, pretty villages, historic architecture, outdoor activities and fine gastronomy and wines.

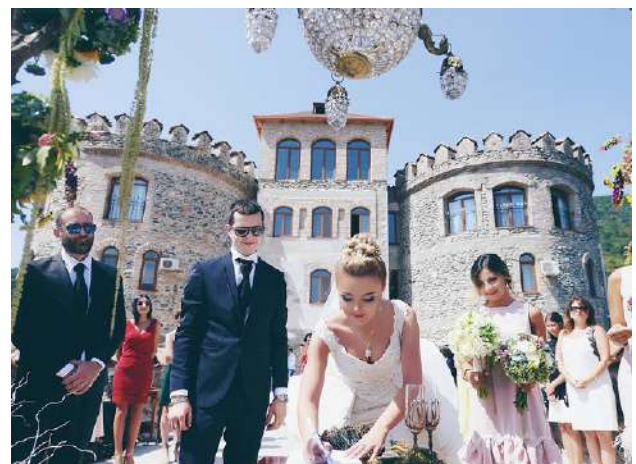
Each wedding is tailor-made and unique. With a network of stunning wedding venues and a host of quality suppliers, there is a memorable wedding to suit all budgets, styles and guest numbers for couples wanting to get married in Georgia.

Discover our destination wedding offerings including a dedicated wedding planning team, honeymoon amenities, and more!

Royal Batoni» is located in a historical part of Georgia, Kakheti; In a city of Kvareli, by Iliia's lake side, between the mountains of Kvareli and river Duruji. Hotel is hour and a half(146km) drive from Tbilisi.

Ideal for more intimate wedding days, the Royal Batoni provides a singularly charming space to say your "I do's."

Royal Batoni artfully combines maritime decorative elements with modern art to create an aesthetic that is unique among other Georgian venues.





«All the days we spent here,would like to experience again and again !!!! We would willingly stay over and see what we missed. We are sure next year we will come back,explore and see a lot of new,interesting and exciting places.»  
 Moscow AT-Consulting

«Friends,Thank you so much. You made our vacation!!!! your service and hospitality was awesome. We would willingly encourage your management to issue a special bonus to all organizers involved in planning our tours.»  
 Davidov Pavel



# Endless Tourism Possibilities

## MICE

Whether it is a corporate party, team building activities, conference, exhibition or any other MICE event, we can help you to achieve all of your aspirations.

Step in Georgia is working creatively to tailor to your exact needs and requirements. We focus on providing professional management for events for a wide range of companies and organizations.

We offer complete event management, from the development of innovative ideas and organization to the final implementation of the program.

You can relax knowing that our experts are looking after your VIPs. We share your standards of quality and we consistently work towards and beyond them.

We offer the following services:

- Book accommodation / Registration of guests at the hotel, both for individuals and large groups
- Provide an excellent logistical service for groups and VIP guests
- Rent a conference hall or a place for your event
- Provide technical and translation services during the conferences and meetings
- Prepare printing materials for participants
- Translator/interpreter services
- PR and Media coverage
- Organize gala dinners and catering and etc.

We start by understanding your corporate objectives, including the needs and interests of your audience, and how your event can help you fulfill those needs. Working to your specific objectives, we then create your unique event from the ground up.

From creative development to logistical planning and program execution, we deliver innovative solutions. By drawing on our extensive relationships with airlines, hotels, transport companies, speaker bureaus and regional authorities, we also match your desired goals with logistics and entertainment that complete your event from start to finish.





# Endless Tourism Possibilities



## Culinary holidays in Georgia!

Let's face it: what's one of the best things about travelling? The food of course! Gastronomy is the zenith of cultural importance, epitomizing local dedication to tradition and innovation. No matter where you go or what you do, food will be there to make a great trip even better.

Whether taking full-immersion cooking courses, hiking through vineyards and orchards for tastings, hunting down the best urban street food, or scouring new farmers' markets, culinary tourists are increasingly fanning the globe in search of authentic food experiences. Rich in both history and flavor, Georgian cuisine is one of the most exotic in the world and the food is mostly homegrown and organic, cultivated by small-scale farmers and delivered daily to the bustling markets and souks around the country.

There are many reasons to fall in love with Georgian cuisine. Once you have tried you will never forget the appetizing taste of Georgian dishes. Each historical province of Georgia has its own distinct culinary tradition, with variations. Workhorse of Georgian cuisine is meat, but you are also offered a variety of vegetarian dishes. Variables aside, there are certain dishes you shouldn't leave Georgia without tasting.

These are the non-negotiables-the unforgettable bites that keep Georgia on your mind. Guided tours will take you on a tasting adventure, discovering unique restaurants, food shops and eateries while sampling delicious foods and beverages along the way. It's time to go behind the scenes and mingle with culinary chefs and restaurant owners, they will give a hands-on demonstration on how to make traditional dishes such as Khinakli, khachapuri, Mtsvadi, Churchkhela and other plates. Guests will have ample time to learn and cook their own meal. After preparation, they will enjoy the lunch they've prepared. What is better way, than to explore the various cultures of the world than through food and drink?!

Step in Georgia creates and hand-pick the best food & wine experiences in different regions of Georgia. We offer a wide range of wine and gastronomic tours & experiences to discover the authentic that there is in every city and destination.

So if you're ready to see Georgia through an itinerary of unforgettable sensory experiences, let us be your guide!





## Cradle of Wine

*«Not first time in Georgia- always admired about your country. It was a great chance to experience this feeling once again. Tours were planned wonderfully, marvelous cuisine with multiple choice of exotic food, people with real Georgian hospitality and really ancient and interesting history. Combination of all above said , makes the traveler not to miss this pleasure.»*

**Sergey Osharov. Moscow 26.05.2014**

*«I am very happy I went on this trip. Upon arrival at Tbilisi airport, I was presented with a bottle of wine - a very good first impression of the country! Our guides and drivers were extremely knowledgeable and helpful. It felt like I was travelling with friends, who had a deep understanding of the area and a wealth of knowledge about what we saw.»*

**Steve Rudis**

*«Georgien ist ein wunderbares/wunderschönes Land, ich empfehle Ihnen für Georgien möglichst viel Zeit zu nehmen. Besuchen Sie unbedingt das schwarze Meer, im Sommer gibt es viele Feste, Konzerte und andere interessante Veranstaltungen, da findet man etwas für jeden Geschmack»*

**Albrecht Beiter**

# Endless Tourism Possibilities

## Georgia Cradle of Wine

Wine is part of Georgian heritage including architecture, poetry, and songs, and is associated with celebrations, holidays and rituals. Winemaking remained the basic of the Georgian economy for centuries. It is a symbol of regeneration, of wealth and plenty.

The continuity of wine making tradition is attested by the diversity of endemic varieties. There are 525 endemic varieties of grapevine identified in Georgia as of today. Georgia is one of the oldest wine producing regions of the world. Its long winemaking history has given rise to unique methods of production.

Wine in this county is aged and stored in special cone-shaped clay vessel known as a Kvevri. Each kvevri holds between 300 and 500 liters and is placed in the ground to help regulate storage temperature, keeping it between 14 and 15 C. Wines produced in this way are noted for their high extraction and tannic contents, distinctive aroma and unique taste.

The traditional production methods co-exist with more modern „European” techniques, resulting a wide range of flavor profiles. Making wine in kvevri, is ancient traditional Georgian method now protected as intangible heritage by UNESCO.

## Chateau Mukhrani

Founded in the late 19th century by Prince Ivane Mukhranbatoni, the Chateau Mukhrani is a winery and castle located in Mukhrani village, just outside of Tbilisi. Mukhrani wines received international acclaim from the beginning and the winery was one of the exclusive suppliers to the Russian Imperial Court. The castle and gardens were once a cultural center for the Georgian elite and Russian royalty.

Since 2007, Chateau Mukhrani has once again been producing wine harvested in its own vineyards. The wine cellar has also been rebuilt according to its original design and now holds more than 60,000 barrels of wine. Today, visitors can tour the restored castle, gardens and wine cellar; sample Mukhrani wines and Georgian cuisine; and try their hand at traditional bread baking, churchkhela making or chacha distillation.

Chateau Mukhrani is a 30-minute drive from Tbilisi and is best reached by car or taxi. A wide range of tour packages are available and must be reserved in advance. Lunch, dinner, wine education classes and group culinary classes are also available.





## Wellness & Spa



## Spa & Wellness

More than 2000 springs are discovered in the territory of Georgia, which were used by local population for a long time. It is considered that mineral waters cure different diseases faster than medicines.

The influence of mineral waters is more increased if it is accompanied by air of mountains, sun rays and the greenery around. The spa town of Borjomi, 150km (93 miles) west of Tbilisi, developed by Tsar Nicholas in the 19th century as a spa town, produces much acclaimed mineral water.

The resort Tskhaltubo is located in the west of Georgia, in the ravine of the river "Tskhaltubo", in 7km from Kutaisi, in 250km from the capital city of Georgia - Tbilisi and in 70km from the Black sea. The resort is located at 95-120m above the sea level.

Mineral water of Tskhaltubo has become a symbol of healthy life for a long time. That is why such unique gift of nature is called «Water of Immortality». The healing properties of Tskhaltubo waters are famous from ancient times. Nowadays modern medical equipments give us a possibility to improve treatment results.

Don't miss a chance to visit Tbilisi sulphur baths which are located in a domed, oriental-style 19th-century bath places just north of the Metekhi Bridge. Currently very popular place, Georgian Sulphur baths were also frequently visited by famous Russian writers such as Pushkin and Tolstoy.

Intrigued? Great! The names you should put on your map are as follow: Kvareli (for wine spa), Borjomi, Tskaltubo, Sairme and Likani (for various kinds of mineral water treatments). Don't forget to visit Tbilisi sulfur baths, as you travel to the Georgian capital!

According to the Georgian national tourism awards, here are the top 5 wellness spa hotels in Georgia:

- Crown Plaza Borjomi
- Lopota lake resort & Spa
- Kvareli Eden
- Resort Sairme
- Hotel Tskaltubo Spa Resort

*«I would not hesitate to recommend this agent and the company Step in Georgia for any travel in Georgia»*

*Ruth Gomez*

**«País maravilloso, gente amable, Step in Georgia personal amable. Este fue mi primer viaje a Georgia. Me sorprendió que un país tan pequeño tiene variedad enorme, la naturaleza, la cocina rica, la música etc. Ha tenido el tiempo maravilloso con mi amigo Paco. Gracias a Step in Georgia.»**



## Georgian National Museum

The Georgian National Museum presents internationally significant collections of art and dynamic, changing exhibitions, providing audiences with inspiration and knowledge of the wonderful world of culture, art, science and education.

### First Europeans in Georgia

The evidences and proof of the oldest human existence in Eurasia is displayed together with magnificent medieval Christian art, stunning gold and silver jewelry from the ancient land of Colchis, spectacular modern and contemporary paintings of Georgian artists and masterpieces of the oriental, western European and Russian decorative arts.

### Ethnographical Museum

Located in the central district of the capital, ethnographical museum is one of the most interesting tourist attractions. The open air museum encompasses 14 ethnographic zones: Kartli, Samegrelo, Adjara, Abkhazia, Svaneti, Khevsureti, Kakheti, Meshketi, Javakheti, Guria, Imereti, Racha, Lechkhumi and Ossetia

Each exhibit presents a certain historic-ethnographic area of Georgia. Museum presents architectural monuments, ethnographic materials – different kinds of tool, textiles and ceramics. The museum also includes the 5th-6th century basilica of Sioni, as well as a rich collection of grave stones in relief.

### Full comfort for visitors

Visitors can explore museum on their own, or enjoy guided tours around the museum. Experience Georgian folk exhibitions and festivals in ethnographical museum.





GEORGIAN  
CLOISSONNE ENAMEL  
*since 750*



ქობულაძის POKANY  
DAVID KAKABADZE



## **Georgian enamel, wool felt and ceramics**

### **What is wool felt?**

Wool Felt is made of sheep's wool by felting and mainly requires natural ingredients. Felting is one of the oldest means of wool processing. When making felt, palette of wool is chosen in accordance with the sketch and laid on the net for an artist to work on it individually. Felting technology is old Georgian tradition.

### **Georgian wool felt**

Wool felt in Georgian is often made in mountainous part of the country. You will hear frequently that wearing Georgian felt which is ecologically clean, natural product, has many healing qualities.

### **Little history**

Felt making in Georgia has long historical tradition. According to archeological excavation, its fragments date back to second millennium B.C. As for written sources, in middle ages it was exported from the country together with fabric.

### **Georgian enamel**

Enamel – thin glassy coating, obtained by melting the glass powders of different metals with impurities which give different colors to the product itself.

### **Method of enamel making**

Remains unchanged for twelve centuries. It has complicated technique of enameling, not amenable to mechanization. According to the earliest survived examples the art of Georgia enamel has no less than 1200 years of existence.

### **Nowadays**

Today, the once abandoned traditions are gaining immense importance, people again and again are turning to the ancient works, finding new ways that will eventually necessarily determine its rightful place in the development of Georgian culture.

### **Georgian Ceramic**

The first samples of ceramic ware appeared in the territory of Georgia in the 7th millennium BC. Later, in the 4th-3rd millennia BC along with ceramics there emerged first metal items. During the centuries working on Ceramic became very popular among Georgian people. Elder generation taught how to create ceramic to their sons and grandsons. Creating masterpieces of ceramic is very long and hard- working process. It needs time and good will of the creator.

Georgian national arts and crafts are attractive in their simplicity, plasticity and unique tradition forms.

«Друзья!!! Спасибо за ваше гостеприимство. Грузия – прекрасная страна с древнейшей историей.» Хоменок Михаил



Erisioni

## Georgian folk music

Georgian music reflects the rich history of Georgian people. Georgian polyphonic music tradition is world-renowned and calls upon an enchanting combination of ancient and modern harmonies. Georgia can be proud of the ancient polyphonic music. In 2001 UNESCO acknowledged this music as “a masterpiece of the world’s intangible cultural heritage”.

Music has always been an inseparable element of the spiritual life of Georgian nation. This consequently resulted in creating the various kinds of musical instruments. During the Archeological excavations were found many instruments that were even made B.C. such as Salamuri, Chanti, Tsintsila, Lira etc.

Its unique, slightly dissonant style of Georgian folk songs have not changed for centuries. The Greek historian Strabo recorded the multi-voiced chants of Georgians riding into battle as early as in the 1. century BC. The songs, made up of three-part harmonies, are still in the blood of modern society. They can be heard in churches and monasteries across the country; down Tbilisi’s back-streets of an early evening; or across the village fields in summer. They are also very much a part of the Georgian feast (supra).

## Georgian dance

Georgian dance is the demonstration of Georgia’s rich and diverse culture. Each dance portrays the characteristics of the region in which it originated. The costumes are totally different for every dance and resemble the clothing of the past in different regions of the country.

Georgian dance, like the national polyphonic songs, remain a major cultural export. The Georgian State Dance Ensemble tours the world for most of the year. The vigorous, vibrant men leap high in the air; clash swords amidst flying sparks and razor sharp daggers are thrown into the floor in a frenetic, breathtaking choreography.

All this is contrasting with the women’s graceful, elegant and beautiful dances. Fabulous multi-colored costumes from the many mountain regions, wild drumming, accompanied by sound of pipes and accordions... The impression is mesmeric and truly unforgettable!



Sukhishvili - Georgian National Ballet



## Street Market in Georgia



## Walk and explore local treasure

Rich in both history and flavor, Georgian cuisine is one of the most exotic in the world and the food is mostly homegrown and organic, cultivated by small-scale farmers and delivered daily to the bustling markets and souks around the country. Unlike every other tour in the country, that limits you to cooking lessons and a meal on a fancy restaurant, IRC's Street Market Tour will take you for a walk through the most influential neighborhoods of our cities and stop by 5 up to 8 different small and family-run, local restaurants, local markets, alternative fairs and street food.

1. Explore like a local! Guided tours will take you on a tasting adventure, discovering unique restaurants, food shops and eateries while sampling delicious foods and beverages along the way. You will have a chance to discuss, taste and photograph the local produce – as well as pick up typical recipes that you can recreate at home.
2. 5+ food stops! Each tour will make several stops to various eateries offering a wide variety of food and beverage tastings from artful appetizers, decadent desserts, to local homemade chacha and wine.
3. Taste Real Flavors --- The fruits and vegetables at the farmers market are the freshest and tastiest available. Fruits are allowed to ripen fully in the field and are brought directly to you—no long-distance shipping, no gassing to simulate the ripening process, no sitting for weeks in storage. This food is as real as it gets—fresh from the farm.
4. Savor the biodiversity of our country - At the farmers market you find an amazing array of produce that you don't see in your average supermarket: red carrots, tomatoes, nuts, green garlic, quail eggs, local spices, forest mushrooms, and much, much more.
5. Become more knowledgeable about where the food comes from - Meeting and talking to farmers and food artisans is a great opportunity to learn more about how and where food is produced. We give you the opportunity to learn about the people who work hard to bring you the most delicious and nutritious food around.
6. Learn Cooking Tips, Recipes, and Meal Ideas – The farmers, ranchers, and artisans are often passionate cooks with plenty of free advice about how to cook the foods they are selling. You can also attend free seasonal cooking demonstrations and evening classes on food preservation and other kitchen skills.
7. Beyond the food -- While enjoying the succulent dishes of our famous Georgian cuisine, we walk through charming streets and tell you the stories and urban legends of the neighborhood that you will never read in any travel book.





# Electronic Music Festival in Georgia



## 5 Can't-Miss Georgian Music Festivals

While the ever-growing music industry continues to bring us new offerings, be it in hot new artists or even the whole new music genres, numerous music festivals continue to pop up across Georgia, trying to accommodate different tastes and gather different crowd. Sheer number of these events, makes even the researching music festivals very immersive and time consuming experience. So, here are some of the heavyweights you don't want to miss:

### Gem fest at Anaklia

GEM Fest—you most likely have never heard of, but definitely will—stands for “Georgian Electronic Music Festival” It will be held on the shores of the Black Sea, in a natural, subtropical setting, surrounded with concept architecture and artwork. GEM Fest was conceived as an international, multi-platform festival to celebrate the most illustrious, the brightest, and the best in youth culture, dance music, and stagecraft today.

### Tbilisi Open Air

Tbilisi Open Air is an annual international music festival, with the emphasis on electronic and rock music, first held in Tbilisi, Georgia, on 15–17 May 2009. After that the festival is organized each year and is widely considered as the biggest music festival in the Caucasus region. The festival mainly maintains several-day outdoor event format.

### One Caucasus

Annual International Festival One Caucasus is an interdisciplinary festival and a long-term borderland program that first took place in Georgia in 2014. One Caucasus Festival brings together musicians, artists, architects, educators and volunteers from all over the world.

### Art Gene Festival

Every summer in July the Art Gene Festival awaits Georgians and foreigners alike. Meanwhile the seven-day outdoor festival will offer demonstrations in martial arts / Traditional Georgian “Khridoli”, handicrafts, folk dance choreography, instrumental music, poetry and arts and crafts from various regions of Georgia.

### International Black Sea Jazz Festival

Every year in July since 2007 Batumi has been hosting an international Black Sea Jazz Festival attracting numerous jazz lovers. The festival organizer is “Eastern Promotion” that arranges additional interesting concerts and entertaining evenings within the Jazz Festival through the year round. The festival is usually held on Batumi Tennis Courts while after parties take place in different clubs throughout the city. Every year the organizers invite worldwide popular jazz singers and bands who create a real jazz celebration in Batumi for few days.





# Medical Tourism



## Medical Treatment in Georgia

Mountainous relief, closeness to the sea, good climate and picturesque landscape, natural caves create recreational resources and healthy and leisure conditions that attract travelers. There are 103 resorts, 182 places for developing resorts in Georgia.

### Borjomi

Borjomi is well known for its mineral waters that have been revered for centuries for having positive healing effects on people with digestion disorders. Borjomi water is sourced from a 1,500 year old volcanic spring where the natural pressure of carbon dioxide pushes water to the surface from 10km underground. Drinking mineral water of Borjomi helps to cleanse the body of toxins, reinforce the immune system and is also helpful in preventative care and treatment of diseases of the digestive system and metabolic disorders.

### Sairme

Balneological resort Sairme's mineral and thermal springs' medicinal qualities were already well known in the 19th century. The springs flow as several little springs on the territory of the resort. They are different from one another by their chemical composition and medicinal treatment qualities. Sairme offers sanitation procedures of any kind, like: Therapeutic, cardiology, urological services and etc. the mineral water is used for drinking and bottling and cures many diseases. Terminal medicinal waters are applied: for diseases of bones and muscles, Problems with a stomach Gynecologic diseases, Urological problems and etc.

### Tskaltubo

Surrounded by a large garden, tskaltubo spa resort offers hot mineral baths. Tskaltubo water is characterized by unique therapeutic qualities - best for treating problems of locomotor system, heart, bronchial asthma, digestive, diabetes, nervous systems, hypertension, and gynecological, musculoskeletal system. Tskaltubo water is a perfect solution for anti-age & Beauty & weight loss treatment, thus it's the sole exception not causing redness of the skin after SPA procedures.

### Ureki

The universality of the health-resort Ureki is conditioned by magnetic traits of sandy beach, analogous kind of sand is met only on two places in the world. Ureki fine-grained sand is dark gray color, which basic components are magnetite, titan-magnetite, ilmenite, pyroxene, quartz, granite, apatite, zircon and others. Magnetic fraction of sand is 23%, and total quantity of iron varies from 37 to 48 %, the magnetic perception of sand is 13-25 items more than ordinary sand. Efficiency of using magnetic sands in the following diseases is proven: Heart and blood vessel diseases, chronic ischemia heart disease, cardiosclerosis, obliteration of the vessels lower extremity; Rheumatic and contagious chronic polyarthritis, osteoarthritis and others; Children diseases (spinal paralysis, monoplegia's, hemiplegia's);

« В прошлом году мы решили отдохнуть на черноморском побережье.  
Компания посоветовала нам Уреки, т.к. мы путешествовали с маленькими детьми.  
Отличный выбор если вы с детьми и большой семьей. Обязательно вернемся» Олеся и Виктор



## Casino & Entertainment

Step in Georgia company has been delivering quality tours for over 10 years. We specialize in individual, group and corporate casino tours in Tbilisi and Batumi.

Among the gambling lovers, Batumi is known as the «mecca of Caucasus» for a good reason- casinos and hotels line its streets, and visitors can gamble, see shows, and shop at virtually any hour of the day or night.

Experience the thrills and excitement of the immense gaming floor: the games you like, the jackpots you love, and the personal service you deserve!

Enjoy gambling with: Blackjack, Blackjack Switch, Roulette, Craps, Poker, Russian Poker, Texas Poker, Slot Machines. Casinos we represent in Batumi: Leogrand Hotel & Casino Batumi, Sheraton hotel. Casinos we represent in Tbilisi: Radisson blue iveria, Shangrila, Casino Adjara.

We work with individual travelers, Bank Clubs, Groups of Friends, Retiree Organizations, Family Reunions, Travel Clubs, Conference Groups and many more. We provide high quality service and luxury for your better stay and relaxation!





## **Giorgi Shermazanashvili**

### **What is the most important while creating a composition?**

To achieve a good shoot it's very important a photographer's accurate and correct view. There are photographers who take thousands of photos recklessly, but in the end they get only few meaningful images. This method is good for beginner photographers, but it leads to give up searching composition.

### **Which kind of photography do you like most?**

I prefer landscapes. It's very interesting to use Drones for taking photos from above. Also, I'm interested in macrophotography, but still I could not fit in. Macro photography is a great philosophy and requires special lenses, special arranged space and special lighting. I have taken some photos of the macro but soon quit.

### **Can you highlight any period in photography that is more interesting for you and what makes contemporary photography distinctive ?**

I have not done any special training in photography and had no desire to do it. I think photography should not be "taught", but should be "studied". Those who are interested in technical characteristics about camera can easily get manual about it, but they can find methods, ideas, rules and nuances themselves. If someone wants to shoot something and does not like experiments can learn from internet, since there are heaps of materials.

### **Is it required any special skill/talent for perception of a taken photo?**

One taken shoot is perceived one way or another. Often it matches a photographer's devising. I think a photographer is happy when his intention/devising is read correctly by a photo viewer. For perception of the photo observation is more important than talent. Perception of a photo needs it's observation than talent.



# Irakli Shavgulidze

## How did your photography career start?

My photography career started with buying my first camera at the end of year 2011. It was entry-level DSLR camera Nikon D3100. At the beginning, it was just a basic hobby.

I was trying different genres and techniques and it was like first steps of a toddler. However, during this period, I noticed that if you are really inspired by this type of hobby, photography becomes your special kind of drug.

A year later I've decided that photography will be my second profession so I started educating myself in this specific area. Today I am one of the few owners of European Photographer certificate in Georgia, given out by FEP (Federation of European Photographers ).

I am going to develop myself in this direction as much as possible and help other Newbies in photo world to find their own ways and style of capturing the moments, which we call photography.

## What sort of work do you specialize in and how would you describe your style?

I am trying to get new information about photography every day and at this moment, I am capable of working in any kind of photography genres, though my real inspiration is Landscape photography, Cityscapes, Wildlife and Nature.

When I am shooting landscapes, I don't thinking about framing, point of view or composition in general I just feel and see it. What can I say about my style ...

Well It's quite difficult to explain. I am learning new ways of photography every day. My thoughts and point of you are constantly changing. I see things differently year after year and it is changing my style of photography continuously.

## Which photographers inspired you, and how did they influence your thinking, photographing, and career path?

It is quite surprising, but there is no inspiration for me at this point. I have many friends inside and outside of Georgia. They are widely known professional photographers in many different genres and we are trying to teach each other if we find and learn something new.

What technology/software/camera gear do you use to keep focused on your choice? At this moment, I am using Nikon D750 Full Frame DSLR camera. My favorite lenses are Tamron 150-600mm VC and legendary Nikon 14-24mm. I always shoot in RAW and then edit my photo works in Adobe Photoshop. Also, sometimes, I like to use awesome plugins of Nik Software.

## What motivates you to continue taking pictures economically, intellectually or emotionally?

First of all, photography is an art, and it is all about feelings and emotions. For me, photography is a passion and my special tool to show others our beautiful world from different angles.

I would describe my love for photography as painter loves his painting - it depends on my mood, my current knowledge and many other factors. After all best inspiration for amazing photo work (at least for me) is plenty of free time for traveling and exploring new places of our beautiful planet earth.



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[www.speleologija.hr](http://www.speleologija.hr)

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