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TRAVEL & TOURISM
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ARMENIA

Royal Holidays in Armenia

8 - Day Itinerary

7 Mezher Street Antelias Beirut - Lebanon
Tel: +961 4 712037 Fax: +961 4 715196 P.O. Box: 60-233 Zip Code: 1241 2020 R.C. 1035 Baabda VAT No. 8721-601
www.ventnouveau.com info@ventnouveau.com

Day 1 – Arrival in Yerevan

Arrival in Yerevan. Transfer to the selected hotel. Overnight in Yerevan

Day 2 – Yerevan City Tour

Breakfast at the hotel. City tour in Yerevan will start with the panoramic view of the city and acquaintance with the Center of the city, Republic Square, the sightseeing of Opera and Ballet building, the Parliament and Residency of the President of Armenia, State University, Mother Armenia Monument, Sports & Concert Complex. A visit to Tsitsernakaberd - a Monument to the Armenian Genocide Victims, as well as the Genocide Victims' Museum, commemorating the 1.5 million Armenians who perished during the first Genocide of the 20th century in the Western Armenia and in the territory of Ottoman Empire. Visit Cascade complex, which is considered the modern art center of Yerevan. Cascade is home to Cafesjian modern art museum. This place becomes even more charming in the evenings, when it is full of people, both locals and tourists from all over the world, enjoying the magic and the warmth of the capital. You will enjoy spending time in one of the cosy cafes surrounded by beautiful sculptures. A visit to one of the biggest and oldest mosques in Caucasus "Blue mosque", which is situated in the heart of Yerevan city.

Overnight in Yerevan.

Day 3 – Yerevan - Echmiadzin - Zvartnots - Yerevan

Breakfast at the hotel. Drive to Etchmiadzin City, which used to be an ancient capital of Armenia. Since the 4th century, it has been considered the largest religious center, the residency of Catholics of all Armenians. Etchmiadzin cathedral is one of the ancient churches in the Christian world, included in the UNESCO World Heritage List (2000). It is the center of the Armenian Apostolic Church, founded in 301 A.D by St. Gregory the Illuminator. The museum of the Cathedral, located behind the Altar, has a collection of religious artifacts about Holy Mass, objects made of gold, silver, precious stones, decorations, colossal silver boilers for making the myrrh and the legendary Holy spear. A trip to one of the architectural wonders of Armenia - Zvartnots temple (641-661 BC), which got its name from the word "Zvart", which, translated from Armenian, means "joyful and beautiful". The remaining ruins give an idea of the rare beauty of this temple, which is listed as an UNESCO World Heritage Site (2000). Drive back to Yerevan.

Overnight in Yerevan.

Day 4 – Yerevan - Ararat Valley - Silk Road - Khor Virap - Noravank - Yerevan

Breakfast at the hotel. Drive to Ararat valley, visit Khor Virap Church, which is one of the holy places for the Christian world, from where opens the closest and the most spectacular view of the gorgeous biblical mountain Ararat, shining with its two white peaks. Drive to Noravank Monastery complex (13-14th century). There is such incredibly beautiful scenery along the road to Noravank, that the visitors cannot resist stepping out of the vehicle and walking all the way to the Monastery with their cameras, to enjoy and record the unique bizarre-shaped precipitous red cliffs. Drive back to Yerevan. Overnight in Yerevan.

Day 5 – Yerevan - Lake Sevan - "Armenian Switzerland " Dilijan - Yerevan Breakfast at

Breakfast at the hotel. Drive to Lake Sevan, one of the wonders in Armenia. This blue lake is one of the greatest high mountainous freshwater lakes of Eurasia. On a clear and sunny day, the water is often of a deep turquoise colour. Total surface of the lake is 940 km2 . Climb on peninsula, from where opens a fascinating and breathtaking view on Sevan Lake. Visit Sevanavank Monastery (9th century), which stands in its greatness on the peninsula, overlooking the lake for centuries.

Drive to the mountainous resort Dilijan, or so called "Armenian Switzerland", which is well-known for its forests, as well as for its mysterious flora and fauna. Small walking city tour in Dilijan with a visit to handicrafts' street, where one can watch the preparation of different national souvenirs from wood, stone and ceramics. A visit to Haghartsin Monastery complex, located in a secluded place of a forest. Appearing unexpectedly in front of the visitors, out of the dense forests, the Monastery creates a magical impression of a lost world. After a visit to the monastery in 2005, His Royal Highness Sheikh Sultan bin Mohammed Al Qasimi made a generous donation for certain renovation works and preservation of this monastery, representing the rich history of the human kind. Complex includes Church St. Stepanos, St. Mary and St. Gregory's Church, as well as a famous refectory. Drive back to Yerevan.

Overnight in Yerevan.

Day 6 – Yerevan - Carpet Factory - Garni - Geghard - Yerevan

Breakfast at the hotel. Visit the Armenian carpet factory with the possibility to watch the production of the handmade rugs. The factory has a showroom where purchases are offered (shipping of rugs to your country is possible). Visit the only remaining Pagan temple in Armenia, devoted to the God of Sun – Myrth, in Garni. Photo stop at Charentc Arc. A visit to the ruins of Royal Palace and Royal bath-house nearby.

Optional: Family hosted lunch in a private village house, with watching the preparation of “Lavash” (Armenian traditional flat bread baked in a stone-make oven) by countryside Armenian ladies using the same ancient technology as hundreds of years before. Continue the tour to the uniquely caved Geghard monastery, which dates back to 12th -13th centuries, the name of which means “holy spear” in the honour of the long-preserved spear, the same spear that pierced the body of crucified Christ, which were brought here by Apostle Thaddeus. Drive back to Yerevan.

Overnight in Yerevan.

Day 7 – Yerevan - Tsaghkadzor - Shopping in Yerevan

Breakfast at the hotel. Drive to Tsaghkadzor (means “gorge of flowers”) town, the magical place of forested mountains. Short walking tour around the small town. Visit Kecharis monastery. Opportunity to go up to the mountain peaks by ropeway, where you will catch an unforgettable gorgeous panoramic view of this part of the world.

Drive back to Yerevan. A visit to Vernissage, an open-air exhibition-market. Drop to Dalma Garden or Yerevan Mall for shopping.

Overnight in Yerevan.

Day 8 – Departure

Breakfast at the hotel. Check-out. Transfer to Zvartnots International Airport.

END OF SERVICE