



SOUTHERN CROSS
TRAVEL AGENCIES SDN. BHD.

Bandar Branch
Manggis Branch
KB Branch
Email
Website

2222717/2221747
2334427
3331787/3220011/12
enquiry@scbrunei.com
www.scbrunei.com

11 Days Christian Heritage Armenia & Georgia

ACCOMMODATION			
COUNTRY	CITY	NUMBER OF NIGHT	HOTEL NAME
GEORGIA	TBILISI	5	HOTEL MERCURE OLD TOWN 4****
ARMENIA	LAKE SEVAN	1	HARSNAQAR HOTEL COMPLEX 4****
ARMENIA	TATEV	1	HARSNDZOR ECO RESORT
ARMENIA	YEREVAN	3	HOLIDAY INN YEREVAN REPUBLIC SQUARE 4****+

PACKAGE INCLUDE	
➤	ACCOMMODATION (10 NIGHTS IN MENTIONED HOTELS)
➤	OPEN BUFFET BREAKFASTS
➤	ALL TRANSFERS
➤	ENTRANCE FEES
	Funicular Ride in Tbilisi
	Jeep Ride to CmindaSameba
	Cable car to Narikala fortress
	Cable car to Tatev Monastery
	Ananuri Castle
➤	ENGLISH SPEAKING GUIDE (11 DAYS)
➤	ALL CITY TAXES
➤	LUNCHES (10)
➤	DINNERS (10)
➤	FAREWELL DINNER IN TBILISI WITH DANCE SHOW
➤	FAREWELL DINNER IN YEREVAN WITH DANCE SHOW
➤	1 BOTTLE WATER (0.33lt) PER PERSON PER DAY
➤	TIPPING FOR GUIDE AND DRIVER

IMPORTANT NOTES	
•	The coach will be same from 1 st day until the last day
•	Local meals will be provided as 3-4 course Menu + Water
•	Asian Meals will be provided as 6 course Menu + Water
•	No reservation in hotels yet. After confirmation all rooms will be booked. <i>In the case of non-availability in mentioned hotel, then similar hotels will be provided after getting agent confirmation.</i>
•	Children Policy; 0-2 years old % FOC 2-8 years old with bed %50 discount 2-8 years old without bed %70 discount 8-11 years old with bed %25 discount

PRICE LIST – PER PERSON IN BND	01 SEPTEMBER,2022 – 30 DECEMBER, 2022
20 PAX	2420
25 PAX	2325
30 PAX	2245
35 PAX	2205
SINGLE SUPPLEMENT	800

DAY-1 ARRIVAL TBILISI (D)

Arrival Tbilisi International Airport. Meet and assist with our guide. Transfer to hotel for check in and resting. Free and easy. You can walk in Tbilisi streets by your own and taste different meals of Georgian cuisine. Dinner and overnight will be in the hotel.

DAY-2 TBILISI (B/L/D)

Breakfast at the hotel. Full day Tbilisi tour. Visit the Catholic Church of St. Peter and St. Paul, the Kashveti Church (related to a legend about giving birth to a stone), the Sioni Cathedral – the most important Georgian Orthodox shrine. Guided excursion in Holy Trinity Cathedral – gorgeous golden cupola orthodox church of 20th c. The next stop is Metekhi plateau - this cliff wall overlooking Mtkvari River, Mtatsminda, and the medieval part of the city. Continue to Europe square and Rike Park. Ride on the Areal cable car to the 4th c Narika fortress on the opposite side of the river. Walk down from Narikala to Botanical Garden Street and Tbilisi Mosque, pass Legytakhevi (Fig ravine) waterfall and the Sulfur Bathhouse district – the meeting point of two continents - Europe and Asia. Enjoy the authentic flavors and cultural diversity around. Head to Maidan square, Shardeni and the King Erekle II Streets, where you can take a break at modern restaurants and cafes. Photostop on the modern bow-shaped glass Bridge of Peace. The sights of the day also include Anchiskhati Basilica - the oldest church in Tbilisi and Gabriadze Theater. There is a unique clock tower next to marionette theatre in Tbilisi old town, with a small puppet theatre inside the tower. Twice a day at noon and at 7pm you can see an entertaining show – “The Circle of Life”. At the end of the day visit Golden treasury in National Museum, which houses various archaeological, numismatic and ethnographic collections.

DAY-3 TBILISI – ANANURI CASTLE – KAZBEGI – TBILISI (B/L/D)

Breakfast at the hotel. Tour along the Georgian Military Road, crossing through the main Caucasus range. On the way, stop at the Ananuri castle fortress as well as other photo stops. Ananuri Castle lies next to the village of the same name, in the Dusheti municipality in the Mtskheta-Mtianeti region in Georgia. The oldest part of Ananuri Castle is the watch tower, in the style of the Khevsuri highlanders, that abuts the largest church. Finally, arrive at Kazbegi (Stepantsminda = St. Stephan), transfer to jeeps and ride to Cminda Sameba; visit the Gergeti Holy Trinity Church – an icon of Georgia. Gergeti Trinity Church is a popular name for Holy Trinity Church near the village of Gergeti in Georgia. The church is situated on the right bank of the river Chkheri, at an elevation of 2170 meters, under Mount Kazbek. Drive back through the valley to the Georgian capital. Dinner and overnight stay in Tbilisi.

DAY-4 TBILISI – MTSKHETA – GORI – TBILISI (B/L/D)

Breakfast at the hotel. Drive to Mtskheta – Mtskheta is an ancient town of extraordinary importance to the Georgian nation, located about 20km out of Tbilisi. It was the capital of the eastern Georgian kingdom of Iberia from the 3rd century BC to the 5th century AD. Mtskheta was the site of Georgia's adoption of Christianity in 334 and remains the headquarters of the Georgian Orthodox Church. The former Georgian capital, nowadays its spiritual capital. Visit the Svetitskhoveli Cathedral, where the robe from Christ's crucifixion is said to be kept; the Jvari Monastery (UNESCO site) – one of the oldest churches in the world that has only slightly changed throughout centuries. The church at Gori Jvari stands on an outcropping of rocks and can be seen from practically anywhere in Gori. Originally built in the 12th century Drive to Gori – the birthplace of Joseph Dzhughashvili – Stalin. Visit the Joseph Stalin Museum; later, Gori Fortress which stands on a rocky hill above the city. Gori Fortress is a medieval citadel in Georgia, situated above the city of Gori on a rocky hill. Standing on the hilltop, the fortress's outlines follow the natural relief, hence the irregular shape. According to locals, Gori's most notable moment in world history occurred in the first century BC, when it was conquered by the Roman General Pompey. Return to Tbilisi for dinner and overnight stay.

DAY-5TBILISI – DILIJAN NATIONAL PARK – GOSHVANK - SEVAN (B/L/D)

Breakfast at the hotel and check out from the hotel. Today, we will go to another important country in the region: Armenia. **Armenia** is a country in the Caucasus. Armenia has a rich, ancient history. Under King Tigranes II the Great, from 95 to 55 B.C. Armenia thrived, and became the strongest state in the Roman east for a time. This wealth of resources made it a very attractive area to control. It became the world's first Christian nation in 301 AD and has a large diaspora all over the world. Once we enter from Armenia border, our first stop will **Dilijan** which is a resort town with mild climate, fresh air in the northeast of Yerevan. It is famous for its amazing surroundings, called the "Armenian Switzerland" by the locals, due to the densely forested valleys and mountains with alpine meadows around. It is an excellent center for walking. We will visit Diljan National Park and Goshavank Monastery. **Dilijan National Park** is one of the four national parks of Armenia. Occupying an area of 240 km², it is located in the north-eastern Tavush Province of Armenia.^[1] It is known for its forest landscapes, rich biodiversity, medicinal mineral water springs, natural and cultural monuments, and extensive network of hiking trails. Goshavank is a 12th- or 13th-century Armenian monastery located in the village of Gosh in the Tavush Province of Armenia. The impressive monastery which has remained in relatively good condition also houses one of the world's finest examples of a khachkar. Later, drive to Lake Sevan (known as "The Baikal of the Caucasus"), visit the Sevanavank Monastery. Sevanavank monastery is located on the peninsula of Lake Sevan. The first church of the monastery was built by Gregory the Illuminator in 305. After the adoption of Christianity as a state religion by King Trdat III in 301, Christian churches started to be built all over the country. Thus St. Harutyun and St. Karapet churches built by Gregory the Illuminator on the island of Sevan were one of the first Christian religious buildings in Armenia. Dinner and overnight stay by the lake.

DAY-6 SEVAN – CARAVANSERAI – ZORATS KARER – TATEV (B/L/D)

After breakfast, check out from the hotel. Drive to the south of Armenia. On the way, a short stop at Orbelian's Caravanserai (a medieval inn on the Silk Road) on the Vardenyats Mountain Pass of the Southern Caucasus. Next stop at Zorats Karer, referred to as the "Armenian Stonehenge". **Carahunge** also called **Zorats Karer, Karahunj, Qarahunj** and **Carenish** is a prehistoric archaeological site near the town of Sisian in the Syunik Province of Armenia. It is also often referred to in international tourist lore as the "Armenian Stonehenge". In the afternoon, ride "The Wings of Tatev" cable car to Tatev Monastery, located among wild mountains in the south of Armenia. Tatev Monastery is a 9th century historical monument. It is one of the oldest and most famous monastery complexes in Armenia. During medieval times Tatev Monastery was a vital scholastic, enlightenment and spiritual center and played a singular role in the country's history. Daily mass will be in Tatev Monastery. Free time do discover that unique complex. Then we will arrive to Harizon Village where we will have unique experience for accommodation. We will stay in Harsnadzor Eco Resort which we will have private villas on the mountain. Very different experience is waiting for you. Dinner will be in restaurant in the resort.

DAY-7 KHOR VIRAN – NORAVANK – ARENI – YEREVAN (B/L/D)

Breakfast in the hotel and check out from the hotel. Today, we will travel to Central Armenia. Firstly we will visit Khor Virap ('deep pit') – the place where Armenia was baptised in 301 as the first Christian country in the world. Visit the monastery with marvellous views over the biblical Mount Ararat; the pit where Gregory the Illuminator (the one who baptised the country) was imprisoned. The history of the site dates back to a pagan temple that stood here for centuries before Christ's birth. An important visit happened at Khor Virap, between Gregory, son of Parthian nobles, and King Trdat III, of Armenia. Parthia and Armenia had been fighting for generations, and Gregory and Trdat were finally meeting after their fathers had been involved in a deadly battle. Trdat wanted to lay flowers at the pagan temple, and Gregory was forced to confess that he was Christian. Trdat threw Gregory in a deep pit and kept him there for 13 years. As the years went on, Trdat started to feel ill. His wife, who had already converted to Christianity, told him that he would feel better after he released Gregory, and she turned out to be right. After being cured, Trdat converted to Christianity in 301, making Armenia the first official Christian country in the world. Gregory became St. Gregory the Illuminator, revered for converting Armenia to Christianity. Drive to Noravank – a monastery set in a narrow gorge among wild, red mountains, a masterpiece of medieval art. Lastly: stop at Areni to visit the winery that may well be the oldest winery in the world. Drive to Yerevan for dinner and overnight stay.

DAY-8 YEREVAN (B/L/D)

After breakfast, we will discover Yerevan. Firstly we will start with visiting Etchmiadzin – the spiritual capital of Armenia, the seat of the Catholics, the leader of the Armenian Church. Visit Etchmiadzin Cathedral, the Mother See of Holy Etchmiadzin and residence of the Catholicos (from outside). Etchmiadzin (Ejmiatsin), sometimes referred to by its old name of Vagharshapat, is the spiritual centre for seven million members of the Armenian Apostolic Church. It has been a centre of spirituality since Armenia became the first nation to adopt Christianity as a state religion in 301 AD. It is also the seat of the Catholicos of All Armenians, the head of the Church. Later, a short stop at Zvartnots to visit the ruins of the cathedral from the 7th century. Afterwards, we will start panoramically city tour in Yerevan. **Yerevan** is the capital and largest city of Armenia and one of the world's oldest continuously inhabited cities. Situated along the Hrazdan River, Yerevan is the administrative, cultural, and industrial center of the country. Republic Square, the Cascade – a system of stairways and fountains with a view over the capital, the Matenadaran – the centre of ancient Armenian manuscripts with the monument of Mesrop Mashtots (the inventor of the Armenian alphabet) will be seen. Free time for shopping and have some time for your own. Back to hotel and resting. Dinner will be in the hotel.

DAY-9 YEREVAN – GARNI – GEGHARD – YEREVAN (B/L/D)

Breakfast in the hotel. Today, we will discover Garni & Geghard. Firstly, we will visit Garni which is the only pagan temple on the Armenian territories from the Roman times, devoted to the sun god Mihr. A unique chance to listen to the duduk (the Armenian flute). Garni is remarkable with a number of historical and architectural monuments of the Hellenistic and early Christian era. The most prominent among them are Garni temple and the fortress of the same name. Moreover, there you will find the ruins of the royal palace and baths built according to the Roman methodology. Afterwards, drive to Geghard. Upon arrival, visit the Monastery of the Holy Spear, the khachkars, the monks' stone cells and the main temple famous for its marvellous echo. In the 4th century, the *Geghard monastery* was founded on the site of a sacred spring originating in a cave. Therefore, initially, it was called Ayrivank which means "cave monastery". According to a legend, the founder of the *monastery* was St. Gregory the Illuminator. Geghard is known for the relics that were kept in it. The most important of them was the Spear of Destiny that the centurion Longinus pierced the body of Jesus with during the crucifixion. It is believed to have been brought by the Apostle Thaddeus. Hence the name of the monastery (Armenian *geghard* means spear). Some temples of the monastery complex are completely carved out inside the rocks. The monastery of Geghard is listed in the UNESCO World Heritage List. Afterwards, back to Yerevan and free time. Dinner will be in traditional restaurant with dance show. Overnight will be in the hotel.

DAY-10 YEREVAN – TBILISI (B/L/D)

Breakfast in the hotel and check out from the hotel. Departure for Tbilisi. Upon arrival, we will have lunch in local restaurant. After lunch, proceed to Tbilisi Outlet Village. Free time for shopping. Dinner will be in traditional restaurant with dance show. Transfer to hotel. Overnight will be in the hotel.

DAY-11 TBILISI END (B)

Breakfast in the hotel and check out from the hotel. Free time. Transfer to airport and end of our trip.