

American Friends of Georgia
Discover Georgia
Land of Ancient
Vineyards and Vistas
October 7-20, 2011

Dear Friends,

It is my pleasure to invite you to join us on a journey of discovery to a place about which all of us are passionate—the unique country of Georgia, Land of the Golden Fleece. This in-depth adventure combines the pleasure of touring a fabulously beautiful and welcoming place, and the “business” of visiting many of the humanitarian projects that are supported by American Friends of Georgia.



We are privileged to be seeing a side of Georgia that ordinary tourists will never catch a glimpse of – Tbilisi’s back streets, the resettlement villages and AFG projects such as a special kindergarten for vulnerable children. In between these inspiring visits, we’ll be experiencing the beauty, hospitality and bountiful food and wine of our second home, Georgia.

Sincerely,

Marusya Chavchavadze
Executive Director/US
American Friends of Georgia

To register, please call MIR Corporation toll-free at 877-535-9814 or email dmitry@mircorp.com.



Program Highlights

- Enjoy a welcome dinner with guests from the U.S. Embassy and the American Friends of Georgia, a public charity.
- Pay a visit to the Mercy Center, the first hospice and nursing school in Georgia, and meet with Mother Mariam, AFG’s first Georgian partner, at the Convent of the Transfiguration.
- Savor a “Georgian Table” lunch at the Chavchavadze Estate, followed by a presentation by AFG’s Executive Directors and a short concert of traditional music and dance.
- Explore the project site of the NGO “New Life,” which (with support from AFG) runs the only school for disabled children in Eastern Georgia.
- Wander Akhaltsikhe’s Old Town and visit its school to learn how it is improving education in this isolated region.
- Visit the Tserovani Village, one of the largest resettlement villages for refugees of the South Ossetian conflict, and learn about AFG’s work with Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs) across the country.

Tbilisi • Mtskheta • Ananuri • Kakheti Re



Day by Day Itinerary

Days 1-4

Tbilisi

Georgia's strip of central lowlands has long been an important link between East and West; Tbilisi is set at the mouth of this passageway. Admire the 4th century Narikala Fortress, pause at Sioni Cathedral, sheltering the Cross of St. Nino, and tour the Metekhi Church of the Virgin.

Visit the Mercy Center and meet with Mother Mariam at the Convent of Transfiguration. Enjoy a special welcome dinner with guests from the U.S. Embassy and the American Friends of Georgia.

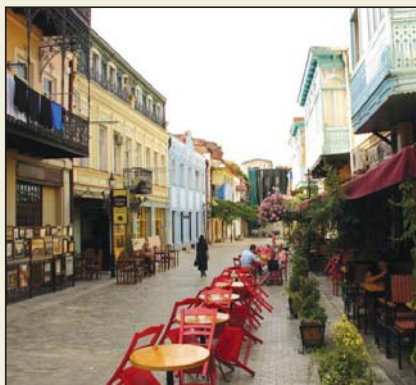
Drive out of the city to tour UNESCO-listed Mtskheta, the capital of the early Georgian kingdom of Iberia. Make a stop at the feudal stronghold of Ananuri with its notched fortress walls and carved doorways.

Hotel Marriott Courtyard

Days 5-6

Telavi • Kakheti Region • Tbilisi

Telavi was a stop on one of the ancient trade routes from the Middle East to Europe. Visit nearby Tsinandali village, best known for the family estate of Alexander Chavchavadze. Enjoy a specially arranged "Georgian Table" lunch here, followed by a presentation by AFG's Executive Directors and a short concert of traditional music and dance.



Visit the project site of the NGO "New Life" which, with the support of AFG, runs the only school for disabled children in Eastern Georgia.

Explore Kakheti, Georgia's wine country and home to Gremi Fortress, Alaverdi Cathedral, one of the tallest churches in Georgia, 6th century Ikalto Monastery, and 9th century Bodbe Nunnery, where St. Nino is buried. *Hotel Rcheuli*

gion • Akhaltsikhe • Batumi • Kutaisi • Gori



Days 7-8

Akhaltsikhe

Explore Akhaltsikhe's Old Town and visit its school to learn how, with AFG's assistance, it is improving education in this isolated region. Tour Vardzia, a fascinating 12th century cave town and visit the AFG-supported Youth Center. *Hotel Bonadea*

Days 9-10

Batumi

Batumi sits where the mountains meet the Black Sea. Capital of the autonomous region of Adjara, it is the most important port and resort city on this section of the coast.

Meet with representatives of the Adjara Tourism Board and see a demonstration of the traditional method of distilling chacha, a moonshine-type liquor usually made from grapes. Attend a specially arranged musical performance or an art auction in the Batumi Botanical Gardens. *Hotel Era Palace*



Days 11-14

Kutaisi • Gori • Tserovani • Tbilisi

Kutaisi served as the capital of Georgia from 978 until 1122. Explore its UNESCO World Heritage Site, comprised of beautifully preserved Gelati Monastery and 11th century Bagrati Cathedral.

Continue overland to Tbilisi, stopping in Gori to visit the project site of an AFG-supported NGO that works with internally displaced children from the war of August 2008.

Stop in Tserovani Village, one of the largest resettlement villages for refugees of the South Ossetian conflict. Here, on land owned by the Georgian government, 2,200 small private cottages were constructed in a week's time, housing thousands of displaced people. Meet and talk with community members, tour USAID-funded entrepreneurial businesses, and learn about AFG's work with IDPs across the country. Gather for a farewell dinner party with AFG representatives, featuring an auction of artwork made by children. *Lali's Guesthouse in Kutaisi, Hotel Marriott Courtyard in Tbilisi*

Land Program Rate: \$3,950
(per person land tour based on double occupancy)

Single Supplement:..... \$695

Included: All accommodation, hotel taxes • All meals per itinerary • Arrival and departure transfers for passengers arriving/departing on scheduled start/end days • All land transportation per itinerary by private motor coach throughout the itinerary • Special cultural events and extensive sightseeing, including entrance fees • Comprehensive pre-departure packet

Not Included: Travel insurance • Roundtrip airfare from/to your home city. MIR can assist you with reservations. • Passport and visa fees • Personal items such as telephone calls, alcohol, laundry, excess baggage fees • Gratuities to tour manager, guides and drivers • Single supplement

Air Arrangements: Program rates do not include international airfare. Because there are a number of flight options available, there is no group flight for this program. Information on recommended flight itinerary will be sent by our tour operator upon confirmation.

Reservations and Payments: Please mail the completed registration form with deposit check (\$500 per person, payable to MIR Corporation-Trust) to MIR Corporation or call MIR Corporation at 877-535-9814. You may also fax your reservation to: 206-624-7360.

Cancellations and Refunds: Costs of cancellation if received: 91 or more days before departure, deposit paid or due in full of \$500 per person; 61 days to 90 days before departure, 50% of land tour cost per person; 60 days or less before departure, no refund. All cancellations must be made in writing to MIR Corporation and are effective upon our receipt of your written notification.

Single Travelers: Prices are based on double occupancy; single rates are available. We make every effort to match single travelers who request a roommate. However, shared accommodations cannot be guaranteed and a single supplement rate will apply.

Insurance: Trip cancellation/interruption insurance is highly recommended and should be considered for your financial protection. Also important is medical insurance and emergency medical evacuation coverage. Information on insurance is available and will be mailed upon receipt of your reservation.

Responsibility: A detailed statement of limitations and exclusions of liability of American Friends of Georgia and the Tour Operator for loss of property, injury, illness or death will be provided to passengers upon enrollment and is available to prospective travelers upon request. A signed release of liability/assumption of risk agreement is required for trip participation.



Please mail the completed registration form with deposit check (\$500 per person, payable to MIR Corporation-Trust) to MIR Corporation, 85 South Washington St, Suite 210, Seattle, WA 98104 or call MIR Corporation at 800-424-7289. You may also fax your reservation to: 206-624-7360. Balance of payment for all land and air costs is due by July 7, 2011, 90 days prior to departure. Payment of balance due is by check or wire transfer only. Reservations will be processed in order of receipt, subject to availability.

The enclosed non-refundable deposit of \$ _____ (\$500 per person) to hold _____ place(s).

Enclosed check, payable to MIR Corporation-Trust Visa Mastercard American Express Discover

Credit card number _____

Exp date _____

Signature of cardholder _____

Full name #1 (as listed on passport) _____

Date of birth _____

Full name #2 (as listed on passport) _____

Date of birth _____

Mailing address (no PO boxes please) _____

City _____

State _____

Zip _____

Phone (Home) _____

(Work) _____

Email _____

Please note preferences:

I am traveling alone and prefer a single room wherever available at the single supplement rate (\$695).

I will share accommodations with _____

I would like to share with a Non-smoker Smoker (shares are not guaranteed)

International and U.S. domestic airfare is not included in the tour price. Roundtrip economy class airfare from New York, NY is approximately \$1,450 round trip. Please send me a recommended air itinerary and fare estimate between _____ and Tbilisi in Business class Economy class

To register, please call MIR Corporation toll-free at 877-535-9814 or email dmitry@mircorp.com.



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