

# **Dress Code in Orthodox Christian Church in Georgia**

Please, carefully read the information below in order to confidently enter Orthodox Churches in Georgia without violating the dress code and rules of behavior.

Churches are very strict with revealing clothes, both Men and Women are expected to be dressed modestly without revealing too much skin and supposed to wear modest tops covering the chest and the shoulders. Wearing tank tops in churches is not allowed.

## **Orthodox Church Dress Code for Women in Georgia**

Women in Orthodox Churches are expected to wear:

- A Head Scarf – or something similar– anything, that covers the hair at least partially.
- A Dress – trousers are restricted.
- A top covering the shoulders – wear modest tops covering the chest and the shoulders.

*Note: Dresses have to be at least down to the knee length. Most churches provide head scarves and wrap-around dresses at the entrances.*

## **Orthodox Church Dress Code for Men in Georgia**

- Wear long trousers down to the ankle – shorts are not allowed.
- Men should take their hats off when they enter a church.

## **General rules of behavior in Orthodox churches in Georgia:**

- Do not step on the Altar – it is considered as a sacred ground, only the servants of the church are allowed to enter.
- Do not sit on the chair in the center of the church – this is the chair for the Catholicos-Patriarch, the leader of the Georgian Orthodox Church. You can see such wooden chair in most cathedrals.
- Silence your phone.
- Do not talk loudly and try your best to remain as quite as you can
- Do not take photos without asking someone.
- Do not use flash when taking a photo, many churches have frescoes painted few hundred years ago and flashlight might cause them damage.