

10 Day Svaneti Self Drive Jeep Tour

Jeep and ATV Tours in Georgia

Overview

10 day Self Drive Jeep tour to Svaneti

Starts From: TBILISI

Available: JUNE - SEP

Total Driving Distance: 1036 Km

Duration: 10 Days/9 Nights

Type: Self-Drive Private Jeep Tour

Self-drive jeep tour to **Svaneti** is a very special itinerary for families and friends, who love authentic journeys and new discoveries. Experience off-road adventures and cross Ugveri, Zagari and Zekari Passes. Top highlight of this tour is UNESCO World heritage village **Ushguli** - the highest permanent settlement in Europe (2200 m above the sea level). The village lies on **Great Caucasus Mountains**, the foothills of **Shkhara Glacier** (5068m) and offers splendid views of this giant. Self-defensive medieval towers rise in the middle of the ring of alpine pastures. During the tour, visit **Abastumani Observatory**, **Martvili** Canyon, archaeological site **Nokalakevi**, cave city **Vardzia**, and enjoy full day sightseeing in Kutaisi and Tbilisi capital city.

Wonderful experience and unforgettable feelings are waiting for you!

Tour details

- Code: GH-119
 - Starts from: Tbilisi
 - Max. Group Size: 15 Adults
 - Duration: 10 Days
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Prices

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Sights to Visit

- [Martvili Canyon](#)
 - [Ushguli Community](#)
 - [Prometheus Cave](#)
 - [Vardzia rock-cut caves](#)
 - [Akhalsikhe Castle, Rabati](#)
 - [Nokalakevi](#)
 - [Vardzia Museum](#)
 - [Mestia Museum](#)
 - [Tbilisi](#)
 - [Kutaisi](#)
 - [Mestia](#)
 - [Samegrelo](#)
 - [Peak Shkhara](#)
 - [Summit Ushba](#)
 - [Imereti](#)
 - [Tsalka](#)
 - [Ninotsminda](#)
 - [Abastumani Observatory](#)
 - [Dashbashi Canyon](#)
 - [Akhalsikhe](#)
 - [Sairme](#)
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Itinerary

Day 1: Arrival in Tbilisi Airport

Arrival in Tbilisi Airport. Transfer to the hotel. Free evening in Tbilisi.

*Optional Tbilisi City Tour for this day

Tbilisi City Tour: **Sameba** - Holy Trinity Cathedral built in 21st c. and being the main Christian Orthodox cathedral in Georgia. **Metekhi** Church of 13th c. located on the former area of the first royal residence overlooking **Mtkvari** River. Walking to **Europe square**, **Darejani Palce**, **Rike Park** and pedestrian modern glass bridge. Ride up by the aerial cable car to **Narikala Fortress**, the oldest building in the city (dates back to 4th century AD), Fort has a superb location with magnificent panoramic views over **Tbilisi**. Stroll down to Legvtakhevi(translated literally as “Fig Ravine”) - a beautiful place with waterfall. Take a walk in the **Sulfur bathhouse** square, **Shardeni street**, its neighborhood and **Meidan square** with its outdoor restaurants and souvenir shops. Cross the **Bridge of Peace** - a modern glass bridge in high-tech style. Visit **Flea Market** at the **Dry Bridge**, buy some souvenirs and handicraft. Free time on **Freedom Square** and **Rustaveli Avenue**.

Overnight in Tbilisi.

Day 2: Tbilisi-Dashbash Canyon-Tsalka-Akhalkalaki-Vardzia

Approx. Distance: 240 km (4 h 45 min)

Breakfast at the hotel.

Check out for [**Vardzia**](#) trip. This day reviles remote villages of **Javakheti** region, **Tsalka, Paravani** and **Sagamo lakes** and pastures. the most attractive cave city [**Vardzia**](#). Don't miss the chance to visit an impressive [**Dashbashi Canyon**](#) Natural Monument distinguished by diversity of nature and spectacular landscapes (upon availability, extra charge paid on spot). Pass the towns [**Ninotsminda**](#) and [**Akhalkalaki**](#) and picturesque Dukhobors' village named [**Gorelovka**](#).

Arrive in **Vardzia** and Check In to the hotel for overnight.

Day 3: Vardzia-Akhalsikhe

Breakfast at the hotel.

Make a optional stop at Vardzia cave- mediaeval rock-hewn cave city established in the 12th c. Vardzia was carved in the volcanic rocks on 13 levels, linked inside by internal tunnels-corridors, secrete passages and painted chapels. Sixteen years old Lady king Tamar together with her father King Georgi III is depicted on the Southern wall inside hall type church. Excursion in the caves and tunnels will take about one hour.

Next suggested place is Akhaltsikhe- a historical town and administrative center of Samtskhe-Javakheti region in South Georgia. There are numerous ruined strongholds from the middle ages on the way: the most remarkable are Tmogvi and Khertvisi. Take time, visit one and feel the spirit of battlefields.

In Akhaltsikhe visit Castle in Rabati district(as an optional stop). The complex is contemporarily renovated and consists of the castle of 14th c., several churches, a mosque, synagogue, and a museum, which houses different manuscript, book, photo, archaeological and numismatic collections.

*Optional Vardzia cave, per person price 17GEL

*Optional Rabati fortress, per person price 18 GEL

*Optional Khertvisi fortress, per person price 10GEL

Overnight in Akhaltsikhe.

Day 4: Akhaltsikhe-Abastumani-Zekari Pass-Sairme-Baghdad Winery-Kutaisi

Approx. Driving distance: 4 hr 5 min (133 km)

Breakfast at the hotel.

Drive to Kutaisi, capital town of former kingdom of Abkhasia and Imereti, famous for its hospitality and delicious cuisine. The road goes through Borjomi-Kharagauli National Park and Zekari Pass on elevation of 2.174m. Nested in the pine wood forest, on the way you can visit Abastumani Astrophysical Observatory- the first mountainous “classical” observatory in the Soviet Union (upon availability, extra charge on spot).

Cross Zekari Pass and arrive to the spa-resort Sairme. Stop to taste mineral spring waters at the Health Resort. This unique location offers healing springs, beautiful nature and ecologically clean environment.

Arrive in Kutaisi. Relaxing evening. Optional visit to UNESCO world heritage site Bagrati Cathedral (11th c), located on top of the hill in Kutaisi city center.

*Optional Abastumani observatory, per person price 10GEL

Overnight in Kutaisi.

Day 5: Kutaisi-Tsageri-Lentekhi-Ushguli

Approx. driving distance 164 km (4 h 25 min)

Breakfast at the **Kutaisi** hotel. Morning visit of farmer's market.

Drive to **Ushguli**- the highest permanently inhabited village in Europe, passing the towns **Tsageri** and **Lentekhi**. The off-road adventures in high **Caucasus Mountains** start here: the **Racha-Lechkhumi** and **Kvemo** (lower) **Svaneti** are connected to **Zemo**(upper) **Svaneti** through **Zagari pass** at an elevation of 2.620m above the sea level. This road is considered as one of the most epic in the Georgia.

Find yourself in the realm of medieval towers, surrounded by the mountains of Great Caucasus Range, glaciers, high peaks and roaring waterfalls. The way to **Ushguli** is extremely picturesque.

Overnight in Ushguli.

Day 6: Ushguli-Mestia

Approx. driving distance: 4 hr 17 min (133 km)

Breakfast at the guesthouse.

Explore **Ushguli** village – the highest mountain here is **Shkhara** (Elevation 5193 m), bordering **Georgia** from North with **Kabardo-Balkan**, republic of **Russia**. The whole village with its fortifications is included in UNESCO World Heritage Site.

Drive to **Mestia** passing ancient villages: **Kala, Adishi, Mulakhi.**

Arrive in **Mestia for two overnights.**

Day 7: Mestia Full Day Tour

Approx. driving distance: 24 min (10.4 km)

Breakfast at the hotel. Relaxing day. Visit **Svaneti Museum** of History and Ethnography, which houses old Georgian gospel books and manuscripts, ethnographic and archaeological items, Georgian Orthodox icons painted in **Svaneti**an style, etc. Walk up to the tower and house museum of **Margiani**. In this tower-museum visitor can take a look at local dwelling – “Machubi” and get introduced to the traditional lifestyle of the Svans.

Continue to villages: **Latali** and **Lemjeri** located near **Mestia** town containing churches decorated with medieval frescos and murals.

Overnight in Mestia.

*Suggested: Svaneti Museum of History and Ethnography, per person price 20GEL+ guide 50 GEL

*Suggested: house museum of Margiani, Per person price 10GEL, guide 50GEL

Day 8: Mestia-Martvili-Nokalakevi-Khoni-Kutaisi

Approx. driving distance: 5 hr 16 min (247 km)

Breakfast at the hotel. Check out and start driving to the natural monument – [**Martvili Canyon**](#), created over millions of years by [**Abasha**](#) river. It is possible to make a boat trip and get to the 7-meter high waterfall of the canyon.

Continue to [**Nokalakevi**](#), [**Samegrelo**](#) region to visit archaeological site. The complex consists of citadel of late antique period, ruins of Kings of Egrisi Palaces of 4th-6th cc, remains of bathhouses and water reservoirs of the same period, secret tunnels and the remains of several churches.

Overnight in **Kutaisi**.

Optional: Martvili canyon, per person price 35GEL

Optional: Nokalakevi, per person price 10 GEL

Day 9: Kutaisi-Tskaltubo Caves-Tbilisi Free Evening

Approx. driving distance: 4 hr 27 min (269 km)

Breakfast at the hotel.

Explore Prometheus Caves (Optional). in Tskaltubo-one of the most popular and largest international karst caves, and includes various types of stalactites, stalagmites, curtains, petrified waterfalls, cave pearls, underground rivers, and lakes. The cluster of six caves differs significantly from each other in scale and the unique shapes of petrified flowstones found within.

Drive to Tbilisi. Free evening.

*Optional: Prometheus cave, per person price 25GEL

Overnight in Tbilisi.

Day 10: Tbilisi-Departure To Tbilisi Airport

Breakfast at the hotel. Transfer to Tbilisi Airport.

Inclusions

Included

Transport:

- 2 x transfers to/from airport to/from the hotel by a Comfortable Climate Controlled sedan (1-3 seats); minivan (4-6 seats) - On days 1,10
- Comfortable Climate Controlled self-drive Jeep Renegade specialized off-road vehicle category 2019-2023 year of production (2-4seats) ;Toyota Fortuner Hilux Brand new category, 2016-2021 year of production (4-6 seats) - days 2-9

Accommodation in the hotels:

- 2 x nights-Tbilisi 4* Citrus or similar
- 1 x night-Vardzia Valodia's Cottage
- 1 x night-Akhaltsikhe 4* hotel Lomsia Akhaltsikhe or similar
- 2 x nights-Kutaisi 3* hotel Memoire or similar
- 1 x night-Ushguli Guesthouse Panorama or similar
- 2 x nights-Mestia 3* hotel Bapsha guesthouse similar

Meals:

- 9 x Breakfasts-on days 2-10
- 3 x Dinners on days 5, 6 & 7

Entertainment, equipment and other:

- Local sim card with preloaded balance: 4 GB mobile internet & 10 GEL for local/international calls
- 24/7 assistance of local operator
- All local taxes

Excluded

- Insurance
- Flight tickets
- Early Check Ins/Late Check outs
- Meals & Alcoholic beverages
- Fuel expenses
- Guide service
- Navigator Jeep with technical assistance
- Entrance fees

More Info

Additional Info

Optional charges on spot:

- Dashbashi canyon per person price 59GEL
- Abastumani observatory per person price 10GEL
- Borjomi central Park per person price 5GEL
- Akhaltsikhe castle and museum per person price entrance 18 GEL
- Khertvisi Fortress per person price 10GEL
- Vardzia cave per person price 17GEL
- Svaneti Ethnographical Museum per person price 20 GEL
- Svaneti Margiani Museum per person price 10GEL
- Nokalakevi per person price 10GEL
- Prometheus cave per person price 25 GEL

1 person from the group will be FREE of charge if 10 and more adults are traveling together

The above prices (except for solo) are based on two people sharing a twin/double room accommodation.

Cancellation Policy

Cancellation is free of charge prior 7 days of the starting day.

- The booking deposit 60 USD is non-refundable.

If Tourist cancels the booked tour for some reasons not depending on Tour Operator, the following sums are kept back as a fine:

- 50% of the total cost of tourist product in case of tour cancellation 7 days or less prior to the tour;
 - 100% of the total cost of the tourist product due to the Tourist's failure to appear.
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Gallery

