

TBILISI WONDERS

EXCURSION 1

TOUR # 6

Destination:

HOLY TRINITY CATHEDRAL

The Holy Trinity Cathedral commonly known as Sameba is the main cathedral of the Georgian Orthodox Church located in Tbilisi, the capital of Georgia. Constructed between 1995 and 2004, it is the third-tallest Eastern Orthodox cathedral in the world and one of the largest religious buildings in the world by total area. Sameba is a synthesis of traditional styles dominating the Georgian church architecture at various stages in history and has some Byzantine undertones.

Destination:

GABRIADZE THEATRE,

Rezo Gabriadze theatre, built in 1981, is among the world's preeminent cultural institutions, presenting mature puppet performances full of depth and meaning. Strolling through the streets of old Tbilisi it is impossible to pass the theatre and its clock tower. This beautiful building of the unique marionette theatre was designed by Gabriadze himself. Among the shows in its current repertoire are: "The Autumn of My Spring", "Stalingrad", "Ramona", "Diamond of Marshal de Fant'e"

Destination:

PEACE BRIDGE AND RIKE PARK

Rike park is considered to be the youngest recreational area in Tbilisi. It is situated on the left bank of the river Kura (Mtkvari) and already has become a popular place for both local and international visitors, especially families, and in summer. The Rike park is quite easy to find, as its main entrance is right from the beautiful pedestrian 'Bridge of Peace'

Destination:

AERIAL CABLE CAR

Opened in 2012, a cable car connects Rike Park on the left bank of the Mtkvari river with Narikala Fortress. For only 1 Lari you can kill two birds with one stone – gaze at the fantastic 360-degree views of the city from the large windows of the car and have an easy ride to the top of the hill. The ride only takes a couple of minutes, which is our only complaint, because with such beautiful views to take in, the trip goes far too fast. We really hope that the officials in charge of the cable car read this and heed our plea to slow it down. When you get out at the hill-top station turn right to the Kartlis Deda statue, or left to the Narikala Fortress. A tip: wait for the car with a sign saying 'only 5 people allowed': it has a glass floor. The cable car accepts *Metro* cards.



Destination:

NARIKALA FORTRESS

Also called the Mother Fortress of Tbilisi, Narikala is an ancient symbol of Tbilisi's defence. The fortress was established in the 4th century, around the period when the city itself was founded. It was then known as Shuris-tsikhe (*Invidious Fort*). The name Narikala is said to derive from a Persian word for citadel, but another theory says was the name that Mongols used, meaning "little fortress". It was expanded considerably by the Arabs during the 7th and 8th centuries. The Arabs built the Emir's palace within its walls. King David further extended the Builder the fortress in th 11th century.



Destination:

OLD TBILISI, SULFUR BATH

Many years ago, the King of Georgia discovered the sulphur springs in Central Georgia and decided to build a city surrounding them. And so, Tbilisi (warm place) was born. These days the sulphur springs are somewhat of a tourist attraction and many people visit daily for a soak, scrub and traditional massage beneath the domed roofs. If you're a fan of sulfur baths Tbilisi is a great place to get your fix.



Destination:

MTATSMINDA PARK AND FUNICULAR

Mtatsminda Park is a famous landscaped park located at the top of Mount Mtatsminda overlooking the Georgian capital Tbilisi. The park has carousels, water slides, a roller-coaster, funicular, and a big Ferris Wheel at the edge of the mountain, offering a splendid view over the city.



Destination:

FREEDOM SQUARE, PARLIAMENT LIBRARY

Freedom square is the meeting point of two most interesting neighborhoods of Tbilisi - the Old town and Sololaki district. The dominant golden statue of St. George is visible from almost every hill in Tbilisi and the old City hall building (the one with the stripes) is a popular spot for street musicians. The building of the Parliament library is located behind the National Museum of Georgia. It is an exquisite monument in the history of Georgian architecture. Exterior as well as interior of the building completely fit with "Georgian style and architecture" reflecting the traces of personal freedom and true talent of the authors. Thousands of readers visit the library on a daily basis.



Destination:

METRO SUBWAY EXPERIENCE

Agmashenebeli Avenue is one of the longest and most beautiful streets of the city. Here you can find gorgeous historic buildings, painted entryways and distinctive architectural ornaments.



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AGHMASHENEBELI AVENUE

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