

**SOUTHERN SKY  
ADVENTURES**  
AFRICA...IN YOUR WILDEST DREAMS.

# STUDENT TRIP GEORGIA

15 Days | 14 Nights

Georgia Summer Adventure





Georgia is one of the most beautiful countries in the world. Georgia is famous for picturesque nature, rich ancient culture, authentic food and wine, comfortable weather, amazing mountains and welcoming people. Georgians are warm, friendly and a sincere nation who can sing, walk, have fun and enjoy life, no matter what happens.

Friendly Georgians treat you not as a customer, but as a dear loved guest. In Georgia, you can enjoy simple things - fresh air, clean water, natural food, green forests and breathtaking mountain views. Enjoy warm communication, do some pleasant outdoor activities and relax far away from a noise of a big city.

Georgia offers a wide range variety of activities: whitewater rafting, mountain hiking, climbing, quadbiking, skiing, snowboarding, hiking, camping, music & art festivals, signature wineries, authentic local shops and colorful markets, rich ancient history and outstanding hospitality. There's so much to experience in Georgia. Once you visit this country it will take a place in your heart and soul.

### **Georgia Summer Camp**

Georgia 2020 Summer Camp offers recreational and educational activities for participants. The program provides unforgettable memories as well as improves soft & hard skills of young people. The activities are based on the principles of Outdoor Adventure Education and experiential learning. The program is run by youth workers and trainers, who have more than 5 years of experience in doing different youth camps for international groups.



# ACTIVITY MAP



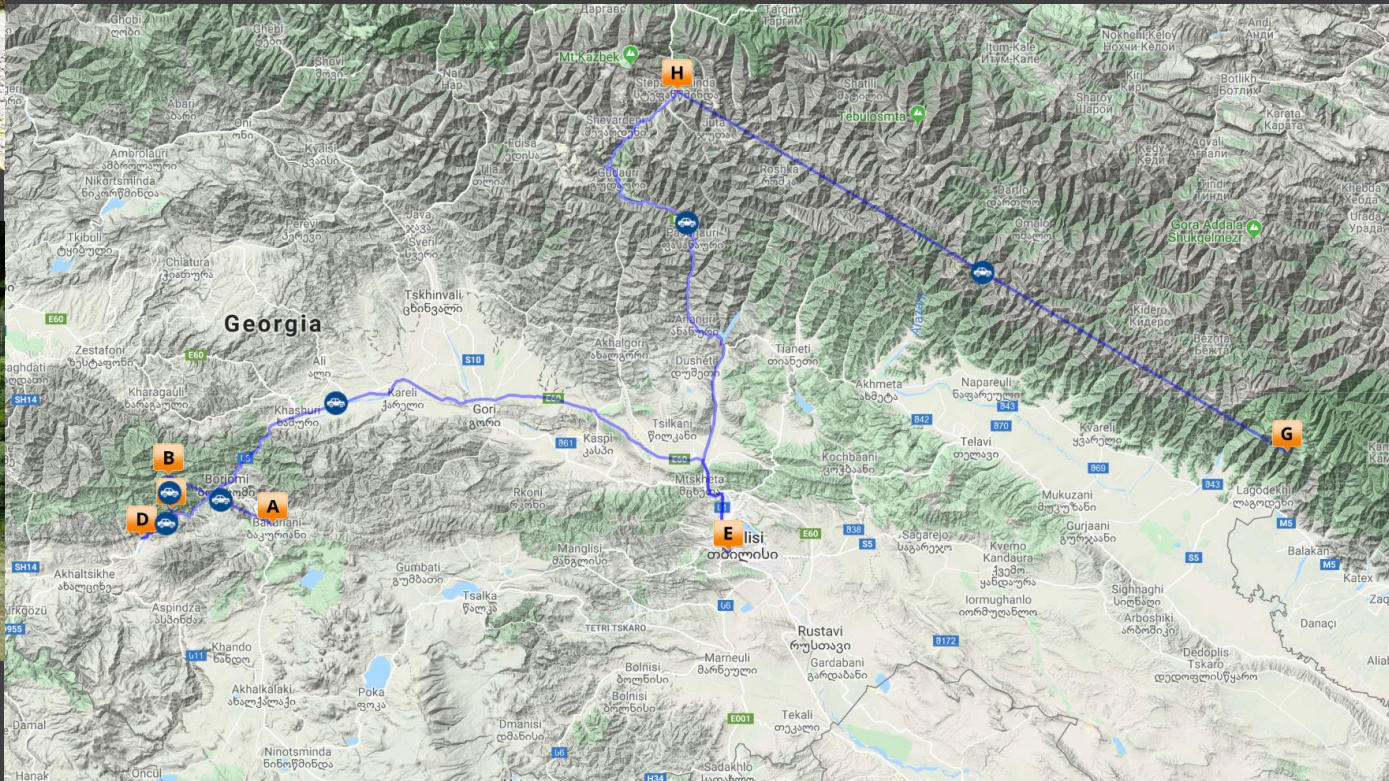
A -Eco House Bakuriani



B - Borjomi-Kharagauli National Park



C -Kvabiskhevi Campsite



D - Barbale



E -Tbilisi View Hotel



G - Lagodekhi National Park



H -Chemodann Hotel Kazbegi





# DAY 1 : BAKURIANI

You will arrive in the beautiful capital of Georgia - Tbilisi.

Upon arrival you will be introduced to the whole program where we will have an opportunity to set some house rules, share expectations and discuss any fears/obstacles, agree on some basic principles and ground rules for living and working together. There will also be an opportunity for any question and answers before we commence with the trip.

You will be transferred with a comfortable mini-bus to Bakuriani which will be a 3-hour drive.

Check-in at the hotel Eco House Bakuriani where you can rest and enjoy a campfire later in the evening.





# DAY 2 : BAKURIANI

## Team Building Activities.

Today you will enjoy a couple of teaming building sessions with your fellow peers. Activities that will encourage trust, challenges that will foster team cohesion and various obstacle courses to overcome individually and as a team such as low rope to mention just a few.

An exciting part of today will also be preparing for the hiking trip. Your team leader will explain the details, provide you with all the knowledge and materials to set you up for success as you and your peers will be tailor making your trip under the supervision and support of your team leader. Many decisions to be made but what an exciting trip awaits you.

Bakuriani is a famous spot for adrenaline lovers 180 km west from the capital. It is 1800 meters above the sea level and is surrounded by spectacular Caucasus mountain peaks. Local people call this place “Sunny Valley” (because of 210 sunny days a year). The well-known Borjomi springs are only 40 min drive from Bakuriani.

People love both summer and winter sports in Bakuriani. In winter it becomes a ski-resort which attracts thousands of people from all over the world. In summer it is a great place for hiking, camping, quadbikes, rafting, fishing and climbing. The trails are quite spectacular but not difficult, so people can enjoy activities without any special physical preparation.





## DAY 3: BORJOMI-KHARAGAULI NATIONAL PARK

### Hiking Borjom-Kharagauli National Park.

After much planning and decision making the day finally arrives for the hike to kick off. A 3-day hiking expedition through the Borjom-Kharagauli National Park. There is a possibility that horses might accompany you on this hike to help lighten the load by carrying some luggage and for the added experience of riding the horses too. The expedition has not only a recreational, but also an educational purpose. During the hiking expedition the main focus will be on developing ones soft & hard skills, observe in detail and understand the group dynamics, engage in efficient and effective team-work and communication is vital for group success.

You will spend the night in tents/shelter at Borjom-Kharagauli National Park.



## DAY 4: BORJOMI-KHARAGAULI NATIONAL PARK

The Park is famous for spectacular landscapes, historical and architectural monuments, resorts and villages. The population of this region has unique ethnographic and cultural features.

Borjomi-Kharagauli National Park's villages are rich with history, local-cottage industries and legendary Georgian hospitality. Borjomi is one of the most popular resorts in this area, famous for its healing mineral water springs, unique nature and historical monuments. Borjomi's naturally carbonated mineral water has a volcanic origin, giving it a distinctive sulphuric taste. It helps to heal many kinds of diseases.





## DAY 5 : BORJOMI-KHARAGAULI NATIONAL PARK

Borjom-Kharagauli National park covers the area of 5000 square kilometers. There you can meet Caucasian deer, chamois, beautiful forest cats and even a lynx! More than 215 species of birds and 30 species of animals live there. Students will enjoy the stunning variety of blossoming plants, breathtaking views and magical forests during the hiking trip.

Paths in the park are marked and well-arranged. Tourist shelters, picnic spots and camping sites are arranged along the routes. There are also sites for setting up a fire.





## DAY 6 : BORJOMI-KHARAGAULI NATIONAL PARK

As you approach the final stretch of your hiking trip, Kvabiskhevi campsite will be your last stop where you will explore castle ruins, swim in small rivers and spend the day in the area.

The latter part of the day will be used to discuss the hiking expedition, to reflect on any insights gained, how the team cooperated and share any valuable lesson learnt that you will treasure forever.



# DAY 7 : ATSKURI

## Farm life in Barbale.

Today you will visit a local organic farm in Barbale, which is 30 minutes drive away from the campsite.

As a group you will have a meeting with the farm owners of Barbale where they will explain how they maintain and organise the farm and you will also get a glimpse of the products they offer.

Time to roll up your sleeves and get ready for some farm action by helping out with different activities on the farm.

After a full day packed with excitement and hard work comes a time to rest, refresh and enjoy dinner provided by Barbale farm.

The farm was founded in 2015 by four friends. It produces organic healthy products. Its motto is: "We produce health". Barbale is the name of Goddess of Fertility in Georgian Mythology.

Barbale Farm makes ecologically clean, organic potatoes, corn, beans, different vegetables, pumpkins and more. They also make herbal teas and raw honey. Hundreds of volunteers from different countries from all around the world help to produce organic products in the farm.







# DAY 8 : TBILISI

## **Water & Fun activities at Chitakhevi Campsite.**

Today is all about having fun and enjoying the various water activities offered at Chitakhevi campsite, which is a 30-minute drive away from Barbale farm.

Activities such as rafting, kayaking, bouldering, barbecuing and more.

In the evening you will be heading to Tbilisi which will take 3 hours by bus.

Upon arrival at Tbilisi View Hotel you will get an opportunity to unpack, refresh and enjoy dinner later in the evening.

Rafting in Georgia is very pleasant and safe along with the professional guidance, special equipment (helmets, life jackets, rafting costumes, special rafting boots) and safety instructions. Special preparation is not needed to enjoy this experience to the full.

First of all, rafting is a kind of group sport, when every member completes some function and follows the instructions given from an instructor. There are several methods that are used for paddling. Students will do the so-called "canoe" method, when group members are deployed equally on both external sides of the boat, while legs are attached to special bindings. Instructor sits in the back side of the boat, giving out orders and riding the boat. While paddling synchronically, the group members are helping the instructor to ride the boat.





## DAY 9 : TBILISI

**Water & Fun activities at Aragvi river and Jinali reservoir.**

Another exciting day awaits you!

Kayaking, Canoeing, barbecuing and other activities.

In the evening you will return to Tbilisi for resting, refreshing and enjoying dinner.





# DAY 10 : TEMI COMMUNITY IN GREMI

Your next destination is a historical village, Gremi, in the heart of Kakheti region - a cradle of famous wine. There, at the bottom of the Caucasus mountains, a community called "Temi" (in Georgian this word means "community") engages people with physical and mental challenges into social enterprise.

Temi started as a grassroots organization in 1989 and has grown steadily since then. Nowadays, about 70 people with different backgrounds and abilities live and work in Temi. The community provides the best possible life opportunities and care for its members and develops its entrepreneurial activities to reach financial independence. Life in Temi is based on the belief that all human beings are equal, that everyone can contribute and that each one has the right to reach his or her full potential.

You will be hosted by the community and will be able to support them into their daily work (can be vineyard, woodcraft, tourist reception, etc.)







## DAY 11 : KAKHETI

As a final challenge of the whole journey, you will embark on a more challenging 2nd hike at Lagodekhi National Park. During your 2.5-day trip (2 nights) you will visit "Black Rock Lake" on the border of the Russian Federation and enjoy breathtaking views of Great Caucasus mountains. Accommodation will be arranged in either tents or tourist huts.







## DAY 12 : KAKHETI

Lagodekhi National Park is the first nature preserve in Georgia. It is located at the altitudes ranging from 590 to 3500 m and its area extends to 24,451 hectares. Lagodekhi is a treasure for nature lovers: green forests, glacial lakes, spectacular waterfalls, deep valleys and access to a wide variety of Kakheti's wildlife.





## DAY 13: STEPANTSMINDA

In order to celebrate the successful accomplishment of the 2nd hiking expedition and finish the trip on a high note, you will visit Kazbegi, one of the top destinations of Georgia with its rich cultural heritage and stunning views. After visiting the Trinity church at the top of the mountain and sightseeing around the village, you will have a chill evening in a hotel and recharge for the final day.

Kazbegi National Park is 165 km away from Tbilisi at 1744 meters high. It covers the area about 8700 hectares. According to Greek myth, Prometheus was chained to the side of the mountain. According to the Georgian version, it was near the peak of Kazbegi. The mountain is surrounded by mineral lakes. It attracts alpinism lovers from all over the world. In some places, cliffs reach more than 1000 m. The ancient towers, powerful mountain waterfalls and amazing wildlife make the Darial Gorge one of the most incredible places in the world. Rocks and valleys on both sides of the gorge are a great place to watch birds. Eagles, hawks and vultures nest there, among the rocky cliffs.



# DAY 14 : TBILISI

On the final day of the program, after returning from Kazbegi early afternoon, you will visit some sights of Tbilisi, the beautiful capital of Georgia. You will have an opportunity for shopping at local stores and collecting some souvenirs. One of the many highlights the city has to offer is visiting sulfur baths in the evening.

Later in the evening you will enjoy dinner at a traditional Georgian restaurant where there will be a closing ceremony to end off your 15-day trip in Georgia.

Tbilisi is more than 1560 years old and shows the colorful variety of rich ancient Georgian culture. The old town of Tbilisi is famous for its medieval buildings, curvy stone-paved streets and holy orthodox churches. In the old town you can see Abanotubani baths (sulfur baths) – according to the Georgian legend, these springs became the reason for founding the city here. “Tbili” means “warm”, that’s why the capital is called Tbilisi.

Other places deserving of a visit in the Georgian capital are: Rustaveli Avenue (where the biggest political events takes part), Parliament of Georgia, the Opera and Ballet Theater, the National Museum, the Academy of Sciences etc.

Tbilisi is unique, warm and welcoming. The city inspired many famous Russian writers and poets to create cultural masterpieces. The combination of special architecture and amazing nature brings the unique charm to this place. Tbilisi is stretched on both banks of the Kura River.







## DAY 15 : END OF ITINERARY

Today can be used for some last-minute gift shopping and meals must be bought on route to the airport for your flight back home.

