

Armenia - ancient and fascinating (M-ID: 2642)

<https://www.motourismo.com/en/listings/2642-armenia-ancient-and-fascinating>



from €2,990.00

Dates and duration (days)

On the great round trip Armenia - ancient and fascinating, we dive into the millennia-old culture and its stone-carved witnesses around the modern capital Yerevan before we explore the interior of the country from Stepanavan in the north to Stepanakert in Nagorno Karabakh in the south-east.

You will go over winding passes (up to 2700m), to waterfalls, along numerous gorges like the one of Lori, which is a magic land in Armenian fairy tales or to the city of the caravanserais Ijewan or Dilidschan, the Davos of the Caucasus.

Passing Lake Sevan we walk in the footsteps of the Apostle Jude Thaddeus through Nagorno Karabakh. A prehistoric star observatory, old caravanserais and the kachkars, those cross stones that are as typical for Armenia as the duduk, the Armenian national instrument or the lavash, the paper-thin bread, follow.

Over the millennia, many have visited Armenia, Mongols, Persians, Hellenes and many others, whether the very pretty girls were the reason, the friendly Armenians themselves, the overwhelming natural landscape, who knows - find out for yourself.

In the times of the Soviet Union, Armenia was also a Soviet republic and unfortunately hidden behind the Iron Curtain for Western tourists. Since the new independence and the velvet revolution Armenia is a very emerging country and is looking forward to be discovered by long-distance travellers and motorcyclists. That means we still have the lonely roads and sights largely to ourselves.

Tour description:

Day 1: Individual arrival from home country

Day 2: Yerevan / Geghard / Garni / Aragats / Byurakan
70km asphalt | City tour in Yerevan / Echmiatsin / Zvartnots / Yerevan Cathedral Echmiatsin - one of the oldest

churches in the Christian world ever, built in 301, religious center of the Armenian people and seat of the Armenian Catholicos and UNESCO World Heritage Site. In the 7th century, a palace church was built here in Zvartnots, the beauty of which, according to tradition, so impressed the Byzantine Emperor Constantine II that he had a similar building erected in Constantinople.

Day 3: Yerevan / Garni / Geghard / Yerevan
80km asphalt, 5km offroad | The Sun Temple of Garni, high above the Garni Gorge, in Greek - Roman style, 2nd century Garni Gorge with river Azat, natural wonder "Symphony of Stones" or "Basalt Organ Pipes" (offroad section) Geghard Monastery in the upper Azat Valley, with its churches partly carved into the rock, well-preserved example of medieval Armenian monastic architecture with decorative art is UNESCO World Heritage Site.

Day 4: Yerevan / Saghmossavank / Amberd / Tegher / Yerevan
125km asphalt | Saghmossavank Monastery, 13th c., beautifully situated above the deep gorge of the Qasagh River Amberd Fortress, 9th c., and Tegher Monastery, 13th c., both on the southern flank of Aragats, the highest mountain in Armenia, stand out for their beautiful views and winding approach on narrow mountain roads.

Day 5: Yerevan / Zaghkadzor / Hrazdan / Arzni / Yerevan
130km asphalt | Zaghkadzor, popular ski and year-round health resort in picturesque landscape. Arzni, holiday village in the Hrazdan Gorge.

Day 6: Rest day to visit Yerevan, shop, relax....

Day 7: Yerevan / Ani Pensa / Gyumri

150km asphalt | In Ani Pensa lies one of the most important and largest early Christian buildings in Armenia, the Basilica of Jererukh, 5th century. Gjumri, beautiful old town houses with colorful facades and graceful wooden balconies.

Day 8: Gyumri / Arthik / Aparan / Shirakamut / Trchkan waterfall / Stepanavan / Odzun
120 km asphalt, 50 km offroad | Arthik, Bronze Age settlements. In Aparan there is one of the oldest sacral buildings in Armenia, the Basilica of Khasakh from the 4th century and a nationally famous bakery, because of its good bread and oven-fresh pastries.
After Shirakamut, the off-road route begins to one of the most popular sights in Armenia, the highest and most watery waterfall in the country, the Trchkan Waterfall UNESCO World Heritage Site.
High above the Wolfsberg Gorge lies beautifully situated Odzun with its large 6th century cathedral.

Day 9: Odzun / Sanahin / Haghpat / Ijevan
165km asphalt, 15km offroad | Sanahin and Haghpat, both impressive monasteries, situated high above the Debed Gorge and UNESCO World Heritage Site Ijevan, city of caravanserais.

Day 10: Ijevan / Navur / Karmir / Gosh / Lake Parz / Dilijan
150km asphalt, 75km offroad | Via gravel road to Navur and Karmir in the mountains. Village Gosh, with monastery Goshavank, founded by the famous Armenian scholar and poet Mkhithar Gosh, 12Yh. Parz lake, clear mountain lake in the nature park of Dilijan. Dilijan climatic health resort in the nature park of the same name with summer houses of Dimitri Shostakovich and Benjamin Britten.

Day 11: Dilijan / Qarvachar / Dadivank / Stepanakert
320km asphalt, 30km offroad | Over Sevan Pass, along Sevan Lake to Qarvachar in Karabakh. Dadivank, founded at the end of the 1st century and named after a disciple of the apostle Judas Thaddeus. While Dadivank has a magical aura, Gandzasar is an outstanding example of 10th century architecture and stonemasonry.

Day 12: Stepanakert / Tigranakert / Chinari / Hadrut / Togh village
130km asphalt, 15km offroad | Ruins of the city of Tigranakert from the Hellenistic period, 1st century BC
Tschinari tree, very famous and 1000 years old.

Day 13: Togh village / Goris / Sisian / Karahunge / Yeghegnadzor
270km asphalt | Beautiful mountain road to Goris. At the river Goris there are peculiar sandstone stelae, which were inhabited until the 19th century. Not far from Sisian, in Karahunge lies one of the largest and oldest prehistoric cult sites in Armenia, a Bronze Age burial ground with ancient settlement and prehistoric star observatory.

Day 14: Yeghegnadzor / Vartneyants Pass / Noraduz / Sevan / Yerevan
130km asphalt | Just below Vartneyants Pass (2410m) one of the few remaining caravanserais from the great times of the legendary Silk Road and Marco Polo.

Shortly before we arrive back in Yerevan and this journey of discovery comes to an end, we visit a field of khachkars near Noraduz, those cross stones that are as typical for Armenia as the duduk, the Armenian national instrument, or

the lavash, the paper-thin bread that is baked in a clay oven embedded in the earth.

Day 15: Journey home
2915km Offroad / Air | After all the experiences and the warmth of the Armenian hospitality it will not be easy for some to start their journey home.

Countries	Armenia
Category	Motorcycle Tour
Terrain	Combo On-/Offroad
Vehicle	motorcycle rent incl.
Tourguide / Coach	yes (guided)
Accommodation	Hotel / B&B or similar
	4 star hotel
Flight to / from	no, not incl.
Ferry	no, not incl.
Support vehicle (luggage/service)	yes
Level of difficulty	easy
Customer payment protection	yes
* PRICING	Minimal without optional extras, see pricing

Pricing

per rider in a double room: Yamaha XT660 R (the booking of a double room is only available for a booking of two people. All single travelers are asked to choose the single room surcharge.)	€2,990.00
per rider in double room: Kawasaki KLR650 (the booking of a double room is only available for a booking of two people. All single travelers are asked to choose the single room surcharge.)	€2,990.00
per rider in a double room: Suzuki V-Strom 650 (the booking of a double room is only available for a booking of two people. All single travelers are asked to choose the single room surcharge.)	€3,190.00
per rider in a double room: Honda Africa Twin (the booking of a double room is only available for a booking of two people. All single travelers are asked to choose the single room surcharge.)	€3,390.00
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per pillion passenger in a double room	€1,990.00
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per person single room - (surcharge, only available with an additional selection of the basic price "per rider in shared twin/double room")	€300.00

Included

Airport transfers

Escort vehicle for pillions and luggage

Tour guide German/English with motorbike

Rental motorcycle

Complete motorcycle insurance (exclusive 250€ deductible)
Unlimited mileage
Accommodation in 4 star hotel - breakfast and dinner included
Lunch on the way
1 bottle of water per person per day
Travel insurance certificate

Not included

Flight to Armenia and back
Gasoline for the tour
Helmets and rider equipment
Travel insurance
Alcoholic drinks with dinner
Portage and tips
Everything that is not specified under features

More details

Tour start: Yerevan ARM

End of tour: Yerevan ARM

Participants: Minimum number of participants 5 riders, maximum number of participants 8 riders If the minimum number of participants is not reached by the registration deadline, the tour may be cancelled. In case of later registrations we are happy to ask for free hotel rooms.

Region: Armenia

Riding distance: approx. 1900km

Duration: 15 days, 14 nights, 13 riding days

Accommodation: Four star hotel

Roads: For the most part, the roads are in passable condition. However, there are gravel road sections to various places of interest. For this reason, enduros are used.

Motorcycles: There are 4 different types available, but only in a limited number, see REGISTRATION / MOTORBIKES. If you book early, you have free choice of motorcycle.

Passenger: Pillion and Enduro? Yes, is possible in 2 ways:

1. there are limited seats available in the escort vehicle for your travel companion. Early booking recommended!

2. on the motorcycle it is conditionally also possible. Here, however, it depends very much on your height and weight and whether you have experience in it. In this case, the Suzuki V-Strom 650 or the Honda Africa Twin are certainly recommended.

Route:

Round trip: start and finish the same

Road condition: 90% asphalt, around 1900 km (leads only over predominantly well asphalted roads); 10% Gravel, around 190 km (are not asphalted roads and ways, which are leveled, often very well to ride, but also sand passages, gravel distances, "corrugated iron" and Potholes can have)

Difficulty level: 1 (out of 5) - The route runs throughout on very demanding, extremely winding, narrow and partly single-track roads.

Experience: Some experience on dirt roads required.

We are also happy to arrange flights and hotel rooms for you from arrival to the start of the tour, or from the end of the tour to departure. Please inquire.