

Custom Travel Planner:

# TRANS-CAUCASUS

Georgia ■ Armenia ■ Azerbaijan



*Svetitskhoveli Cathedral, Mtskheta, Georgia*

The soaring Caucasus Mountains separate Europe from Asia, and the three Trans-Caucasus countries, **Georgia, Armenia** and **Azerbaijan** are on that borderline. In a region unfamiliar to many Americans, these are some of Europe's most ancient inhabited places. Azerbaijan was closely connected with pre-Islamic Persia; it is sometimes said that burning natural gas vents on its Apsheron Peninsula inspired Zoroastrian fire rituals. Today, its future is based on rich oil and gas deposits. Beautiful Armenia was the first country to adopt Christianity as its official religion, early in the 4th century. And Georgia claims to be the first area to cultivate the wine grape. Changing from minute to minute, modern Georgia is dedicated to democratization.



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## 22 Years of Experience & Expertise Available to You

We have 22 years of specialized travel planning experience under our belts, focusing exclusively on the crossroads of Europe and Asia. Our reliable in-country connections are dedicated to delivering in-depth, educational travel experiences. We combine specialized information about geography and infrastructure, history and art, language and culture, with the expertise and depth of knowledge gained from 22 years of experience in this area.

Call for references from past guests to learn why they are glad they chose MIR as their travel partner. MIR has been rated one of the "Best Adventure Travel Companies on Earth" by *National Geographic Adventure Magazine* and our scheduled tour "Georgia & Armenia: Mountains and Monasteries" was named a "Tour of a Lifetime" by *National Geographic Traveler* in 2008.

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