



# Essential Georgia 2020



## Essential Georgia

From Wine Country to High Country

### Flexible Essential Trip – Classic Private Journey – 8 Days

Your choice of dates, suggested start day: Monday

*The gorgeous country of Georgia, hugging the shore of the Black Sea in the shadow of the Caucasus Mountains, has a long history of bountiful table traditions and winemaking. The ancient land of the Colchis, where Jason sought the Golden Fleece, Georgia has lived in myth and legend for centuries. From the masterpieces of David the Builder to the infamy of Stalin, the country's most notorious son, Georgia has an ancient and complex history. Travel overland to explore the architectural complex of Ananuri, cave towns of pagan and Christian influence, and the fortresses and cathedrals that dot the countryside. Learn about age-old grape-harvesting and winemaking traditions still practiced in the region of Kakheti. Wander the charming streets and markets of Tbilisi, and meet its sophisticated inhabitants.*



## Daily Itinerary

Day 1, Monday	Arrive Tbilisi, Georgia
Day 2, Tuesday	Tbilisi
Day 3, Wednesday	Tbilisi • Tsinandali • Signagi
Day 4, Thursday	Signagi
Day 5, Friday	Signagi • Ananuri • Gudauri
Day 6, Saturday	Gudauri • day trip to Kazbegi
Day 7, Sunday	Gudauri • Gori • Mtskheta • Tbilisi
Day 8, Monday	Depart Tbilisi

**Note:** Those who choose the tour program option of staying in upgraded hotels will overnight in Kazbegi instead of Gudauri.



## Tour Highlights

Tbilisi	Old Town, domed sulfur baths, Anchiskhati Basilica, views of Narikala Fortress and Mother Georgia Monument, Sioni Cathedral with the Cross of St. Nino, Metekhi Church of the Virgin, Rustaveli Avenue, State Museum of Fine Art
Signagi	Bodbe Nunnery, Pheasant's Tears Winery, Signagi Museum
Ananuri	Ananuri Fortress Complex, Zhinvali Reservoir
Gudauri	Highest village on Georgian Military Highway
Kazbegi	Tsminda Sameba (Holy Trinity) Church and Bell Tower
Gori	Birthplace of Joseph Stalin, Stalin House Museum
Mtskheta	"Historical Monuments of Mtskheta" (UNESCO World Heritage Site), Svetitskhoveli Cathedral, Jvari Church, wine-tasting

## Daily Itinerary

### Day One, Monday Arrive Tbilisi

Upon afternoon arrival in Tbilisi, transfer to the hotel for check-in after 2:00 p.m. This afternoon, spend time with your Tbilisi guide to discuss the upcoming program while enjoying a welcome drink at the hotel bar. If your flight arrives in Tbilisi late at night, you'll meet with your guide tomorrow morning instead for a brief orientation before touring.

Meals: Independent – *Old Tiflis Hotel or similar*

### Day Two, Tuesday Tbilisi

After breakfast this morning, **begin touring Tbilisi**. Georgia's strip of central lowlands has long been an important link between East and West. Tbilisi is set at the mouth of this passageway, in the Mtkvari River Valley, and has changed hands many times. Most notably, the city was ruled by Arabs for 400 years before King David the Builder defeated them in 1121 and moved his capital here from Kutaisi. The Georgian king fostered tolerance for Tbilisi's Arab population, and the city still has a multiethnic atmosphere.

The red-roofed Old Town, its houses sporting **carved wooden balconies**, sits beneath the Narikala Fortress on the hill above. Tbilisi

was last razed in 1795 by Aga Khan, and most of the current buildings date from that time. The **domed sulfur baths** and the stone **Anchiskhati Basilica** were all that survived.







**Admire the Narikala Fortress**, the 4th century citadel built to keep watch over the narrowest point on the Kura River, and the 6th century stone Anchiskhati Basilica, the city's oldest church. Pause at **Sioni Cathedral**, sheltering the **Cross of St. Nino**, the woman who brought Christianity to Georgia, and pass by the 19th century caravanserai built to house traveling merchants. Tour the 13th century **Metekhi Church of the Virgin**, constructed on an outcropping above the river on the site of David the Builder's former palace.

From various vantage points around the city, observe **Mother Georgia**, a soaring monument above the city bearing a sword for her enemies and a bowl of wine for her guests.

Tbilisi's **State Museum of Fine Arts**, established in 1920, exhibits thousands of pieces of Georgian art, including paintings by Georgian masters, fine gold work dating from the 3rd century BC, medieval icons, and ancient cloisonné enamel pieces. The collection also includes Russian, Western European, and Persian artwork.

Lunch and dinner today are independent.  
Meals: B – *Old Tiflis Hotel or similar*

*Day Three, Wednesday*  
**Tbilisi • Tsinandali • Signagi**

After breakfast at the hotel, set off for Tsinandali Village, best known for the **family estate of Alexander Chavchavadze**, located near here. A 19th century Georgian aristocrat and poet, Chavchavadze managed to serve admirably in the imperial Russian army when he wasn't fighting Russia for Georgian independence. His estate was a hub for European intellectuals of the time. Here, he and his father founded the first and foremost winery in the country, which still produces the dry white Tsinandali wine. His mansion has been transformed into a museum in honor of the poet and hero.

Visit **Schuchmann's Winery**, a vineyard specializing in traditional



Georgian grapes. Wines from the vineyard have won certificates at international competitions, and guests will be treated to a tasting. While touring the winery, **enjoy a picnic lunch** on the territory.

Continue next to **Signagi in Georgia's wine country, Kakheti**. King Erekle II constructed a defensive wall around the hill town of Signagi in the 18th century. Its towers were named for the surrounding villages, and townspeople were meant to gather there in times of trouble. Wander the narrow streets and admire the richly carved balconies and the green valley below.

Check into the hotel and enjoy an independent dinner and overnight.

Meals: B, L (picnic-style) – *Pirosmani Hotel, Solomoni Hotel, or similar*

## Day Four, Thursday

### Signagi

Explore Signagi today. The **Signagi Museum** is a part of the Georgian National Museum consortium. Its focus is on regional ethnographic material, and it has a particularly good collection of artifacts collected during archaeological digs around David Gareja Monastery.

Visit a local wine cellar, such as the **Pheasant's Tears Winery**, producing organic wines from varietal grapes that grow well in the **Kakhetian micro-region**. The name of this winery comes from a Georgian legend in which the hero claims that it takes a "wine beyond measure" to make a pheasant cry tears of joy. The owner is an American expat.

After an independent lunch, continue to 9th-century **Bodbe Nunnery**, where St. Nino is buried. It is said that toward the end of her life, she lived as a hermit in the Bodbe Gorge and died here.

The working convent overlooks the Alazani Valley, and was used as a coronation venue by the kings of Kakheti. Its main basilica features some fine frescoes, and its surrounding gardens are refreshing.

Return to Signagi for an independent dinner and overnight.

Meals: B – *Pirosmani Hotel, Solomoni Hotel, or similar*



## Day Five, Friday

### Signagi • Ananuri • Gudauri

Depart this morning to head to the mountainous Kazbegi region and begin an ascent into the heart of the Caucasus Mountains.

The **Ananuri Fortress Complex** was built by the dukes of the Aragvi Valley in the 17th century in order to control the road below. Below the fortress at the foot of the green hills gleams the blue expanse of **Zhinvali Reservoir**, making this one of Georgia's most beautiful places. The notched walls of the feudal stronghold contain two churches and a 12th century watchtower. The old frescoes in the churches are faded, but the carvings around the doorways and on the outside walls are still vibrant. Lunch will be at a local restaurant.



Continue on an exploration of the hidden treasures along the **Georgian Military Highway**. This highway is the main route through the region, and runs from Tbilisi north through the Greater Caucasus Mountains to Vladikavkaz, Russia, 129 miles away. Construction began at the beginning of the 19th century and was finally completed in 1817.

#### **Standard Hotels Option – Overnight Gudauri**

This evening, after a gorgeous mountain drive, **arrive in Gudauri**, the highest village on the Georgian Military Highway and home to a ski resort built by Austrians. In summer, the outstanding views and alpine air combine to make the spot a welcome break from hot city streets.

Meals: B, L, D – *Standard Hotel: Marco Polo Hotel Gudauri or similar.*

#### **Upgraded Hotels Option – Continue to Kazbegi**

This evening, after a memorable day of driving in the mountains, **arrive in Kazbegi**, located on a bank of the Tergi River. At over 6,000 feet, this small alpine village is tucked into a panoramic bowl surrounded by mountain peaks – including one of the Caucasus' highest, Mt. Kazbek.

Meals: B, L, D – *Upgraded hotel: Rooms Hotel Kazbegi or similar*





*Day Six, Saturday*  
**Gudauri • day trip to Kazbegi**

**Standard Hotels Option – Visit Kazbegi as a day trip from Gudauri**

After breakfast at the hotel, continue along the Georgian Military Highway for a day trip in Kazbegi. Perched on a hill above Kazbegi are the **14th century church of Tsminda Sameba (Holy Trinity)** and its bell tower, their silhouettes dark against the mountain.

Return to Gudauri this afternoon for dinner and an overnight.

Meals: B, L, D – *Standard Hotel: Marco Polo Hotel Gudauri or similar.*

**Upgraded Hotels Option – Full day in Kazbegi**

Enjoy a day of touring and exploring in Kazbegi, including as listed above the church of Tsminda Sameba (Holy Trinity). To reach this sacred site, enjoy a leisurely hike or optional four-wheel drive excursion.

Meals: B, L, D – *Upgraded hotel: Rooms Hotel Kazbegi or similar*



*Day Seven, Sunday*  
**Gudauri • Gori • Mtskheta • Tbilisi**

Today's route starts in Gudauri or in Kazbegi, depending on your choice between the **Standard and Upgraded Hotel Options**. Either way, the day ends in Tbilisi with lots of touring stops along the way. After breakfast at the hotel, head to **Gori**, birthplace of Georgia's most infamous son, Joseph Stalin. Gori's name comes from the Georgian word *goraki*, meaning "hill." A 7th century Georgian chronicle marks the first mention of the fortress, but the walls that survive today date from the Middle Ages.

Gori is best known for its **connection with Stalin**, who was born here in December 1879 and lived here until 1883. Stalin's father was a local shoemaker named Vissarion Dzhugashvili. The family's original wooden hut on Stalin Prospekt is today the **Stalin House Museum**. On the grounds of the museum is Stalin's private railway car, used to carry him in style throughout the Soviet Union.

The next stop is **Mtskheta**, which was the capital of the eastern Georgian kingdom of Iberia from the 3rd century BC until the 5th century AD, and was an important trading town. It was also a religious and cultural center, and the core of the Iberian civilization. Georgia's conversion to





Christianity took place here in 337 AD. The Orthodox cathedrals built during this period are considered to be among the finest in the country, and the entire city has been listed as a **World Heritage Site by UNESCO**. Enjoy lunch at a local restaurant in Mtskheta.



The tour of Mtskheta includes a visit to the 11th century **Svetitskhoveli Cathedral**, its interior decorated in murals, and 6th century **Jvari Monastery**, containing one of the first Christian churches in Georgia. While in the area, also enjoy a wine-tasting at nearby **Mukhrani Chateau** vineyards, where a perfect microclimate nurtures vines selected through centuries, and the grapes are picked by hand.

Arrive back in the capital this evening, and enjoy a farewell dinner at a local restaurant.

Meals: B, L, D – *Old Tiflis Hotel or similar*

*Day Eight, Monday*  
**Depart Tbilisi**

The trip concludes with a transfer to the airport for departure.  
Meals: B

## **Tour Days of Operation**

Private departures of this land itinerary can begin on the date of your choice in 2020; the suggested start day is Monday. Please note you will need to depart the U.S. at least one day prior to your tour start date due to airline flight schedules.

## **Private Journey Prices**

2 traveler minimum, from \$3,195 per person, twin share

Single supplement from \$795

Solo traveler rate, inclusive of single supplement, \$5,095

## **Hotel Upgrade Prices**

*Upgrade to the Rooms Hotel Tbilisi, the Kabadoni Hotel in Signagi, and the Rooms Hotel in Kazbegi, or similar hotels:*

2 traveler minimum, from \$3,695 per person, twin share

Single supplement from \$945

Solo traveler rate, inclusive of single supplement, \$5,495

*Flexible Essential trip prices may vary by season and by start day, and are subject to hotel availability for your travel dates. Hotel room category upgrades, and additional nights are available on request. Contact us at 1-800-424-7289 for more information.*



## Your Private Journey Includes

- Accommodations per the itinerary. **See upgrade rates above.** All room types, even in upgraded properties, are standard entry-level doubles or twins; please call for room category upgrade pricing and information.
- 7 breakfasts, 4 lunches (1 picnic-style) and 3 dinners, per the itinerary. Some lunches and dinners are left free to allow independent exploration.
- Restaurant tips for included meals.
- One arrival and one departure airport transfer. (Additional arrival and departure transfers available at additional cost.) MIR will arrange for travelers to be met upon arrival and seen off on departure, whether we make your air arrangements or not.
- Ground transportation throughout itinerary by private vehicle (size of vehicle depends on number of travelers in your group).
- Evening cultural performances per the itinerary.
- Guided sightseeing tours and entrance fees as outlined in itinerary.
- Services of experienced, English-speaking local guides, drivers and other staff.
- Complete pre-departure information including detailed packing list, reading list, *Touring with MIR* handbook with country-specific information, maps, and travel tips.
- Assistance booking your custom flight arrangements (on request; please note that international airfare is not included in the land tour cost).
- Final document packet including luggage tags, final updates, and more.

## Not Included

- International airfare or taxes/fuel surcharges.
- Meals not specified as included in the itinerary.
- Single supplement charge, if requested or required.
- Baggage handling.
- Items of a personal nature (phone calls, email, laundry, alcohol, excess baggage, etc).
- Gratuities to local guides and drivers.
- Visa/passport fees, airport departure fees.
- Expenses incurred as a result of delay, modification or extension of a tour due to causes beyond MIR's control.
- Travel and trip cancellation insurance.

### Interested in travel insurance?

To learn more about all the benefits of purchasing a Travel Guard travel insurance plan, please visit [www.travelguard.com/mircorp](http://www.travelguard.com/mircorp) or contact Travel Guard at 1-877-709-5596.



## Start Planning Next Year Now

### 2021 Flexible Essential Trip – Classic Private Journey – 8 Days

At the time of writing, the land itinerary for this program next year is projected to be generally as depicted for this year. Please call if you're ready to book now.

*Private departures of this land itinerary can begin on the Monday of your choice in 2021. Please note you will need to depart the U.S. at least one day prior to your tour start date due to airline flight schedules.*

### Private Journey Prices – 2021

2 traveler minimum, from \$3,295 per person, twin share  
Single supplement from \$795  
Solo traveler rate, inclusive of single supplement, \$5,195

### Hotel Upgrade Prices

*Upgrade to the Rooms Hotel Tbilisi, the Kabadoni Hotel in Signagi, and the Rooms Hotel in Kazbegi, or similar hotels:*

2 traveler minimum, from \$3,795 per person, twin share  
Single supplement from \$945  
Solo traveler rate, inclusive of single supplement, \$5,595

*Flexible Essential trip prices may vary by season and by start day, and are subject to hotel availability for your travel dates. Hotel room category upgrades, and additional nights are available on request. Contact us at 1-800-424-7289 for more information.*

## Flexible Essential Trips – Classic Private Journeys

Flexible Essential Private Trips are compact, well-designed private tour itineraries – researched and ready to book on the dates you choose. They work perfectly as brief overviews of a country or as effortless extensions to group tours – great for solo travelers, couples, or private parties who prefer to travel independently, but appreciate a savvy, pre-designed program.

## Important Notes: Is This Trip Right For You?

While the accommodations are as comfortable as possible, they will vary from superior tourist class hotels to very basic and simple accommodations. It is important to keep in mind that the country of Georgia may not be up to the standards North American travelers expect. Services are improving in the region; nevertheless you may encounter problems with plumbing, bureaucratic service, rough or unpaved road conditions, unpaved sidewalks, uneven surfaces and steps, and availability of public restrooms. You will be traveling in some areas which, relatively speaking, have seen few travelers, and the infrastructure is not yet fully developed.

While this program is designed to be the most comfortable possible for travel in this region, it is rated as **rigorous touring** due to the daily walking involved, the length of some overland rides and the overall





shortcomings of the tourism infrastructure. This itinerary features a significant amount of touring on foot. Many streets are of packed dirt, and some attractions are only accessible via steep staircases with tall, uneven steps. To reap the full rewards of this adventure, travelers must be able to walk at least a mile a day. Flexibility, a sense of humor and a willingness to accept local standards of amenities and services are essential components to the enjoyment of this trip.

Every effort has been made to make the information in this itinerary accurate. However, trip itineraries are always subject to change. We will do our best to inform you in advance of any changes, but due to the nature of travel in Georgia, this may not always be possible. Only those willing to accept these conditions should consider joining this program.

## Are You Prepared?

A Travel Guard travel insurance plan can help cover your vacation investment, offset expenses from travel mishaps and provide you with emergency travel assistance. To learn more about all of the benefits of purchasing a Travel Guard travel insurance plan, please visit [www.travelguard.com/mircorp](http://www.travelguard.com/mircorp)

Please read the U.S. State Department's Travel Advisory regarding travel to Georgia here: <https://travel.state.gov/content/travel/en/traveladvisories/traveladvisories/georgia-travel-advisory.html>

If you are not already enrolled in STEP, Smart Traveler Enrollment Program, a free service to enroll your trip with the nearest U.S. Embassy or Consulate, please consider enrolling. For more information: <https://step.state.gov/step/>

## Weather

Georgia experiences extremely hot summers and cold winters. Rain is minimal. Late spring (April-May) and early fall (September-October) are the best months to travel here. May brings daytime temperatures ranging from 60-80 degrees Fahrenheit. Summers can be hot in the lowlands, starting in June with daytime temperatures ranging from 75-90 degrees Fahrenheit, and still-warm September brings temperatures ranging from 65-80 degrees Fahrenheit during the day, and around 60 at night.

**Please remember, weather at all times of year has an element of the unpredictable.** This information comes from [weatherbase.com](http://weatherbase.com) and is based on data from previous temperatures on record. It is always advisable to check with [weatherbase.com](http://weatherbase.com) closer to your departure date for current conditions and forecasts for the specific region of Georgia you will be visiting.

## International Airfare

MIR's in-house, full-service air department is available to assist with your air travel needs. Check with MIR before booking air on your own, as we are happy to research and compare the best fares available through multiple channels. Airfare varies depending on a wide variety of factors, such as dates of travel and seasonality, seat availability, special airline promotions, how restrictive ticket changes are, how long the fares can be held without purchase, routing considerations such as stopovers, and more. Tour dates are based on the land tour only. Our preferred carriers for this tour are Lufthansa, Austrian, and Turkish Airlines, as they offer convenient itineraries and competitive rates from multiple cities across the U.S. to Georgia.

Please call us at 1-800-424-7289 to discuss air options and routings for this program, and to request a quote for your specific plans and dates of travel. We will be happy to put together a no-obligation suggested air itinerary and estimate for you at your request.



## Visas

Please note, a Georgian visa is not currently required for U.S. passport holders, but may be required for citizens of other countries. Other visas may also be needed for any country you fly through in order to join the tour, such as Russia, Armenia, or Azerbaijan. Please call for more details. Visa requirements and fees are always subject to change.

## Pre- and Post-Tours

This flexible-date tour is designed to start on a Monday and end on the following Monday. However, the program is generally flexible enough to run in any eight-day time period, making it the perfect tour to link to other 2020 small group tour programs. MIR can arrange extension touring to Armenia or Azerbaijan. Or perhaps you would like to experience Central Asia, Siberia, Western Russia, or Eastern Europe. All of MIR's destinations are open to you, and all can be attached to this program. Please contact MIR for more details about exciting options for extended travel.

## Also Nearby...

For more tours to this region, you may want to check out:

## Flexible Essential Trips – Classic Private Journeys

**Essential Caucasus**, 10 days. Armenia's intricate stone *khachkar* crosses, the bounteous wines of Georgia and the ancient petroglyphs of Azerbaijan are icons of these three intertwined Caucasus countries, where you can experience five UNESCO masterpieces in 10 days.

**Essential Georgia & Armenia**, 13 days. These warm, green countries full of fruitful valleys and sawtoothed mountains are rich with unexpected treasures. Walk through river-cut canyons, explore magnificent cave towns, enter medieval fortress towers of stacked stone and visit the mountain homes of the Svan people.

**Essential Tajikistan**, 8 days. Rarely visited Tajikistan is wreathed in spectacular mountains and colored with the influence of Persia, the Islamic world and Russia. Meet local people at Fergana Valley markets, explore the ruins of ancient Penjikent, and share a meal in a warm Tajik home. Visit the country's capital, Dushanbe, where an airy, light-filled space is home to the modern National Museum of Tajikistan.

**Essential Kazakhstan**, 7 days. Begin in the new city of Astana, capital of Kazakhstan only since 1997. Fly to Chimkent and discover the historic city of Turkistan with its UNESCO-listed mausoleum of a revered Sufi sheikh. Fly to Almaty and explore spectacular Charyn Canyon, with its strange rock formations and colorful strata.

**Essential Uzbekistan**, 10 days. Roam the great Silk Road oases of Bukhara, Samarkand and Khiva, all of them UNESCO Sites. Admire their mosques, *madrassahs* and minarets clad in ceramic tiles the color of the desert sky.

**Essential Central Asia**, Uzbekistan and Turkmenistan, 13 days. Explore the markets, mosques and minarets of oasis towns on the fringes of the Kyzyl Kum and Kara Kum deserts. Here, spiritual beliefs were the greatest commodities to flow along trade routes, and civilizations blossomed amidst austere natural beauty.



## Small Group Tours

**A Taste of Georgia: Wine, Cuisine & Culture**, 13 days. Explore gorgeous Georgia on a culinary and cultural caravan that traverses a country entwined with grapevines, overflowing with wine and abounding in hospitality. In the company of local MIR hosts – a winemaker and an ethnologist who are in love with Georgian food, wine and culture – experience the never-ending Georgian Feast like a local, dining and toasting in wine cellars, fine restaurants, vineyards and the homes of family chefs all over Georgia.

**Treasures of the South Caucasus**, 15 days. Georgia, Armenia and Azerbaijan share stunning mountain backdrops, powerful stone architecture and a strong code of hospitality. Georgia's renowned winemaking traditions, Azerbaijan's Zoroastrian and Islamic background and Armenia's multitude of ancient churches combine to make this distinctive journey more than the sum of its parts.

## Conditions of Participation

Your participation on a MIR Corporation trip is subject to the conditions contained in the 2020 Tour Reservation Form and Release of Liability and Assumption of Risk Agreement. Please read this document carefully and contact us with any questions.

## Cancellation and Refund Policy

**Payment Terms:** Non-refundable deposits are accepted by check, Visa, MasterCard, or American Express. Final land payments may be made by check or credit card for reservations made directly with MIR. If booking through a travel agent, please contact your agent to find out what form of payment they accept. (MIR can accept final payment from travel agents by agency check only.) Airfares are subject to change until ticketed; payment policies vary by carrier.

If you cancel your trip please notify MIR in writing. Upon MIR's receipt of notice, the following charges apply to land tours (policies for air tickets, custom group trips vary):

### *Flexible Essential Trips*

Cost of cancellation, if received:

61 or more days prior to departure, deposit due or paid in full of \$750;

31-60 days prior to departure, 50% of land tour cost;

30 days prior to or after trip departure, no refund.

## References

We encourage you to speak directly with satisfied past travelers. Please request a list of references.

## Why MIR?

Regional knowledge is crucial to the success of any trip to our corner of the world. MIR combines detailed information about geography and infrastructure, history and art, language and culture, with the depth of knowledge that comes only from decades of regional experience. You may wonder how we differ from other tour operators...

## Destination Specialization

MIR focuses exclusively on the exceptional region at the crossroads of Europe and Asia. This area has been our overriding passion since 1986; we don't do the rest of the world. Our hard-earned expertise gained over the last three decades can take you from end to end of the largest country in the world –





Russia – and to all of its neighbors. We specialize in travel to Siberia, the Silk Route, St. Petersburg & Beyond. Our destinations include: Russia, Ukraine, Belarus, Moldova, the Baltics (Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania), the Balkans (Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia, Kosovo, Montenegro, North Macedonia, Serbia, Slovenia), Central Asia (Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, Uzbekistan), the South Caucasus (Armenia, Azerbaijan, Georgia), Turkey, Mongolia, China, Tibet, and Central/East Europe (Bulgaria, Czech Republic, Hungary, Poland, Romania, Slovakia).

### 30 Years of Experience

A travel company doesn't last more than 30 years in the business without a solid track record. MIR has helped thousands of individuals achieve their travel goals. Our dedication and experience have earned us their trust and the trust of many well-respected institutions. Today MIR is the preferred tour operator for museum, alumni and special interest organizations across the country.



### Recommended & Respected

MIR has twice been rated one of the “Best Adventure Travel Companies on Earth” by *National Geographic Adventure*. Several of our tours have won awards in top travel publications, such as *Outside* magazine and *National Geographic Traveler*. Our trips have been featured in books such as *Riding the Hula Hula to the Arctic Ocean* and *1,000 Places to See Before You Die*.

### More Questions?


Please feel free to call us with questions at 1-800-424-7289, 8:30am-5:30pm Pacific Time.



MIR Corporation  
85 South Washington Street, Suite 210  
Seattle, WA 98104  
800-424-7289, 206-624-7289  
Fax 206-624-7360  
info@mircorp.com  
www.mircorp.com

Sellers of Travel: Washington#601-099-932, California# 2082306-40

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