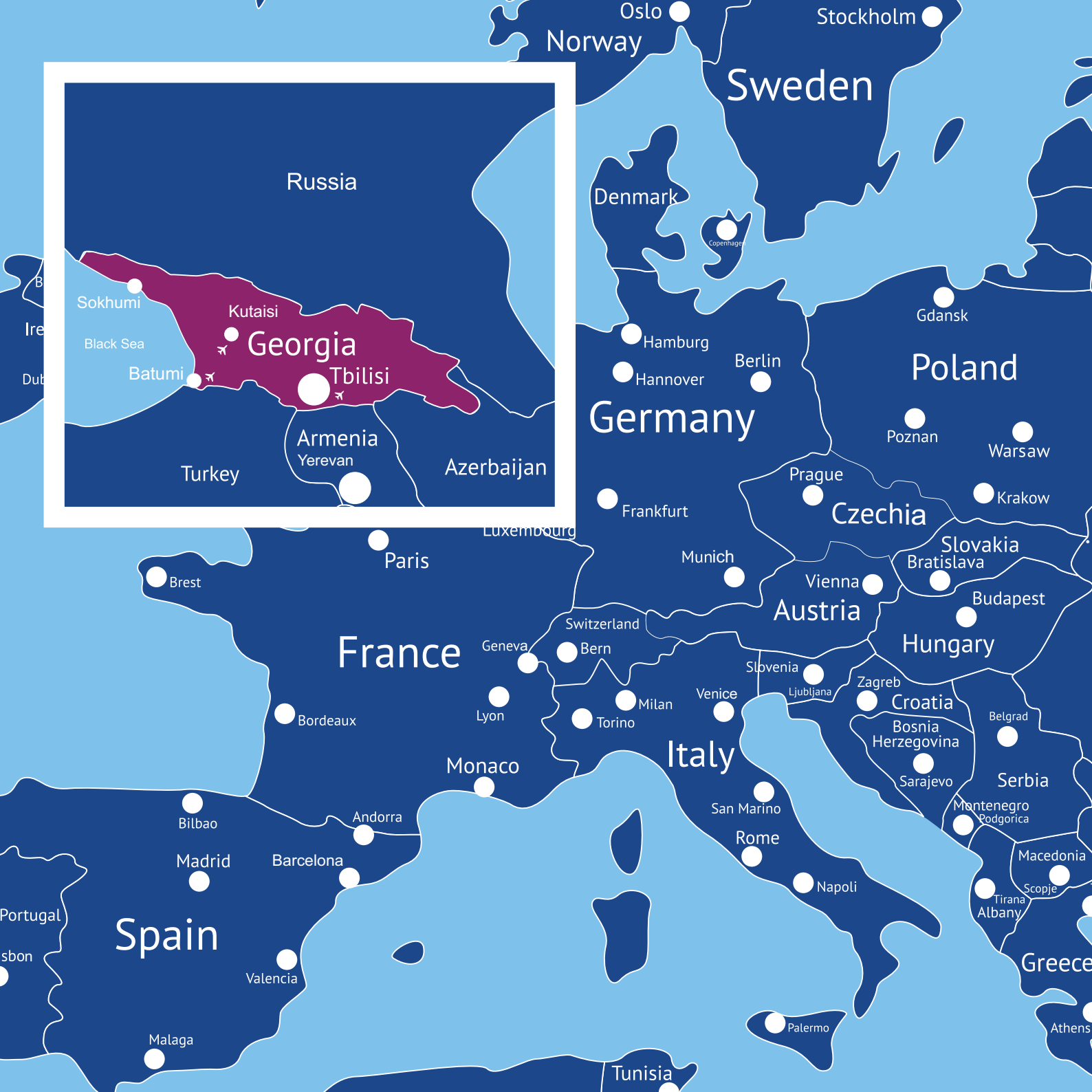




Batumi
GEORGIA

#visitbatumi







Tallinn
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Istanbul

Ankara

Izmir

Antalya

Turkey

Georgia

Tbilisi

Armenia
Yerevan

Azerbaijan

Baku

Iran

Kazakhstan

Black Sea

Caspian
Sea

Content

About Georgia	7
About Ajara	9
Batumi	10
Traveling to Batumi, Ajara.....	12

Must See

Batumi Boulevard	14
Botanical Garden	15
Dolphinarium	16
Batumi Piazza.....	17
Gonio Fortress	18
Skhalta Monastery.....	19
Open-Air Modern Sculptures	20
Museums	21

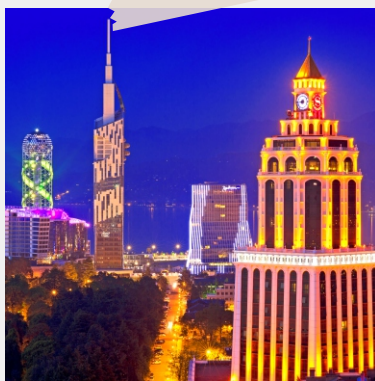
Types of Tourism

Sea Tourism	23
Mountanous Ski Tourism	24
Eco Tourism	26
Birdwatching	27
Cultural Tourism.....	28
Mice Tourism	29
Wine Tourism	30
Rural Tourism.....	31
Culinary Tourism.....	33
Entertainment	34
Gambling	35
Cruise Tourism	36

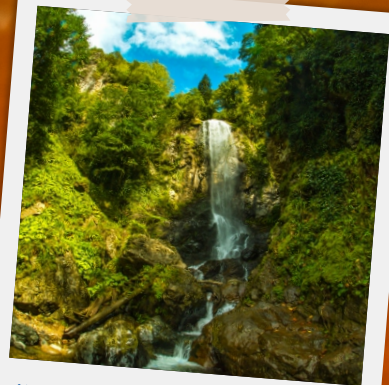
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Attend an unforgettable
Dolphin Show



Explore impressive mixture
of old and new architecture



Experience peace and harmony
in the serene landscapes of Ajara



Follow the traces of ancient
Romans at Gonio fortress



Walk the footsteps of
Nobel brothers



Enjoy gentle waves of
the silky Black Sea water



Explore 9 climatic zones
at the Batumi Botanical Garden



Taste delicious
Ajarian Khachapuri



Enjoy the extensive walkways of
Batumi Seaside Boulevard



Acquaint yourself with
UNESCO-listed Georgian folklore



Experience Batumi in Rain



TASTE UNESCO
acknowledged Georgian wine





Flag



Coat of Arms

Area: 69,700 km²

Population: 3,723,500

Capital city: Tbilisi

Official language: Georgian

Climate: Subtropical towards moderate

Temperature: Summer - from +17° C to +29° C

Winter - from +5° C to -10° C

International dialing code: +995

Time zone: UTC +4



GEORGIA

Georgia is one of the oldest countries in the World. Its unique alphabet, culture, traditions and architecture will make you travel in time. Situated on the crossroads of Europe and Asia, Georgia has a very diverse nature, maritime and mountainous climates. It is rich in history, traditions, culture, folk dances and polyphonic music. Georgia had been named as a cradle of European civilization. By the archaeological excavations, the scientists have found ancient human skulls, which date back to 1,8 million years. Therefore, experts believe, that Georgia is a birthplace of first Europeans. The country of Georgia represents several UNESCO world heritage sites. Georgian polyphonic singing is part of the UNESCO Intangible Cultural Heritage List, as well as the city of Mtskheta, Gelati Monastery, Upper Svaneti and Georgian Alphabet as of World Heritage Sites. Georgia is also renowned for its unique cuisine and oldest wine making culture. Georgia proudly traces its winemaking history by traditional Qvevri (clay vessel) method, which dates back to 8000 years and is acknowledged by UNESCO for being cradle of wine. Georgia has become one of the most attractive tourism destinations of today.



Flag



Coat of Arms

Area: 2,900 km² (4,2% of the country's total area)
Population: approx. 400,000 (82% Georgians)
Administrative center: Batumi
Official language: Georgian
Administrative units: Batumi, Kobuleti, Khelvachauri,
Keda, Shuakhevi and Khulo
Urban population: 48%
Total length of the border: 270 km, coastal border-57 km



AJARA

The extraordinary part of Georgia, Ajara region is waiting to host and make you discover the many reasons why we are the upcoming tourism destination. Its breathtaking nature on the coastline of the Black Sea is full of diversity: the sea and high mountains, sightseeing of cultural monuments, monasteries, arch bridges, beautiful lakes and authentic villages. Here, you will try the different flavor of the wine and undiscovered cuisine, feel the power of ecotourism, become a family member of open-hearted hosts.

Our Mountains stand close to the sky and make you feel in harmony with nature. The trip to crossroad between Europe and Asia, a home to a fine fusion of old and contemporary architecture will inspire you. Ajara is also distinguished by the variety of different religions. Here, Christian orthodox churches, mosques, synagogues, Catholic and Armenian churches are living in harmony throughout the centuries. The apostles Andrew and Simon preached in Georgia in 1st century AD. Therefore, the Christianity had started to spread throughout Georgia from Ajara region in the 1st century AD and became the state religion in the 4th century AD. According to some sources, the apostle Matthew was buried in the Gonio Fortress of Ajara.

Picturesque beaches of Batumi, Kvartsi, Sarpi, Gonio, Tsikhisdziri, Mtsvane Kontskhi (the Green Cape) and Kobuleti are often crowded with tourists enjoying their holidays during the summertime. Besides the sea, visitors especially admire the region's pristine and unaltered nature, which has many to offer to eco tourists.

Pin yourself and check-in at the “Pearl of the Black Sea”, the easternmost point of Europe.

BATUMI

Batumi is the main city of Ajara and second largest city of Georgia. The beautiful city is full of contrasts in its architecture, it has a mild climate and is a leading touristic destination in Eastern Europe. Batumi has more than 2,000 years of history and a lot to offer to its visitors. This vibrant city invites you to experience the contrast of historic ancient sites as well as modern lifestyle.

According to historic sources, Batumi was founded before the Common Era. The initial settlement, 'Batus' is mentioned in texts, that date back to the 4th century BC. Due to its interesting historical past, the city was turned into a port and tourist city during the Soviet and post-Soviet period. Located on the Black Sea coast, Batumi has a 19th century boulevard, which stretches for 7 km along the seafront. It is also famous for its old Sea Port. After the city becoming 'Porto Franco' (free port), European architects designed numerous unique architectural buildings in the city.

Batumi, turned into a cultural hub and became the pearl of modern Georgia. It often hosts major regional events, international artists, art exhibitions and world sport tournaments. Batumi is distinguished with green nature, Botanical Garden with rare species, warm climate all-year around, European style squares and streets, world-class brand hotels and old city cafes.

Today, Batumi is a splendid mix of beautiful scenery, authentic culture and legendary hospitality. Batumi has been named as “Europe's Leading Emerging Tourism Destination” at the World Travel Awards 2019.





VISA REGIME

The citizens of Georgia's neighboring countries, Eastern Europe and the European Union, as well as the USA, Canada and many other countries do not require a visa to enter Georgia. For more detailed information, please refer to the Georgian Ministry of Foreign Affairs website: mfa.gov.ge

SECURITY

Due to Georgia's track record with security reforms, Georgia has become one of the safest countries in the world. Several international surveys validate this claim. An article published by the magazine "Lifestyle9", that used data provided by the US Federal Bureau of Investigation placed Georgia within the top ten safest countries in the world.



MODES OF TRANSPORT

All roads lead to Ajara. Batumi can be accessed by different means of transport: car, bus, train, boat at the Batumi Sea Port and by air at Batumi International Airport.

The nearest are:

- ✈ Batumi International Airport
- ✈ Kutaisi International Airport
- ✈ Tbilisi International Airport

TRAVELING TO BATUMI

PAYMENT METHODS

Georgia's national currency is Georgian Lari (GEL). In cities, credit cards and cash are widely acceptable. However, while traveling outside the city, visitors are recommended to carry cash.



BATUMI BOULEVARD

Batumi Boulevard is one of the main sights of the city. The boulevard construction had been initiated by famous Prussian gardener and landscape architect Ressler, later on the construction was fulfilled in 1884 by the French architect Michael D'Alfons. In 1934, colonnades were built inside the boulevard, which became an iconic architectural element of Batumi. Recently, Spanish architect designed and constructed a new, modern extension of the boulevard. As a result, the boulevard's area has increased to a 7 km. The coastal line of the boulevard has been completed with bungalows, café-lounges, restaurants, children's attractions, sculptures and dancing fountains. All these made boulevard the city's most attractive places to visit for the tourists.

BOTANICAL GARDEN

Boasting one of the widest varieties of flora in the world, Batumi Botanical Garden was established in 1912 by the prominent botanist and geographer Andrey Krasnov. The garden is 108 hectares and contains flora from nine Phyto-geographic areas: East Asia, North America, New Zealand, South America, the Himalayas, Mexico, Australia, the Mediterranean and the Caucasian humid subtropics. Visitors can enjoy exploring the botanical garden by walking or by carts, which can be hired from the garden's administration.



A photograph of several dolphins in a blue pool. One dolphin is in the foreground, its head and dorsal fin visible above the water. Behind it, another dolphin is partially visible. In the background, a third dolphin is seen near a rocky structure. The water is bright blue and has some white foam from movement.

DOLPHINARIUM

Batumi Dolphinarium is one of the most-visited tourist attractions in the city, located within the Batumi Central Park. The Dolphinarium offers several activities for the visitors included unforgettable dolphins show, as well as swimming and interaction with the dolphins. The show is presented in three different languages. The Batumi Central Park is one of the oldest public parks in Georgia, constructed in 1881. Besides the Dolphinarium, Central Park has an aquarium, zoo, amusement activities for children and a relaxing boat tour on Nurigeli Lake.



BATUMI PIAZZA

Batumi Piazza is one of the most beautiful squares in Georgia. It is built around a 5700 sq/m area and distinguished by its one-of-a-kind mosaics and stained-glass art. Completed in 2010, the piazza's chief architect was Vazha Orbeladze. The Estonian artist Dolores Hoffman designed and created Batumi Piazza's unique stained-glass windows. There are several hotels and café restaurants located at the Piazza. Since its construction, the Piazza square has become a popular international entertainment venue. In recent years, it has hosted the concerts of famous Georgian and foreign artists such as: Plácido Domingo, Chris Botti, Sting, Macy Grey, Michel Legrand, Sukhishvili National Ballet and other well-known performers



GONIO FORTRESS

Gonio-Apsaros Fortress is one of the most ancient and must-see sites of Georgia. Located in 12 km from the Batumi city, on the left bank of the River Chorokhi, the Gonio Fortress is built in 1st Century CE. Due to its strategic location, Gonio Fortress had become a supporting citadel at first for the Romans, later for the Byzantians and Ottomans along the eastern Black Sea coastline. Respectively, the fortress has several layers: Roman layer (3rd-4th cc CE), the Byzantine layer (6th-7th cc CE) and the Ottoman layer (16th c CE). The history of Gonio-Apsaros Fortress has ties to the myth of Jason and the Argonauts. According to the legend, King Aeetes buried his son Apsaros in the territory of Gonio, who was killed by Jason. In addition, some sources also say that, the apostle Matthew, is believed to be buried there as well. Inside of the Gonio Fortress, there is a museum, where is preserved ancient objects found by archeological excavations.

SKHALTA MONASTERY

Skhalta Monastery is located in Khulo Municipality, which is high mountainous part of Ajara region. The main building of the complex is Skhalta Virgin Mary Church. It is a single-nave hall-like church. Distinguished frescoes of the churches were painted during the 14th and 15th centuries.





OPEN-AIR MODERN SCULPTURES

Batumi represents several modern open-air sculptures. Visitors are always impressed by the samples of one of the most popular directions in art fluxes: the monument "WHERE" designed by well-known French artist Jean Dupuy and "Liberté" by popular French artist Ben Vautier. The sculpture "Ali and Nino," a reference to the famous novel, designed by Georgian artist and sculptor Tamar Kvesitadze, has become a symbol of Batumi. The sculpture features rotating figures of a man and a woman, which symbolizes the love.



MUSEUMS

Ajara region of Georgia has several interesting museums and galleries to visit. **Ajara Khariton Akhvlediani State Museum** collection includes ancient Greek black-glazed crater. Craters were bowls used for mixing wine and water, which date back to the antique period and are quite rare. The only analogue of the crater is preserved in the Louvre Museum of Paris.

Visitors can also follow the footsteps of world-famous Nobel brothers. In the late 19th century, the Nobel brothers invested in oil business in Batumi. The building, where they were working, later has become the **Nobel Brothers' Batumi Technological Museum**. The **Batumi Archeological Museum** presents several artifacts found during excavations, which include the treasure of Gonio, unique bronze, glass and ceramic samples.

Fine art lovers should visit the **Batumi Art Museum**, where the paintings of great Georgian painters are exhibited including Pirosmani and Gudiashvili. Also, there are other important museums to visit in Batumi and Ajara region.

There are several interesting galleries to visit located in Old Batumi. Street, modern and experimental artworks of Georgian and foreign artists are showcased in different exhibition areas.







SEA TOURISM

Sea Tourism is one of the most popular types of tourism in Ajara. Ajara region is stretched along the Black Sea coastline. The region's subtropical climate, warm sea air, silky water, seaside resort infrastructure and unique geography are the ideal conditions for vacationers. The total length of the swimming area is 21 km. The average sea temperature is 16.7 C degrees.

SKI TOURISM



Besides the sea and the Black Sea beautiful coastline, Ajara region is also distinguished with one of the highest mountains in Georgia. The average height of Ajara's mountains ranges between 2000-2500 meters above the sea level, which makes it a perfect destination for ski lovers. The Goderdzi ski resort is attractive for sport tourism and family holidays. The high mountains of Ajara offer great options for leisure with fresh air and green nature to relax and enjoy all year-around.



ECOTOURISM

Ecotourism is one of the leading types of tourism in Ajara due to its breathtaking nature. The region's diverse flora and fauna, as well as abundance of historical and cultural monuments create ideal conditions for ecotourism. Ajara offers 4 protected areas in its territory: Mtirala National Park, Kobuleti Protected Areas, Kintrishi National Park and Machakhela National Park. You can also visit Goderdzi Alpine Botanical Garden. It is a place to enjoy resident or migratory birdwatching, observing terraces of humid subtropical forests, visiting sphagnum swamps, sightseeing of cultural monuments, monasteries, arch bridges, zip lining, hiking and horse riding to the beautiful lakes or authentic villages.





BIRDWATCHING



The Black Sea Coast and the surrounding areas of Batumi are known as "Eastern Black Sea Migration Corridor." More than 1,000,000 raptors migrate through the corridor annually and the area has one of the highest volumes of raptor migration in the world. The unique topography and climate of the region attract myriad migrating birds. Batumi is a must-visit location for birdwatching scientists and lovers.



CULTURAL TOURISM

Ajara region offers everything needed to experience truly authentic cultural tourism with its majestic art, age-old architecture impeccable hospitality, unique cuisine and thriving nightlife. It is a place of unparalleled culture, traditions, rich history, folk Georgian dances and polyphonic singing. Ajarian dances “Khorumi” and “Gandagana” originate from ancient times, which perfectly express the Georgian identity. The Ajarian dance called “Gandagana” was granted the status of an Intangible Cultural Heritage in Georgia. Ajara is the region represented with great tolerance to different religions, where you can visit Christian, Muslim or Jewish centuries old religious sites.

Here, you will find ancient architectural sites as they are Gonio Apsaros (1 c.) and Petra (6 c.) Fortresses, arched bridges as well as the buildings from Soviet and modern times. In the 19th century, Batumi developed its seaport and European architects started to build the city. Numerous buildings in Batumi were constructed using different architectural styles, all of which contribute to the city's distinctive and interesting aesthetic. Batumi often hosts major cultural, sport, scientific events, public festivals, international musical and film festivals.

MICE TOURISM

Batumi city in recent years has been positioned as a great destination for MICE tourism. Batumi is strategically located in the heart between Europe and Asia, offering modern infrastructure, world class hotels and venues. Numerous international trade fairs and different events are hosted in Ajara year-round. On one side you can make business meetings distanced only by 3-4 hours from European or Asian cities and on the other side you can experience unique sites and discover world cultural heritages. The VISA policy of Georgia is comparatively liberal, allowing citizens from 98 countries to enter without visa or resident permit, which eases the travel from many different states to the territory of Georgia.

Tourism Trade Shows - International Trade Fair for the Tourism and Hospitality Industry, “Expo Batumi”; Batumi International Agro-Products and Technology Fair „Agro-Batumi“; Batumi International Construction and Design Fair „Batumi Build“.

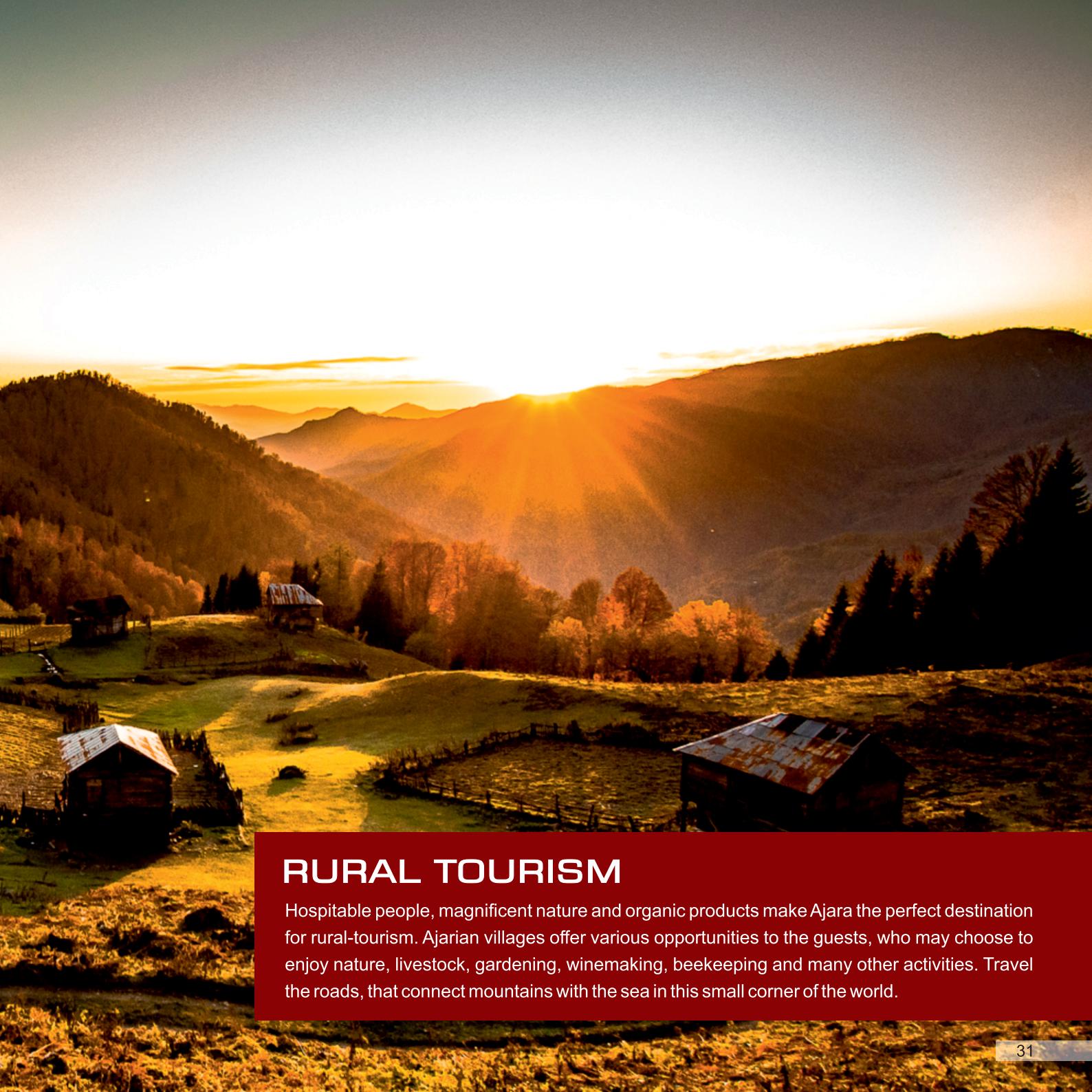


WINE TOURISM



Winemaking in Georgia dates all the way back to 8000 years ago. The traditional Georgian winemaking technique, which uses a traditional clay vessel called “Qvevri”, is part of the UNESCO Intangible Cultural Heritage Lists. In western Georgia, Ajara has one of the longest lasting traditions of winemaking. Keda Municipality boasts the most well-developed wine culture. “Kedis Tsolikauri” and “Chkhaveri” are two wines produced in Georgia, that are unique to Ajara.





RURAL TOURISM

Hospitable people, magnificent nature and organic products make Ajara the perfect destination for rural-tourism. Ajarian villages offer various opportunities to the guests, who may choose to enjoy nature, livestock, gardening, winemaking, beekeeping and many other activities. Travel the roads, that connect mountains with the sea in this small corner of the world.



CULINARY TOURISM

Ajarian cuisine is an inseparable part of Georgian unique gastronomy. There is no similar term or concept in the world for a Georgian Supra, a feast of diverse dishes. What you will find here is authentic cuisine with traditional dishes, that are usually cooked with organic products and consists of greens, vegetables, dairy, fish, meat and large amount of various spices. The Ajarian cuisine carries some influences from other Caucasian, Eastern European and nearby Middle Eastern culinary traditions. Ajarian Khachapuri took 1 place among 100 best-rated dishes by "TasteAtlas" in 2019.





ENTERTAINMENT

Batumi is very lively city, where entertainment became one of the main tourism attractions. Fun activities and international events encourage tourists to travel to Batumi from around the world.

Public Festivals

June – Selimoba
August – Shuamtoba
August – Kolkhoba
September – Machakhloba
September – Chakvistaoba
October – Kedeloba
October – Shuakhevloba

Events

April	City Festival “Batumboba”
June	Summer Festival
June	“Art - Gen” Festival
July	Black Sea International Jazz Festival
August	Batumi International Classical Music Festival
	“Night Serenades” (Artistic Director: Liana Isakadze)
September	Birdwatching Festival
September	Batumi International Classical Music Festival
	“Batumi Music Fest” (Artistic Director: Elisso Bolkvadze)
September	Batumi International Art-House Film Festival “BIAFF”
October	International Festival of Animated Films, “Tofuzi”
October	Rural Tourism Festival „Gandagana”
December	Goderdzi Winter Festival

www.batumievents.com



GAMBLING



Gambling has become a popular tourism activity in Batumi. The city has a wide array of casinos available to local as well as foreign gamblers. There are numerous exciting gaming spots and several luxury casinos. Majority of casinos are located in Batumi's upscale hotels.



CRUISE TOURISM

Batumi, a logistics center in the Caucasus region, started to become a popular cruise destination in the second half of the 20th century. Consequently, interest in Batumi as a Black Sea cruise destination is steadily increasing, resulting in a growing number of cruise ships entering our region. Batumi Sea port hosts several big cruise ships.









**World Travel Awards 2023
30th Anniversary Celebration
Europe Gala Ceremony
Exclusive Host Partner: Batumi**



INTERNATIONAL AWARDS

IMTM Israel – TOP 15 Favorite Travel Destinations 2018

NAT GEO TRAVELER – TOP 10 Places for Weekend Tours 2018

AF & CO. – 2019 The Year of Georgian Cuisine
'Ajaruli Khachapuri' the dish of the year 2019

AIRBNB – 19 Destinations to Visit in 2019

The NEW YORK TIMES – 52 Trend Places to Visit in 2019



WORLD TRAVEL AWARDS

2019



BATUMI

Europe's Leading
Emerging Tourism
Destination



GET IN TOUCH

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Department of Tourism and Resorts of Ajara A.R-2020

NOT FOR SALE