

EXCEPTIONAL TREKKING TRIP TO RACHA,

THE LEAST TOURISTIC REGION IN GEORGIA, ALSO CALLED GEORGIAN SWITZERLAND

THIS OFFER IS SOMETHING SPECIAL.

During this trip we will visit one of the most beautiful mountain regions in Georgia. Racha is also the least popular place for tourist to visit, and is still a place untouched by mass tourism, unlike other places in the country. For that reason we will have the mountains "for ourselves", and we will have a chance to experience the famous Georgian hospitability.

During the trip, we will go off the beaten track and explore the mysteries of Racha. Racha is a region of picturesque mountains and green canyons. According to legends, one day a Georgian hunter climbed one of the near peaks and looked down at the narrow gorge of the Rioni river. The sight was so amazing that he compared it to a well (cha in Georgian) and amazed shouted: What a well! (Ra cza), and for this reason the place is called Racha. All trekking routes of the trip are technically easy and do not require specialized equipment. But still, they will take your breath away! But there's more than mountains in Racha. The economy of the region relies on vine crops and wine-making. Out of 600 kinds of Georgian wine, as many as 300 of them come from

Racha (Khvanchkara, Aleksandreuli, Ojaleshi, among others). This means that during our trip, you will also have a chance to visit local vineyards and try some of the best kinds of wine, traditional supras and never-ending Georgian toasts! On the last day of the trip, we will visit Chiatura, the Katshki pillar, Gori and a rock-hewn town Uplistsikhe. This trip is a perfect choice for nature and mountain lovers who want to get to know real Georgia, away from the touristic routes. The trip is full activities, but we will still find some time to relax and enjoy ourselves. It's definitely the most chilled-out of our trips.

















DAY **02**



EXPEDITION PLAN

Early morning (around 5 – 6 a.m.) we will meet in Tbilisi (on the airport or in the city center). You need to reach it by yourselves. Of course, we can help you find a good flight connection as well as airport transfer from other places in Georgia. From Tbilisi, we will go straight to the capitol of Racha region, namely to Ambrolauri. There, we will checkin to a guesthouse, have late breakfast/early lunch (depending on time of arrival) and relax for a bit. In the afternoon, we will set out to visit the most popular vineyard in the region, that is Royal Khvanchkara. We will

also see the Khvanchkara Monument to Wine, as well as try four most famous local types of wine and popular Georgian appetizers: cheese, olives and "Georgian Sneakers": churchkhela. Moreover, we will learn about wine-making process and we will find out why Khvanchkara is the most famous Georgian wine. In the evening, we'll have a welcoming dinner. Overnight stay in the guesthouse. Attention: we can also pick you up from the Kutaisi airport (or from Kutaisi) and organize a transfer to Ambrolauri from there.

Breakfast, and then we will go to Oni, where we will check-in in a local guesthouse for the next couple of days. After check-in in Oni, we will go to "the village at the end of the world": Ghebi. There we will go on a trek in the mountains for a couple of hours. If the weather conditions are favorable, we will

conquer Shoda Mountain's peak (3609 m). On this day, the planned route should take us: around 8 hours, 16 km, ascent: 800 m. In the evening, a dinner and overnight stay in the guesthouse in Oni.



DAY **03**

Breakfast and then we will go to the Shovi village for a day-long trekking to the Buba glacier. On this day, the planned route should

take us: around 8 – 9 hours, 16 km, ascent: 1000 m. In the evening, a supra with live music. Overnight stay in the guesthouse in Oni.



DAY **04**

Breakfast and then we will go to the Chiora village for a day-long trekking in the Notsara Valley and the surroundings of Mount Chiora

(2387 m). On this day, the planned route should take us: around 6 hours, 12 km, ascent: 600 m. In the evening, a dinner and overnight stay in the guesthouse in Oni.



DAY **05**

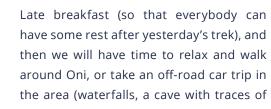


Early breakfast and we will go to the Glola village for the most difficult (and most beautiful!) trekking of our trip, that is trekking to the Udziro Lake and to the Shovi village. The Udziro Lake is a small, alpine lake, located at an altitude of 2800 m. Georgian people translate its name as "the Bottomless Lake". With its shape, it resembles a heart.

On this day, the planned route should take us: around 12 hours, 18 km, ascent: 1800 m. In the evening, a dinner and overnight stay in the guesthouse in Oni.



DAY **06**



ammonites, dating back to 30 million B.C., viewpoints of the Racha's peak, local vineyard). In the evening, a "goodbye" supra with live music. Overnight stay in the guesthouse in Oni.



DAY **07**



Breakfast. Then, we will go to Tbilisi. But before we reach it, we will visit Chiatura, an industrial center, founded in the communist times, which used to be famous for its manganese ores. Now, it is famous for the old cable car, which we are going to ride! This choice for our trip is not an obvious or popular one, but definitely worth visiting. Next, we will see the Katshki pillar, a 40 m long calcareous monolith. On its top, there is a small orthodox church, inhabited by a monk. Next, we will go to Gori to visit the Joseph Stalin Museum (controversial, but interesting!), the Gori Fortress and

Monument to the Georgian Warrior Heroes. Last but not least, we will see the sunset in a rock-hewn town Uplisciche from 5th century B.C. We will arrive to Tbilisi in the evening. There, our trip officially comes to an end. Depending on the plans of the group, we can organize an airport transfer for you or transportation to hotels of your choice. Attention: we can also drive you to the Kutaisi airport (or to Kutaisi).





Attention: If you want to spend more time in the capital of Georgia, we recommend that you arrive one day before our trip or stay one day after it. We can help you with organizing your stay and recommend places worth visiting.

OUR AWARDS CONFIRMING THAT

WE ARE THE BEST AGENCY OF ACTIVE TOURISM IN GEORGIA AND THE BEST ORGANIZER OF EXPEDITIONS TO MT. KAZBEK



















OUR CUSTOMERS ALSO KNOW THAT WE ARE THE BEST!

Check the opinions of our guests and how they rate our expeditions!



Marius Raskevicius

2 reviews

**** a month ago

Mountain Freaks are true professionals and do an amazing job. Fantastic team with a lot of passion for the business and for the clients.

Me and my wife did a private expedition to Kazbek without any previous experience.

Preparation was easy and communication was smooth. They have many blog posts and detailed explanations about the expeditions on their website and social media as well. Our guide Ramazi was excellent and easy to communicate with. Very much recommended for anyone with a thirst for adventure!



Sarah Atwood

/ review

*** 2 months ago

Positive: Professionalism, Quality, Responsiveness, Value

We joined an expedition to mount Kazbek recently and had the experience of a lifetime. In the months leading up to the trip Aga fielded dozens of questions and during our stay she continued to oversee every aspect. Our expedition leader Ewa was clear and extremely knowledgeable in the mountains. Our guide Lexo was literally a life-saver. All the staff were helpful and patient. Highly recommended. N.B. if you need to rent gear do so early as there is limited availability.



Steven Boon

1 review - 1 photo

*** 2 months ago

Best adventure agency in Stepancminda! Trustworthy and professional guides, great and clear communication upfront to prepare for the Kazbeg summit trip. Definitely recommended! Thank you Nika, Ewa and Aga:)



Roderick de Raad

1 review - 3 photos

*** 2 months ago

Great company that made this exhausting challange to the top alot of fun! Fantastic team with a lot of passion for the business and for the clients.



Onno Rombout

1 review - 1 photo

**** 2 months ago

Professional agency, good guides and small groups on one rope. Reached Mt Kazbek summit. Would recommend.

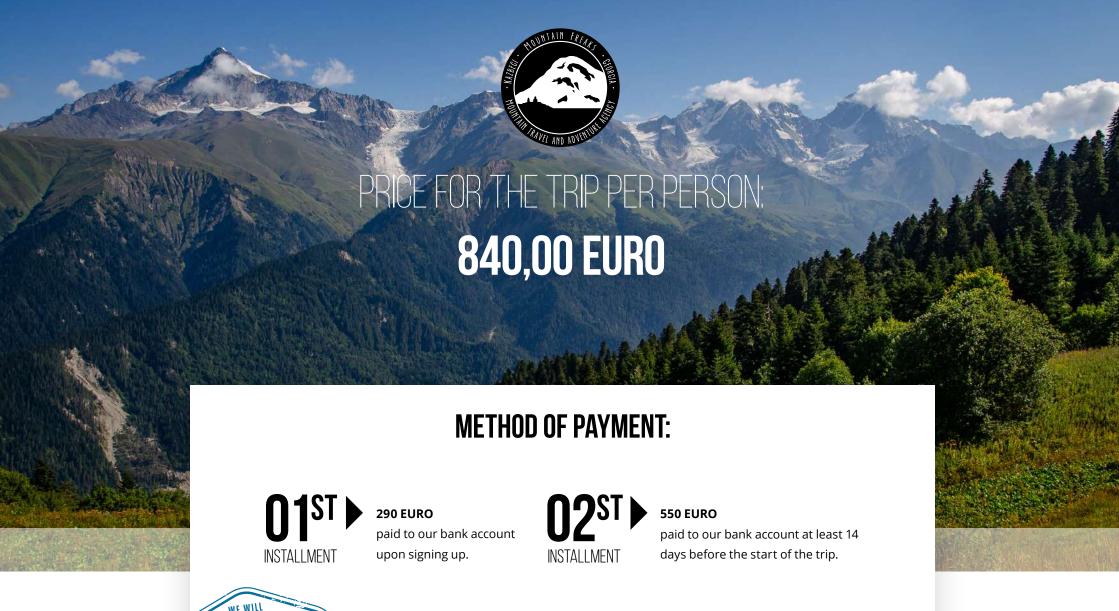


John Brandauer

2 review

*** 2 months ago

Mountain freaks is a great agency. We climbed mount kazbek with them, everything was in hand, was really well structured & we really had a very good expedition. Ewa & Nika are a really good team & never felt unsafe, also really great mountain guides. Would recommend it to anyone, thank you!









THE PRICE INCLUDES

- a supervision of an Englishspeaking leader and Georgian guide for the whole trip;
- all comfortable off-road car transportation mentioned in the plan and transfers to the starting points for out treks and back to the guesthouse;
- help in organizing the trip; online consultation (email, Facebook) regarding physical preparation, buying proper equipment, organizing flights to Georgia and anything else connected with the trip;
- access to a private Facebook group, where we can share thoughts, information, advice, motivate each other etc.;
- an online training course before the trip, which will help you to prepare better for your Caucasian adventures;
- one night in Ambrolauri (a guesthouse) 2
 or 3 people per room with a bathroom;
- five nights in Oni (a guesthouse) 2 or
 3 people per room with a bathroom;

- all breakfast and festive dinners;
- two supras with live music;
- all entrance fees for museums etc.;
- entrance fee and wine-tasting in Royal Khvanchkara vineyard;
- set of souvenirs.





SIGNING UP, ADDITIONAL QUESTIONS, CONTACT:

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