



TREKKING IN MYSTERIOUS SVANETI, A LAND OF GEORGIAN DEFENSE TOWERS

AND CONQUERING THE MOUNTAIN OF FLAMES: **MT. LAYLA** (4009 M) AND **MT. TETNULDI** (4858 M)

TRIP DESCRIPTION

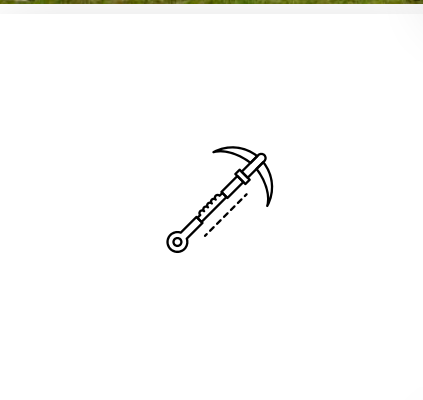
Svaneti is one of the most beautiful high mountain regions in Georgia.

Green valleys, rivers and streams, countless defense towers, cows lying calmly around the roads, and the surrounding ever-snowy Caucasian mountains.

During this trip, we will visit the highest located village in Europe, namely Ushguli (around 2400 m), we will face the highest mountain in Georgia (Mt. Shkhara, 5193 m) as well as the most dangerous mountain in the Caucasus (Mt. Ushba, 4700 m). During trekking the glacier and its foot, we will meet the inhabitants of the region, the famous Svans, and their local beliefs and traditions. Every moment of the trip will be filled with views which take your breath away. A cherry on top will be conquering two of the highest Caucasian mountains, Mount Layla (4009 m), which local people call „the Mountain of Flames“ and Mount Tetnuldi (4858 m), resembling a pyramid with its shape. We prepared the plan of the trip to maximally enhance your chances of conquering Mount Layla. Our plan is gradual acclimatization and spreading the mountain climb on several days, including a spare two days, which will allow you to face the mountain in a safe manner, as long as you are physically prepared and do not have any health contraindications (even without previous experience in high mountains). The preceding trekking through Svaneti will help you to acclimatize and prepare for conquering the 4000 m high mountains. **Attention! Mt. Tetnuldi, even though lower than Mount Kazbek, is technically more difficult. This is why we require all participants of this trip**

to have experience gained on Mount Kazbek, Mount Elbrus or Mount Blanc. Moreover, if you want to have a chance of conquering the mountain, you have to have your winter tourism course passed, i.e. know how to use crampons, ice axes and how to move on lines. Please note that all participants have to carry all their stuff to the first as well as the second base. Unfortunately, it is not possible to rent horses to carry your luggage here. Most importantly, for the whole time you will be accompanied by our team: English-speaking trip leader and certified high mountain guides (also trained in medical rescue in the mountains) who will be responsible for your safety. It is also important that we are going to help you prepare every single detail of the trip. You will get access to our private Facebook group for participant, where we can share our thoughts, motivate each other, exchange ideas, advice etc. Before the trip, you will take part in an online training course, which will make you even better prepare for facing Svaneti, Mount Layla and Mount Tetnuldi. Additionally, of course, you can ask us any questions via e-mail or our Facebook page.





THE PLAN OF THE TRIP

Early morning (around 5 a.m.) we will meet in Tbilisi (on the airport or in the city center). You need to reach Tbilisi on your own. Of course, we can help you with organizing a good flight connection or transfers from other parts of Georgia. If you don't have your own trekking/high mountain equipment, you can rent all necessary things from us, and we will bring it to our meeting place in Tbilisi. In our office, you can also order gas to camping stoves and lyophilizates. From Tbilisi we will go to Mestia, the capital of

Svaneti, with off-road cars (around 8 hours' trip with stops for breakfast, bathroom, lunch etc). Attention! We can also pick you up from Kutaisi (around 9 a.m.) In Mestia: accommodation in a guesthouse, free time to have some rest and enjoy the nature. In the evening, dinner in the guesthouse. Overnight stay in the guesthouse in Mestia.

List of equipment required for this trip:
[HERE](#)



DAY 01



DAY 02

Breakfast in the guesthouse. After the breakfast, trekking from Mestia (1500 m) to the Koruldi Lakes (2740 m), situated at the foot of the most dangerous Caucasian mountains, Mt. Ushba (4700 m). The trek's duration is about 8 hours (20 km). In the evening, a dinner in the guesthouse and movies in the local cinema. We will see

critically acclaimed movie "Dede", directed Mariam Khatchvan, who comes from Svaneti. The movie will let us learn about the local history, tradition and customs, including ones which are usually hidden from tourist from Europe. Overnight stay in the guesthouse in Mestia.



DAY 03



Breakfast in the guesthouse. After the breakfast, trekking from Mestia (1500 m) to the village of Tsvirimi (1900 m) through the Zuruldi massif (2450 m). The trek's duration is

about 8 hours (15 km). In the evening: dinner, wine and live music in a local restaurant. Overnight stay in the guesthouse in Mestia.



DAY 04



Breakfast in the guesthouse. After the breakfast, we will go to the highest located town in Georgia, that is Ushguli (around 2300 m), and trek to the foot of the highest mountain in Georgia, Mt. Shkhara (5193 m). On this day, the highest point of our route is 2430 m. The

trek's duration is about 7 hours (16 km). After the trekking, you will have some free time in Ushguli and then, we will go back to Mestia and have a dinner in the guesthouse. Overnight stay in the guesthouse in Mestia.

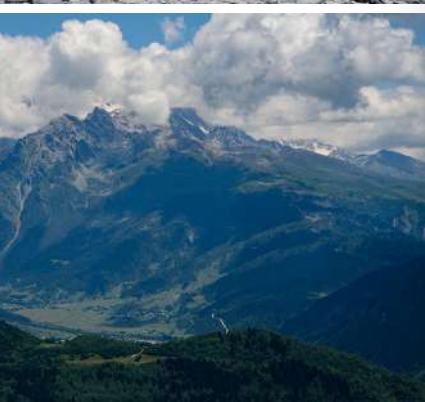


DAY 05



Breakfast in the guesthouse. After the breakfast, trekking from Mestia (1500 m) to the Chalaadi glacier (1835 m). The trek's duration is about 5 hours (10 km). After trekking, you can enjoy free time in Mestia. It is possible to visit the local ethnography museum in Mestia or museum dedicated

to a local alpinist, Mikhail Khergiani. There, you can learn more about the history of alpinism and the region, see the interior of a traditional Svan house, as well as climb the Svan defense tower. In the evening, we will have a dinner in the guesthouse. Overnight stay in the guesthouse in Mestia.



DAY 06



Breakfast in the guesthouse. Next, we will have to pack, as we are going to move to Mazeri (1600 m), one of the most beautiful villages in Svaneti. The driver will take our stuff to Mazeri, but we will have to walk there! We have to walk 18 km through the

Baki pass (2428 m). The route should take us around 8 hours. In Mazeri, we will stay in a house of our hosts and enjoy a dinner prepared by a hostess from fresh products from her garden. Overnight stay there.



DAY 07



After breakfast, we start trekking to glacier at the foot of the most dangerous Caucasian mountains, namely Mt. Ushba (4700 m). On our way we will see the Shdugra Waterfall, which is the biggest

waterfall in Georgia. The highest point of this route is 2492 m. The trek's duration on this day: around 9 hours (22 km). After the trekking, we will go back to Mazeri and have dinner. Overnight stay in the house of our hosts.



DAY 08



Breakfast in the guesthouse, and then, you will have a day for yourselves, to have some rest before climbing Mount Layla (4009 m) the next day. You can spend your day reading a book in the garden or take a

walk around the town, as there are a couple trekking trails that begin in Mazeri. In the evening, dinner in the house of local hosts in Mazeri.



DAY 09



Breakfast in the guesthouse. After the breakfast, we will go to the village of Tskumari (1600 m), from where we will head to Mount Layla (4009 m). We can leave all the things we will not need for climbing Mount Layla in the guesthouse in Mazeri. The highest point we will reach that day is the Chishdi pass (3228 m). The trek's duration on that day: around 9-10 hours (around 22 km).

Our luggage will be mostly transported with the help of horses, and we will carry only small backpacks. Overnight stay in tents in a basecamp near the Layla glacier (2900 m). During the Mount Layla climb, we need to prepare our meals ourselves (we will need camping stoves and gas).





DAY 10



On this day, our goal is to stand on the Mount Layla peak (4009 m). Early morning (around 4-5 a.m.) we will begin our summit push. Depending on the weather conditions, we can conquer one of the three of Layla's peaks. The decision between them will be made by our team leader and the guides. After descending the mountain, we can take some rest in the basecamp. Next, we will go back to the village of Tskhumari, from

where we can go to Mazeri. The ascent and descent should take around 14-16 hours. In the evening, we will have a dinner and wine with another hosts in Mazeri.



DAY 11

Spare day in case of bad weather conditions on Mount Layla. We can organize additional trekking or off-road trip in the area for

you. But you can also just relax in the guesthouse after reaching Mount Layla.



DAY 12

Breakfast in the guesthouse. After the breakfast, we will go to Mestia. In Mestia: accommodation in a guesthouse, free time to have some rest before Mount Tetnuli. In the evening, dinner in the guesthouse.

Overnight stay in the guesthouse in Mestia.



DAY 13



Breakfast in the guesthouse. After the breakfast, we will go through the Ughviri Pass to the skiing station close to Mt. Tetnuldi (2800 m) by car. Next, we will go to the first camp, after the Amarati Pass (around 3000 m). On this day, trekking should take us around 1.5 hour. Then, we will set up our camp. Attention! During the Tetnuldi climb, we need to carry all our stuff and tents ourselves (one tent per two participants). Unfortunately, it is not possible to get horses for transportation. Moreover, during

the Tetnuldi climb, we need to prepare all our meals ourselves (you will need camping stoves and gas).



DAY 14

Today we will go through the Amarati Pass (3369 m) to the Kasebi glacier. We will set up our second camp after 6-7 hours' trekking

in the vicinity of the glacier plateau at an altitude of approx. 3700 m.



DAY 15

Acclimatization day. We will spend it in the camp and its vicinity. We will do an acclimatization climb to altitudes of around 4100-4200 m, and practice using lines, ice

axes and crampons. It is time to get ready for the summit push we are going to do the next day.



DAY 16

Today we plan to conquer the Tetnuldi's peak (4848 m). Early morning (around 2 – 5 a.m.) we will begin the summit push. After

descent, rest and overnight stay in our second camp. The ascent and descent should take us around 12-14 hours.



DAY 17

We will return via the Amarati Pass (3369 m) to the Adishi village (2050 m). Next, we will go to Mestia by car. In the evening, we will

have a dinner with live music in a popular restaurant in Mestia. Overnight stay in the guesthouse in Mestia.



DAY 18

Spare day in case of bad weather conditions on Mount Tetnuldi. We can organize additional trekking or off-road trip in the area for you. But you can also

just relax in the guesthouse after reaching Mount Tetnuldi.



DAY 19

Breakfast in the guesthouse, and we will go back to Tbilisi (around 8 hours). We will reach Tbilisi late afternoon/evening. This will be the end of our trip. Depending on the group's plans, we can organize transportation to the airport or to the

hotels, where you can stay as long as you want. If you want to prolong your stay in Georgia, we can help you with planning your journey.



OUR AWARDS CONFIRMING THAT
**WE ARE THE BEST AGENCY OF ACTIVE
TOURISM IN GEORGIA AND THE
BEST ORGANIZER OF EXPEDITIONS
TO THE CAUCASIAN PEAKS**



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

7 reviews

★★★★★ 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 challenge 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 reviews

★★★★★ 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!





PRICE FOR THE TRIP PER PERSON:

2590,00 EURO

METHOD OF PAYMENT:

01ST ►
INSTALLMENT

390 EURO
paid to our bank account
upon signing up.

02ST ►
INSTALLMENT

2200 EURO
paid to our bank account at least 14
days before the start of the trip.

For renting high mountain equipment/
gas, lyophilizates etc. you will pay
with cash (euro, dollars, lari).





THE PRICE INCLUDES

- ▶ **supervision of a English-speaking leader and Georgian high mountain guides during the climbing Mt. Layla (one guide for every five participants!) and Mt. Tetnuli (one guide for every three participants!), which guarantees the highest level of safety and maximizes chances of conquering both summits;**
- ▶ help of guides responsible for horses during our trek from Tskhumari to the basecamp at the foot of Layla;
- ▶ comfortable off-road car transportation mentioned in the plan and everyday transfers to our starting points for trekking and back to the guesthouses/houses;
- ▶ 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 yours adventures in the Caucasus;
- ▶ renting horses to transport hour luggage during the trek from Tskhumari to the basecamp at the foot of Layla;
- ▶ 7 nights in a guesthouse in Mestia and 4 nights in a guesthouse in Mazeri – 2 or 3 people per room (usually with bathrooms, but it can happen that in Mazeri there will be one bathroom for 2, 3 rooms) + accommodation in tents in base camps at Mt. Layla and Mt. Tetnuli (1 tent for 2 people);
- ▶ all breakfasts and festive dinners mentioned in the plan (during the Mount Layla and Mount Tetnuli climb, it will be necessary to prepare your meals by yourselves, read more in the trip description!);
- ▶ 2 dinners with live music in a popular restaurant in Mestia;
- ▶ a ticket to the cinema for movie “Dede”;
- ▶ training in glacier and alpine tourism techniques, which takes place during the expedition;
- ▶ set of souvenirs.

ADDITIONAL OPTIONS



renting necessary basic equipment for trekking in Svaneti and climbing Mount Layla and Mount Tetnuldi (rental prices you can check: [HERE](#),



individual guide for acclimatization and summit attack on Mt. Layla: 600 EURO,



individual guide for acclimatization and summit attack on Mt. Tetnuldi: 800 EURO,



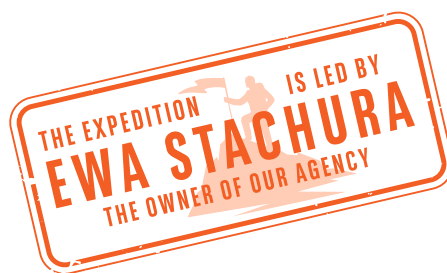
gas for camping stoves:
- 12 EURO (450 g).



AVAILABLE DATES

FOR OPEN GROUPS IN 2022:

31.07.2022 – 18.08.2022*



* Two days are a spare day.
Read more in trip description.

If you are not satisfied with any of our open dates, remember that we also organize individual trips on dates selected by you, the offer of which can be found [HERE](#).



SIGNING UP, ADDITIONAL QUESTIONS, CONTACT:

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