



Georgian National Dance

There are a number of Georgian dances and among them Kartuli is one of the popular one. The dance Kartuli many times reminds the audience of a wedding. Kartuli is a truly romantic dance. It is performed by a dance couple and incorporates the softness and gracefulness of a woman and dignity and love of a man. It shows that even in love, men uphold their respect and manners by not touching the woman and maintaining a certain distance from her. The man focuses his eyes on his partner as if she were the only woman in the whole world. He keeps his upper body motionless at all times.

Georgian National Song-Chakrulo

Chakrulo, title untranslatable, is one of the masterpieces of Georgian polyphonic singing. It was famously included on the Voyager Golden Record which was sent into the outer space aboard the Voyager spacecraft in 1977. It originates in the mountains of the eastern part of the country, Kartli-Kakheti. The lyrics of the song reveal thematic richness of the Georgian folk music. They tell a tale of mountaineer serfs under the yoke of a feudal master from the Mukhrani clan. By describing preparations for an armed revolt against the feudal master, the song explores universal political themes of unequal power relationship, serfdom, and resistance to economic exploitation. It also sheds light on the very romanticized and Orientalized 'Caucasian valour'.



Shota Rustaveli

Shota Rustaveli mononymously known simply as Rustaveli, was a 12th-century Georgian poet. He is considered to be the prominent poet of the Georgian Golden Age and one of the greatest contributors to Georgian literature. Rustaveli is the author of The Knight in the Panther's Skin, a Georgian national epic poem.



Niko Pirosmiani

Niko Pirosmiani simply referred to as Nikala was a Georgian primitivist painter who posthumously rose to prominence. Pirosmiani's paintings were influenced by the social conditions of his time and place. There are many works about merchants, shopkeepers, workmen, and noblemen groups. Pirosmianashvili was fond of nature and rural life.



This is Georgia

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Sitting at the foot of the imposing hill capped by the **Narikala** Fortress and climbing the slopes is Tbilisi Old Town, a labyrinth of narrow streets where wooden balconies look down from old brick-build homes. Doorways lead to hidden courtyards an ancient vines climb to the skies using anything vertical for support. Parts have been comprehensively renovated, arguably a little too enthusiastically, so that some streets look like a Disney film set, though far more of these twisting alleys are untouched. They are ramshackle, cracked and crumbling but delightful, enchanting, picturesque and real. Arguably a little too enthusiastically, so that some streets look like a Disney film set, though far more of these twisting alleys are untouched. They are ramshackle, cracked and crumbling but delightful.



The style is a mix of two Influences, the tight winding streets of an Asian or Arabic town interwoven with European, classical Russian and Art Nouveau architecture. The northern edge is the recently renovated **Abanotubani** area, famous for its **Sulphur Baths** and **Meidani** square with its many restaurants. Old Town's main artery is **Kote Abkhazi Street** (formerly Leselidze) which connect Meidani with Freedom Square.



In the North East corner, between Leselidze and the river, is **Chardeni**, a small area backed with bars restaurants, nightclubs and cafes, shoulder to shoulder along a series of pedestrian streets. To the west, Old Town melts into Sololaki area, a lovely and fascinating place to wander around, take photographs and explore Tbilisi.

Open-Air Museum of Ethnography

This collection of traditional, mostly wooden houses, collected from all around Georgia, is spread over a wooded hillside with good views, and makes for an enjoyable visit. The most interesting exhibits are in the lower section, where the buildings are kitted out with traditional furnishings, rugs and utensils.



TUSHETI is a national park and one of the most ecologically unspoiled regions in the Caucasus. It is a popular area for mountain-trekking. The Tushetians are sheep herders, and the region is famous for its Tushetian Gouda cheese and high quality wool. The local shepherds spend the summer months in the highland areas of Tusheti but live in the lowland villages of Zemo Alvani and Kvemo Alvani in the wintertime. You will find the nature breathtaking, and the people very hospitable. The roads are hazardous and open only a few summer months. **Omalo** is located on a natural plateau, connecting three main gorges: **Chanchakhovani** gorge, **Chaghma** gorge, **Pirikiti** gorge, and **Gometsari** georgee. The fortress of **Keselo** is with it's towers a landmark in Zemo (upper) Omalo.



KHACHAPURI is a traditional Georgian dish of cheese-filled bread. The bread is leavened and allowed to rise, and is shaped in various ways. The filling contains cheese - fresh or aged, most commonly suluguni, eggs and other ingredients. According to a 2009 survey 88% of Georgians prefer khachapuri to pizza. There are several distinctive types of khachapuri in Georgian food from different regions of Georgia: Imeretian, Adjarian, Megrelian, Gurian, Svanuri.

BATUMI is located in the autonomous republic of Adjara. European architects undertook numerous projects in Batumi at the beginning of the 20th century, and today it remains a hub of architectural innovation. One of the most beautiful regions in Georgia, Adjara is situated in southwest Georgia on the Black Sea coastline. Adjara's visitors especially admire the region's pristine and unaltered nature, and it is particularly intriguing for eco tourists.

Batumi's interesting historical past has considerably influenced the architectural diversity of city a number of projects were completed by European architects during the Porto Franco period. Old Batumi's most historical part is stretched between the seaport and the Boulevard, and features distinctive building facades and balconies. Boasting one of the widest varieties of flora in the world, the Batumi Botanical Garden is 111 hectares and contains flora from nine phyto-geographic areas.



MTSKHETA is an ancient town located about 20km out of Tbilisi. It was the capital of the eastern Georgian kingdom of Iberia from the 3rd century BC to the 5th century AD. Mtskheta was the site of Georgia's adoption of Christianity in 334 and remains the headquarters of the Georgian Orthodox Church. Svetitskhoveli Cathedral is one of the most interesting highlight of a trip to Mtskheta. It was founded in 1010, built on the site of Georgia's first church, and contains the graves of the ancient Georgian kings, including Sidonia, who was said to have been buried holding Christ's robe. Jvari Monastery is situated on a cliff above Mtskheta. It was founded in the 6th century. It is the culmination of a number of artistic and architectural aspiration in early Christian Georgian architecture. The view from above is amazing.

