

Explore Georgia

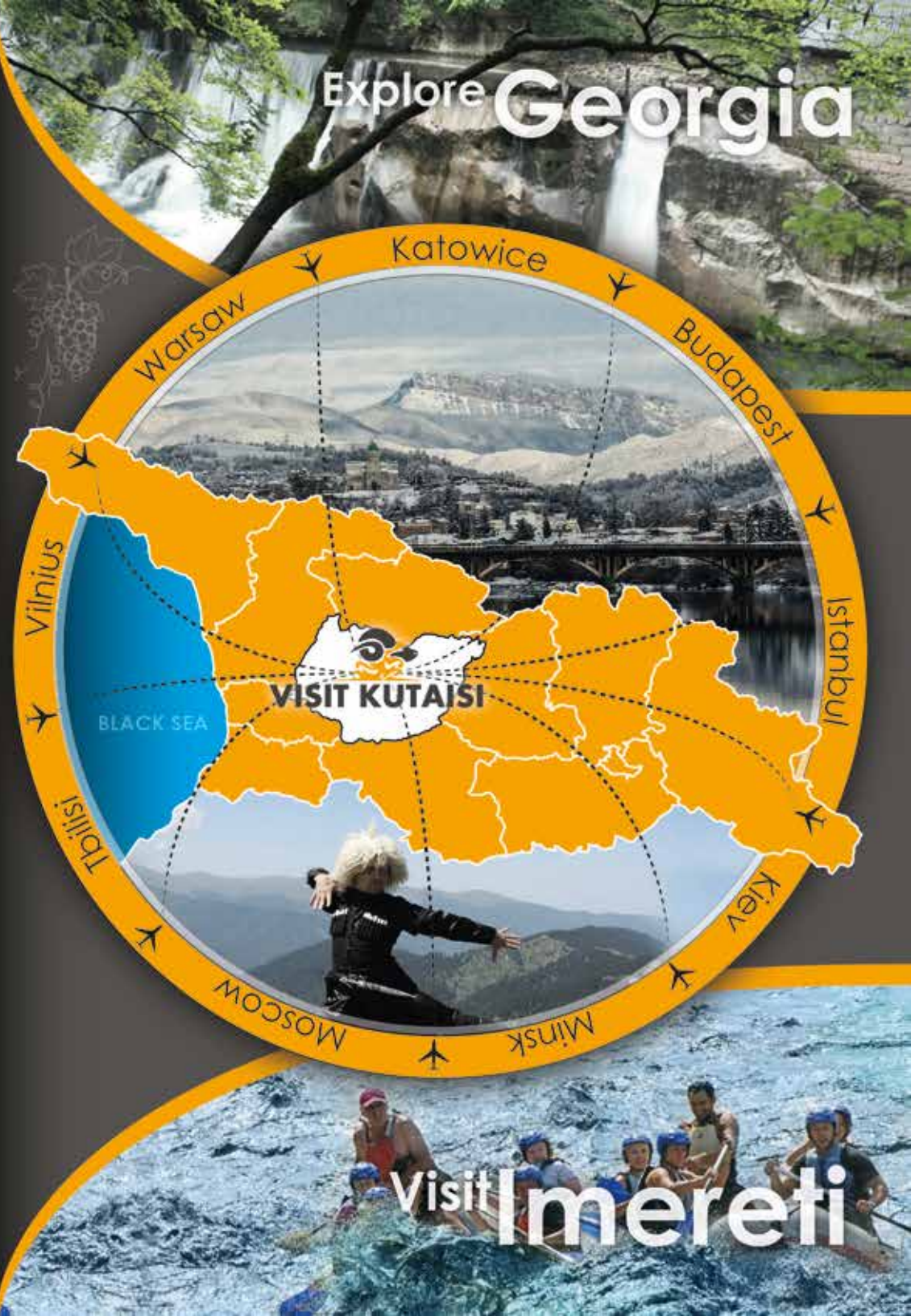
Alphabet		ა	ბ	გ	დ	ე	ვ	ზ	თ	ი	კ	ლ
		Aa	Bb	Gg	Dd	Ee	Vv	Zz	Tt	Ii	K'K'	Ll
		მ	ნ	ო	პ	ჟ	რ	ს	ტ	უ	ფ	ქ
		Mm	Nn	Oo	P'p'	Zhzh	Rr	Ss	T't'	Uu	Pp	Kk
		ღ	ყ	შ	ჩ	ც	ძ	წ	ჭ	ხ	ჯ	ჰ
	Gh gh	Q'q'	Sh sh	Ch ch	Ts ts	Dz dz	Ts' ts'	Ch' ch'	Kh kh	Jj	Hh	

Numbers

Hello	გამარჯობათ (<i>gamarjobat</i>)	1	ერთი (<i>erti</i>)
Goodbye	ნახვამდის (<i>nakhvamdīs</i>)	2	ორი (<i>ori</i>)
Yes	დიახ (<i>diah</i>), კი (<i>ki</i>) ჰო (<i>ho</i>)	3	სამი (<i>sami</i>)
No	არა (<i>ara</i>)	4	ოთხი (<i>otkhi</i>)
OK	კარგი (<i>kargi</i>)	5	ხუთი (<i>khuti</i>)
Thank you	გმადლობთ (<i>gmadlobt</i>)	6	ექვსი (<i>ekvsi</i>)
How are you?	როგორ ხართ? (<i>rogora khart?</i>)	7	შვიდი (<i>shviti</i>)
Fine, thank you	კარგად, გმადლობთ (<i>kargad, gmadlobt</i>)	8	რვა (<i>rat</i>)
What's your name?	რა გვქვიათ? (<i>ra gv'viat?</i>)	9	ცხრა (<i>tskhra</i>)
My name is ...	ჩემი სახელია... (<i>chemi sakheila...</i>)	10	ათი (<i>ati</i>)
Nice to meet you	სასიამოვნოა (<i>sasiamovnoa</i>)	20	ოცი (<i>otsi</i>)
I don't understand	ვერ გავიგე (<i>ver gavige</i>)	30	ოცდაათი (<i>otsdaati</i>)
I can't speak Georgian	ქართული ენა არ ვიცი (<i>kartuli ena ar vitsi</i>)	40	ორმოცი (<i>ormotsi</i>)
I'm sorry, Excuse me (begging pardon)	ბოდიში (<i>badishi</i>)	50	ორმოცდაათი (<i>ormotsdaati</i>)
Excuse me (getting attention)	უკავრავად (<i>ukatsravad</i>)	60	სამოცი (<i>samotsi</i>)
How much is it?	რა ღირს? (<i>ra ghirs?</i>)	70	სამოცდაათი (<i>samotsdaati</i>)
Where's the city centre?	ქალაქის ცენტრი სად არის? (<i>qalaqis tsentri sad aris?</i>)	80	ოთხმოცი (<i>otkhmotsi</i>)
Where's the airport?	აეროპორტი სად არის? (<i>aeroport'i sad aris?</i>)	90	ოთხმოცდაათი (<i>otkhmotsdaati</i>)
Where's the bus station?	ავტობუსების განერება სად არის? (<i>avtobusebis gachereba sad aris?</i>)	100	ასი (<i>asi</i>)
Where's the train station?	სადგური სად არის? (<i>sadguri sad aris?</i>)		
Where are taxis?	ტაქსი სად არის? (<i>taqsi sad aris?</i>)		
Where's the toilet?	ტუალეტი სად არის? (<i>t'ualet'i sad aris?</i>)		
Go straight	იარეთ პირდაპირ (<i>iaret pirdapir</i>)		
Turn left	მოუხვიეთ მარცხნივ (<i>moukhviet marckhnav</i>)		
Turn right	მოუხვიეთ მარჯვნივ (<i>moukhviet marjmniv</i>)		
Cheers!	გაგიმარჯოს! (<i>gagimarjos!</i>)		
Water	წყალი (<i>tsqali</i>)		
Tea	ჩაი (<i>chai</i>)		
Coffee	ყავა (<i>qava</i>)		
Beer	ლუდი (<i>ludi</i>)		
Wine	ღვინო (<i>ghvino</i>)		



The Project co-financed by the Polish development cooperation programme of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Poland.



Imereti is a region in Western Georgia. It is bordered on the east by the Likhi Range, on the west by the Tskhenistskali River, on the north by the Caucasus Range, and on the south by the Meskheti Range. The region is divided into two geographical regions – Upper Imereti and Lower Imereti. There are 11 administrative municipalities: Bagdadi, Vani, Zestafoni, Terjola, Samtredia, Sachkhere, Tkibuli, Kharagauli, Khoni, Tskaltubo and Chiatura. The capital of Imereti is Kutaisi – the second largest city in Georgia and one of the oldest cities in the world.

Imereti has been inhabited continuously from time immemorial. Remains of primitive settlements were found all over the region. In the ancient times and in the Middle Ages, on the territory of Imereti existed the Kingdom of Egrisi. From the 10th century it was part of the United Kingdom of Georgia and in the 15th century it became an independent Kingdom of Imereti. Later in the 19th and 20th centuries, lands were incorporated into the Russian Empire, Democratic Republic of Georgia and Transcaucasian SFSR, respectively. When Georgia regained its independence in 1991, Imereti became one of the regions in the Republic of Georgia, which last till now.

Imereti has always been a significant economic and trading hub in Caucasus. In the ancient times the territory was crossed by the Silk Road which was connecting the Western world with the Eastern countries. The railway construction in the 19th century connecting Chiatura with Poti has helped to boost economic development of the region. Nowadays one of the largest industries in Imereti region is farming and extraction of mineral ore.

The region is also an important centre of culture and social movements. Many public figures and famous people were born here. A great Georgian writer Akaki Tsereteli grew up in Imeretian village and spent most of his life in Kutaisi. Other famous people who lived in Imereti include: a theatre actor and director Lado Meskhishvili, a poet Titsian Tabidze, a writer Niko Nikoladze and a classical music composer Zakaria Paliashvili.

Imereti region with its many historical buildings, wonderful nature and beautiful landscapes is an attractive region for all travelers. David the Builder Kutaisi International Airport which was opened 4 years ago, plays an important role in the development of regional tourism. There are regular flights to several cities: Budapest, Istanbul, Katowice, Kiev, Minsk, Moscow, Tbilisi, Vilnius and Warsaw.



Imereti is a region where everyone will find something for themselves. Rich and diverse landscape of Imereti makes it an ideal place for everyone who wants to be close to nature and likes an active rest. Kutaisi, the capital of the region is one of the oldest cities in the world, and archeological studies carried out in Imereti, revealed the existence of human settlements as far as from the 8th century B.C. Therefore, it has a lot to offer to all lovers of historical sites, old buildings and sacred architecture. Moreover, everyone who is fond of Georgian cuisine and local folklore will be fascinated by Imereti. Below, you can read about the diversity of the region. On next pages, you will find descriptions of each district, their attractions and our suggestions of interesting tourist routes. To find out more about Imereti and what to do in the region, please visit our website: www.visitkutaisi.com.

Culture – Imereti is full of cultural attractions. There are many archeological sites, with the main one located in the village of Vani (p.23). Close to Kutaisi you will find ruins of the Geguti castle (p.21), in Kutaisi itself there are many sacred buildings, a theatre, an opera, different museums, and other interesting places (pp.7-10) There were many famous artists who lived in Imereti, and nowadays there are museums dedicated to their life and work established in their houses. In Vani there is Galaktion Tabidze's Museum (p.24), in Bagdati – Vladimir Mayakovsky's (p.62) and in Sachkhere – Akaki Tsereteli's (p.44).

Sacred places – in Imereti region, as in whole Georgia, you will find many monasteries. To all lovers of sacred architecture, we especially recommend going to the Gelati Complex (p.28), which is on the UNESCO list, and to the Mtsameta Monastery (p.29) located nearby. One can't miss a visit to the Bagrati Cathedral, which was built in 1003. It is situated on the top of Ukimerioni Hill, from which one can admire beautiful views of the city of Kutaisi located below (p.7). It is definitely worth to stop by in Ubisa, a monastic complex built in the 9th century (p.52), and the Tabakini Monastery built in the 7th – 8th century (p.46). Without a question, while being in the Chiatura district, one should see the Mghvimevi Monastery (p.41) and the Katskhi Pillar (p.40). In Terjola, in the village of Gogni, there is a little chapel called Saint Giorgi Karugdebeli. Currently, the biggest church of Saint Giorgi is being built above it (p.33). In Samtredia, we propose to stray from the main road to see the Kulashi village and its three synagogues from the 18th and the 20th century (p.18).

Villages – the generosity and hospitality of people from Imereti are praised even among Georgians themselves. Visiting one of the families described in our guide, you will have the opportunity to experience the feeling of being a guest in a Georgian house. You will be welcomed by friendly, warm hosts, who will greet you with open arms. In Terjola, you can visit Boria Apzandadze (p.35) or Jora and Temrui Barbukhadze (p.36), in Khoni district – Mrs. Darejan Burdzeladze (p.58), in Tabakini – the Chubinidze family (p.48), in Vani – the Lominashvili family (p.25), and in Bagdati – Galoz Sopromadze (p.65).

Spa & Wellness – it is without a doubt, that one of the biggest natural resources of Imereti are springs, streams and rivers. There are over 6500 of them, and since many have healing powers, a lot of health resorts were built in the region. The most popular are Tskaltubo (p.21) and Sairme (p.62). Sometimes, (i.e. in Terjola or Vani) pools with hot springs are located by the roadsides, available to everyone (p.26).

Wine – after a visit to Imeretian wineries, your perception of Georgian wine will change. Here, in Western Georgia you will find the most delicate and uncommon kinds of grapes. With us, you will have the opportunity to visit cellars of three fantastic families: Shukri Nakashidze (p.64), Gaioz Sopromadze (p.65) and Jora and Temrui Barbukhadze (p.36). They not only produce wine from regional vine stocks, but they also make it in a traditional, thousand-year-old way. We suggest going on a one-day wine trail trip, and we promise you, that the delicate Imeretian wine, together with the local cuisine and hospitality, will leave you totally charmed.

Nature – Imereti is full of original and natural beauty. Its visitors can admire the diversity of landscapes, from the lowlands of the Kolkheti Valley to high mountain peaks. There are plenty of rivers (p.10), springs, streams and waterfalls (p.32, p.57), very often flowing through canyons (p.56) and gorges. A large part of the region is covered with deciduous forests, groves, and meadows. There are two protected areas in the region: Ajameti Protected Areas, located in Bagdati and Imereti Caves Protected Area, within 10km from Kutaisi. There are thousands of non-commercial caves in the region, and many of them still have not been explored properly, however, two: Prometheus (p.20) and Sataplia (p.21) are open for visitors. In the Sataplia Nature Reserve, there are also dinosaur footprints and a subtropical young forest of Colchic type.

Sport – undoubtedly, all lovers of active rest will find Imereti interesting. There are many trekking paths (described below), one can also go rafting on the Rioni River, canyoning in Gordi (p.57) or borrow horses to go on a trip through the mountains and forests of Terjola (p.33). Practically everywhere in Imereti you will find paths suitable for cycling and for those who like fishing; we recommend a visit to one of the rivers located close to Kutaisi, where you will find plenty of different kinds of fish (p.10).

Trekking – there are many places in Imereti perfect for trekking. In almost every district one can find pedestrian paths leading through meadows, next to springs and in mountain wilderness. In Khoni, we recommend an easy, half an hour walk to Kinchkha waterfall (p.57) or a 1km long walkway suspended along the edge of the Okatse Canyon (p.56). In Tkibuli, there is a scenic hike to the peak of Nakerala, where you can find remains of an 11th century chapel called by the locals “Tskhradjhvari” – meaning “Nine Crosses” (p.30). Whereas Terjoli offers a walk leading through the mountains and during which one can admire amazing views on Colchis Valley and two lakes – Shaori and Tkibuli (p.33). It is also worth to go on a picturesque trek from the Gelati Complex to Motsameta Monastery (pp.28-29). Kutaisi itself as well offers a nice trekking trail through the scenic meadows and forests to the surrounding hills (p.10).

Off road – there are plenty of rough roads in Imereti, so off-road lovers won't be bored here. 20 minutes away from Kutaisi there is a road which leads through the scenic meadows and forests to the surrounding hills (p.10). Canyon Okatse (p.56) can be reached either on foot or by car, through a rugged terrain. An off road from Sairme to Abastumani goes through Zekari Pass where one can admire stunning mountainous landscape (p.62).

Kutaisi – the capital of the region Imereti is one of the oldest cities in the world and the 2nd largest city in Georgia. Its history is remarkable. In the 7th century it was the capital of the Kingdom of Abkhazia-Egrisi, in the 10th century – of the United Kingdom of Georgia and in the 15th century – of the Imeretian Kingdom. Kutaisi is also mentioned in a famous Greek epic poem “Argonautica”, written 3300 years ago. With its culture, history and economy Kutaisi is an important educational, political and cultural center of Georgia. Many famous artists, scientists, public figures and sports champions lived in this city. Notable former residents of the city include: a writer Akaki Tsereteli, a theatre actor and director Lado Meskhishvili, a world chess champion Maia Chiburdanidze, a poet Titsian Tabidze, a singer Katie Melua and many others. There are many interesting places to see in Kutaisi and its surroundings, such as: Bagrati Cathedral, Gelati Monastery (UNESCO World Heritage), the Prometheus Cave and the Sataplia Reservoir, where one can observe footprints of dinosaurs. The locals are distinguished for their hospitality, politeness, sharp-wit and delicious Imeretian cuisine which is known all over Georgia.



ACCOMMODATION

HOTELS

Hotel Bagrati	1003 Tsereteli Street 2nd/2, (+995) 431 255 555, info@bagrati1003.ge , www.bagrati1003.ge
Rcheuli Palace,	21B Khandzteli Street, (+995) 599 316 928, rcheulipalace@rcheuli.ge , www.rcheuli.ge
Aeetes Palace Hotel	34 Galaktion Tabidze Street, (+995) 551 438 777, www.aeetes-hotel.com
Hotel Old Town Kutaisi	3/4 Grishashvili Street, (+995) 595 400 024, dzvelikalaki@gmail.com ,
Hotel Gora	22 Debi Ishkhelebi Street, (+995) 551 929 092
Hotel Kutaisi Globus	16 Solomon 1st Street, (+995) 551 471 100
Hotel Imperial	28 Mchedidze Street, (+995) 579 191 939, infoimperial@rocketmail.com , www.imperialcom.ge
Imeri Park Hotel	25 Nikea Street 1st, (+995) 568 827 070, info@imerihotel.com , www.imerihotel.com
Hotel Continental	63A Bukhaidze Street, 2nd Lane, (+995) 591 270 602, info@hotel-continental.ge , www.hotel-continental.ge

HOSTELS AND GUEST HOUSES

Hostel Kutaisi by Kote	18 Gorki Street, (+995) 593 548 507, hostel.kutaisi@mail.com , www.hostelkutaisi.com
Imereti Hostel	15 Kostava Street, (+995) 568 686 856
Guest House Kutaisi No.1	14A Solomon 1st Street, (+995) 551 471 100
Millennium Guest House	Beri-Tevdores Street II Shes.
Guest House Rioni	5 Tsereteli Street, 4th Lane
Guest House Lia	25 Kostava Street, (+995) 577 496 424, andriadilia@gmail.com

DINING

CAFES

Kutaisi Garden	Veriko Anjaparidzis Square
Tea House Foe Foe	5 Rustaveli Avenue
Art Cafe Blues	37 Faliashvili Street

RESTAURANTS AND BARS

Restaurant Dzirdzveli (Park)	1 Vazha Pshavela Street
Restaurant Dzveli Imereti	21 Nikea Street
Restaurant El Depo	9 Tabidze Street
Restaurant Bugalow	24, Javakhishvili Street
Restaurant Praga	16 Pushkini Street
Restaurant Bastilia	5 Nikea Street 7th Lane
Restaurant Imperiali	28 Mchedlidze Street
Bar-Restaurant Palaty	1 Pushkin Street 2nd Lane
Pub Barca	37 Mari Brosse Street

GETTING THERE

By minibus (marshrutka) – minibuses from Tbilisi to Kutaisi leave every 30 minutes and from Batumi every hour. The city is also connected with other main Georgian cities, small local towns and villages which operate regularly on a daily basis.

By train – trains to Kutaisi leave from Tbilisi, Batumi (Makhinjauri), Zugdidi, Tkibuli, Sachkhere, Samtredia and Tskaltubo. It is always better to check on the official Georgian Railway website if the trains are running – www.railway.ge

By air – direct flights to David the Builder Kutaisi International Airport operate from Budapest, Istanbul, Katowice, Kiev, Minsk, Moscow, Tbilisi, Vilnius and Warsaw.

From the airport – David the Builder Kutaisi International Airport is located 14 km west of Kutaisi. It takes around 20-30 minutes to get to Kutaisi city centre.

Airport transfer – The transfer is operated by Georgian Bus Company. Transfers are arranged according to the flights from the airport and they leave maximum in one hour after the plane lands. Georgian Bus reaches 5 main cities: Kutaisi, Tbilisi, Batumi, Mestia and Kazbegi and also goes to different Black Sea and winter skiing resorts. Transfer to Kutaisi costs 5 GEL per person. You can either book tickets online on www.georgianbus.com or directly at the airport. Their staff speaks Georgian, English, Polish and Russian.

By marshrutka – It is possible to get to the city centre by local minibus called marshrutka. You can catch one at the main road in front of the airport building. During the day there are many marshrutkas coming from different cities to Kutaisi.

By taxi – It's better to agree on the price with a driver before getting into a taxi. The usual price for a transfer to Kutaisi city centre is 20 GEL.

GETTING AROUND THE CITY

In Kutaisi there are many city minibuses called marshrutkas which frequently circulate around the city. It is an inexpensive and a popular way to travel around. Marshrutkas stop literally everywhere so if you want to catch it you just have to wave your hand and hop in.

Another popular mean of transportation is taxi. They are cheap and are waiting on almost every corner. Taxis are a good way to travel not only around the city but also to the nearby tourist attractions e.g. Prometheus Cave or Gelati Monastery. They can offer reasonable prices to take you to your destination, wait for you and after drive you back to the city. To book a local taxi call the following number: 0431 2300.

Our e-mail: info@visitkutaisi.com, phone: (+995) 593 548 507, (+995) 557 263 153.

THINGS TO DO AND SEE



Bagrati Cathedral

It is a landmark of Kutaisi and one of the most significant monuments of the ancient Georgian architecture. It was built in the 11th century during the reign of King Bagrat III (975 – 1014 C.E.). In 1692 it was destroyed by the Ottoman troops and rebuilt in 2012. It is situated on the top of the Ukimerioni Hill from which one can admire beautiful views of the city below.



The Boulevard - Kutaisi Park

The park plays an important role in the social life of Kutaisi. It is a place to be if one wants to hear the latest jokes and anecdotes. It is a perfect spot to relax and watch the world go by. A visit in the café located in the park to try vanilla ice-cream is a must!



**Agmashenebeli Square
The Fountain**

The fountain with golden statues of animal shapes features enlarged versions of tiny gold and bronze figures found during archeological diggings all over Georgia. The monumental building to the left is Kutaisi Theatre, constructed in 1955 in a Greco-Roman style.



Kutaisi Bridges

One of the landmarks of the city are its bridges. The most popular is the White Bridge with its statue of a boy holding two hats, who was a main character in the movie "An Unusual Exhibition". The city's oldest bridge is the Chain bridge, which was built by King Leon in the 17th century; while the one called Red was one of the first metal bridges in Caucasus Region.





Mtsvane Kvavila

It is a neighborhood on the left bank of the Rioni River. It is famous for beautiful nature and interesting historical monuments: a small basilica built in 1013, the basilica of the Assumption of the Archangel from the 17th century and a small two-story tower. The district is also known for its Pantheon, where important Georgian noble people were buried.



Jewish Synagogue

The great synagogue is one of the three synagogues in the city. It was built in 1885 and is the second largest synagogue in Georgia, right after the great synagogue in Tbilisi. Nowadays it serves a small, local Jewish community.

Address: 57-59 Boris Gaponov Street, Kutaisi



Niko Berdzenishvili Kutaisi State History Museum

Kutaisi state museum, founded in 1912, is one of the most important museums in the world. It exhibits the unique historical and ethnographical exponents. Here are the materials from 2nd – 1st century B.C. belonging to the Antique and Hellenistic period of bronze or collection of Colchish coins.

Address: 18 Pushkin Street, Kutaisi



Monument of King David the Builder

Among many statues located in Kutaisi, the most important is the one of the King David the Builder, who ruled in the 12th century. He was a significant figure in the history of Georgia, who promoted the development of enlightenment, founded Gelati Academy and fought for the unification of the country.

Address: Tamar Mepe Street; in front of the train station



THINGS TO DO AND SEE



Kutaisi Botanical Garden

The garden originated in the middle of the 19th century. After the Tbilisi National Botanical Garden, it is the second earliest botanic garden in the country. The Garden's flora is represented by about 700 plant species of trees and shrubs from all the floristic regions of the world. The flora here is of 210 genera belonging to 80 botanical families.

Address: David and Konstantine Mkheidze Street, Kutaisi



The Georgian Parliament

The building in the form of a 100m by 150m oval-shaped glass dome serves as the home of Georgian Parliament since 26.05. 2012. It is located on the site of a memorial to the 300,000 Georgians and other Soviet citizens, who died in World War II.

Address: Irakli Abashidze Street, Kutaisi



Besarion Gabashvili Park

The park is located on the top of the hill with one of the most beautiful views of the city. Its main attraction is a fun park, great for a day out with children. You can get there by a cable car which goes from the city centre above the Rioni River.

Address: 1 Vazha-Pshavela Street, Kutaisi



Shop at the local bazaars

Local bazaars are perfect places to get the real vibe of the city. On the bazaar in the city center you can find the regional delicacies like: cheese, churchkhela and homemade wine. While strolling between the stalls you have a chance to taste some delicious food offered by the vendors. It is a must-visit place in the city. The second bazaar on Chavchavadze Street offers wide range of products from food and clothes to household goods.





Swim in a river

In order to escape the heat in Kutaisi during summertime, we suggest doing as the locals do, and enjoy the natural beauty of one of many rivers and waterfalls surrounding Kutaisi. Popular spots include the three rivers: Tskaltsitela, Chishura or Tkhenisthkalui, which can all be reached within a mere 10 GEL taxi-trip. Rest on a green meadow, listen to the sound of a waterfall and enjoy a refreshing swim in one of the beautiful rivers.



Get on the top of Berdznis Mindori Hill

Within a 20-minute walking distance from the centre of Kutaisi (at the end of Gorki Street), a path leads through scenic meadows and forests, to the surrounding hills with beautiful views of Kutaisi, the two monasteries Gelati and Motsameta, surrounding mountains, including Mountain Khvamli and the Sataplia Nature Reserve. The route is perfect for trekking, a cycling tour or an off-road trip. It is a perfect place for an afternoon picnic, an evening bonfire or a camping under the stars.



Food experience - Imeretian cuisine is considered to be one of the best in the country, even by Georgians themselves. Kutaisi belonged to one of the cities which was situated on the historical Silk Route. As a result, the region developed its own culinary tradition. Most of the dishes are similar to the ones from other parts of Georgia, however, because of the way they are prepared and the spices added to the meals, their flavor is unique and unforgettable. While being in Kutaisi, you should definitely stop by at one of the restaurants to try some of the delicious local dishes.



KUTAISI



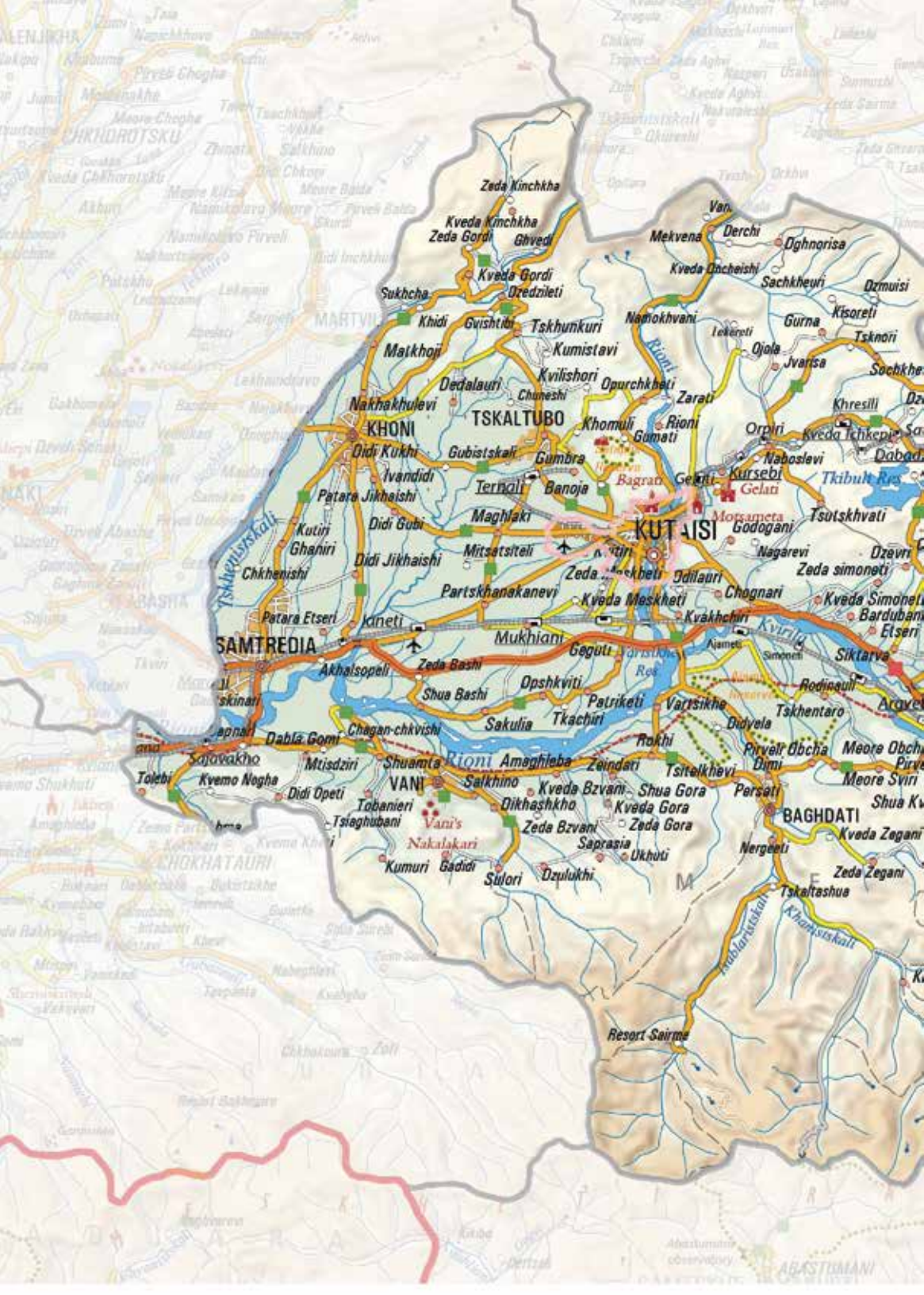
BUS ROUTES IN KUTAISI (MARSHRUTKAS ROUTES)

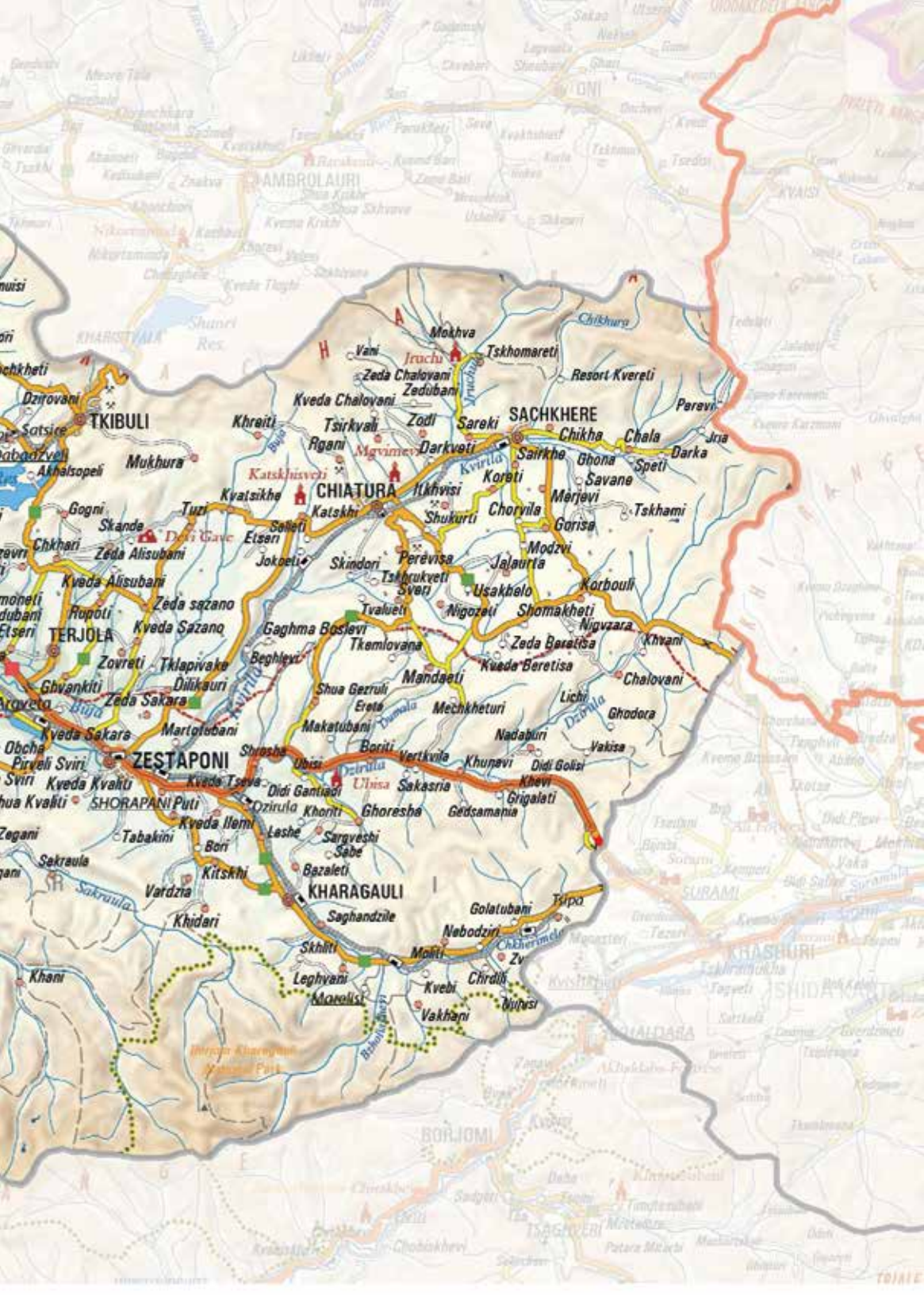
- 1 Main Bus Station – Local and National Buses
- 2 Food Store
- 3 Main Bus Stop – City and Local Buses
- 4 City Centre
- 5 Train Station
- 6 Kutaisi Central Post Office
- 7 City Centre
- 8 Rugby Stadium and Sport Complex "Laguna"
- 9 Clothes and Food Bazaar
- 10 The Parliament of Georgia
- 11 Kutaisi Public Service Hall
- 12 Kutaisi Akaki Tsereteli State University
- 13 Towards Tbilisi (for hitchhikers)
- 14 Towards the airport and Batumi (for hitchhikers)
- 15 Towards Gelati and Motsameta
- 16 Towards Sataplia and Prometheus Cave
- 17 Towards Martvili and Gachedili Canyons
- Bus No.1 and Marshrutka No.200
- Bus and Marshrutka No.4





See the city from a local minibus (marshrutka) Do you want to take in the full vibe of Kutaisi from its most popular spots to lesser known hidden gems? Simply wave your hand at one of the city minibuses (marshrutkas), hop in and explore the city! Marshrutkas and buses go all around Kutaisi, and you can stop them literally everywhere. Our map includes route suggestions with the must-see sights of Kutaisi. Marshrutka No.4 goes to Abashidze Avenue where all government buildings are located, including the famous building of Georgian Parliament. Use either Route No.1 or No.200 to circle around the city, experiencing all the main streets and bazaars as well as the park in the city centre. While crossing the Rioni River you can admire views of Bagrati Cathedral with Mountain Khvami in the background on one side, and the Lesser Caucasus Range on the other. Marshrutka No.25 will help hitchhikers to leave the city centre and go all the way to the best hitchhiking place in the suburbs. On the map we marked the best place to stop if you want to hitchhike towards Tbilisi or Batumi





307000

308000

309000

310000

Kutaisi

4683000

4682000

4681000

4680000

4679000

4678000

Banoja

GAMARJVEBA

UKIMERIONI

DZELQVIANI

SULKHAN-SABA

VAKISUBANI

NIKEA



Government House



Torpedo Stadium



AVANGARDI CEMETERY



OGHASKURA CEMETERY



1 : 30 000

GEOLAND

Geoland Ltd © 2015
www.geoland.ge

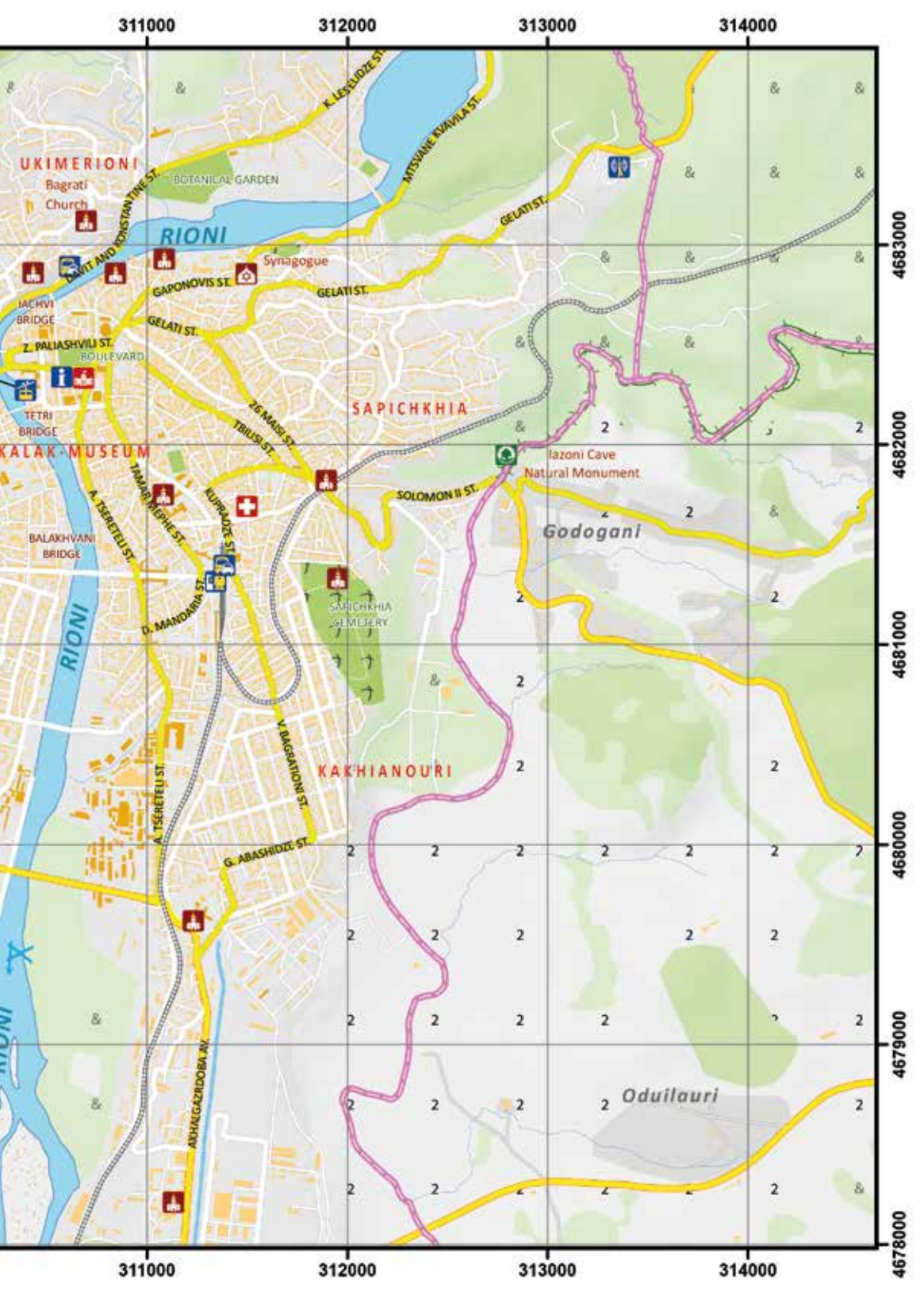
307000

308000

309000

310000

RIONI



Samtredia, with its main town, also called Samtredia, is located partly on the Colchis Lowland and partly on Sajavakho Tableland. The territory is divided in the middle by the Rioni River. The other major river in the region is the Gubistskali River. The region was famous for its economic development – it had one of the first railway points (Tbilisi – Poti railway built in 1971-1872), and during decades, well prospering factories (chocolate, tea and wood processing). Currently, agriculture is dominating as the main source of income. Located a few kilometers away from Samtredia city, a small town of Kulashi, used to be the home to one of the biggest Georgian Jewish communities.



ACCOMMODATION

HOTELS

Hotel Obola

2 Razmadze Street, Samtredia (+995) 599 507 842

HOSTELS

Merab Hostel

4600, Ianeti Village, Samtredia, +995 599 47 77 40

**In Samtredia district accommodation options are limited.
If you would like to stay near, we recommend you to check offers in Kutaisi.**

DINING

CAFES

Café- Bar Obola

2 Razmadze Street, Samtredia

Restaurant Bora Bora

Rustaveli Street, Samtredia

**Samtredia lies on the main road from Batumi to Kutaisi and Tbilisi.
There are many little cafes and bars located next to the road, where you can stop by and have a snack.**

GETTING THERE

By mini bus (marshrutka) – direct marshrutkas to Samtredia city leave from Kutaisi every 20 minutes, from 07.30 to 18.00. Kutaisi bus station address: Chavchavadze Avenue 67, Kutaisi

By train – There are trains from Kutaisi I train station to Samtredia, however, it is always better to check on the official Georgian Railway website if the trains are running – www.railway.ge
Kutaisi I train station address – Tamar Mepe Street

If you struggle with the language, have trouble communicating, can't book a room, find the correct bus or you simply need help with anything - do not hesitate to contact us.

Our e-mail: info@visitkutaisi.com, phone: (+995) 593 548 507, (+995) 557 263 153.

THINGS TO DO AND SEE



**Niko Nikoladze
House Museum**

The museum is located in Didi Jikhaishi Village. It is dedicated to a famous public figure and a scientist, Niko Nikoladze, and his family. It houses family memorabilia, household goods, and a rich library and works of Niko Nikoladze, printed in various languages. There are also modern technologies of that time brought from different countries, i.e. wind machine from 1910, washing machine from Berlin, first sample of Kodak camera, sundial. Working hours: 10.00 – 16.00, Everyday

Address: 109 Niko Nikoladze Street, Didi Jikhaishi Village



Kulashi

It is a small town close to Samtredia city. For many years it has been a home to one of the biggest Georgian Jewish communities. Nowadays, in the town, there is a complex of three synagogues (one from the 18th century and two from the 20th century) and an old Jewish cemetery. There is also a Museum of Georgian-Jewish friendship where you can admire a rich collection of photos and memorabilia depicting everyday life of Kulashi Diaspora, the menorah, photos of rabbis, books and manuscripts in Hebrew, right next to Georgian flags, typical Georgian horns for drinking wine and inscriptions in the Georgian language.



The district is mostly known for its radon-carbonate mineral springs. The natural temperature of the water is 33–35 °C, which enables everyone to use it without heating. The main city, Tskaltubo, used to be an important spa-resort during the Soviet times. Now, it does not receive as many visitors as in the past, however it slowly becomes more and more popular. There are many historical monuments in the region including the 12th century like fortresses in Geguti Village and Zarati Village. There are also 12th century wooden churches in the villages - Partskhanayanevi, Zeda Meskheti and Qveda Meskheti. There were as well settlements from the Stone Age discovered in the region, and the most famous are: Khomuli Cave, Qvilishori Cave, Shavgora and Saqajala Caves and White Cave. In the White Cave, there was the earliest weapon discovered in the Caucasus – a copper arrow from 4th – 5th century B.C. The main river in Tskaltubo is the Rioni River, with 2 well known lakes: Lake of Tavshava and an artificial lake called “Cold Lake”. Two most famous landmarks of the region are the Prometheus Cave and the Sataplia Natural Reserve.



ACCOMMODATION

HOTELS

Tskaltubo Plaza Hotel	15a Rustaveli Street, 5400, Tskaltubo, (+995) 436 222 393, reservation@tph.ge, www.tskaltuboplaza.ge,
Imereti Health Resort	8 Tsereteli Street, 5400, Tskaltubo, (+995) 436 22 11 22
Tskaltubo Spa Resort	23 Rustaveli Street 23, 5400, Tskaltubo, (+995) 599 091 610 www.sanatoriumi.ge, reception@tskaltubosparesort.ge
Tskaltubo Health Resort	1 Paliashvili Street, 5400, Tskaltubo, (+995) 555 145 375
Nikala Hotel Tskaltubo	6 Tsereteli Street, Tskaltubo (+995) 568 253 232, hotelnikala@mail.ru, www.hotelnikala.ge
Tskaltubo Hotel Prometheus	11 Rustaveli Street 23, 5400, Tskaltubo (+995) 436 220 051 hotel.promete@mail.ru, www.tskaltubo-hotel-prometheus.ge

HOSTELS AND GUEST HOUSES

Guest House Marina	27A Avaliani Street, Tskaltubo, (+995) 555 793 078, marina1161@mail.ru, www.westgeorgia.jimdo.com
Country House Uliana Tskaltubo	
Guest house Sataplia	Guest house Sataplia, 2 Chabukiani Street, Tskaltubo

For more accommodation options, please check the offers in Kutaisi.

DINING

Restaurant Stalaktida

Village Kvilishori, 5420 Tskaltubo

Restaurant Kalakuri

Village Kvilishori, 5420 Tskaltubo

Restaurant Amirani

Village Kvitiri, 5419 Tskaltubo

In the centre of Chiatura city, you can find some snack bars and little restaurants where you can have a meal.

GETTING THERE

By minibus (marshrutka) - direct marshrutkas to Tskaltubo city leave frequently from Kutaisi bus stop next to the Red Bridge. To get to the Prometheus Cave, take a marshrutka to Tskaltubo and change there.

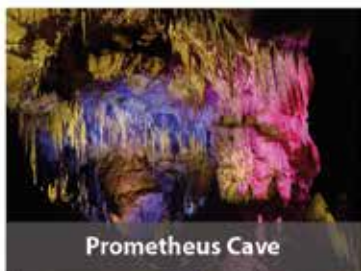
By train - There are trains from Kutaisi II train station to Tskaltubo, however it is always better to check on the official Georgian Railway website if the trains are running - www.railway.ge

Kutaisi II train station address - Chavchavadze Street

If you struggle with the language, have trouble communicating, can't book a room, find the correct bus or you simply need help with anything - do not hesitate to contact us.

Our e-mail: info@visitkutaisi.com, phone: (+995) 593 548 507, (+995) 557 263 153.

THINGS TO DO AND SEE

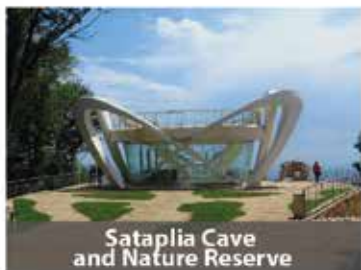


Prometheus Cave

The cave is located 18 km away from Kutaisi. It was discovered in July 1983 by the members of a speleological expedition from Vakhushti Bagrationi State Geographical Institute. It is one of Georgia's natural wonders. Visitors can go on a 1060 m long walking tour to see the breathtaking examples of stalactites, stalagmites, curtains, petrified waterfalls, cave pearls, underground rivers, and lakes. The Prometheus Cave is closed on Mondays.



THINGS TO DO AND SEE



It is located 6 km north-west of Kutaisi. The name derives from Sataplia Mountain, which got its name from the tradition of collecting honey from the bees that inhabited the mountain. The reserve was created in 1935 to protect geological, paleontological, speleological and botanical monuments. Visitors can take a walk in Sataplia Cave which is 900 m long, 10 m high and 12 m wide, see dinosaur footprints and admire stunning views of the nature reserve from a glass-bottomed viewing platform. The reserve is closed on Tuesdays.



Tskaltubo has a few spa resorts which offer a variety of different spa treatments and massages. After a visit to one of them, we guarantee that you will feel fresh, relaxed and will be ready to continue your holidays in Georgia.



It was once a royal residence. However, today only its ruins remain. It stretches for 2000 sq. km. The earliest architectural forms found during restoration works date back to the 8th – 9th century, others date back to the 12th century and to the 13th – 14th century. The palace church and the main building located in the west belong to the third period - 13th – 14th century.



Giorgi Akhvediani House Museum The museum is dedicated to Giorgi Akhvediani - a well-known Georgian linguist and a public person. It houses various memorial materials like: furniture, letters, works of the scientist, other documental and photo materials.

Working hours: 10.00 – 18.00, Tuesday to Sunday (closed on Mondays)

Address: *Derchi Village.*

Niko Lordkipanidze House Museum The museum is dedicated to Niko Lordkipanidze – a famous Georgian writer. One can find there various publications of the poet's works, manuscripts, photographs and other documents. Working hours: 10.00 – 18.00, Everyday

Address: *Gagma Chuneshi Village.*

Giorgi Akhvediani Tskaltubo Local Museum The museum houses archeological collection from Colchis times like coins, axes, iron and bronze implements and tomb objects. There is also an ethnographical collection of everyday life and household objects from the 19th-20th century, weapons like engraved and silver-plated daggers, rifles, manuscripts and old printed books dated back to the 17th – 19th century. Working hours: 10.00 – 18.00, Everyday

Address: *47a Shota Rustaveli Street, Tskaltubo*

The district is perfect for fans of nature and archeological routes. In ancient times Vani was one of the most important towns, which was established in 3rd – 1st century B.C. Archeological findings will be presented in the Vani Museum.

Vani developed in two stages. The first stage includes wooden cultic, luxurious residential buildings and tombs. 3rd century B.C. opens a new chapter in the history of the city. It develops and becomes a huge centre. A fence wall, a round temple, seven altars together with other religious, cultic, social and civic buildings was discovered here in 3rd century B.C. Once you are in Vani, you cannot miss the Public Theater, and the archeological museum which was mentioned before.



ACCOMMODATION

GUEST HOUSES

Lominashvili Family - Shuamta village

1918, Vani, Georgia, (+995) 557 263 153

Book on info@visitkutaisi.com or (+995) 593 548 507

**In Vani district accommodation options are limited.
If you would like to stay near, we recommend you to check offers in Kutaisi**

DINING

In the centre of Vani city you can find some snack bars and little restaurants where you can have a meal.

GETTING THERE

By mini bus (marshrutka) – direct marshrutkas to Vani city leave from Kutaisi bus station at: 07:00, 07:35, 08:10, 09:00, 11:10, 12:10, 13:10, 15:40, 16:20, 18:10, 19:00

Kutaisi bus station address: Chavchavadze Avenue 67, Kutaisi

If you struggle with the language, have trouble communicating, can't book a room, find the correct bus or you simply need help with anything - do not hesitate to contact us.

Our e-mail: info@visitkutaisi.com, phone: (+995) 593 548 507, (+995) 557 263 153.

THINGS TO DO AND SEE



**Galaktion and Titsian
Tabidze House Museum**

The museum is located in the patrimonial palaces of the famous Georgian poets: Galaktion and Titsian Tabidze. It holds personal belongings of the poets and their ancestors: accessories, clothes, embroidery samples, trinkets, paintings, graphic and sculpture works of Georgian artists.

Working hours: 10.00 – 17.00, Tuesday to Sunday (closed on Mondays)

Address: Tkchvishi Village, Vani



Vani Archeological Museum–Reserve The museum is situated on a hill close to the town of Vani. It includes: the archaeological site of Vani, the expedition base, and the museum itself. The museum houses the majority of archeological materials discovered in the site of Vani. The exhibition covers a period between 800 years B.C. and 100 years C.E.

Working hours: 10.00 – 16.00, Tuesday to Sunday (closed on Mondays)

Address: 7 Vakhtang Gorgasali Street, Vani

RURAL TOURISM



Family Lomineishvili

Family Lomineishvili – with no doubt you should either start or end your Georgian holiday with a visit to family Lomineishvili in the village of Shuamta. They live only 30 minutes away from the Kopitnari airport, close to Vani city and the archeological museum. This amazing, cheerful and musical family awaits your visit. You will have a fantastic time with them and it doesn't matter if you travel as a family, a group of friends or a couple. Lomineishvilis are very talented. Nini plays the panduri, her brother Anzori plays the tamtam, knows traditional Georgian dancing, and they both have beautiful voices. Their grandmother makes homemade cognac, and the mother prepares delicious Imeretian food. In Shuamta you will experience real hospitality in typical Imeretian style. During the day, you can rest in their garden, explore the beautiful countryside on foot, go horse riding or visit a museum of the famous Georgian, lyric poet Galaktion Tabidze. In the evening, join the family for supra (typical Georgian feast) and soak up the amazing atmosphere around you.

Price: 20 GEL – accommodation, 20 GEL – food .



Village Shuamta, 1918, Vani, Georgia

Be sure to contact us in advance if you are planning to visit Family Lomineishvili – info@visitkutaisi.com or (+995) 593 548 507, (+995) 557 263 153





Hot springs

Close to the village of Bzvani there are hot sulphur spring pools which possess healing qualities. Some of them are open to the public. They are available free of charge and are popular with the locals. One of the pools is located in a particularly beautiful spot

– in a field, in the middle of nowhere. The setting among rolling meadows creates a tranquil atmosphere which makes you feel like you are the only person in the world. When you look to the South you will see amazing views of the Lesser Caucasus Mountains.



The region is rich in landmarks, historical treasures and natural monuments. There are many castles and churches from Medieval Ages. The most important historical sites of the region are the Gelati Monastery Complex, which is enlisted in UNESCO World Heritage Endangered Monuments, and the Motsameta Monastery. In Tkibuli you can also find natural monuments like caves, for example 13-floor Tskhkhvati, Tskhrajvari, Chakhati, Sakazhia, and Mukhura. The highest mountain in the region is Tskhrajvari (1570m) from which you have a panoramic view of Tkibuli and two surrounding lakes – Tkibuli and Shaori Reservoirs. The region is rich in rivers, waterfalls and mineral waters.



ACCOMMODATION

HOTELS

Hostel Villa Kursebi	<i>(+995) 593-55-02-60, daviti.lekvinadze@yahoo.com</i>
Hotel Restaurant "Gelati Paradiso"	<i>6 Gelati Street, Gelati, (+995) 598 12 67 77</i>
Guest House Gelati, Village Gelati	<i>4306 Tkibuli, (+995) 597 323 203, (+995) 597 979 796, hotelgelati@gmail.com</i>

**In Tkibuli district accommodation options are limited.
If you would like to stay near, we recommend you to check offers in Kutaisi.**

DINING

House of Khinkali (Mamulasi)	<i>5 Gamsakhurdia Street, Tkibuli</i>
Skipi Restaurant	<i>Satsire Village</i>
Hotel Restaurant "Gelati Paradiso"	<i>6 Gelati Street, Gelati</i>

GETTING THERE

By minibus (marshrutka) – direct marshrutkas to Tkibuli city leave frequently from Kutaisi train station. Kutaisi train station address: Tamar Mepe Street, Kutaisi. You can also take marshrutkas to Amboriauri, Oni or Tvishi and get off in Tkibuli. They leave from the bus station located next to the Chain Bridge

Marshrutkas from Kutaisi to Gelati Village and Motsameta Monastery leave frequently from Brose Street (behind the theatre).

By train – there are trains from Kutaisi I train station to Tkibuli, however, it is always better to check on the official Georgian Railway website if the trains are running – www.railway.ge

Kutaisi I train station address – Tamar Mepe Street

If you struggle with the language, have trouble communicating, can't book a room, find the correct bus or you simply need help with anything - do not hesitate to contact us.

Our e-mail: info@visitkutaisi.com, phone: (+995) 593 548 507, (+995) 557 263 153.

THINGS TO DO AND SEE



Monastery Gelati

A monastic complex which consists of the Church of the Virgin Mary from the 11th century and the 13th century churches of St George and St Nicholas. The King of Georgia, David the Builder, is buried here. For many centuries, it was one of the main cultural and intellectual centers in Georgia. It had an Academy which employed some of the most celebrated Georgian scientists, theologians and philosophers. The Gelati Academy used to be called "a new Hellas" and "a second Athens."

The monastery has preserved a great number of murals and manuscripts dating back from the 12th to the 17th century. In 1994 it was recognized by UNESCO as a World Heritage Site.



by LEVAN LEKVINADZE

by LEVAN LEKVINADZE



THINGS TO DO AND SEE



Monastery Motsumeta

The monastery is set on a cliff top above the bend of the Tskhaltsitela River. Its name derives from Georgian name “martyrdom” and it was built to honor two saints, brothers David and Constantine, who sacrificed their lives for Georgia in the battle with Arabs. The locals believe that if you want your wish to come true, you simply have to crawl three times under their tomb without touching it. The monastery offers beautiful views of the river and the surrounding countryside.



Try local honey and tea Tkibuli is famous for its honey and tea. The honey is made from chestnut trees which grow all over the district, including the Tskhrajvari Mountain (Nine Crosses Mountain).

First tea plantations were established in Tkibuli, in the 19th century. Since then, it became an important agricultural product and nowadays different sorts of black and green tea are produced in small companies.



Magara Cave

The system of caves is located in the village of Tsutskhvati, by the Chishura River. It consists of 13 levels and can be easily reached within a half an hour walk from the village.



**Trekking to Tskhrajvari
(Nine Crosses Peak)**

Tskhrajvari is the highest mountain in the region. A 4 km long path leads up to a tiny chapel situated on the peak. Panoramic view of Tkibuli and two surrounding lakes – Tkibuli and Shaori Reservoir are unforgettable.



Tkibuli Lake

It is an artificial lake which was constructed as a water reservoir for the Dzevrula hydro power plant. It shortly became a popular place among the locals who started to fish and swim in the lake. While swimming, you can admire beautiful views of the surrounding mountains.

It is a region where you can find series of historical and cultural landmarks. Its main town, also called Terjola, is first mentioned in the 17th century sources. It acquired the status of a town in 1983. Terjola is famous for its historical monuments: the ruins of Skande Castle, Gogni Castle and Chkhari Complex from the Middle Ages. Most of the territory of Terjola is for agricultural arable. It is rich in rivers: Yvrila, Cholaburi, Dzevrula, Wyalwi Tela and others. The main mineral resources are chalcedony, limestone, and marble (Kvakhchiri) and brick clay. Terjola is a paradise for speleologists as there are many caves in the area. Some have already been explored but still many of them remained untouched. The region is also perfect for trekking and horse riding lovers.



ACCOMMODATION

HOTELS

Hotel Simoneti Village Kveda (Lower) Simoneti

*Senaki-Leselidze Highway, 2418 Terjola
(+995-592-358080), simoneti213@mail.ru*

HOSTELS AND GUEST HOUSES

Boria Apzandadze

*Khekepili Hill, Chkhari Village
Book on: info@visitkutaisi.com or (+995) 593 548 507, (+995) 557 263 153*

Jora and Temrui Barbukhadze

*Rupoti Village, Terjola
Book on: info@visitkutaisi.com or (+995) 593 548 507, (+995) 557 263 153*

In Terjola district accommodation options are limited.

If you would like to stay close we recommend you to check offers in Kutaisi and Zestafoni.

DINING

Dzevri – next to Dzevri caves there is a local restaurant with good, fresh food.

In the centre of Terjola city, you can find some snack bars and little restaurants where you can have a meal.

GETTING THERE

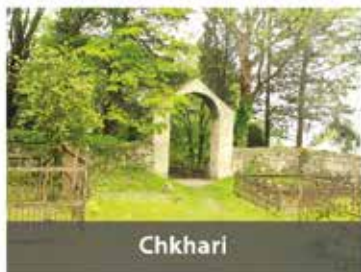
By minibus (marshrutka) - direct marshrutkas to Terjola city leave from Kutaisi at 08.20, 13.20 and 17.00.

Kutaisi bus station address: Chavchavadze Avenue 67, Kutaisi

If you struggle with the language, have trouble communicating, can't book a room, find the correct bus or you simply need help with anything - do not hesitate to contact us.

Our e-mail: info@visitkutaisi.com, phone: (+995) 593 548 507, (+995) 557 263 153.

THINGS TO DO AND SEE



Chkhari

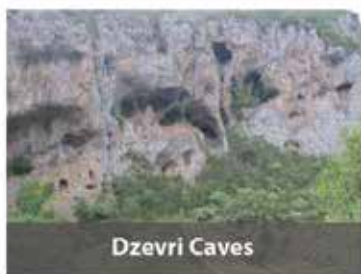
It is an old village from the 17th century which used to be a settlement of the traders and handicraftsman. There is a historical and architectural complex from the Middle Ages which includes the Church of Saint George and a bell tower surrounded by a wall.



A fortress from the 4th century built on a hill that is 120 meters high. It is located close to Skande Village. In the 6th century during the Byzantine–Sasanian war, it became a strategic place in Imereti and until the 18th century it paid an important defensive, administrative and residential role. Many kings, noble people and diplomatic corps used to stop in the fortress during their trips. After the 18th century when Imereti became part of the Russian Empire the fortress lost its function, it was abandoned and fell into ruin. The site is an important historical place not only for Georgians. It is surrounded by a dense forest and only one road from the village of Skande leads to the ruins of the fortress.



Skande Fortress



Dzevri Caves

A cave-city located in the gorge of the Dzverula River. Primordial people lived in those natural caves over 35 000 thousand years ago. Small forest paths lead to caves which were used as human shelters and cult places. After you can go for a walk by the river, have a picnic there or in one of the booths located in the middle of the forest.

A 4 meter high waterfall located in a beautiful valley. In the summer when the level of water drops significantly one can see an entrance to a 25 meter long cave. Next to the waterfall there are also preserved dinosaurs footprints. On hot summer days the place is very popular among the local people.



Qadagidzis Rafi

THINGS TO DO AND SEE



Trail in the mountains

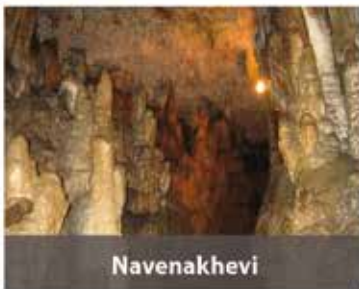
A trail where you can either walk or go horse riding. It goes to the mountain pass situated on Terjola–Tkibuli boarder. From there you have views on rocky mountains called Tsintsila where according to the legend women and children used to hide from enemies in the caves located on the top of the mountains. In the caves, archeologists found Neanderthal skeletons. From the top, there are views on the Khvamli Mountain, peaks of Racha and Svaneti Ranges, Caucasus Mountains, Colchis Lowland and Tkibuli Lake with its little islands.



Gogni

It is a small village with a little chapel of Saint George (Giorgi). Every year on the 6th of May and 23rd of November thousands of pilgrims travel barefoot for 4 km to pray to the saint. There's no door in the chapel because each time when people install them, as the legend says, the portrait of Saint George shows up and the door fell off. That's why the chapel was called Karugdebeli ("the one that doesn't want door"). Right now, above the Karugdebeli chapel, the biggest church of Saint George is being built.





Navenakhevi

A double storey karst cave formed from limestone and calcium carbonate. There is a wide hall on the second floor; the height of the hall is 15 meters. And the total length of the cave is 200 m. It is opened for tourists.



David and Sergo Kldiashvili House Museum The museum holds memorial objects connected with life and work of Georgian writers David and Sergo Kldiashvili. There are furniture, manuscripts, various publications of dramatist's works, photographs, documental materials and others.

Working hours: 11.00 – 16.00, Tuesday to Sunday (closed on Mondays)

Address: Zeda Simoneti Village.

Shalva and Petre Amiranashvili House Museum It houses memorial objects connected with life and work of famous Georgian scientist Shalva Amiranashvili and to opera singer Petre Amiranashvili. You can find there manuscripts, posters, furniture, paintings, photos and documental materials. There are also archaeological materials from regional excavations.

Working hours: 11.00 – 16.00, Tuesday to Sunday (closed on Mondays)

Address: Chkhari Village.

RURAL TOURISM AND WINERY



Boria Apjandadze

Boria Apjandadze – a forester and a hunter who lives in a small hut close to Chkhari Village on the top of the hill called by locals Khekepili.

A visit in his place is like a dream come true for all travelers. He has 17 hectares of meadows and forests and on his farm he keeps horses, cows, goats and sheep. He makes his own bread, cheese, flays animals, prepares delicious food and if you want, he can teach you all of it. From the Khekepili Hill, you can admire wonderful views on the surrounding mountains and Tkibuli Lake. No one else knows the area as good as Boria and his grandson. They can take you on trekking or horse riding trip to show you incredible places unknown even for Georgians themselves. You will see a wild nature of Colchis forest, marshlands, caves and many other beautiful sites. Boria can accommodate up to 6 people in his shepherd house or if you want you can camp in his garden. We guarantee that you will remember the stay in his place till the end of your life.

Prices: 25 GEL per day – to rent a horse, 50 GEL per group/ per day – to rent a guide, 20 GEL per person – accommodation with food



Khekepili Hill, Chkhari Village

Be sure to contact us in advance if you are planning to visit Mr. Boria Apjandadze

– info@visitkutaisi.com or (+995) 593 548 507, (+995) 557 263 153



RURAL TOURISM AND WINERY



Jora and Temrui Barbukhadze



Jora and Temrui Barbukhadze – the family has been growing grapes, selling grape seedlings and making wine for generations. They plant typical sorts of grapes however they also create new varieties of the fruit. Their vineyard is quite big so everyone who wants is more than welcome to join them for the grape harvest. Their wine which matures in both bottles and in qvevri (earthenware vessels) is being sold all over the country. Barbukhadze's are amazing people with traditions, they love having guests at home and they always host them with typical Imeretian hospitality. It is a place where wine never ends and even drinking horns aren't smaller than 1 liter. The family lives in a picturesque village in a big, comfortable house where they can host up to 8 people. They have a huge garden perfect for children or a quiet afternoon on the grass. While staying with them, you will notice that everything that they do, they do with passion and love for wine and people.

Prices: 20 GEL – wine tasting, 20 GEL – accommodation, 20 GEL – food

Rupoti Village, Terjola

Be sure to contact us in advance if you are planning to visit Jora and Temrui Barbukhadze

– info@visitkutaisi.com or (+995) 593 548 507, (+995) 557 263 153





TERJOLA

1

Gogni

S-19

2

3

Avenula River

Chkhari

Dzevri

S-19

Terjola-Tkibuli Road

- 1 Gogni – Saint George Chapel
- 2 Dzevri Caves
- 3 Chkhari – Saint George's Church
- 4 Skande Fortress
- 5 Boria Apzandadze - Khekepilli Hill, Chkhari Village
- 6 Jora and Temrui Barbukhadze - Rupoti Village

Towards Terjola Town



5

4

Skande

Zeda Alisubani

North Chkhari River

Chkhari River

Chkhari River

North Chkhari River

6

Rupskali

Town

The district, with its main town Chiatura, is a great region for fans of archeology, monuments and the Middle East cultural heritage. The town itself lies in the gorge of the Kvirila River and is surrounded by cliffs. What is unique about this place is that some parts of the city are connected with the centre by cable cars. Several archeological monuments, mostly caves and rocks, were discovered in the area. Some of the caves date back to the Paleolithic, Neolithic and Bronze Age. Important religious monuments are: the Katskhi Monastery, the Mgvimevi Monastery, St. George's Church of Perevis, Archangel Church of Usakhelo and St. George's Church of Rgani. The city has a Local Lore Museum and a Drama Theatre named after Akaki Tsereteli. The most popular natural monument in the area is the famous Katskhi Sveti (Katskhi Pillar). The territory is rich in natural resources, which are the basis of the local economy: manganese, marble, stone and quarts sand.



ACCOMMODATION

HOTELS

Nikoli Hotel, 1 Mgvimevi Street, Chiatura (+995) 599 759 528 *Street, Chiatura (+995) 599 759 528*

In the centre of Chiatura city you can find some snack bars and little restaurants where you can have a meal.

DINING

Cafe Paris *Chiatura Ninoshvili Street, Chiatura*

Cafe Chiatura Sigulda *Ninoshvili Street, Chiatura*

Restaurant Katskhi *Village Katskhi*

Restaurant Dalis Perashkebi *Iashvili Street, Chiatura*

GETTING THERE

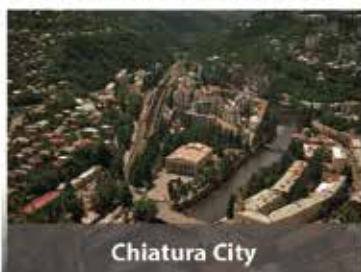
By mini bus (marshrutka) - Direct marshrutkas to Chiatura city leave from Kutaisi bus station at: 07:20, 08:20, 09:20, 09:45, 10:45, 11:45, 12:45, 14:00, 15:00, 16:00, 16:30, 17:00. On the way to Chiatura you can hop off to visit Katskhi pillar.

Kutaisi bus station address: Chavchavadze Avenue 67, Kutaisi

If you struggle with the language, have trouble communicating, can't book a room, find the correct bus or you simply need help with anything - do not hesitate to contact us.

Our e-mail: info@visitkutaisi.com, phone: (+995) 593 548 507, (+995) 557 263 153.

THINGS TO DO AND SEE



Chiatura City

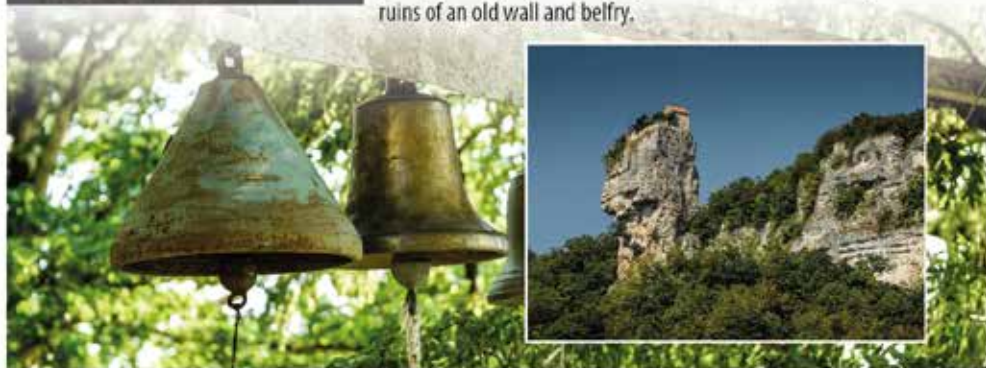
by Agnieszka Pilecka

The city, situated in a steep valley, used to be an important mining town in Soviet times. The big attraction of the city is its public transport - the cable cars. Built over 60 years ago, they connect every corner of the city. Taking a ride above the town, enjoying amazing views and strolling around the city is an unforgettable experience.



Katskhi pillar

It is an impressive 40 meters tall natural limestone pillar. On the top surface there is a monastery, accessible through an iron ladder. The pillar was uninhabited for centuries. When people climbed it in 1944 they found the ruins of a church and the 600-year-old bones of a stylite (a pillar-saint). The complex consists of a church dedicated to Maximus the Confessor, a crypt (burial vault), three hermit cells, a wine cellar, and a curtain wall on the uneven top surface of the column. At the base of the pillar you may find the newly built church of Simeon Stylites and the ruins of an old wall and belfry.





Mgvimevi Monastery

The monastery is located in the village of Mgvimevi. It was built in the 8th century is partly carved into the side of a cliff. Its facades are decorated with crosses and ornaments. Inside the monastery, there are frescoes from the 13th and 16th century.





Chiatura Local Museum

In the museum you can find archeological materials from 3rd B.C. excavated in Chiatura such as bronze axes, spearheads, bins and necklaces. There are also numismatic and ethnographical objects, paintings of local artists, together with art works and photographs.

Working hours: 10.00 – 18.00, Tuesday to Saturday (closed on Sundays and Mondays)

Address: 5 Tkheldze Street, 5500, Chiatura

Giorgi Tsereteli House Museum Giorgi Tsereteli was a significant Georgian writer and scientist. The museum holds his and his ancestors' personal things, furniture of the 1st half of the 19th century, a library with publications in many languages, Giorgi Tsereteli's manuscripts and other public figures.

Working hours: 10.00 – 18.00, Tuesday to Saturday (closed on Sundays and Mondays)

Address: Tsereteli Palace, Tskhrukveti Village

House Museum of Japaridze Sister and Brothers The museum is dedicated to the famous Georgian alpinists: sister and brothers Japaridze. You will find there some of the alpinists' memorabilia, photos, documents and publications about the history of Georgian Alpinism.

Working hours: 10.00 – 18.00, Tuesday to Saturday (closed on Sundays and Mondays)

Address: Khreiti Village

Sachkhere is famous for its historical fortresses, churches and archeological excavations. One of the first explorations in the district was conducted by a Georgian writer and a public figure Giorgi Tsereteli between 1878 and 1880. During his research in Modinakhe fortress he discovered remains of burials, featuring pottery and metal wares. Items found during other studies include: bronze weapons, jewelry, gold and silver items, Colchis and Roman coins. Footprints of human are proven from time immemorial. The relief of the region is middle and low mountainous. Its North part is located on the Southern slope of the Racha Range and some part on Imereti Highland. The main rivers are: Yvirila, Dzirula, Dumala, Jruchula, Lashura and Frone. A famous Georgian poet, the thinker and the ideological leader of the National Liberation movement of Georgia – Akaki Tsereteli, was born in Sachkhere in the Savane village.



ACCOMMODATION

In Sachkhere district accommodation options are limited.
If you would like to stay near, we recommend you to check offers in Zestafoni.

DINING

In the centre of Sachkhere city, you can find some snack bars and little restaurants where you can have a meal.

GETTING THERE

By minibus (marshrutka) – direct marshrutkas to Sachkhere city leave from Kutaisi bus station at: 07.20, 08.20, 09.20, 09.45, 10.45, 11.45, 12.45, 14.00, 15.00, 16.00, 16.30, 17.00.

Kutaisi bus station address: Chavchavadze Avenue 67, Kutaisi

By train – There are trains from Kutaisi I train station to Sachkhere however it is always better to check on the official Georgian Railway website if the trains are running – www.railway.ge

Kutaisi I train station address - Tamar Mepe Street

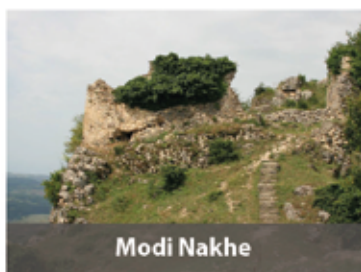
If you struggle with the language, have trouble communicating, can't book a room, find the correct bus or you simply need help with anything - do not hesitate to contact us.

Our e-mail: info@visitkutaisi.com, phone: (+995) 593 548 507, (+995) 557 263 153.

THINGS TO DO AND SEE

Koreti It is a village with two churches classified as Georgian architectural monuments. The first is in the place of pre-Christian church and the second was built at the end of the 10th century.

Savane It is a village where a great Georgian poet and a public figure, Prince Akaki Tsereteli spent his childhood, raised by a peasant's family. There is a Saint George's Church, located in the village, which according to the inscription written above the southern entrance, was constructed in 1046.

**Modi Nakhe**

Ruins of Modi Nakhe castle are located 1 km north of Sachkhere city. It was built by Prince Papuna Tsereteli in the 18th century. Because of its strategic location, many wars were fought to take control over it. Archeological excavations conducted there in the 20th century revealed ancient settlements from the 6th – 4th century B.C.

The museum houses materials discovered during the archeological excavations in the Sachkhere region (ie. Modinakhe, Tsartsisgora.). You will find there objects from 3rd B.C., for example, bronze axes, spearheads, pins, necklaces, a stone plate with human image. In the collection there are also everyday life and ethnography samples from the beginning of the 19th – 20th century, as well as Gospels and Apostle's typography printed in Sachkhere in 1825. Working hours: 10.00 – 17.00, Tuesday to Sunday (closed on Mondays)

Address: Skhvitori Village

**Sachkhere Local Museum****Akaki Tsereteli State Museum**

The museum is located in the house of a famous Georgian poet Akaki Tsereteli, in the patrimonial palace of the Tseretelis. It holds writer's and his ancestors' personal belongings, furniture from the 1st half of the 19th century, a library with publications in Georgian, Russian and French, manuscripts by the writer and other public figures.

Working hours: 10.00 – 18.00, Tuesday to Sunday (closed on Mondays)

Address: Skhvitori Village

The city Zestafoni, which is the heart of Zestafoni district, is built on both banks of the Kvirila River. The town was first mentioned in historical resources in the 16th century. The name "Zestafoni" derives from "zeda foni" which means "upper passage" (of the Kvirila River). The population of the district increased rapidly in 1872 after the construction of Tbilisi-Poti railway, which passed through Zestafoni city. There are many historical churches in the municipality: Zeda Saqara (from the 11th century), Tabakini (6th century), Tseva (11th century), Sanakhshire and castles from the Middle Ages, like in Shrosha and Shorapani. Zestafoni is famous for handcrafted clay pots and wicker baskets, which are for sale along the main road.



ACCOMMODATION

HOTELS

Hotel Farnavazi 5	Zestafoni + (995) 492 252 146, + (995) 551 511 592
Hotel Sastu	Tsereteli, Zestafoni + (995) 492 252 010
Guesthouse Zedafoni	Pushkin Street 43 + (995) 557 650 645
Guest House in Zestafoni	4 Baratashvili Street, + (995) 574 540 144
Family Chubinidze	Tabakini Village, 2008, Zestafoni
<i>Book on info@visitkutaisi.com or (+995) 593 548 507, (+995) 557 263 153</i>	

In Zestafoni district accommodation options are limited. If you would like to stay near, we recommend you to check offers in Kutaisi.

DINING

RESTAURANTS

Guesthouse Zedafoni	Pushkin Street 43 + (995) 557 650 645
Guest House in Zestafoni	4 Baratashvili Street, + (995) 574 540 144
Family Chubinidze	Tabakini Village, 2008, Zestafoni
<i>Book on info@visitkutaisi.com or (+995) 593 548 507, (+995) 557 263 153.</i>	

Zestafoni lies on the main road from Kutaisi to Tbilisi and there are many little cafes and bars located by the main road Tamar Mepe which offer good coffee and delicious Georgian snacks like khachapuri or lobiani.

GETTING THERE

By mini bus (marshrutka) - direct marshrutkas to Zestafoni city leave from Kutaisi every 30 minutes from 07:00 to 18:00.
Kutaisi bus station address: Chavchavadze Avenue 67, Kutaisi

If you struggle with the language, have trouble communicating, can't book a room, find the correct bus or you simply need help with anything - do not hesitate to contact us.

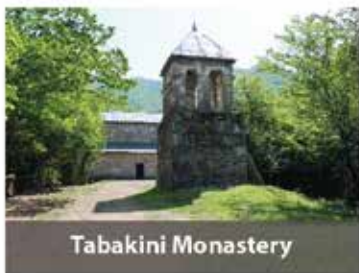
Our e-mail: info@visitkutaisi.com, phone: (+995) 593 548 507, (+995) 557 263 153.

THINGS TO SEE AND DO



Tabakini – Caucasian Shepherd Dog Breeding

Following the old monastery tradition, Tabakini monks breed Caucasian Shepherd dogs. In 1992, thanks to the help of local people, monks opened a proper breeding place. The main goal of the breeding farm is to raise the population of the pedigree in the world. The farm also contributes a lot to preserving the species. Over the last 20 years the best dogs were raised there and many of them have already won numerous exhibitions, both in Caucasus and around the world.



Tabakini Monastery

The monastery was built the 7th – 8th century, and houses murals from the 16th century. It is a magical place, located in a forest on a hill. On the way to the monastery you can admire the beautiful countryside landscapes.



THINGS TO DO AND SEE



Shrosha

It is famous for its pottery craft. The village is located on the main road connecting Eastern and Western parts of Georgia. Along the main road there is a huge market with an amazing selection of beautiful handcrafted items



Shorapani fortress

The fortress was built by King Parnavaz I of Kartli in the 3rd century BC. According to mythology, it was a place where Jason and the Argonauts arrived during their trip around Colchis. It was located in a strategic place, therefore over the centuries it was attacked many times. The fortress is connected with the Kvirila River through a 60-meter-long tunnel from the 6th century. Nowadays, only the ruins of the fortress remained, and the items found during excavations in Shorapani are kept in Zestafoni Museum.



Zestaponi Local Museum

The museum houses items of Stone, Bronze and Iron Ages. The collection includes weapons, household implements, iron swords, bronze buckles, spearheads, Colchian axes, adornments, numismatic items, ceramic samples, medieval everyday life objects, local artists' works of fine art together with 19th century documents and photographs.

Working hours: 10.00 – 18.00, Monday to Friday (closed on Saturdays and Sundays)

Address: 25 David Agmashenebeli Street, Zestaponi



Ushangi Chkheidze House Museum

It is a former apartment of a famous Georgian actor, where memorial things, scenic costumes, and various photo collections, which reflect the actor's roles and life and a private archive are kept.

Working hours: 11.00 – 17.00, Monday to Friday (closed on Saturdays and Sundays)

Address: 88 Ushangi Chkheidze Street, Zestaponi



Family Chubinidze



Family Chubinidze – beautiful handcrafted clay pots and wicker baskets, visible everywhere while driving through Zestafoni municipality, are like a trademark of the district. The family of Chubinidze lives from selling baskets and homemade cheese. They live in the Tabakini Village, which lies on the way to the beautiful Tabakini Monastery built in the 7th century, and it is also close to another amazing monastery located in Ubisa. If you really want to distance yourself from the hustle and bustle of daily life, you should definitely visit them. Although the family does not have much, they have big hearts and are always happy to host somebody in their house. They own few cows, and from their milk they prepare delicious Imeretian cheese. While staying with them, not only will you have a chance to try this delicacy, but you will also be taught how to make it. If you want, you can also learn from Mrs. Chubinidze how to make wicker baskets. The surrounding area is perfect for trekking in a peaceful, countryside atmosphere.

Prices: 15 GEL – accommodation, 20 GEL – food

Family Chubinidze, Tabakini Village, 2008, Zestafoni

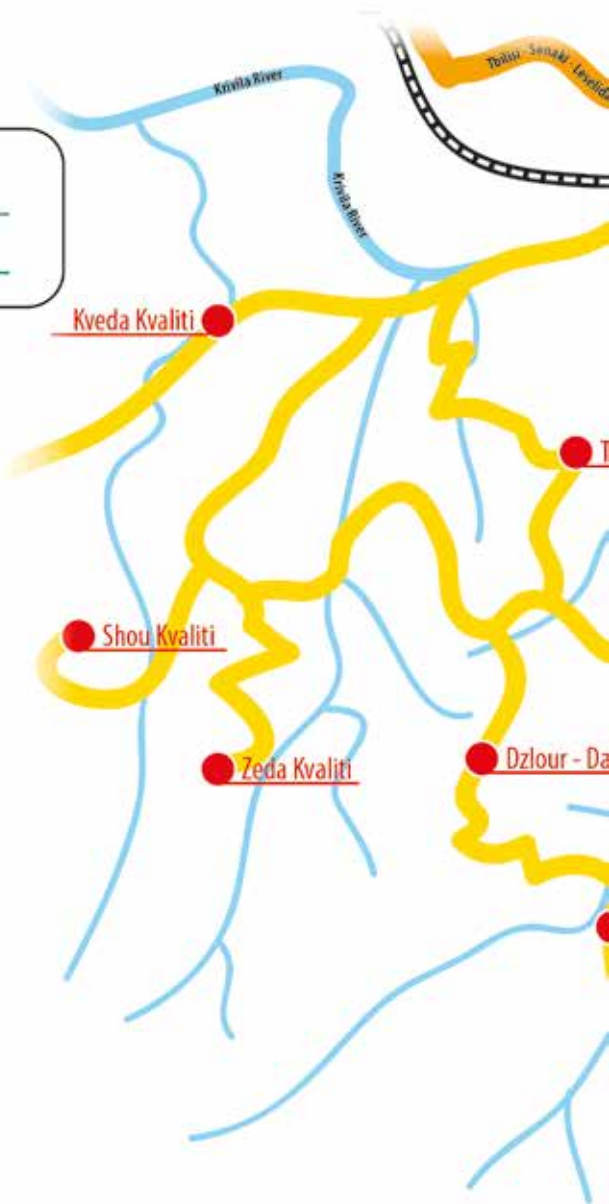
Be sure to contact us in advance if you are planning to visit Family Chubinidze – info@visitkutaisi.com or (+995) 593 548 507, (+995) 557 263 153





ZESTAFONI

- 1 Family Chubinidze, Tabakini Village
- 2 Towards Tabakini Monastery





The district is known for its beautiful nature, pleasant people and hospitality tradition. The most famous places in the main city, also called Kharagauli, are “the giants” – big statues placed on the left bank of the Chkherimela River, and “the giant holes” – big holes on the right bank of the river. Very close to the city, walking up to the Chkherimela River, you may find the ruins of an old fortress, called either Khandi or the Kharagauli fortress. The whole district has been inhabited since the Stone Age. It is full of historical and natural attractions. One of the most important of them is Ubisa – a monastic complex built in the 9th century by Giorgi Khandzteli. Archeological expeditions conducted in the village of Bori discovered many historical things and objects from the 3st – 1rd century B.C. The found items are kept in the Saint - Petersburg Hermitage Museum. The highest place in the region is Mount “Sametskvario” (2642m.). The municipality is rich in rivers and hydro – resources. The Kharagauli forest and a part of the Borjomi-Kharagauli National Park are the main wealth of the municipality.



ACCOMMODATION

HOTELS

Hotel Ugheltekhilli	<i>17 Solomon Mepe Street, Patara-Kharagauli, (+995) 593 13 86 16</i>
Hotel Samta Nunisi	<i>10 Tsereteli Street, Kharagauli, Nunisi, (+995) 247 52 02, (+995) 599 044 844, nunisi90@mail.ru</i>

HOSTELS AND GUEST HOUSES

Guesthouse Marelisi	<i>Guesthouse Marelisi, Marelisi</i>
----------------------------	--------------------------------------

In Kharagauli district accommodation options are limited. If you would like to stay near, we recommend you to check offers in Zestafoni.

DINING

RESTAURANTS AND BARS

Restaurant Imeri	<i>Vertkvichala, Kharagauli</i>
Restaurant Malkhazi	<i>Ubisa, Kharagauli</i>
Restaurant Zgapari Ubisa	<i>Kharagauli</i>

In the center of the Kharagauli city you can find some snack bars and little restaurants where you can have a meal.

GETTING THERE

By mini bus (marshrutka) –direct marshrutkas to Kharagauli city leave from Kutaisi bus station at: 06:40, 12:20, 14:20 and 16:50.

Kutaisi bus station address: Chavchavadze Avenue 67, Kutaisi

If you struggle with the language, have trouble communicating, can't book a room, find the correct bus or you simply need help with anything - do not hesitate to contact us.

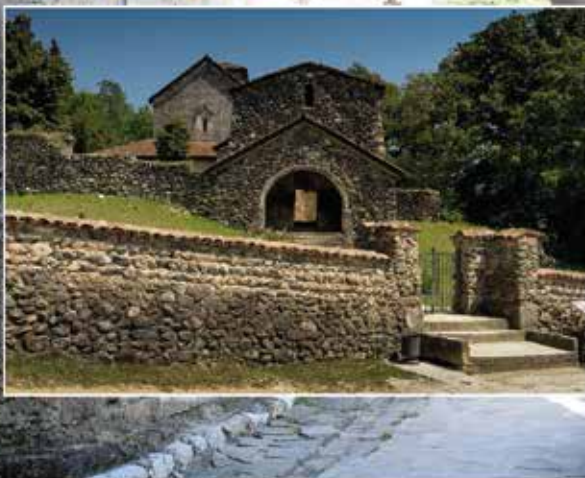
Our e-mail: info@visitkutaisi.com, phone: (+995) 593 548 507, (+995) 557 263 153.

THINGS TO DO AND SEE



Ubisa Monastic Complex

The complex was built in the 9th century, by Giorgi Khandzteli. In the monastery you will find the incredible murals from the 14th century made by Damiane. They cover the whole walls together with the ceiling, one of them depicts the "Last Supper". In the complex you will also find a four-story tower and the ruins of a defensive wall from the 12th century.



THINGS TO DO AND SEE



Trekking to Kharagauli Fortress



After you leave the city, walk along the railway tracks and within 30 minutes you will get to the Kharagauli Fortress. You may walk there through meadows and old, iron bridges. If you want to rest for a while, stop by one of the rivers and have a swim under the bridge.



The Giant's Hole

It is a name of two big holes on the right bank of the Chkherimena River, which served as men's natural shelter in upper Paleolithic era. There are also two statues of giants, which is the reason why the place was called "the giants".

Address: Kharagauli City



Borjomi-Kharagauli National Park

The park is a perfect place for everyone who likes hiking, horse riding and biking. There are many tourist routes marked in the park, as well as shelters, camping sites and picnic spots. In the forest there are rare, endemic species of chestnut tree, oak and yew. The park is a home for wolves, bears, lynx, golden eagles, griffon vultures, and over 100 species of butterfly.





Restaurant Zgapari

the complex is located by the Dzirula River, next to the Kutaisi-Tbilisi road. The restaurant offers delicious, Imeretian food. It's beautiful, peaceful surroundings are perfect for a picnic or a refreshing swim in the river.



Kharagauli Local Museum Restaurant Zgapari The museum houses various collections: tomb objects from 2nd – 1st century B.C.: bronze buckles, axes, adornment; numismatic collection: Cholchian tetri, Turkish coins, Georgian king Erekle II period coins, 19th – 20th C.E. Russian copper coins; samples of craft, contemporary painting (R. Sturua, L.Tsutskiridze, B. Shvelidze, N.Grigolia, T. Japaridze, S.Kerchadze, Z.Lezhava's etchings), sculpture (E.Amashukeli, T. Tabatadze, M.Kiknavelidze, M.Talakovadze); 19th – 20th century C.E. everyday life and ethnography materials (clothes, furniture, implements); religious objects – old printed books, priest dresses, crosses, icons, crockery.

Working hours: 10.00 – 17.00, Monday to Friday (closed on Saturdays and Sundays)

Address: 47 9th April Street, 5600, Kharagauli

Village History Museum Goresha Village, Kharagauli – the museum houses ethnographical collections of the 19th century: Georgian furniture, implements, rugs, porcelain vessels, gramophone, photos and other materials from the beginning of the 20th century.

Working hours: 10.00 – 16.00, Tuesday to Sunday (closed on Mondays)

Khoni district is full of historical and natural attractions. Its main city, also called Khoni, is located in the Imereti lowland, on the Tskhenistskali River. Archeological excavations, conducted on the territory of Khoni district, revealed settlements dated from late Bronze Age. First permanent establishments were discovered in Khoni city close to a 13th century church. The origin and development of the territory are related to the caravan routes which used to go through this area. In 1529, Khoni became the Episcopal Center of the Georgian Orthodox Church. It contributed to the territorial and economic growth of the district.



After Russia had conquered the Kingdom of Imereti, Khoni was a part of the regiment, and in the 19th century it joined the Kutaisi Province. In that time, Khoni was an important trading and industrial city in Imereti. It was the largest hub of Silk thread and yarn production in Georgia. Khoni Municipality is famous for streams, deciduous forests, waterfalls and canyons. The biggest attractions in the district are natural monuments, located in Gordi – Okatse Canyon and Kinchkha Waterfall. Khoni is uniquely located in an unbelievably deep and narrow ravine. There are several caves in the area, and many canyons make it a perfect place for canyoning.

ACCOMMODATION

GUEST HOUSES

Discover Kinchkha

*Kinchkha Village, 5610 Kveda Kinchkha, (+995) 595 349 400
or book on info@visitkutaisi.com or (+995) 593 548 507, (+995) 557 263 153.*

In Khoni district accommodation options are limited.

If you would like to stay near, we recommend you to check offers in Kutaisi and Tskaltubo.

DINING

In the centre of Khoni city you can find some snack bars and little restaurants where you can have a meal.

GETTING THERE

08.00, 10.00, 12.00, 14.00, 16.00 and 18.00

For Okatse Canyon, you have to take marshrutka from Kutaisi to Gordi

Kutaisi bus station address: 67 Chavchavadze Avenue, Kutaisi

If you struggle with the language, have trouble communicating, can't book a room, find the correct bus or you simply need help with anything - do not hesitate to contact us.

Our e-mail: info@visitkutaisi.com, phone: (+995) 593 548 507, (+995) 557 263 153.

THINGS TO DO AND SEE


Okatse Canyon

It is a cascade of three-step waterfalls falling from the eastern cliff of the Askhi limestone massif, located in the valley of the Satsiskvilo River. The height of the first waterfall is 25 meters, whilst the height of the second is 70 meters. In the place, where the stream joins the Satsiskvilo River, it creates a third, 35 meter-high step of the cascade. A 1 km long walkway suspended along the edge of the canyon enables visitors to explore the natural wonder and its beautiful waterfalls. A walkway can be reached from a path which leads through a beautiful forest. Those who do not want to walk too much can rent a 4x4 vehicle with a driver (car rental is next to the Gordi Tourism Centre).



Khoni History Museum The museum holds the archeological and ethnographical collection from 19th – 20th century. One can find there the Colchian tetri, Colchian axes, iron and bronze implements, tomb objects, weapons, everyday life objects, manuscripts and old printed books.

Working hours: 10.00 – 18.00, Tuesday to Saturday (closed on Sundays and Mondays)

Address: 3 D. Guramishvili Street, Khoni

Polikarpe Kakabadze House Museum The museum is dedicated to the life and work of a Georgian dramatist – Polikarpe Kakabadze. It holds various publications of dramatist's works, photographs and documental materials.

Working hours: 10.00 – 18.00, Monday to Friday (closed on Saturdays and Sundays)

Address: Patara Kukhi Village

Irakli Abashidze House Museum The museum is located in the house of a famous Georgian poet Irakli Abashidze). You will find there his personal things: accessories, library (poet's publications in Georgian and other languages), paintings and ethnographical exhibits as well as manuscripts by the poet and other public figures.

Working hours: 10.00 – 18.00, Tuesday to Sunday (closed on Mondays)

Address: 104 Irakli Abashidze Street, Khoni

THINGS TO DO AND SEE



Kinchkha Waterfall



The waterfall (88 meters high) is located in the Satsiskvilos Valley, where it flows from a massive limestone mountain. It is a beautiful spot for a picnic or camping. A 30 minutes trekking to the waterfall goes through the meadows and small canyons by the Okatse River.



Extreme sports – canyoning

If you are a fan of adventure and like to get the adrenaline pumping in your veins, you should try canyoning in the Khoni region. It is a sport where you get through a canyon by engaging in such activities as rappelling, rafting, and waterfall jumping. In Khoni (especially in Gordi) you will find a large number of limestone canyons ideal for exploring. Note: you cannot go canyoning without special equipment and an experienced guide. Therefore, if you would like to try it, please contact us in advance.





Mrs. Burdzeladze

Mrs. Burdzeladze lives in the village of Kinchkha, halfway from Okatse Canyon to Kinchkha Waterfall. She runs a small guest house "Discover Kinchkha" which is a perfect place to stay if you want to explore the area. On the arrival, you can expect a warm welcome from Mrs. Burdzeladze. She always makes sure that guests feel at home, she prepares delicious Imeretian food, including vegetarian options. The guest house is ideal for everyone who likes to be close to nature. There are many trekking paths in the area, close to the house there is Meckera Waterfall and a few kilometers away in Satsiskvilos Valley there is an 88-meter high Kinchkha Waterfall. After a day full of excitements, you can rest in a home sauna and later sit on the terrace to enjoy the peaceful and relaxing atmosphere of the countryside.

Prices: 20 GEL – accommodation, 20 GEL – food

Mrs. Darejan Burdzeladze – "Discover Kinchkha"
 – Village Kinchkha, 5610 Kveda Kinchkha, Khoni, Georgia

Be sure to contact us in advance if you are planning to visit Mrs. Darejan Burdzeladze – info@visitkutaisi.com or (+995) 593 548 507, (+995) 557 263 153.





GORDI - KINCHKHA

- 1  Okatse Canyon
- 2  Kinchkha Waterfall
- 3  Guest house "Discover Kinchkha"





2

Kinchkhapherdi

Zeda Kinchkha

Kveda Kinchkha

3

S-116

Satsiskvilo

Rondishi

1

Zeda Gordi

Bangveti

S-116

Kveda Gordi

Baghdati is a green district with a big touristic potential for those who like unexplored areas. At first, the municipality was a part of Kutaisi province and in 1930 it became an independent district. Its main town, also called Baghdati, is placed at the edge of the Ajameti forest, by the Khanistsqali River (a tributary of the Rioni River). It is one of the oldest towns in Imereti region. Its name derives from Old Persian and can be translated as „the gift of God“. It is not a coincidence that the name is similar to the name of Iraq’s capital Baghdad. Baghdati is one of the cities which were situated on the Silk Route where in the past merchants used to transport countless goods from Middle East. The goods which could be found on the Silk Route included hand embroidered head scarves from Baghdad called “baghdati”. Gradually Georgian women started to use them to cover their heads and soon the scarves became part of the traditional feminine outfit. The name of the region and the city - Baghdati - derives from these head scarves. In 1940 the city was renamed Mayakovsky, after Vladimir Mayakovsky, who was born there in 1893. He was a Soviet poet, playwright, artist and a stage and film actor. After 50 years the city’s name was changed again to Baghdati. Nowadays, you can find there the Vladimir Mayakovsky’s Museum. The district is famous for its fantastic wine. Some of the best grape varieties like Tsoolikouri, Tsitska or Otskhanauri Sapere grow here. Baghdati is also rich in mineral springs and healing waters, which can be found in the Sairme health resort and which are used for the treatment of various diseases.



ACCOMMODATION

HOTELS

Imereti Hotel	0113 Sairme, Baghdati, (+995) 322 404 545, info@sairme.com.ge , www.sairme.com.ge
Sairme Hotel	0113 Sairme, Baghdati (+995) 322 404 545, info@sairme.com.ge , www.sairme.com.ge
Udabno Hotel	0113 Sairme, Baghdati (+995) 322 404 545, info@sairme.com.ge , www.sairme.com.ge
Sairme Palace Hotel	0194 Sairme, Baghdati, (+995) 593 76 2005, www.sairmepalace.com.ge

GUEST HOUSES

Gaioz Sopromadze	Rustaveli Street, 3rd Lane, 8, Baghdati, 1000 Book on info@visitkutaisi.com or (+995) 593 548 507, (+995) 557 263 153.
-------------------------	--

In Baghdati district accommodation options are limited.

If, however, you would like to stay nearby, we recommend you to check the offers in Kutaisi.

DINING

Café Sairme Opera	Sairme, Baghdati
Restaurant Jargvali	Sairme “Udabno”, Baghdati
Restaurant Zekari	77 Kakhianis Street, Baghdati

In the centre of Baghdati you can find some snack bars and small restaurants where you can have a meal.

GETTING THERE

By mini bus (marshrutka) – direct marshrutkas to Baghdati leave every hour from Kutaisi bus station. Two marshrutkas depart from Kutaisi directly to Sairme at 10:50 and 17:50.

The Kutaisi bus station address: Chavchavadze Avenue 67, Kutaisi

If you struggle with the language, have trouble communicating, can't book a room, find the correct bus or you simply need help with anything - do not hesitate to contact us.

Our e-mail: info@visitkutaisi.com, phone: (+995) 593 548 507, (+995) 557 263 153.

THINGS TO DO AND SEE



Sairme

It is a resort located in the mountains in a subtropical zone 950 meters above the sea level. Its unique location, clean, fresh air and beautiful surroundings make it a perfect place to relax. Because of the healing qualities of the mineral and thermal springs in Sairme, the place is a popular health resort. There are several springs which flow through the spa. Each differs in the chemical composition and it is said that they are able to treat several illnesses. The road which leads to Sairme is full of breathtaking landscapes.

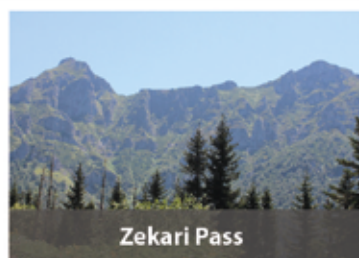


Vladimir Mayakovsky
House Museum

The museum is located in Baghdati, in the poet's former family home. There are items which used to be owned by Mayakovski and his parents, paintings devoted to V. Mayakovski's life, as well as different kinds of documents and editions of his works on display.

Working hours: 10.00 – 17.00, all week

Address: 51 Bagdati Street, 1000, Bagdati



Zekari Pass

This high mountain pass is at an elevation of 2226 meters. It is located on the border between two regions: Imereti and Samtskhe-Javakheti. If you are travelling from Imereti, you will pass Bagdati city and Sairme health resort on your way. After you pass Sairme, a dirt road will lead you through a forest and soon you can admire stunning views of the Lesser Caucasus Mountains, hills and small shepherd's huts. From the mountain pass the road continues towards Abastumani, a small spa with hot springs and an astronomical observatory, and later leads to Akhaltsikhe and Vardzia. The route is as interesting as the main road which goes to Samtskhe-Javakheti region through the city of Khashuri. Our tip: on a hot day, go to the pass, have a picnic there and chill out in the beautiful nature.

WINERY



RURAL TOURISM AND WINERY



Wineries and Rural Tourism

Baghdati district is famous for its wine production. There are many wineries that produce wine from local types of grapes. We would like to introduce you to two Imeretian families from Baghdati city who are waiting for your visit and willing to show you around their wineries. They specialize in making incredible wine which is produced in a traditional, thousand-year-old method for generations.



Shukri Nakashidze



Shukri Nakashidze is an educated wine technician who produces delicious homemade wine, cognac and liqueur. Mr Nakashidze is a connoisseur of good Georgian alcohol. He has an enoteca (special type of local or regional wine shop that originated in Italy) with a collection of all varieties of bottled wine and cognac produced in Georgia in the 80's. In addition, in his house you may find an impressive weaponry museum. Many museums around the world can only dream about the items which belong to Mr. Nakashidze's collection. In his place you can admire Roman Gladius (which was, by the way, found in Baghdati district), first Georgian weapon – "machakhela", guns which were used during the Second World War and many other exhibits. While visiting the beautiful museum you can savour some amazing cognac and liqueur. Then, Mr. Nakashidze will take you to the place where his wine matures and you'll be able to taste it directly from qvevri. A visit to the museum, together with the alcohol tasting, will not cost you more than 15 GEL.

**Shukri Nakashidze – 17 Javahishvili Street, Baghdati,
1000, Baghdati, Georgia**

If you are planning to visit Mr. Nakashidze, be sure to contact us in advance on info@visitkutaisi.com or (+995) 593 548 507, (+995) 557 263 153.



RURAL TOURISM AND WINERY



Gaioz Sopromadze



Gaioz Sopromadze is a real traditional Georgian man, with a big, Imeretian heart, who loves his country's culture and way of life. This is reflected in the manner in which he makes his wine – with passion and in a traditional, Georgian way. A visit in his house and winery will be unforgettable. His wine is known all over the globe and every book in the world which describes Georgian wine mentions Mr. Sopromadze. He won many European and International wine competitions and he exports his product to Italy, France, the United Kingdom and Japan. Mr. Sopromadze's white wine, Tsolikauri, will change your attitude towards this beverage. It has a rich and deep bouquet. The grapes from which the wine is produced is grown without any chemicals. The wine then matures in earthenware vessels (qvevri) where it undergoes natural filtration. This makes its bouquet so intense that after opening a bottle the aroma spreads throughout the entire room. When the wine is ready Mr. Sopromadze's guests gather around a small table, in the very same cellar where it is produced, to taste his incredible Tsolikauri and Otskhanuri Sapere. Additionally, during your visit you can try some delicious, homemade food, like for example khachapuri, shashlik and salads prepared by his 80-year-old mother. If you want to have a real Georgian experience, wine and food is all you need. A visit to Mr. Sopromadze's winery will cost you no more than 20 GEL.

Later, after the wine and food tasting, you can swim in a nearby river, enjoy the beautiful countryside views and, if you want, you can stay overnight at Mr. Sopromadze's house. The house can host up to 5 people and you will not pay more than an average price you normally pay for a night in a hostel- 20 GEL.

Gaioz Sopromadze - Rustaveli Street, 3rd Lane, 8, Bagdati, 1000, Bagdati, Georgia

If you are planning to visit Mr. Sopromadze, be sure to contact us in advance on info@visitkutaisi.com or (+995) 593 548 507, (+995) 557 263 153.





It is beyond the question that one of Georgia's biggest attractions is its cuisine. It is very well differentiated and it offers big variety of meat & fish dishes together with various vegetarian meals. Therefore basically anyone will find something good and tasty for themselves.

The country is located at the crossroads of Asia and Europe. Merchants who travelled from one continent to another were trading their goods in Georgia for thousands years. As a consequence, in Georgian cuisine, you can find influences from Turkey, Iran, Russia, China, India, Armenia and many other countries. It is worth to say that since Kutaisi was one of the cities located on the Silk Route, the Imereti region developed its own distinct culinary tradition. Regional cuisine is considered to be one of the best in the country, even by Georgians themselves.

Among many delicious meals there are some which everyone should try while visiting the country...



Khachapuri – is considered as one of Georgia's national dishes. It is a type of bread filled with cheese, sometimes eggs and other ingredients. Depending on a region there are different types of Khachapuri. The most popular ones are: Imeretian (the simplest type, which is a round bread stuffed with cheese), Adjarian (the dough is formed into a shape of a boat and there is a raw egg and butter on top of it) and Megrelian (almost like Imeretian but with more cheese on top).

Lobiani – is similar to Khachapuri however instead of cheese it is filled with beans.



Khinkali – Georgian dumplings filled with spiced meat, herbs and onion. Instead of meat mushrooms, potatoes or cheese can be used as a filling. It is another meal which is considered to be one of Georgia's national dishes.

Lobio – “lobio” in Georgian means beans. It is a very popular dish and there are many varieties of it. The bean is either cooked or stewed and it is prepared with coriander, walnuts, garlic and onion.

Tomato and cucumber in a walnut sauce – very simple but delicious meal. The vegetables are garnished with parsley, purple basil, scallions or shallots and served with a walnut dressing.

Chakhokhbili – It is a spicy meal prepared from tarragon-infused beef soup and stewed chicken with herbs.

Mtsvadi – is a Georgian type of shish kebab prepared mostly from beef and served with onions

Kharcho – it is a type of soup with beef, rice, cherry plum purée and chopped walnuts.

Sulguni – Georgian cuisine cannot exist without cheese which is a very popular ingredient added to many dishes. One of the most popular is pickled cheese called Sulguni.

Tkemali – the most popular Georgian sour plum sauce made of cherry plums. It also contains garlic, pennyroyal, coriander, dill, chili pepper and salt.

Churchkhela – a traditional Georgian sausage-shaped candy. Different types of nuts are threaded onto a string, dipped in a grape juice or fruit juices and dried.



The main Kutaisi bus station is located at Chavchavadze Avenue 67, just behind McDonald's and next to Kutaisi II train station. From the station regional buses leave to all destinations around Georgia. Please find the bus timetable below:

Destination	Price	Timetable
Abastumani	14 GEL	11:30
Abedati	7 GEL	18:20
Adigeni	12 GEL	09:30
Akhaltzikhe	12 GEL	08:20, 13:20
Alisubani	2,50 GEL	10:30, 15:30, 19:00
Bagdati	2 GEL	from 08:00 to 18:00 departures every 1 hour
Bakuriani	11 GEL	10:00
Balda	5 GEL	16:10
Bandza	3 GEL	12:30, 15:00
Batumi	10 GEL	from 07:00 to 19:00 departures every 1 hour
Borjomi	8 GEL	08:20, 09:30, 11:30, 13:00
Chiatura - Sachkhere	6 GEL	07:20, 08:20, 09:20, 09:45, 10:45, 11:45, 12:45, 14:00, 15:00, 16:00, 16:30, 17:00
Chkhorotsku	6 GEL	14:30
Chkoni	5 GEL	09:00, 11:00, 12:00, 14:00
Chokhatauri/Ozurgeti	5/6 GEL	08:50; 10:30; 11:30; 12:00, 13:00, 14:30, 15:30
Dimi IV Etseri	2 GEL	12:00, 17:00
Dzulukhi	4,10 GEL	10:10, 17:25
Dzvarisevi	3,5 GEL	09:15, 15:00, 19:40
Fersati	2 GEL	09:00, 15:00
Ianeti	2 GEL	08:30, 11:30, 14:30, 18:00
Inashauri	2,50 GEL	12:30, 14:20, 17:40
Khani	5 GEL	15:10
Kharagauli	4 GEL	06:40, 12:20, 14:20, 16:50
Khevi (I,II,III, Gesi, Chevi)	3 GEL	06:40, 08:20, 09:45, 09:55, 11:45, 12:00, 14:00, 15:40, 18:00, 18:45, 19:00
Khoni	2 GEL	08:00, 10:00, 12:00, 14:00, 16:00, 18:00
Kopitnari (Kutaisi Airport)	2 GEL	14:00, 18:30
Lentekhi	8 GEL	09:00, 14:00, 16:00
Lifnari	2 GEL	09:15, 15:25
Maglaki	1,50 GEL	from 08:00 to 20:00 departures every 1 hour
Martvili	4 GEL	07:30, 08:00, 13:10, 16:30, 18:00
Mere	3,50 GEL	08:25, 14:00, 18:10
Mestia	25 GEL	09:00

სატრანსპორტო - ავტობუსი

Ofcha - Sviri	3,20 GEL	12:20
Orgele	2 GEL	16:30
Phereta	2 GEL	06:00, 09:40, 13:25, 16:50
Poti	7 GEL	07:15, 07:50, 09:00, 09:50, 10:10, 10:30, 11:30, 12:30, 13:10, 14:15, 15:25, 16:10, 16:40, 18:00, 19:00
Rodinauli	2 GEL	13:00
Rokiti	2 GEL	09:10, 12:45, 17:20
Romaneti	3 GEL	11:25, 15:50
Rustavi	11 GEL	14:30
Sairme	6 GEL	10:50, 17:50
Sakraula	4,50 GEL	15:50
Salkhino	5 GEL	09:00, 15:30
Salominao	2 GEL	09:50, 14:40, 18:30
Samtredia	2 GEL	from 07:30 to 18:00 departures every 20 minutes
Saprasia	3 GEL	10:20, 17:10
Sazano	2 GEL	11:20, 16:15
Shubani	3,50 GEL	10:15, 13:40, 18:10
Sulori	3,80 GEL	13:45, 18:45
Surami	5 GEL	12:45
Tbilisi	10 GEL	from 07:00 to 19:00 departures every 1 hour
Telefa	2,50 GEL	12:50, 16:20
Terdzola	2 GEL	08:20, 13:20, 17:00
Tsageri	6 GEL	11:00, 14:00, 16:00
Tsalenzikha	9 GEL	09:00, 17:00
Tskaltubo	1 GEL	from 08:00 to 19:00 departures every 20 minutes
Ukhuti	3 GEL	06:00, 10:00, 14:55
Vani	3 GEL	07:00, 07:35, 08:10, 09:00, 11:10, 12:10, 13:10, 15:40, 16:20, 18:10, 19:00
Zegani	4 GEL	13:25
Zestaphoni	2 GEL	from 08:00 to 18:00 departures every 30 minutes
Zugdidi	7 GEL	06:00, 06:30, 07:00, 07:40, 08:15, 09:00, 09:30, 10:20, 11:00 to 14:30 every 30 min, 15:45, 16:30, 17:30, 18:20, 19:20



Explore **Georgia**





Visit **Imereti**





This brochure has been produced and distributed in association with:



Georgian Bus provides shuttle bus from Kutaisi Airport to 5 main Georgian cities: Kutaisi, Tbilisi, Batumi, Mestia and Kazbegi.
www.georgianbus.com



Hostel Kutaisi by Kote 18 Gorki Street,
(+995) 593 548 507, hostel.kutaisi@mail.com
www.hostelkutaisi.com



Maps and Navigation
www.mygeorgia.ge



Polish aid
www.polskapomoc.gov.pl

The Project co-financed by the Polish development cooperation programme of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Poland.



Beeline network joined our project visitkutaisi.com. Together with the brochure we give away SIM cards with already activated tourist package. With this package you can make cheap phone calls all over the world
www.beeline.ge

1 WEEK UNLIMITED COMMUNICATION JUST FOR 7^e

UNLIMITED CALLS *in Georgia*
UNLIMITED SMS *in Georgia*
500 MB 4G
UNLIMITED *in Georgia*
+ WhatsApp

ACTIVATE
*120*07#