

The History Before and After the Christ on the Holy Land

1 – Day tour: Charents Arch, UNESCO Heritage Site Geghard, Symphony of Stones, Garni Pagan Temple, NOY Brandy-Wine-Vodka Factory

09:00 - Starting the tour

On the way to Geghard our first stop is at the [Charents Arch](#). You would probably miss the arch unless you know what is hidden behind it. The place was chosen in a way that from the arch, you will have the best view of Mount Ararat. Tourists visiting Armenia come here to admire the views and take photos for memory.



Departure to the villages of Goght and Garni, visiting the [Geghard Monastery](#) - an incredible medieval monastery, being partially carved out of the adjacent mountain, surrounded by cliffs. It is listed as a UNESCO World Heritage Site with enhanced protection status. Here you may have a chance to enjoy the performance of a fantastic choir in one of the chambers of the monastery with one of the greatest acoustics you ever saw. The choir will leave you with goosebumps and unforgettable emotions.



Barely recovered from cultural strong impressions, we take you to [Symphony of Stones](#) (half of the road to the Symphony of Stones is hiking) where you can listen to the silent music of stones, that the virtuoso nature has created himself.

Garni gorge is one of the most exceptional places for tourists to visit and to see amazing natural rocks known as the “Symphony of Stones” or “Basalt organ”. The rocks have a shape of long

hexagonal vertical columns, which are associated with the church organ. Huge stone pillars are located at an altitude of about 50 meters above the ground. It's hard to believe that neatly and symmetrically sculpted stones are created by nature itself and not by humans.



We continue towards **Garni Temple** - the only standing Greco-Roman Colonnaded Pagan temple in Armenia and the former Soviet Union. An Ionic pagan temple located in the village of Garni is the best-known structure and symbol of Pre-Christian Armenia. The structure was built in the 1st century AD as a temple to the God of Sun Mihr.



Lunch will be in a cozy Armenian restaurant with a panoramic view to Temple Garni.

We return back to Yerevan where we have a guided tour to **NOY Brandy-Wine-Vodka Factory** - one of the best corners of Yerevan city to enjoy your time.

The administrative building of the factory built in Shustov's times, has turned into a museum where the information about Armenian brandy making and about the people who had a contribution to the development of the factory is kept.

Here you may take a tour and get acquainted with the glorious past and present of Armenian brandy and wine making and spoil your taste buds by tasting Portwein 1944-year reserve, Cognac 5- and 10-years reserve.



Included Activities

- Charents Arch
- Geghard Monastery
- Symphony of Stones
- Garni Pagan Temple
- NOY Brandy-Wine-Vodka Factory

Included

- ✓ All museum and entrance tickets according to the program
- ✓ Wine and Brandy Degustation at NOY Wine-Brandy Factory
- ✓ Bottled water
- ✓ Transportation

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