



EUROPEAN REGIONAL ORGANIZATION
OF THE FEDERATION DENTAIRE INTERNATIONALE FDI

Plenary session 2015

Thursday, 23th April 2015 – 10.30 – 15.30 h
Accompanying persons and delegates/alternates

This day we will spend in the capital of Georgia - Tbilisi and also Mtskheta. We will see most interesting and beautiful places. During day will have a lunch in a restaurant. A professional guide will tell and show you a lot of interesting things and places.

The Holy Trinity Cathedral – stands on the top of the Mount Elijah and is the main [Cathedral](#) of the [Georgian Orthodox Church](#). The cathedral is the highest building in Tbilisi and [third-tallest](#) Eastern Orthodox Cathedral in the World. It can be seen from many points of the city. The church construction began in 1995, and finished in 2004. Holy Trinity Cathedral (commonly known just as 'Sameba') was consecrated by the Catholicos-Patriarch of Georgia Ilia II. The site offers wonderful views of the old and modern built-up areas of the city.

Leghvta Khevi – is one of the old and a historical - geographic region in Tbilisi, located in the southern part of the old town. The name Legvtakhevi originating from - fig-tree (legvta means - fig-tree, Khevi – gorge), because there were a lot of fig-trees. It is a very beautiful ravine. There is a little waterfall and Tsavkisistskali River valley. In summer, it is the best place in Tbilisi for relax and cooling and it is just one hundred meters from the sulphur baths.

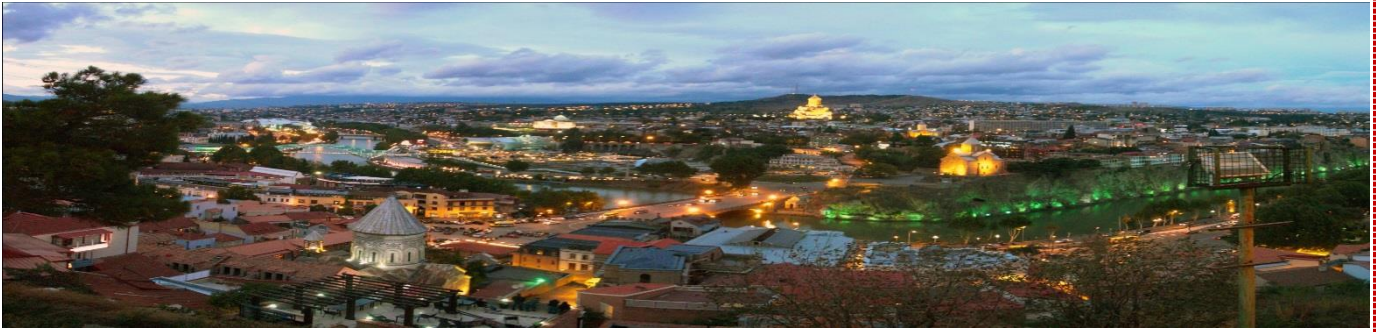
Narikala Fortress - is the main citadel of medieval Tbilisi. From the citadel you have a beautiful view of old Tbilisi. The origins of its building are lost in the mist of time. From early time, the citadel was successively possessed by Persian, Byzantines, Arabs and Mongols. Each invader left the own mark on the main fort of the capital. Narikala Fortress used to consist of two upper and lower fortresses. In the East part of the upper fort is a royal palace and St Nicholas's church. The citadel of Tbilisi can be viewed from various angles and is highly impressive from all sides.

If there will be enough time we'll visit Metekhi fortress, with a beautiful view on Old City, as if it was a map; walk along narrow streets with XIX century houses; slowly drive along Aghmashenebeli and Rustaveli avenues, so called European Tbilisi with its classical architecture.

Abanotubani (Bath Quarter) - is a historical region of Old Tbilisi, located on the right banks of the Mtkvari River. This area is known for its hot sulphur springs. Here in the early Middle Ages many bathes were built. This water is very healthy and pleasant. Some sulphur baths date from the period of the 17th to the 18th centuries. Many of the bathhouses have a dominant dome topping a large vestibule, marble benches and chairs, a fountain, and a stone fireplace. Today visiting bathhouses is very popular, here visitors can relax and take a shower in hot sulphur water.

LUNCH – 13.30 h - Khareba Restaurant, Mtskheta





At 2 p.m. we'll drive towards city of Mtskheta, capital of ancient Georgian Kingdom Iberia and nowadays mother-city and headquarters of Georgian Orthodox Church. Here we will visit three sights: **Svetitskhoveli Cathedral** (1029 AD), **Samtavro Nunnery** (IV-XI cc.) and **Jvari Monastery**. Those are not only the finest examples of Georgian Art, but also the holiest places in whole country. All of them are listed in UNESCO world heritage site.

Djvari Monastery (585/86-604/605 y.) – is a Georgian Orthodox monastery located on the rocky mountaintop at the confluence of the Mtkvari and Aragvi rivers, overlooking the town of Mtskheta. Here in the IV century, after the adoption of Christianity in place of destroyed idols was erected a large wooden cross. This cross has become a venerated shrine, and therefore, the Holy Cross monastery was built here. Djvari is a masterpiece of Georgian architecture, so called classical era, and is one of the early example domed churches that is completely preserved.

Svetitskhoveli Cathedral (1010-1029 y.) is a Georgian Orthodox cathedral located in the historical town of Mtskheta, 20 km from Tbilisi. With his grace and architectural forms it is one of the most important monuments of Georgian architecture. It is the second largest church building in the country. The current cathedral was built in the 11th century and is surrounded by a number of legends associated primarily with the early Christian traditions and with the times when Christianity was proclaimed as state religion (1st quarter of IV century). Svetitskhoveli is the most sacred place in Georgia, because there are kept the world's greatest relics – among them Robe of Christ. The interior walls are painted with frescoes, most of which have not survived in their original state. The cathedral is important for history of Georgia because here Kings and Queens were crowned, wedded and buried and highest priest of Georgian Orthodox Church – Catholic Patriarchs of all Georgia were enthroned here.

Samtavro Transfiguration Church and Nunnery of St. Nino in Mtskheta. The first church was built here in the 4th century by King Mirian III of Iberia and was reconstructed in the 11th century by King George I and Catholic-Patriarch Melchisedek. The first Christian royal couple – Mirian and Nana - was buried here. Since 480's Samtavro became an Episcopal See. The present Transfiguration church was built in 30's of the XI century. The main Church has a unique façade ornamentation which have no analogue not only in Georgian Architecture, but worldwide too; the inner space is light and impressive. This is one of the best examples of medieval Georgian Architecture.



COCKTAIL PARTY – 19.30 h – Marriott Courtyard Hotel

Friday, 24th April 2015 – 10.00 – 16.00 h
Accompanying persons

Georgian National Gallery – is located in Tbilisi on Rustaveli Avenue. Initially this building was built as the Museum of War Trophies of Russian Empire. Today collections of the most prominent painters and sculptors are kept here, among them: Lado Gudiashvili, Niko Pirosmanashvili, Davit Kakabadze and Iakob Nikoladze.



National Museum of Georgia - is located in Tbilisi on Rustaveli Avenue. Built during Russian Empire as the Caucasus Museum, nowadays is the main in the country. Here some 1.8 million artefacts are kept, especially from the beginning of Stone Age till early Christianity. Very rich is the collection of ancient Colchis Gold.

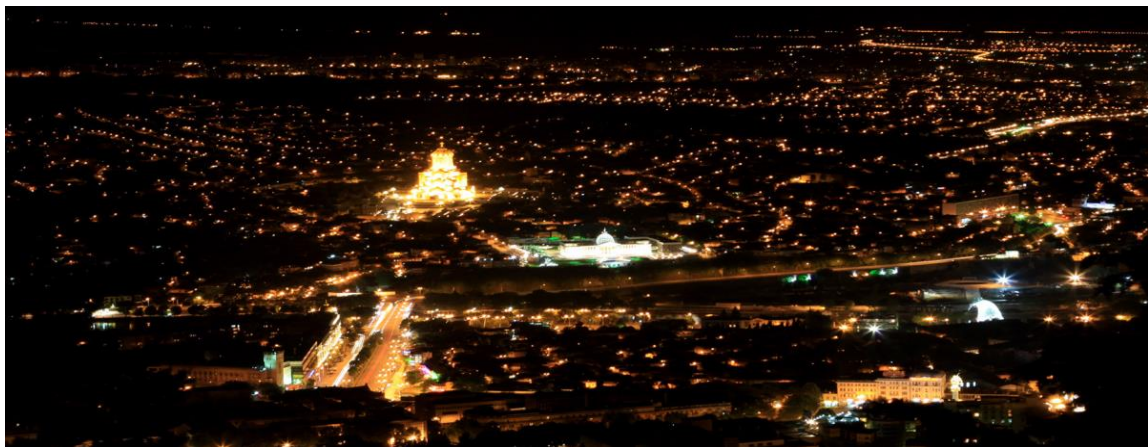
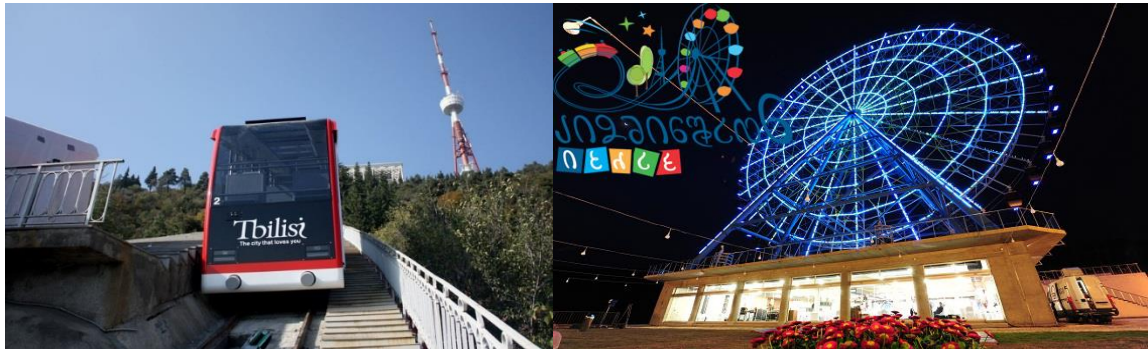


Elene Akhvediani Memorial Museum – is located in Tbilisi on Kiacheli Street. One of the most prominent painter of 20th century, Elene Akhvediani lived her last part of life in this house. Tens of her masterpieces are located in this house, but also every detail of house shows true life of artist – furniture, carpets, library etc. One can understand her art and life because of the atmosphere of the Museum.

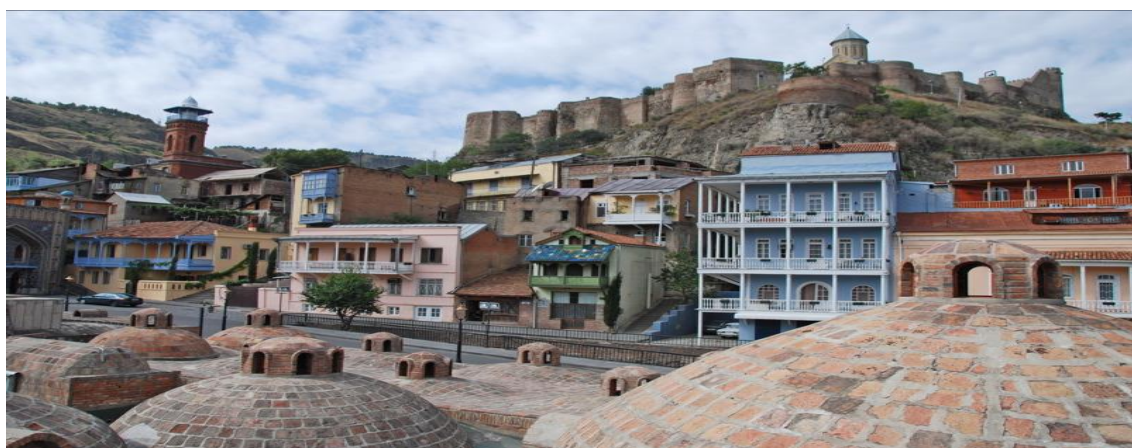


LUNCH – 14.00 h - Ottium Restaurant

Mtasminda Park and Funicular are located in Tbilisi. Mt. Mtatsminda is the highest point in the capital on which goes up a funicular and it was built in year 1905. The park itself is very beautiful and of course has a great view of the city. One has to see Tbilisi from here, especially at the evening.



Tbilisi Bathes – are located at the very heart of the historical part of Tbilisi, so called Bath District. Built on the natural hot sulphur spring those bathes have been the most ancient site in capital. Even legend tells that hot springs were the main reason to move the capital of Georgia to Tbilisi. The bathes have been several times ruined and rebuilt, last time in 18th century and are mainly in Turkish style, but also here stands one in Persian style. Those bathes are active today and one can visit them, especially good is the so-called Royal Bath.



**GALA DINNER – 19:30 - Metekhis chrdilshi Restaurant (with folk music and dances)
For delegates/alternates and accompanying persons**

Saturday, 25th April 2015, 14.00 – 18.00
Accompanying persons and delegates/alternates

At the end of his life Joseph Stalin, General Secretary of Communist Party of USSR, ordered to build his museum in the little town Gori, where he was born. It was finished after his death. Today the museum contains the original house of Stalin's birth and childhood, a railroad car by which he travelled a lot and a museum with thousands of artefacts from his life, also worth mentioning most of the gifts that were presented him by many leaders of countries during his life.



Uplistikhe cave city is one of the oldest in the whole Caucasus Region. Founded at the end of II millennium BC, it has been several times ruined and rebuilt, last time XVIII century AD. Despite being mostly ruined still is very picturesque and interesting and represents almost all periods of history, including classical Hellenistic era.



DINNER - 18:30 - Metropol Restaurant, Mtskheta (Old capital of Georgia). It is a very nice, modern, but old traditional style restaurant with delicious Georgian and European food.