

## Icons of Armenian Spirituality: A Day Tour To Etchmiadzin & Zvartnots

## Itinerary

Today, we venture to Etchmiadzin, a city often referred to as the "Armenian Vatican" by our tourists. This remarkable destination holds a special place in Armenia's cultural and religious heritage.

Our first stop is "Mother See of Holy Etchmiadzin". It was founded in the early 4th century AD by St. Gregory the Illuminator, making it one of the earliest Christian churches in the world. Here along with the Mother See of Holy Etchmiadzin, you'll also visit the residence of the Holy Catholicos of Armenians, Gevorgian Seminary, and captivating museums. One of the most important artifacts in the museum is the Holy Lance (Spear of Longinus), believed to be the spear that pierced the side of Jesus during his crucifixion. This relic holds deep religious significance for the Armenian Church.

Continuing our journey, we'll visit the UNESCO-listed Zvartnots Cathedral which is famous for its innovative and unique architectural design. Built in the 7th century, it was ahead of its time in terms of architectural sophistication. The cathedral's central dome, in particular, is an architectural wonder, and its design has captivated architects and historians for centuries. This trip is a journey back in time and an opportunity to appreciate the artistry and mystery that define this exceptional historical site.

At your request we can visit a local winery and have lunch. *Return to Yerevan* 

## The price includes

- \*Transport
- \*Guide service
- \*Tickets
- \*Water

## The price excludes

- \*Lunch and wine tasting
- \*Anything else which is not mentioned
- \*Tips for the staff