



Winter



Georgia



With fresh powder every day and big long clear slopes it was so much better than the Alps!

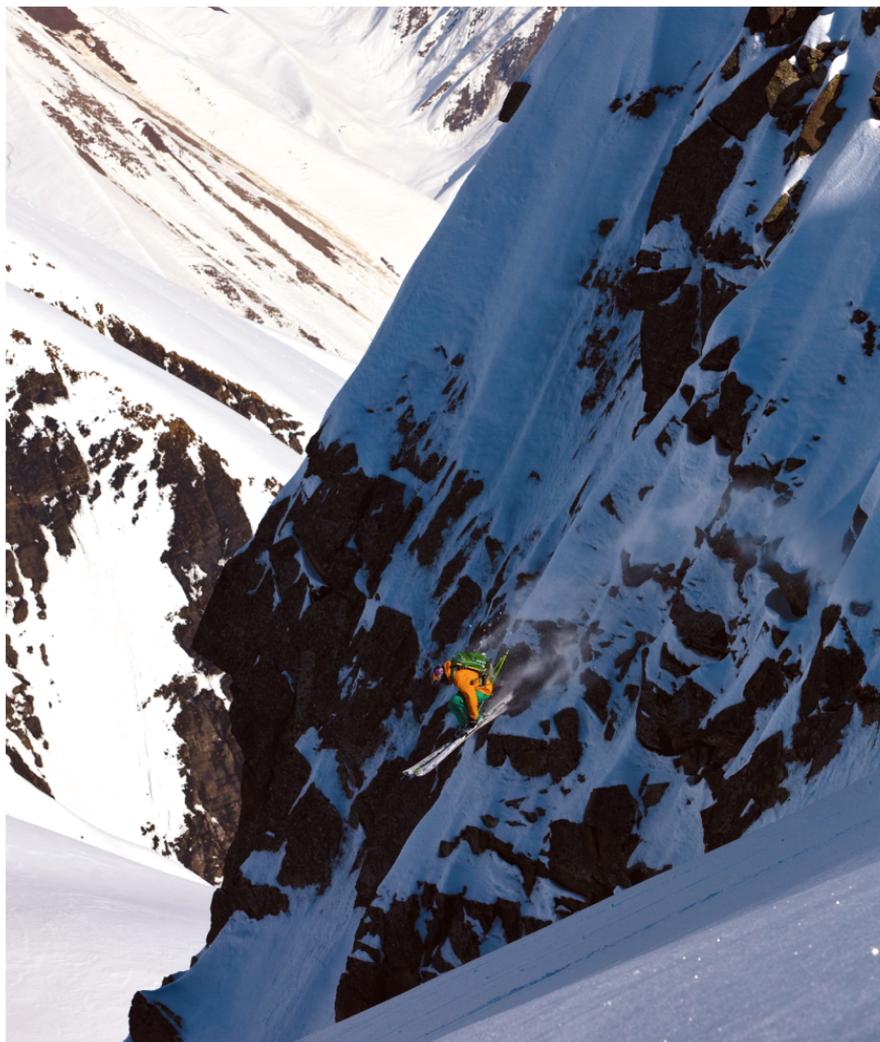
Ski in Georgia

There's nothing better than getting to the top of a ski lift, breathing in the cold, pure air and gazing across the snowy peaks, realizing, that you are about to ski down the side of a mighty mountain.

Here in Georgia we are lucky enough to have some of the most impressive and highest mountains in Europe, with many peaks in the Caucasus mountain range higher than Mont Blanc. The skiing is extremely modernised and impressive, ongoing upgrades and investments have set our traditional resorts of Gudauri and Bakuriani upto international standarts, while our brand new resort of Mestia will be one of the most advanced resorts in the world. New runs are being opened every year, but if on-piste isn't enough for you we are one of the few countries in the world that offers heli-skiing. The opportunities to heli-ski in Georgia are virtually limitless and is probably the most exhilarating activity an advanced skier can experience, anywhere in the world.

For the best moments of your skiing life, come to Georgia.





Mestia

Surrounded by mighty 5,000 metre peaks and Europe's highest mountain, Mt Elbrus (5,642 metres), Mestia is a skiers dream, situated in the heart of Svaneti, one of Georgia's most historic and unique areas.

Until recently, Svaneti was best known for its superb house-towers, most of them dating back to the 12-13th centuries

which have lined the valleys and served as look-out posts against the threat of invasion.

It's not surprising that Svaneti has always been a popular summertime holiday destination, but recently most tourists are looking for the mountains and not valleys.

Our brand new, high-speed quad lifts enable skiers to reach the 2,350 metre peak in total speed and comfort, all ready



to experience the 2.6km red run (if you are an experienced skier), or the gentler blue run if you want to take it easy.

A beginners slope is designed in a way, that skiers of every level can enjoy one of the world's most picturesque resorts.

As the resort grows and develops, we also offer unique ski-tours, one or two-day trips to take you to places that have been never skied before, including overnight

stays in the high mountains.

And when you're not skiing, enjoy the shops, bars and restaurants of Mestia, including the local ice rink.

Mestia Museum is a treasure trove of exquisite icons and artefacts gathered from Svaneti's many remote churches and villages, preserved in this natural mountain fortress dating back to centuries of pillagers.



Gudauri

Located in the very heart of the Caucasus Mountains, surrounded by some of Europe's most dramatic peaks, Gudauri is a resort for all seasons.

Only a short drive – and even a shorter helicopter flight – from Tbilisi, Gudauri is Georgia's year-round playground.

During the ski season, from December to mid-April, Gudauri offers a full workout for skiers and boarders of all levels.

True experts will want to try out some of the most challenging off-piste slopes in Europe.

Skiing

With dozens of slopes, Gudauri has pistes for all levels of skiers and snowboarders for all levels. Furthermore, the surrounding mountains are a haven for cross-country and off-piste skiers.

Gudauri's ski runs are a total of 57 km, with its longest run over 5km in length. Modern three and four-seat chairlifts transport skiers up to the Kudebi Moun-



tain, at over 3,000 metres high, above the tree line. For experienced skiers Gudauri provides four FIS approved types of run: slalom, giant slalom, super slalom and speed skiing. And being one of the highest mountains, snow coverage is guaranteed.

Cross Country skiing

The remote valleys and untouched foothills around Gudauri offer exceptional cross-country skiing, just a short distance from Gudauri's groomed trails and ski lifts. Hiring a guide lets you get the most out of the ski area and to explore the thrill of fresh virgin snow.

Heli-skiing

Gudauri has some of the finest high-altitude mountains in Europe, offering virtually unrestricted access up to 4,200 metres. Our fleet of helicopters transport

skiers and their guides to remote peaks for some of the most challenging skiing, that cannot be found anywhere else in the world.

Ski School

The Gudauri Ski School offers lessons to beginners of all ages. But even advanced skiers can improve their skills with advanced lessons every now and then.

Ski Rental

The rental of new, up to date ski equipment is available in Gudauri ski schools, local outfitters and hotels.

Rescue and First Aid

All Gudauri ski areas are patrolled by experienced ski rescue and first-aid teams. Emergency helicopter evacuation to Tbilisi is also available.



Bakuriani

Located at 1,700 metres in the Borjomi region of Georgia, Bakuriani is nestled in the shadows of the breathtaking Caucasus Mountains, only a three-hour drive from Tbilisi. Bakuriani is the place for the world's skiers to gather and experience the best of skiing.

Home to dozens of alpine slopes and cross-country trails, Bakuriani offers some of the most spectacular skiing and snowboarding in Europe. Originally developed as an Olympic training facility, unsurprisingly, Bakuriani became Georgia's most popular winter sports and

recreation destinations. Enjoy the downhill ski runs, cross-country trails, horseback tours, sledding or simply take long walks through beautiful snowy forests.

Kokhtagora

Kokhtagora is located at an altitude of 2,155 metres and is served by a two-seat chair lift and 2 drag lifts, the Bugels. Red and black runs are located here and descend from the top of the peak down to the mid-level cable car, where blue runs and beginners nursery slopes can be found.

Kokhta 2 (Tatra)

The mountain of Kokhta 2 (2,255 metres high) is known in Bakuriani as Tatra. The



red and blue pistes here run for 1.8km.

25 Meter

Twenty-five is an area of easy skiing located on the Circular, near the old 25 metre ski-jump which gives the area its name. Here, mighty Caucasus Mountains create a safe and pleasant environment for beginners and children. You can also toboggan and sledge here, or take a horse drawn sleigh-ride through the ancient forests.

Didveli

Didveli, at one of Europe's highest mountains, Mt Sakvelo, has one of the most amazing views in any ski resort anywhere.

From here you can catch a gondola to the slopes of Mount Sakvelo, and ski a range of blue and red routes. The longest piste is around 4km long.

Advanced skiers can continue further up the mountain by catching a chairlift at the top of the gondola almost to the very top of Mt Sakvelo itself. Here, you can enjoy stretching your ski-legs on very steep and difficult red and black runs.



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With slopes so much quieter, than in Europe, I don't know why I haven't come to Georgia sooner!



Cross country

Bakuriani's cross-country trails attract experts as well as beginners. Two of the most challenging runs begin on Mt. Kokhta (2,155 metres) and Mt. Didveli.

Skating

If skating is your winter pastime, Bakuriani offers plenty of perfect locations, among them Bakuriani Park and the rink at the Hotel Edem.

Snowmobiles and Sleighs

The hills and valleys around Bakuriani are ideal for snowmobiling, but if you prefer to get around the old-fashioned way, horse-drawn sleighs are the traditional way of winter transportation in Bakuriani, so for a romantic treat, take a romantic sleigh-ride around the picturesque village.

Guide services, including renting single and double-seat snowmobiles, are available at many hotels and shops.



For a winter like this, join us for the best moments of your life...

Travel information

Visa Requirements

Valid passports are required for visitors of all nationalities. Georgia has a liberal visa regime; with visa waiver for the citizens of 94 countries for short-term visits (Not exceeding 90 calendar days in any 180-day period).

For more information please visit the website of the Consular Department of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Georgia:

www.geoconsul.gov.ge

Getting There

By air

Direct flights to Tbilisi are available from Batumi and Kutaisi, as well as from many European and Asian cities. Non-stop flights can be taken from Amsterdam, Munich, Riga, Vienna, Paris, Warsaw, Istanbul, Dubai, Tel-Aviv, Baku, Moscow, Yekaterinburg, Kiev, Minsk, Dnipropetrovsk, Alma-Ata, Aktau, Urumqi, Doha, Erbil, Baghdad, Sulaymaniyah, Sharm el-Sheikh, Sharjah and Najaf.

Batumi International Airport

Direct flights to Batumi are available from Tbilisi, Moscow, Kiev, Istanbul, Minsk, Erbil and Sulaymaniyah.

Kutaisi International Airport

Direct flights to Kutaisi are available from Tbilisi, Kiev, Warsaw, Moscow, Minsk, Budapest and Vilnius.

By land

Daily buses mainly to Tbilisi depart from Baku, Istanbul, Ankara, Trabzon, Yerevan and Athens.

By Train

Georgia is connected to Armenia and Azerbaijan. Trains from Baku are available every day and for more information and timetables, please visit: www.railway.ge

By Sea

Georgia can be accessed by weekly ferries from Ukrainian ports of Ilychevsk and Odessa.

Accommodation

Major cities like Tbilisi and Batumi offer hotels of all categories from international four-star, to home-stays. In rural regions accommodation is primarily three-star family hotels, bed and breakfast and home-stays.

Cuisine

There are many excellent restaurants in Tbilisi serving both traditional Georgian and international cuisine, while restaurants in different regions of the country mainly offer traditional dishes.

Climate

The climate of the country is extremely diverse, considering the nation's small size. The Greater Caucasus Mountain Range plays an important role in moderating Georgia's climate, protecting the nation against cold air from the north, while the Lesser Caucasus Mountains protect against from the very dry, hot air from the south. Average temperatures in summer range from 19 °C to 22 °C, and in winter from 1.5 °C to 3 °C.

Currency

The official currency in Georgia is the Georgian Lari usually indicated as GEL. Lari is subdivided into 100 Tetri. Major hotels accept credit cards, but please check outside the main cities. Cash point machines are available throughout major towns and cities.

Electricity

Electrical current - 220 Volts, 50 Hz. EU standard plugs work throughout Georgia.

Communications

The country code is +995 and the area code for Tbilisi is 322. Georgian mobile operators (Geocell, Magticom and Beeline) cover almost the whole territory of the country and there are many WI-FI zones that enable visitors to use the internet for free.

Health

For the emergency services please call 112 - the Emergency Management Department.

For more information please visit: www.georgia.travel



www.georgia.travel

Hotline (24 hrs.)

☎ 0 800 800 909

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