

Jinishian Memorial Program
2026 Study Tour to Armenia
(All trips subject to itinerary changes and/or cancellation)

DATE	ACTIVITY	DETAILS
October 1 Thursday Arrival	1:00 PM Meeting at the Hotel Lobby 1:30 Lunch Yerevan City Tour 5:00 PM Dinner 7:00 PM Concert (optional)	<i>Arrival at Yerevan International Airport</i> <i>Pick-up and check-in at the Ani Grand Hotel (65 Hanrapetutyan St, Yerevan 0010)</i> <i>Our employees will pick you up, look for Jinishian sign</i>
October 2 Friday Exploring Yerevan	8:00 – 10:00 AM – Breakfast at the hotel 10:00 AM Meeting at JMF office 12:00 PM – Lunch 2:00 PM – Visit to the Matenadaran Museum 6:00 PM – Dinner	<i>Yerevan</i> , the capital of Armenia, is one of the world's oldest continuously inhabited cities, dating back to 782 BC. A vibrant blend of history and modernity, it boasts grand Soviet-era architecture, charming cafes, and bustling markets. <i>Matenadaran</i> – The Mesrop Mashtots Institute of Ancient Manuscripts houses one of the world's richest collections of manuscripts, preserving centuries of Armenian and foreign literary history.
October 3 Saturday Garni, Geghard	8:00 – 10:00 AM – Breakfast 10:00 AM – Visit to Garni Pagan Temple (1-hour drive) 12:00 PM – Visit to Geghard Monastery 1:00 PM – Lunch Back to the hotel 2 hour free time 6:00 PM Dinner 7:30 Concert (optional)	<i>Garni Pagan Temple</i> was built in the 1st century and dedicated to the Armenian pagan god Mitra. It is the only surviving example of Hellenistic architecture in the Caucasus. Perched in a scenic mountain setting, the temple overlooks a stunning landscape of orchards, fields, and the dramatic Azat River canyon, making it a remarkable cultural and natural landmark. <i>Geghard Monastery</i> is a UNESCO-listed medieval complex partly carved into the surrounding cliffs. Historical records mention it as Ayrivank, with inscriptions dating back to the 7th century. The monastery is renowned for its rock-hewn Chapel of St. Astvatsatsin, showcasing intricate stonework and centuries of spiritual heritage.
October 4 Sunday Dilijan, Vanadzor & Sanahin	8:00 – 9:00 AM – Breakfast 9:00 AM – Drive to the region of Lori (3-hour drive) 11:00 AM Stop in Spitak city	<i>Sanahin Monastery</i> , dating back to the 10th century, is an architectural masterpiece from the Armenian medieval period and UNESCO heritage site.

	<p>12:00 PM – Visit to Sanahin Monastery</p> <p>1:00 PM – Lunch at a local restaurant</p> <p>2:00 PM – Visit to Youth Business Armenia Projects</p> <p>6:00 PM – Dinner</p> <p>8:00 PM – Return to Yerevan</p>	<p>Youth Business Armenia project helps young people to start their own business and makes a direct impact on unemployment and the social state of the regions of Armenia. In remote communities of Armenia, more than 200 small businesses of young entrepreneurs, aged 23 to 36, are empowered to start and grow sustainably.</p>
<p>October 5 Monday</p> <p>Holy Echmiadzin & Vernissage Market</p>	<p>8:00 – 10:00 AM – Breakfast</p> <p>10:00 AM – Tour of Holy Echmiadzin, Liturgy Service & Church Museum</p> <p>12:00 – 1:00 PM – Lunch & Visit to Vocational Education Project</p> <p>3:00 PM – Visit to Vernissage</p> <p>6:00 PM – Dinner</p>	<p><i>Holy Echmiadzin is the spiritual center of the Armenian Apostolic Church, founded in 301 AD and home to one of the world's oldest Christian cathedrals.</i></p> <p><i>Vernissage is an open-air market featuring Armenian handicrafts, jewelry, carpets, and artworks.</i></p>
<p>October 6 Tuesday</p> <p>Gyumri & Shirak Region</p>	<p>8:00 – 9:00 AM – Breakfast</p> <p>9:00 AM – Drive to Gyumri (2-hour drive)</p> <p>11:00 AM – Gyumri City Tour</p> <p>12:00 PM – Visit to Our Lady of Armenia Convent, Orphanage & Vocational School</p> <p>1:00 – 2:00 PM – Lunch at the Convent</p> <p>3:00 PM – Visit to Youth Business Armenia Projects</p> <p>6:00 PM – Dinner at Cherkezi Dzor Restaurant, Gyumri</p> <p>8:00 PM – Return to Yerevan</p>	<p><i>Gyumri is the second city of Armenia and one of the oldest cities in the world. The earliest settlement dates back 2500 years and is known as the center of traditional Armenian architecture, science, and tourism. The inhabitants have gained the reputation of hospitality and a rich sense of humor.</i></p> <p><i>The Congregation of the Armenian Sisters of the Immaculate Conception is a religious order of nuns established in 1847 in Constantinople for the purpose of educating the Armenian youth.</i></p> <p><i>The Civic Dialogue and Action for Change project encourages university students to become active citizens in their communities by empowering them to identify problems and implement creative solutions.</i></p>
<p>October 7 Wednesday</p> <p>Khor Virap, Noravank & Goris</p>	<p>8:00 – 9:00 AM – Breakfast</p> <p>9:00 AM – Visit to Khor Virap Monastery (1-hour drive)</p> <p>11:30 AM – Visit to Noravank Monastery (1.5-hour drive)</p>	<p><i>Khor Virap is a significant pilgrimage site for Armenians worldwide. It is where the Armenian pagan king Trdat imprisoned Saint Gregory the Illuminator for refusing to acknowledge the goddess Anahit. The site offers a breathtaking view of Mount Ararat, making it both a spiritual and scenic destination.</i></p> <p><i>Noravank Monastery is perched on a ledge above the Arpa River gorge, surrounded by striking red rock formations. Built on the site of an earlier monastery, Noravank became a major</i></p>

	<p>1:00 PM – Lunch</p> <p>4:00 PM – Arrival in Goris & City Tour</p> <p>4:00 PM – Meeting with Youth Business Armenia project beneficiaries,</p> <p>6:00 PM – Dinner in Goris</p> <p>Overnight Stay in Goris</p>	<p><i>cultural and religious center in the 13th and 14th centuries. The complex is home to several intricately carved khachkars (cross-stones), the most notable being a masterpiece by the renowned sculptor Momik, dating to 1308 AD. Goris is a picturesque city in southern Armenia, known for its stunning rock formations, historic stone houses, and rich cultural heritage. Nestled in a scenic valley along the Vorotan River, it features unique cave dwellings and traditional Armenian architecture with arched windows and balconies. The city's charming streets, local markets, and museums offer a glimpse into its history and craftsmanship, making Goris a perfect destination for exploring the natural and cultural beauty of the region.</i></p>
<p>October 8 Thursday</p> <p>Tatev Monastery & Return to Yerevan</p>	<p>8:00 – 9:00 AM – Breakfast</p> <p>10:00 AM – Visit to Tatev Monastery via Wings of Tatev Cableway</p> <p>1:00 PM – Lunch</p> <p>2:00 PM – Return Drive to Yerevan (4-hour drive)</p> <p>5:00 PM Hover State Chamber Choir on Komitas music</p> <p>6:00 PM – Dinner in Yerevan</p>	<p><i>Tatev Monastery is a stunning example of medieval Armenian architecture, harmoniously blending with the breathtaking natural landscape. Once a prominent spiritual and educational center in the Middle Ages, it remains one of Armenia's most remarkable historical and cultural landmarks.</i></p> <p><i>Wings of Tatev is the world's longest reversible aerial tramway, stretching 3.5 miles. It holds the record for the longest non-stop double-track cable car, offering a scenic and unforgettable journey to the monastery.</i></p>
<p>October 9 Friday</p> <p>Lake Sevan & Gavar</p>	<p>8:00 – 9:00 AM – Breakfast at the hotel</p> <p>9:00 AM – to Sevan City (1-hour drive)</p> <p>Visit to Lake Sevan & Sevanavank Monastery</p> <p>12:00 PM – Lunch, Coffee and Armenian sweets</p> <p>1:00 PM – Visit to Sevan Rehabilitation Center</p> <p>2:30 PM – Youth Engaged in Society and School Counsel project at Sevan City School</p> <p>4:00 PM Drive to Gavar City</p>	<p><i>Gavar is a town in eastern Armenia, located near Lake Sevan, the largest freshwater lake in the Caucasus. It has a rich history dating back to ancient times, with remnants of early settlements and medieval churches. Surrounded by picturesque mountains and close to major historical sites, the town offers a glimpse into Armenia's deep-rooted traditions and scenic beauty.</i></p> <p><i>Noratus Cemetery, also spelled Noraduz, is a medieval burial site home to the largest collection of khachkars (stone crosses) in Armenia, some dating back to the 10th century.</i></p> <p><i>Sevan, a city on the northwestern shore of Lake Sevan at an altitude of 1,900m, was established in 1842. It is one of Armenia's leading tourist destinations, offering recreational activities, hotels, and water sports such as windsurfing and other.</i></p>

	<p>Visit to Noratus</p> <p>6:00 PM – Dinner & Meeting with Youth Business Armenia Project Beneficiary Gor Grigoryan at Fazenda Guesthouse, Norashen</p> <p>8:00 PM – Return to Yerevan</p>	<p><i>Sevanavank is a historic monastery complex situated on a peninsula overlooking Lake Sevan. It was founded in 874 AD by Princess Mariam, daughter of Ashot I, and remains one of Armenia’s most revered religious sites.</i></p> <p><i>The Sevan Rehabilitation Center provides essential services for children with disabilities from Sevan and ten surrounding villages, focusing on rehabilitation, education, and social integration.</i></p> <p><i>The Youth Engaged in Society project, launched in 2005, promotes civic responsibility and democratic engagement by establishing debate clubs in over 100 schools across Armenia.</i></p>
<p>October 10 Saturday</p> <p>Departures</p>	Transfer to Yerevan International Airport	