GENERAL INFORMATION

Tbilisi-Capital of Georgia; Location-Eastern Georgia; Height-380-600 m; Total area- 500 square kilometers; Population- about 1.5 million; Calling code-32

GETTING TO TBILISI

The most convenient means of travel to Tbilisi is airplane. A modern Tbilisi International Airport terminal has been inaugurated on February 7, 2007 and is about 20 km from the city center. To date Tbilisi has a direct connection with many European cities. There are about 80 flights per week to the European countries.

Getting to Hotel

The most convenient way to get from the airport to the hotel is by taxi. The cost of a taxi from the airport to the city center, in particular to the conference hotel Hodiday Inn Tbilisi, is 40-60 lari (14-20 EUR). If you are staying at the Holiday Inn, we advise you to order a transfer by calling the hotel desk +995 32 230 00 99. You must provide your last name, reservation number, as well as your flight number and time of arrival. The price of the transfer is 84 GEL (30 EUR). Please take into account that Tbilisi is one of the safest cities in Europe.

VISA

For citizens of overwhelming majority of countries, all the more European countries, short stay in Georgia does not require a visa and entry is free of charge. For more information please visit the website of Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Georgia: <u>https://new.geoconsul.gov.ge/</u>

CURRENCY & EXCHANGE

The basic Georgian currency unit is the Lari (GEL), made up of 100 Tetri. Foreign currency can be exchanged for local money at banks and exchange offices, according to the valid rates of exchange. Visit the Web for valid exchange rates.

CREDIT CARDS

All major credit cards are normally accepted throughout Georgia, as advertised at points of sale, such as: Master Card, Visa, American Express, Maestro. Traveler's Cheques are also accepted. ATM is available in the entire territory of Georgia.

CLIMATE

Climate – moderately warm and humid. The coldest month is January, the hottest month is July. Average annual temperature is 12,7 °C. Average daily temperature In the end of October – $14 - 17 \degree$ C / $57 - 62 \degree$ F)

ELECTRICITY

220 V, 50 Hz

GSM OPERATORS

Currently there are three GSM operators offering the GSM service in Georgia (Magti, Geocell, Selfie). Please contact your local GSM operator to check the availability and the costs of roaming services.

INTERNET CONNECTION

Wi-Fi connection available in all hotels (please contact the reception desk of the hotel for Internet access upon arrival) and most of cafe and restaurants

USEFUL TELEPHONE NUMBERS

Country code: 995

Area code: 32

Patrol Police: 022

Emergency: 033; 009; 901

Airport Directory: 243 31 41; 243 32 21

Railway Station: 256 62 53; 256 47 60

Public Defender (Ombudsman) of Georgia: 292 24 79; 299 08 36

Hot Line of Tbilisi City Hall: 272 22 22

Tbilisi Directory: 09

OPENING HOURS

Banks and post offices are normally open from 9.30 or 10:00 a.m. to 5 or 6 p.m. Governmental offices work from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m., Monday to Friday. Most grocery stores and department stores are open from 9 a.m. to 8 p.m. Monday to Sunday. Some stores work around o'clock.

CITY TRANSPORT

The city transport in Tbilisi is represented by buses, mini-buses and a subway. An average cost of travel is 1 GEL (about 40 Euro cents). Taxis are also readily available.

TIME ZONE

GET (Georgia Standard Time), GMT/UTC offset: +04:00 hours (winter)/ +03:00 hours (summer);

WATER

Tap water is drinkable in all parts of Georgia.