



# Bird watching



The relief of the Great and Lesser Caucasus mountains, climate and flora offer the diverse living conditions to birds. It covers the area from the subtropical forests of the Black sea characterized by high humidity to the semi desert of south-east and from alpine meadows of the Great Caucasus to the volcanic mount plateaus of Armenia.

This territory is the habitat of around 350 species of birds and among are the endemic ones as well.

We offer you the travelling in three regions of Georgia for observing the variety of them. These regions are the shelters of different birds.

Best period for bird watching: May

Duration: 8days/9nights

**Arrival in Tbilisi, transfer to the hotel and overnight in Tbilisi**

## Day 1: Tbilisi – Kazbegi

After late breakfast we drive to Kazbegi along the Georgian Military Highway (leading to the Georgian-Russian border). On the way we stop to observe the road side birds. The drive is very scenic through high Caucasus Mountains.

## Day 2-5: Kazbegi – Tbilisi

We spend these four days in the mountains to see unique birds of the Great Caucasus: Caucasian black grouse (*Tetrao mlokosiewiczii*) and Caucasian snow-cock (*Tetraogallus caucasicus*). Other birds we can observe in this area are Guldenstadt's redstart (*Phoenicurus erythrogaster*), Great rosefinch (*Carpodacus rubicilla*), Golden eagle (*Aquila chrysaetos*), Bearded vulture (*Gypaetus barbatus*), Griffon vulture (*Gyps fulvus*), Egyptian vulture (*Neophron percnopterus*), Griffon vulture (*Gyps fulvus*), Chough (*Pyrrhocorax pyrrhocorax*), Bearded vulture (*Gypaetus barbatus*), Raven (*Corvus corax*).

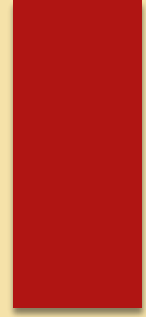
Late afternoon on

**day 5** we drive to Tbilisi.





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## Day 6: Tbilisi – David Gareja – Tbilisi

Today we travel to the semi-desert landscape of David Gareja to observe some unique desert birds: Roller (*Coracias garrulus*), European bee-eater (*Merops apiaster*), Hoopoe (*Upupa epops*), Rock nuthatch (*Sitta neumayer*), Wallcreeper (*Tychodroma muraria*), Egyptian vulture (*Neophron percnopterus*), Griffon vulture (*Gyps fulvus*), Rock sparrow (*Petronia petronia*), Chukar (*Alectoris chukar*).



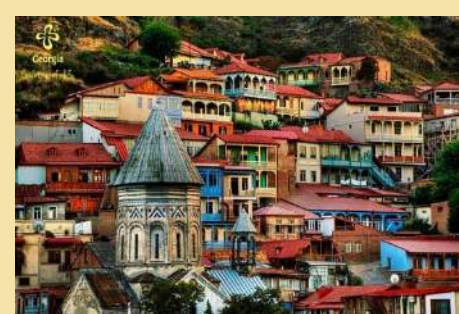
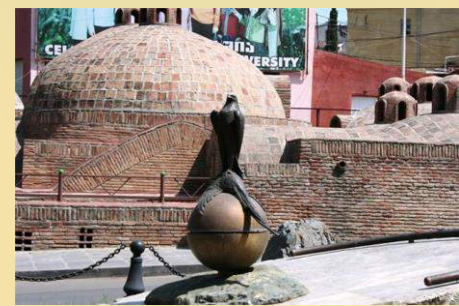
## Day 7: Tbilisi – Iori Valley – Tbilisi

A four-hour drive will take us to Iori valley in Kakheti region. Here we can observe the following birds: Black francolin (*Francolinus francolinus*), Pygmy cormorant (*Phalacrocorax pygmeus*), Imperial eagle (*Aquila heliaca*), Black vulture (*Aegypius monachus*), White-tailed eagle (*Haliaeetus albicilla*), Short-toed eagle (*Circaetus gallicus*), Roller (*Coracias garrulus*), European bee-eater (*Merops apiaster*), Hoopoe (*Upupa epops*), Rock nuthatch (*Sitta neumayer*), Griffon vulture (*Gyps fulvus*), Chukar (*Alectoris chukar*).



## Day 8: Tbilisi – Lake Lisi – Tbilisi

In the morning we start our half day Tbilisi Sightseeing tour. During the tour we will take you to the places that will show you old city. You will be able to take a glance to the history of the city from early centuries to nowadays by walking in narrow streets of the city and exploring the religious and secular architecture. Here you will find different religious buildings – churches, synagogues, mosques, as well as famous 19<sup>th</sup> century houses with wooden multi-colored balconies. You will visit the sulfur bath which made an unforgettable impression on Pushkin, Lermontov, Dumas. During the tour you will be able to enjoy the superb panoramic view of the Old city. This marks the end of the Old Town. In the afternoon we drive to Lisi Lake to observe the birds there.



Transfer to the airport and departure.

