



Batumi Sightseeing Tour

2014



Batumi at night



LIST of CONTENT

INTRODUCTION

ITINERARY

MAP

SIGHT DESCRIPTION

Introduction



Batumi is the administrative centre of the Autonomous Republic of Adjara and one of the major climatic resorts along the Georgian Black Sea coast. It is situated on the south-east shore of the Black Sea. For the first time Batumi is mentioned in works by Plinus, Xenofonte, Apollonius of Rodos. They prove that being one of the most important ports the town was well-known to the ancient world. The name Batumi originates from Greek and it means "deep bay". There are numbers of museums, monuments, culture centers, restaurants, parks, squares, religion sites, etc. in the city.

Modern Batumi is considered to be one of the most beautiful cities of Georgia and has become a distinguished tourist centre in the whole Black Sea region. It has always had the necessary resources for a resort, but during the last few years unprecedented measures have been taken to develop its full potential and to improve the tourism sphere in this city.

It should be noted that in 2012 the American Academy of Hospitality Sciences announced Batumi as the Best New Destination of the year.

The sea port, airport, railway and bus stations are serving the city visitors.

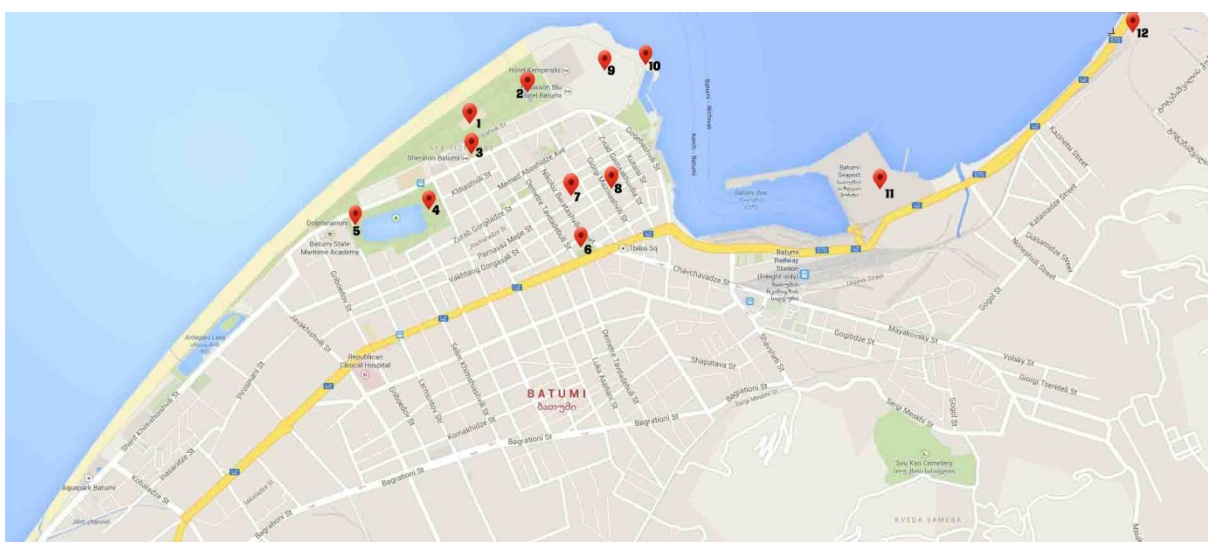


Itinerary (City tour)

Beginning of the tour – Tourism Information Centre at the Boulevard Entrance – Musical fountain of Batumi Sea Side Park – St. Barbara Church – 6 May Park and Nurigeli Lake – Batumi Aquarium and Dolphinarium – Holy Mother Virgin's Nativity Cathedral – Old Batumi – Piazza Square – Georgian Alphabetic Tower – Sculpture of Love "Ali and Nino" – Batumi Sea Port – dinner at the restaurant "Sanapiro".



MAP



1. Batumi Seaside Boulevard,
2. Musical Fountain,
3. St. Barbara`s Church,
4. 6 May Park and Nurigeli Lake,
5. Batumi Aquarium and Dolphinarium,
6. Batumi Holy Mother Virgin`s Nativity Cathedral,
7. Old Batumi,
8. Piazza Square,
9. Alphabetic Tower,
10. Moving sculpture of Ali and Nino,
11. Batumi Sea Port,
12. Restaurant "Sanapiro".



SIGHT DESCRIPTION

Batumi Seaside Boulevard is one of the charms of the city. It was established in 1881. It stretches along the seashore like a green line, to the north-west of Batumi. Its length is about 1,5 km. The original project of the seaside park was created by Reseller, a famous German gardener. He did not live long enough to carry out the project and his work was continued by the French gardener D'Alphonse. In the boulevard it is possible to fulfill such recreational activities as walking along the seaside, biking on a new bicycle path, trying delicious cuisine in a variety of cafes and restaurants, watching French dancing and Musical Fountains, etc. One can start by watching fountain shows with a background of classical and traditional music, walk in five parallel alleys in the park, feel the unique microclimate of boulevard which has comforting and recreational impact and breathe in a cocktail saturated with an exotic aroma of pine trees. As well as that, the Sea Side Park entertainments include Aqua-Park, Ferry's wheel, night clubs and bungalows.





Musical fountain of Batumi Sea Side Park

There is the musical fountain in the Sea Side Park that functions every evening offering the visitors classical and national music.





St. Barbara's Church

The church is located close to Batumi Boulevard. In 1918-20, British troops built a hospital with its own church there. The hospital remained during the communist regime. In 1990's the hospital was destroyed and the church was restored.



"6 May Park" and the Nurigeli Lake

"6 May Park" is one of the charms of Batumi. In 1881 the governor of the city Smekalov came up with the idea. The Park is situated around the

Nurigeli Lake, which used to be a swamp before it was cleaned out and turned into a lake. The territory turned into the first park of Batumi. The original project was created by the German gardener Ressler, who planted different bushes and decorative trees. Later the French gardener D'Alphonse finished the project together with the Sea Side Park in 1885. In 1937 a Zoological Corner was created in one of the parts of the park.



Batumi Aquarium and Dolphinarium

One of the pearls of Batumi is the Aquarium, which was founded in 1966 and is situated next to the territory of the "6 May Park". It has been remodeled over the past years has a lot more to offer.

Batumi Dolphinarium was founded in 1974 and it became one of the main attractions of the town. People used to come to see how a dozen of dolphins gave a show and did magnificent tricks. In 2007 the Government of Adjara decided to build a new dolphinarium. Seven young dolphins found their new home and are being trained to become stars of the city and sell out the shows once again.



Holy Mother Virgin's Nativity Cathedral

In XIX century the famous Georgian catholic benefactors, Zubalashvili brothers, built a cathedral. Today it is known as a Holy Mother Virgin's Nativity Cathedral. The church is constructed with special stones and changes its color according to weather which adds additional mystery to it.



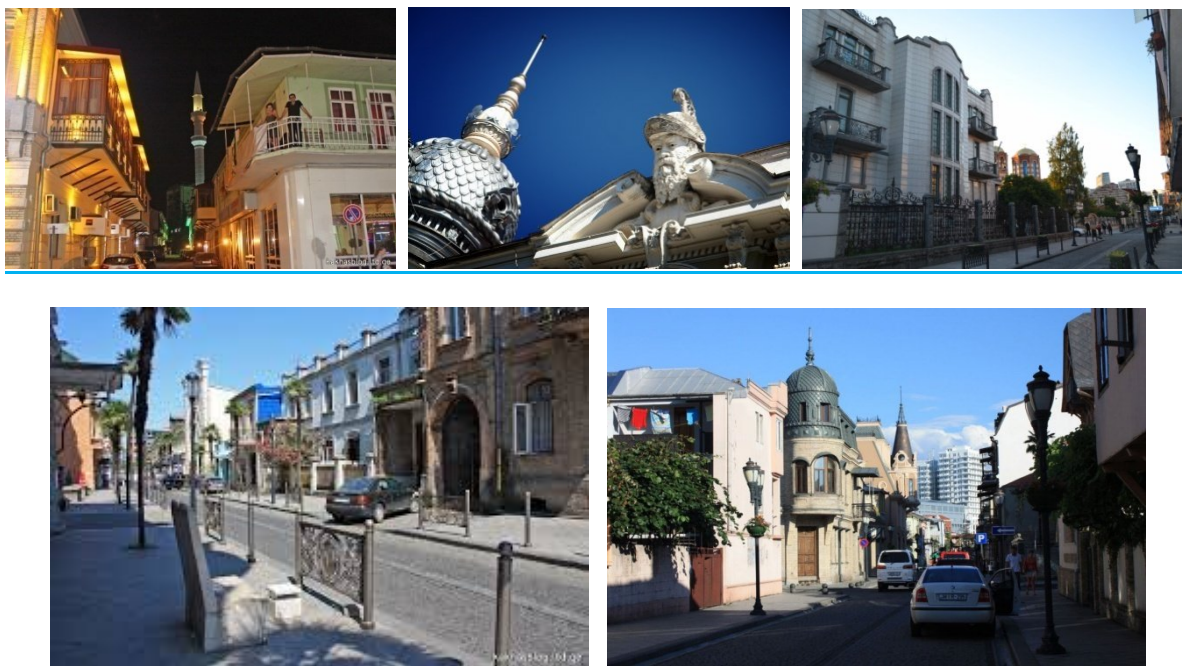
Old Batumi

Growth and development of modern Batumi began in Porto Franco period in XIX century and continued more rapidly later on. Batumi, with its first-rank port and well developed industry held a significant place in Georgia and the Caucasus as one of the most important transit and industrial centers. In 1903 29 factories functioned here. A lot of European commercial and industrial companies such as, "O.F.Gillard", "Siemens and Halske", "Schuft and Zimmerman", "Varneke and Company", "Nobel Brothers" were doing their business in Batumi. European's profound interest in Batumi was growing

rapidly. Moreover, the flow of businessmen to and from Batumi increased noticeably.

Consulates and representative offices of 27 countries were opened in order to protect the rights and trade-industrial interests of their citizens.

There are lots of charming 1 and 2 storey houses in the old part of Batumi, which differ by architecture, style, nice balconies, modeling and tiny gardens.



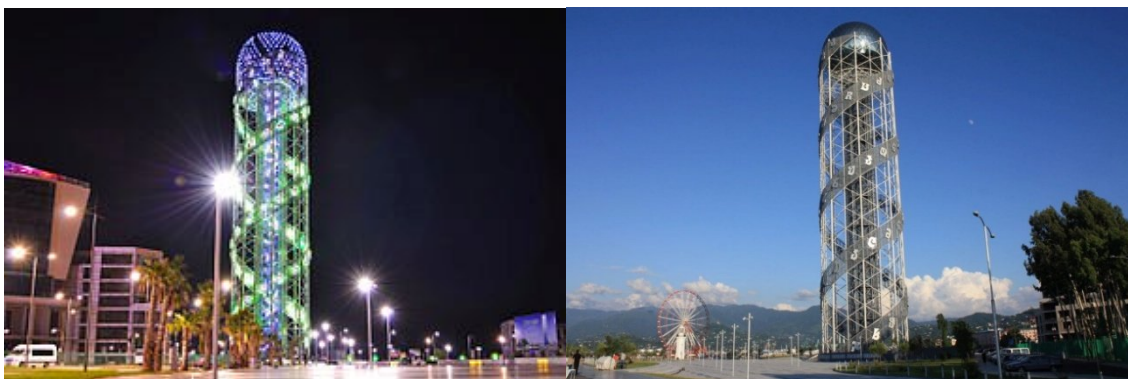
Piazza Square

Piazza Square – one of the most amazing squares in Georgia has already become a symbol of Batumi. It is distinguished by its mosaic and stained glass windows and attracts lots of tourists. The construction of the square was finished in 2010. The main architect of the square is Vazha Orbeladze, the author of the stained glass windows – Estonian artist Dolores Hofman. Piazza offers all the necessary relevant facilities café, restaurant and hotel. Notably, on Piazza Square they often perform concerts of worldwide musicians like Placido Domingo, Chris Botti, Sting, Michel Legrand and Tamar Gverdtsiteli, etc.



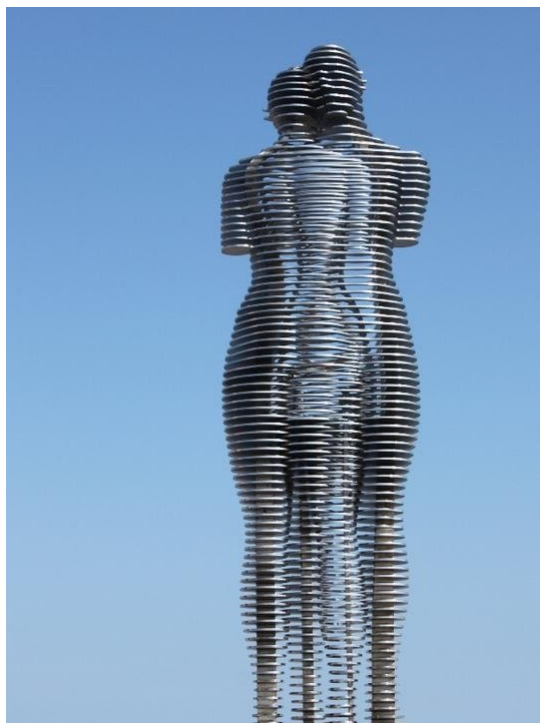
Georgian Alphabetic Tower

The Georgian Alphabetic Tower is 130 m tall, the aim of the tower was to introduce the unique and rich culture of the country to the world. The Tower consists of two ring shaped structures, an interior and an exterior wall, crowned by large glass sphere of 30 m in diameter. The 33 letters of Georgian Alphabet rest on the surface of construction, representing a real ode to the originality and singularity of this alphabet, which is unique in the world.



Sculpture of Love "Ali and Nino"

The Love statue of "Ali and Nino" was built on the Coast in Batumi Seaside Park, based on one of the best seller novel of Kurban Said. The height of the statue is 9 m and it weighs 7 tons. The authors of it are Tamar Kvesitadze and Paata Shonia.



Batumi Sea Port

Batumi is the largest port city of Georgia and it serves as the significant oil exporter point. The port is located in the north-east part of the city. It was founded in 1878 in the natural sea bay. The portage of the Azerbaijani and Kazakh oil turned Batumi Port to connecting link of Euro-Asian Transport corridor. The port's transportation capacity of oil products is about 15-18 million tons and about 2,6 million tons a year of dry cargo.



Dinner at the restaurant "Sanapiro"

The restaurant "Sanapiro" is situated close to Batumi port in the calm bay and it has both - indoor and outdoor spaces. In hot summer evenings it is very pleasant to sit on the chilly seashore testing the dishes of local cuisine.

