



THE WORSHIPFUL SOCIETY OF APOTHECARIES LIVERY COMMITTEE  
The Livery Committee International Travelling Club

## PROPOSED AUTUMN VISIT TO ARMENIA, 2020

PREFERRED DATE FOR 7 NIGHT 8 DAY VISIT, FROM MONDAY 28 SEPTEMBER 2020 (TBC)

### PRELIMINARY NOTICE: EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST INVITED



Located in the southern Caucasus, between the Black Sea and the Caspian Sea, Armenia is a country of rugged mountains and extinct volcanoes. Its national symbol is Mount Ararat, (shown above behind Khor Virap monastery), which is linked with the biblical accounts of Noah's Ark. Once an important crossroads on the Great Silk Route, it became the first country to adopt Christianity in 301AD, and the country is still dotted with medieval churches and monasteries. Our tour is designed to take in exotic scenery and sacred buildings, as well as enjoying the surprising delights of Armenian hospitality. In the early 1920's the Armenian Soviet architect Alexander Tamanian transformed Yerevan from a small provincial town to a compact capital city of wide boulevards and neoclassical buildings. But his distinctly Soviet design bears unique Armenian touches such as the use of pink stone and traditional carvings.

- *Visits include: Echmiatsin, the seat of the Armenian Apostolic Church's supreme prelate, with its complex of distinct domed churches.*
- *The spa town of Jermuk, with its waterfall, which provides Armenia's drinking water.*
- *Khor Virap Monastery (seen above) with its stunning views of Mount Ararat, a place of pilgrimage to St Gregory the Illuminator.*
- *The "Wings of Tatev", the world's longest (5.7km - 3.5m) non-stop cable car, being the access to the medieval Tatev Monastery, which was also part of a strategic defence system.*
- *The Selim Caravanserai, probably the best-preserved stopping point on the silk route.*
- *The high-altitude Lake Sevan, the largest body of fresh water in the Caucasus.*
- *Historical museums, Art Galleries, and a night at the Opera in Yerevan*
- *The UNESCO World Heritage site, 13thC Geghard Monastery, for a musical performance.*

**FLIGHTS:** We will fly to Yerevan from Heathrow with Aeroflot, via Moscow. (Through transit – no visas required for Russia or Armenia). We will stay in 4\* hotels: The Hyatt Place in Yerevan (first 3, last 2 nights), and 2 middle nights in Jermuk at the Grand Resort spa hotel.

**PRICE:** Price guideline (tbc) £2,200 per person, sharing, fully inclusive of flights, all meals, transport, tours and guiding services. Details of the tour will be circulated in January 2020.

This visit is proposed by Chris Khoo, on behalf of the Livery Committee International Travelling Club and will be possible if we have a minimum of 25 participants. If you are interested in joining us, please contact Chris at [ctkkhoo@bakersbarn.net](mailto:ctkkhoo@bakersbarn.net) to register your interest. In due course you will be sent a fully detailed programme, booking form and conditions from Millennium Tours. Maximum numbers will be limited, and participants will be accepted on a first-come, first-served basis.