

GGSWBS'14 Homeland of the First Europeans

Dmanisi archaeological site proves that even 1.7 million years ago Georgia was the favorite destination for travellers! At about that time, human beings migrated from Africa to Europe and settled the region around Dmanisi. The skull of one of these first Europeans is now kept at the museum and you can see the site of the on – going excavations as well as the 6th century church, the remains of the palace and baths enclosed in the walls of this medieval town.

This is the face that's changing a thousand minds. It could be the face of the first human to leave Africa. And it's not what anyone expected. This 1.75 million – year- old pioneer, found beneath the ruins of a medieval town called Dmanisi in the republic of Georgia, had a tiny brain – not nearly the size scientists thought our ancestors needed to migrate into a new land. And its huge canine teeth and thin brow look too apelike for ad advanced hominid, the group that includes modern humans and their ancestors. Along with other fossils and tools found at the site, this skull reopens so many questions about our ancestry that one scientist muttered: “They ought to put it back in the ground”. – National Geographic magazine



9 July: Tbilisi – Dmanisi – Tbilisi

Meet at the hotel with the guide and driver and head to Kvemo Kartli Region. Two hours trip though beautiful forests and calculated soils will bring us to the complex that gave shelter to the first Europeans nearly two million years ago. We'll visit the site where the archeological excavations are going on, a museum where the skulls of first Europeans (Zezva and Mzia) are kept. We'll also visit the old palace ruins as it was a very famous medieval complex in Georgia. After that we'll drive to the restaurant for lunch at a very particular, nice and fabulous place, where the hosts will offer us local food and drinks provided by the peasants. In the late afternoon will return back to Tbilisi.

09:30 start from Tbilisi

11:00-12:00 Coffee Break at "Deutsche Muhle Bolnisi"

12:45-15:00 Visit Dmanisi excavation and museum

16:00 – 19:00 Late lunch/early dinner at "Deutsche Muhle Bolnisi"

19:00 – 20:45 transfer to Tbilisi

Things to take with you for your tour: comfortable walking shoes, sunglasses, sunscreen, hats, head - Scarves for women, raincoat, a jacket in case of a chilly evening.

