



ARCHAEOLOGICAL INSTITUTE
OF AMERICA TOURS

Origins of Humans & Wine: Azerbaijan, Georgia & Armenia

SUGGESTED MEDIA GUIDE

Here is a brief selection of favorite, new, and hard-to-find books relevant to your journey. These books should be available at local public or university libraries, and most of them may be purchased and/or downloaded for e-readers through local and online bookstores.

MAP & GUIDEBOOK

Freytag & Berndt. *Caucasus: Georgia, Armenia, Azerbaijan Map*. Freytag & Berndt, 2011. A travel map of the Caucasus at a scale 1:1,000,000. (MAP)

Masters, Tom, Joel Balsam, and Jenny Smith. *Lonely Planet Georgia, Armenia & Azerbaijan*. Lonely Planet Publications, 2022. An excellent practical guide featuring a good overview of culture, history and nature; with color photos, maps, and a language guide. (PAPER, 352 Pp.)

ARCHAEOLOGY, HISTORY & CULTURE

Abramia, Natia. *Georgia - Culture Smart! The Essential Guide to Customs and Culture*. Kuperard, 2012. Abramia guides you through the past and present-day realities of her motherland, explaining what makes people tick, how they live and feel, and how to get along with them. (PAPER, 168 Pp.)

Ascherson, Neal. *Black Sea*. Hill & Wang, 1996. In this skillful regional portrait, Ascherson weaves his own travels and impressions with a fascinating account of the Black Sea's history. From ancient mythology to modern politics, he admirably never loses sight of the sea itself. (PAPER, 320 Pp.)

Braund, David. *Georgia in Antiquity: A history of Colchis and Transcaucasian Iberia, 550 BC – AD 562*. Clarendon Press, 1994. Braund's scholarly, readable history is also a good overview of archaeology in the region. (HARD COVER, 384 Pp.)

Burney, Charles and David Marshall Lang. *The Peoples of the Hills: Ancient Ararat and Caucasus*. Phoenix Press, 2001. A very readable and authoritative overview of the archaeology of

the whole Transcaucasia from prehistoric to Christian times. (PAPER, 323 Pp.)

De Waal, Thomas. *Black Garden: Armenia and Azerbaijan through peace and war*. NYU Press, 2013. A highly praised portrait of the region that weaves an account of the author's travels throughout the south Caucasus with an analysis of the Nagorno-Karabakh conflict. (PAPER, 406 Pp.)

De Waal, Thomas. *The Caucasus: An introduction*. Oxford University Press, 2018. Armenia, Azerbaijan, Georgia, and the break-away territories that have tried to split away from them constitute one of the most diverse and challenging regions on Earth, impressing the visitor with their multi-layered histories and ethnic complexities. (PAPER, 312 Pp.)

Kazimova, Nikki. *Azerbaijan – Culture Smart! The Essential Guide to Customs & Culture*. Kuperard, 2011. This guide looks at the many facets of national identity and explains the complex workings of Azerbaijani society. It will equip you with vital information and advice about the customs, practices, and sensibilities of a society poised on the brink of change. (PAPER, 168 Pp.)

King, Charles. *The Ghost of Freedom: A modern history of the Caucasus*. Oxford University Press, 2008. A professor at Georgetown, King reveals the imperial ambitions, larger-than-life personalities, and romance of this strategic region. (PAPER, 336 Pp.)

Nasmyth, Peter. *Georgia: In the Mountains of Poetry*. Abrams Press, 2017. This topical and vital book is the perfect introduction to Georgia's remarkable people, landscape, and culture. (HARDCOVER, 400 Pp.)

Solomon, Susan. *Armenia - Culture Smart! The Essential Guide to Customs and Culture*. Kuperard, 2009. A concise, well-illustrated and practical guide to local customs, etiquette and culture, equally of interest to the traveler and business person. (PAPER, 168 Pp.)

TRAVEL, BIOGRAPHY & MEMOIR

Griffin, Nicholas. *Caucasus: A journey to the land between Christianity and Islam*. University of Chicago Press, 2004. An engaging account of travels in the Caucasus in the footsteps of Imam Shamil, a Muslim who resisted the Russians in the 19th century. The book is a portrait of the people, land, and issues in the region. (PAPER, 256 Pp.)

Karny, Yo'av. *Highlanders: A journey to the Caucasus in quest of memory*. Farrar, Straus & Giroux, 2001. In this astute portrait of a complex region in the wake of the Soviet Union dissolution, an Israeli journalist travels into the Caucasus to uncover what fuels the conflicts that divide the region's many ethnic and religious communities. (PAPER, 464 Pp.)

Maclean, Fitzroy. *To Caucasus: The end of all the Earth*. Little, Brown & Co., 1976. A mixture of history and travel writing by a British diplomat, politician, and adventurer/spy. (HARD COVER, 203 Pp.)

Russell, Mary. *Please Don't Call It Soviet Georgia*. Serpent's Tail, 1992. A fine piece of travel

writing written during the end of the Soviet Union and beginning of Georgian independence. (PAPER, 224 Pp.)

WINE & FOOD

Capalbo, Carla. *Tasting Georgia: A food and wine journey in the Caucasus*. Interlink Books, 2nd ed., 2020. Award-winning food writer and photographer Capalbo has traveled around Georgia collecting recipes and gathering stories from food and winemakers in this stunning but little-known country. (PAPER, 464 Pp.)

Goldstein, Darra. *The Georgian Feast: The vibrant culture and savory food of the Republic of Georgia*. University of California Press, 1st ed, revised, 25th anniversary, 2018. Nestled in the Caucasus mountain range between the Black and Caspian seas, the Republic of Georgia is as beautiful as it is bountiful. The unique geography of the land, which includes both alpine and subtropical zones, has created an enviable culinary tradition. (PAPER, 296 Pp.)

Hercules, Olia. *Kaukasis: A culinary journey through Georgia, Azerbaijan & beyond*. Weldon Owen, 2017. In this gorgeous cookbook, Hercules shares more than 100 dishes that celebrate the food, flavors, and unique culinary heritage of the Caucasus—Georgia, Azerbaijan, Armenia, and southern Russia. (HARD COVER, 240 Pp.)

Horkey, Matthew and Charine Tan. *Uncorking the Caucasus: Wines from Turkey, Armenia, and Georgia*. The Blue Roster; 1st ed., 2016. *Uncorking the Caucasus* is about the wines from Turkey, Armenia, and Georgia. Part travel narrative and part wine guide, this book will take the readers on a tasting tour through the wine regions, recommend the best wine each place has to offer, provide anecdotal insights into the wine culture of each country, and discuss the history of ancient winemaking based on archaeological evidence and folklore. (PAPER, 116 Pp.)

McGovern, Patrick. *Ancient Wine: The search for the origins of viticulture*. Princeton University Press; Reprint edition (October 1, 2019). This book is the first comprehensive account of the earliest stages of the history and prehistory of viniculture, which extends back into the Neolithic period and beyond. *Ancient Wine* opens up whole new chapters in the fascinating story of wine by drawing on recent archaeological discoveries, molecular and DNA sleuthing, and the writings and art of ancient peoples. (PAPER, 464 Pp.)

Tattersall, Ian (*AIA Lecturer*) and DeSalle, Rob. *A Natural History of Wine*. Yale University Press, 2015. Drawing from their respective areas of expertise, paleoanthropology and molecular biology, Tattersall and DeSalle collaborate to explore the intersections of science and wine. (HARD COVER, 264 Pp.)

ONLINE RESOURCES

UNESCO World Heritage Centre - World Heritage List

<https://whc.unesco.org/en/statesparties/am>

<https://whc.unesco.org/en/statesparties/ge>

<https://whc.unesco.org/en/statesparties/az>

Film

<https://theculturetrip.com/europe/armenia/articles/the-cinematic-gems-of-the-caucasus/>

<https://bestsimilar.com/tag/17434-caucasus>

Language

[https://wikitravel.org/en/Armenian_\(Eastern\)_phrasebook](https://wikitravel.org/en/Armenian_(Eastern)_phrasebook)

https://wikitravel.org/en/Azerbaijani_phrasebook

https://wikitravel.org/en/Georgian_phrasebook

Music

<https://www.popmatters.com/184578-from-the-soul-to-the-hills-the-music-of-the-caucasus-2495630303.html>

<https://www.calvertjournal.com/features/show/11841/musicians-list-caucasus-covid>

Museums

Georgian National Museum Virtual Tour:

http://museum.ge/index.php?lang_id=ENG&sec_id=239

History Museum of Armenia Virtual Tour: <https://historymuseum.am/en/museum-map-virtual-tour/>