



# **Social program & Guided tours**

## **CSIT-2019 International Conference**



**24.09.2019**

**16<sup>00</sup>- 17<sup>00</sup> - *MATENADARAN* (Explore one of the world's richest depositories of medieval manuscripts and books )**



**24.09.2019**

**17<sup>00</sup>- 19<sup>30</sup> *Yerevan City Tour***



**The Cascade Complex**



**The Republic Square**



**Park Victory**



**The Opera house**

# 25.09.2019

## 09<sup>30</sup>- **LAKE SEVAN**

Set 1900m above sea level and covering 1240 sq km, the vast expanse of Sevana Lich (Lake Sevan) is the largest lake in the Caucasus and one of the largest freshwater high-altitude lakes in the world. Its colours and shades change with the weather, forming dazzling azure to dark blue hues, and a thousand shades in between. Fish populations include the endangered *ishkhan* (prince trout) as well as introduced crayfish and *sig* (whitefish).



# 25.09.2019

***Sevanavank Monastery*** - Sevanavank is a monastery located on the northwestern shore of Lake Sevan in the eastern Armenian province of Gegharkunik, not far from the town of Sevan. According to an inscription in one of the churches, it was founded in 874 AD by princess Mariam, the daughter of Ashot I who became a king a decade later.



# 25.09.2019

***NORATUS (CROSS-STONES)***- Noratus village is located Near the legendary Sevan Lake. The world's largest collection of khachkars, as well as the oldest Armenian cemetery which covers an area of 7 hectares is situated here. The number of khachkars of Noratus reaches almost one thousand copies dating back to the 13th-17th centuries. Each of them has its own unique design made in the form of ornament or scenes from life. "Khachkar" in Armenian translation means "cross stone". It is a memorial with a complex carved patterns, grape clusters, solar disk and a cross. The oldest khachkar of Noratus was created in the 5th century.



# 26.09.2019

**09<sup>30</sup> – Khor Virap Monastery** A two-hour drive through the arid flatlands of western Armenia is the small, quaint monastery of Khor Virap. Perched on top of a small hill the monastery, which dates back to the 8th Century, is situated just hundreds of metres from the Armenian border with Turkey. Mount Ararat sits just over the border in Turkey and is Armenia's national symbol.



# 26.09.2019

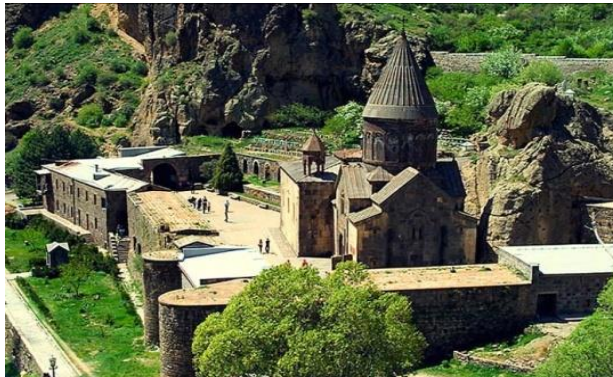
***Noravank Monastery*** -Noravank is a monastery complex which was built in the 13<sup>th</sup> - 14<sup>th</sup> centuries. It is located near Amaghu town, Vayots Dzor Region. According to Stepanos Orbelian, the church was a sanctuary. At the beginning of the 13<sup>th</sup> century, Noravank was the spiritual center of Syunik Region. Here worked famous Armenian architects Siranes and Momik. The monastery includes the main church Saint Karapet, Saint Grigor and Saint Astvatsatsin, the courtyard and the mausoleum of Duke Smbat. In the western side of the church are remains of ancient buildings. The courtyard was built after the construction of the church. In 1321 the courtyard was destroyed by the earthquake, the reconstruction of it did a remarkable sculptor and architect Momik. The second church of the monastery is the Saint Astvatsatsin which was built in 1339. It is two-storey mausoleum called Burtelashen named after Duke Burtel Orbelian, who built this church which is considered to be the last masterpiece of Momik. Noravank complex is included in the UNESCO tentative list since 1995.





# 27.09.2019

**12<sup>00</sup> Geghard Monastery** - Geghard is medieval monastery complex in Armenia, located in Kotayk region near Goght town. The monastery was built in a place where once was a famous sanctuary, due to its sacred sources coming from the rocks. Nowadays one of the sources is still flowing and everyone has an opportunity to see flowing source. The legend says that the founder of the church was Gregory Enlightener; the first monastery was built in the 4th century when Christianity was adopted as a state religion. Once it was famous as an “Ayrivank”. The name of the Geghard comes from Armenian word “geghard” which means lance. Nearly 500 years the sacred lance (with this lance was wounded Christ) was kept in this monastery. The monastery has complex rocky structure, includes the main church (Katoghike), two courtyard, and two churches and has many cells, tombs. The entrance and the inside walls and pillars are decorated with beautiful carvings. The surrounding high rocks give another specialty to this wonderful monastery. The monastery of Geghard was added to UNESCO’s World Heritage list.



# 27.09.2019

**GARNI** - Garni's pagan temple was built in 77 BC, 2nd century. It is located in Kotayk region at the left bank of Azat River. The legend says that the founder of the temple was Gegham (one of the heirs of Hayk the Patriarch) who named the temple in honor of his grandson Garnik. The pagan temple was dedicated to the God Mihr (God of light) as a symbol of light. In the center of the temple was the columnar temple which 24 columns symbolized 24 hours. It is surrounded by impassable cliffs, and the other parts of the building are defended by a sequence of fourteen rectangular towers and solid defense walls. During the excavations, the archaeologists have discovered the ancient bathroom which has 5 rooms in it. The most interesting work is the mosaic floor which was made from natural stones of 15 different colors.

