

## Internet Resources for GEORGIA



### General Information

Travel Information: <http://georgia.travel/>

“Georgia Today” Newspaper: <http://www.georgiatoday.ge/>

“Sarke” Information Agency: [www.sarke.com](http://www.sarke.com)

“Civil” Online Magazine: [www.civil.ge/eng](http://www.civil.ge/eng)

“About Georgia” Information Portal: <http://www.aboutgeorgia.ge/>

GeREs - Georgian Resources: <http://www.geres.ge/>

Georgian Translation Dictionary On-Line: [www.translate.ge](http://www.translate.ge)

Maps of Georgia: [www.lib.utexas.edu/maps/georgia\\_republic.html](http://www.lib.utexas.edu/maps/georgia_republic.html)

### Youth in Action Programme related links

EAC Executive Agency: [http://eacea.ec.europa.eu/youth/index\\_en.php](http://eacea.ec.europa.eu/youth/index_en.php)

SALTO Resource Centres Network: [www.salto-youth.net](http://www.salto-youth.net)

European Youth Portal: [www.europa.eu/youth](http://www.europa.eu/youth)

Eurodesk: [www.eurodesk.eu](http://www.eurodesk.eu)

EVS Volunteers Blogs: [www.myevs.net](http://www.myevs.net)

### SALTO EECA Support Service ([www.salto-eeca.eu](http://www.salto-eeca.eu))

- Contact List of Organizations,
- Forum (Partner Finding, Exchange of Experience, Reports and Photos from Events, Documents and Articles download and more),
- Blogs and Chat Room for EVS Volunteers.

...moreover

Regional Multipliers Network: [www.salto-youth.net/eecamultipliers](http://www.salto-youth.net/eecamultipliers)

Manual on EECA Countries: [www.salto-youth.net/eecamanual](http://www.salto-youth.net/eecamanual)

## Georgia

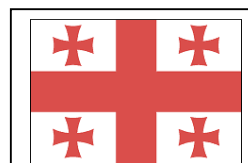
Georgia lies between Eastern Europe and Western Asia. To the east of the Black Sea, most of which is located in the South Caucasus, while a portion of the territory lies in the North Caucasus. A former republic of the Soviet Union, it shares borders with Russia in the north and Turkey, Armenia, and Azerbaijan in the south.



In 1995 Eduard Shevardnadze was officially elected as a president of Georgia, and re-elected in 2000. At the same time, two regions of Georgia, Abkhazia and South Ossetia, quickly became embroiled in disputes with local separatists that led to widespread inter-ethnic violence and wars. Two regions, Abkhazia and South Ossetia achieved and maintained *de facto* independence from Georgia. Situation in these regions is unstable.

In 2003 Shevardnadze was deposed by the Rose Revolution, after Georgian opposition and international monitors asserted that the November 2 parliamentary elections were marred by fraud. The revolution was led by Mikheil Saakashvili, Zurab Zhvania and Nino Burjanadze, former members and leaders of Shavarnadze's ruling party. Saakashvili was elected as President of Georgia in 2004. Restoring Georgia's territorial integrity and returning refugees to their home places were the main pre-election promises of Saakashvili's government.

Today most of the population practices Orthodox Christianity of the Georgian Orthodox Church. The religious minorities are: Muslim, Armenian Apostolic and Roman Catholic.



Flag



Coat of Arms

The culture of Georgia has evolved over the country's long history, providing it with a unique national culture and a strong literary tradition based on the Georgian language and alphabet. This has provided a strong sense of national identity that has helped to preserve Georgian distinctiveness despite repeated periods of foreign occupation and attempted assimilation.

(source: *Wikipedia*)

## Visas and registration

Citizens of EECA (except Russia) as well as EU countries don't need visas to enter Georgia for period of 90 days. Passport must be valid for at least 3 months.

Year-long visas require official invitation, which confirms institutional support and purpose of stay in Georgia, it costs: 100 USD.



There is no need to official registration in a period of visa validity. Visas can be prolonged and temporary or permanent residence permits are issued in the regional services of the Civil Registration Agency of the Ministry of Justice of Georgia.

[www.mfa.gov.ge](http://www.mfa.gov.ge), 2007

## Basic information

**Full country name:**  
Georgia

**Government type:**  
Republic

**Capital:** Tbilisi

**Independence:** 9  
April 1991 (from  
Soviet Union)

**National holiday:** Independence Day, 26 May (1918); note - 26 May 1918 is the date of independence from Soviet Russia, 9 April 1991 is the date of independence from the Soviet Union

**Area:** 69,700 sq km

**Administrative divisions:** 9 regions (mkharebi, singular - mkhare), 9 cities (k'alak'ebi, singular - k'alak'i), and 2 autonomous republics (avtomnoy respubliki, singular - avtom respublika)

**Population:** 4,615,807 (July 2009 est.)

**Ethnic groups:** Georgian 83.8%, Azeri 6.5%, Armenian 5.7%, Russian 1.5%, other 2.5% (2002 census)

**Language:** Georgian 71% - official, Russian 9%, Armenian 7%, Azeri 6%, other 7% ; note: Abkhaz is the official language in Abkhazia

**Religion:** Orthodox Christian 83.9%, Armenian-Gregorian 3.9%, Catholic 0.8%, Muslim 9.9%, other 0.8%, none 0.7% (2002 census)

(source: *The World Factbook*)

