



PRACTICAL INFORMATION

15TH ADVISORY FORUM ON CULTURAL ROUTES OF THE COUNCIL OF EUROPE

Routes Through Time and Cultures - Educating for Sustainable Heritage

Yerevan, Republic of Armenia
23-25, September 2026

Prepared by the Ministry of Education, Science, Culture and Sport of the Republic of Armenia, the Tourism Committee of the Republic of Armenia, the Foundation for the Development of Culture, the Enlarged Partial Agreement on Cultural Routes of the Council of Europe and the European Institute of Cultural Routes.

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1. Introduction

The Advisory Forum is the most important annual gathering of the Cultural Routes of the Council of Europe programme. It brings together representatives of the Enlarged Partial Agreement on Cultural Routes (EPA), certified and candidate Cultural Routes, international organisations, cultural institutions, universities, tourism stakeholders, policymakers, researchers and heritage professionals.

The 15th Advisory Forum will take place in Yerevan, Armenia, from 23 to 25 September 2026 under the theme: **Routes Through Time and Cultures - Educating for Sustainable Heritage**.

Yerevan, one of the world's oldest continuously inhabited cities, provides a unique setting for the Forum. Combining a rich historical heritage with a vibrant contemporary cultural scene, Armenia's capital offers participants an exceptional opportunity to experience education through culture and heritage.

2. Forum Venue

DoubleTree by Hilton Yerevan

The 15th Advisory Forum on Cultural Routes of the Council of Europe will take place at DoubleTree by Hilton Yerevan.

The hotel offers modern conference facilities, meeting rooms, exhibition spaces and hospitality services suitable for large-scale international events.

The venue is conveniently located near the city centre and within easy reach of Yerevan's principal cultural institutions.

3. Visa Requirements

Participants are responsible for verifying visa requirements applicable to their nationality before travelling to Armenia. Citizens of many countries may enter Armenia without a visa. Others may apply through Armenia's [electronic visa \(e-Visa\)](#) system.

Participants requiring visas are strongly encouraged to begin the application process well in advance of their travel dates. Official invitation letters supporting visa applications can be issued by the Forum Secretariat following successful registration. For updated information on visa requirements and application procedures, participants should consult the official e-Visa portal of the Republic of Armenia.

4. Currency

The official currency of Armenia is the Armenian Dram (AMD). Currency exchange services are widely available at the airport, banks, exchange offices and major hotels. International credit and debit cards are accepted in most hotels, restaurants, shops and cultural institutions. ATMs are readily available throughout Yerevan.

5. Travel to Armenia

By Plane

The nearest international airport is **Zvartnots International Airport (EVN)**, Armenia's principal international gateway.

Located approximately 12 kilometres from the centre of Yerevan, the airport serves numerous destinations throughout Europe, the Middle East and Asia. Travel time between the airport and central Yerevan is approximately 20–30 minutes. Approximate taxi fare from the airport to central Yerevan ranges from 3,500 to 6,000 AMD depending on destination and traffic conditions.

6. Local Transportation

Airport Transfers

Participants are expected make their own travel arrangements, including the transfer from the airport to their hotel or Forum venue. In case of need, please call the help/emergency number: **+374 98 200 798**.

Shuttle Services

Throughout the Forum, transportation will be provided between:

- Forum venues
- Cultural programme locations
- Gala Dinner venue
- Closing Reception venue

Detailed schedules will be available at the Registration Desk.

Public Transportation

Yerevan has a comprehensive public transportation system including:

- Metro
- Buses
- Trolley Buses
- Mini Buses

The Yerevan Metro operates daily and connects many parts of the city.

You can buy the tickets for all kind of transports with your credit/or debit cards directly in the transport.

Taxis

Participants are encouraged to use:

- GG Taxi
- Yandex Go

These applications provide safe and affordable transportation throughout the city, and you can attach your bank cards to the application and pay online.

7. Accommodation

Participants are responsible for arranging and covering the cost of their accommodation.

The Forum Secretariat has secured preferential rates with several hotels located near the Forum venue.

Accommodation requests should be directed to: info.cultfoundation@gmail.com

Alternative contact: hovhannisyanvarvara@gmail.com

Booking Deadline

August 15, 2026

Availability after this date cannot be guaranteed.

8. Hotel Locations

DoubleTree by Hilton Yerevan (Forum Venue)

Address: Grigor Lusavorich Street 4/2, Yerevan

Rates:

- Standard Single Room: 67,000 AMD
- Twin/Double Room: 75,000 AMD

The hotel features conference facilities, restaurants, wellness facilities and direct access to the Forum venue.

Armenia Marriott Hotel

Address: 1 Amiryan Street, Republic Square

Rates:

- Superior Room: 65,000 AMD
- Classic Room: 50,000 AMD

Located on Republic Square in the historic centre of Yerevan.

Yerevan Place Hotel

Address: 26/1 Vazgen Sargsyan Street

Rate:

- Standard King Room: 50,000 AMD

Walking distance from Republic Square and major cultural institutions.

Ramada Hotel & Suites

Address: 15 Pavstos Buzand Street

Rates:

- Standard Room: 55,000 AMD
- Deluxe Suite: 80,000 AMD

Conveniently located in central Yerevan.

Western Congress Hotel

Address: 1 Italy Street

Rates:

- Single Use Room: 64,000 AMD
- Twin/Double Room: 68,000 AMD

Located near the city centre and Forum venue.

Ibis Yerevan Center

Address: Northern Avenue 5/1

Rates:

- Single Use Room: 37,000 AMD
- Twin/Double Room: 43,000 AMD

An affordable accommodation option in the heart of the city.

9. Restaurants in Yerevan

Participants may wish to explore Armenia's culinary traditions through some of Yerevan's most popular restaurants.

Sherep

Contemporary Armenian cuisine located on Republic Square.

Lavash

Traditional Armenian dishes prepared using local ingredients.

Tavern Yerevan

One of the city's best-known restaurants offering authentic Armenian hospitality.

Mayrig

Armenian-Western cuisine inspired by family traditions.

Dalan

A restaurant and cultural space situated within a historic courtyard.

Katsin

Modern Armenian cuisine with contemporary interpretations of traditional dishes.

Zeituna

Middle Eastern and Armenian culinary traditions in a historic setting.

Daphny

Daphny Restaurant is an elegant fine-dining restaurant in the heart of Yerevan, known for its refined Armenian and European cuisine, vintage-inspired interior, and intimate atmosphere.

Registration Desk

Location: Main Lobby

Opening Hours: 09:00–18:00

Participants are kindly requested to collect badges and participant materials upon arrival.

10. Cultural Programme Venues

Matenadaran

The Mesrop Mashtots Institute of Ancient Manuscripts, known as Matenadaran, houses one of the world's richest collections of medieval manuscripts and historical documents.

The institution preserves thousands of manuscripts, miniature paintings, maps and archival materials representing centuries of Armenian intellectual and cultural history.

Today Matenadaran serves both as a leading research centre and one of Armenia's most visited cultural institutions.

History Museum of Armenia

Founded in 1919, the History Museum of Armenia presents the story of Armenian civilisation from prehistoric times to the modern era.

Its extensive collections include archaeological finds, ethnographic materials, coins, manuscripts and artefacts illustrating the development of Armenian culture across millennia.

National Gallery of Armenia

The National Gallery of Armenia is the country's largest art museum and one of the most important collections in the South Caucasus.

The museum houses Armenian, European and Russian masterpieces spanning several centuries and provides a comprehensive overview of regional artistic traditions.

Garni Temple

Built during the first century AD, Garni Temple is the only surviving Greco-Roman colonnaded temple in the region.

Situated above the dramatic Azat River Gorge, Garni represents a unique synthesis of Armenian and classical traditions.

Visitors may also admire the nearby basalt formations known as the "Symphony of Stones."

Geghard Monastery

A UNESCO World Heritage Site, Geghard Monastery is one of Armenia's most remarkable examples of medieval religious architecture.

Partially carved into the surrounding cliffs, the monastery demonstrates extraordinary craftsmanship and remains an active pilgrimage destination.

Zvartnots Cathedral

Constructed in the seventh century, Zvartnots Cathedral is a masterpiece of early medieval Armenian architecture and a UNESCO World Heritage Site.

Although preserved today as archaeological ruins, its innovative design influenced architectural developments throughout the region.

The Gala Dinner and Closing Reception of the Forum will be held at this exceptional heritage site.

11. Meals

The Organising Committee will provide:

- Welcome Reception
- Daily coffee breaks (two per day)
- Daily lunches
- Gala Dinner
- Closing Reception

Participants are encouraged to indicate dietary requirements during registration.

12. Languages

Simultaneous interpretation will be provided in:

- English

- French
- Armenian

13. Health

Participants should ensure that they possess adequate medical insurance covering the duration of their stay in Armenia.

Recommended medical facilities include:

Nairi Medical Center

One of Armenia's leading multidisciplinary hospitals providing emergency and specialist medical care.

Wigmore Clinic

A modern healthcare institution offering a broad range of medical services and diagnostics.

14. Emergency Numbers

- General Emergency: **112**
- Police: **102**
- Ambulance: **103**
- Fire and Rescue: **101**

15. Weather

September is one of the most pleasant months in Armenia.

Average daytime temperatures in Yerevan range between 22°C and 30°C.

Evening temperatures generally range between 12°C and 18°C.

Participants are advised to bring comfortable walking shoes, light clothing and a light jacket for evenings.

16. Dress Code

Dress Code is Business/Formal for the main forum activities and Casual/Comfortable for the Cultural Activities.

17. Useful Information About Armenia

- **Capital** : Yerevan
- **Population** : Approximately 3 million
- **Official Language** : Armenian

- **Time Zone :** GMT +4
- **Electricity :** 230V / 50Hz
- **Plug Types:** C and F
- **Internet :** Wi-Fi is widely available throughout Yerevan.

Mobile Operators

- Viva
- Team Telecom Armenia
- Ucom

E-Sims and Sim cards are available for sale in the arrival hall of Zvartnots Airport.

Drinking Water: Tap water in Yerevan is generally safe to drink.

Safety: Armenia is considered a safe destination for international visitors.

18. Discover Armenia

Armenia is one of the world's oldest civilizations and the first nation to adopt Christianity as a state religion in 301 AD.

The country possesses a remarkable concentration of historical monuments, archaeological sites, living traditions and cultural landscapes.

Its heritage reflects centuries of interaction between Europe, Asia and the Middle East, making Armenia a unique crossroads of civilizations.

UNESCO World Heritage Sites:

- Geghard Monastery and the Upper Azat Valley
- Cathedral and Churches of Echmiatsin and the Archaeological Site of Zvartnots
- Monasteries of Haghpat and Sanahin

The Forum Secretariat warmly welcomes all participants and wishes them a productive and enjoyable stay in Armenia.

19. Contact Information



Forum Secretariat - 15th Advisory Forum on Cultural Routes of the Council of Europe

E-mail: info.cultfoundation@gmail.com

Alternative Contact: hovhannisyanvarvara@gmail.com

Further programme and logistical updates will be communicated to registered participants in advance of the Forum.