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Gujari – a Museum and Restaurant in the Holy City of Mtskheta



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Gujari – a Museum and Restaurant in the Holy City of Mtskheta



“Gujari” means a document given by a King

Ilia Rukhadze (General Director of Gujari): “The word Gujari originated in the XI century, and is the name given to a document given by a king. The great lexicographer Sul Khan-Saba-Orbeliani defines Gujari as an important document. In 1447, during the reign of King George VIII, the city of Mtskheta was given a Gujari. We gave this name to our restaurant to show that all our guests are welcomed in line with the ancient traditions.

The restaurant has been given the status of a museum

“We have officially received the status of a museum. A variety of exhibits are displayed in our main hall and around the restaurant. We work closely with the Ministry of Culture and Monument Protection of Georgia to organise various exhibitions at Gujari. I believe these will happen in the near future.

A wide choice of food
 “First and foremost, Gujari has its own brandy cognac which can’t be tasted in any similar restaurant. We also offer a wide choice of other Georgian cognacs and wines. As for the meals, we offer culinary masterpieces from around the world alongside the most delicious Georgian meals, in line with ancient traditions.

Georgian traditions
 “Our restaurant is distinguished by its unique architecture and elite design. Gujari is oriented on the promotion of centuries-old Georgian traditions, but also presents a harmonious combination of Georgian antiquities and the traditions of other countries. We render services for corporate events, big wedding parties (600-650) and other types of events. Gujari has a luxurious interior and spacious dining area. We have three halls: a small one with the capacity of 40-45 persons, the main hall (where the exhibits can be seen) which can hold 150 persons and the grand hall, designed for larger events and conferences, which can host 600-650 persons. The grounds of the restaurant include a yard with an excellently decorated interior.

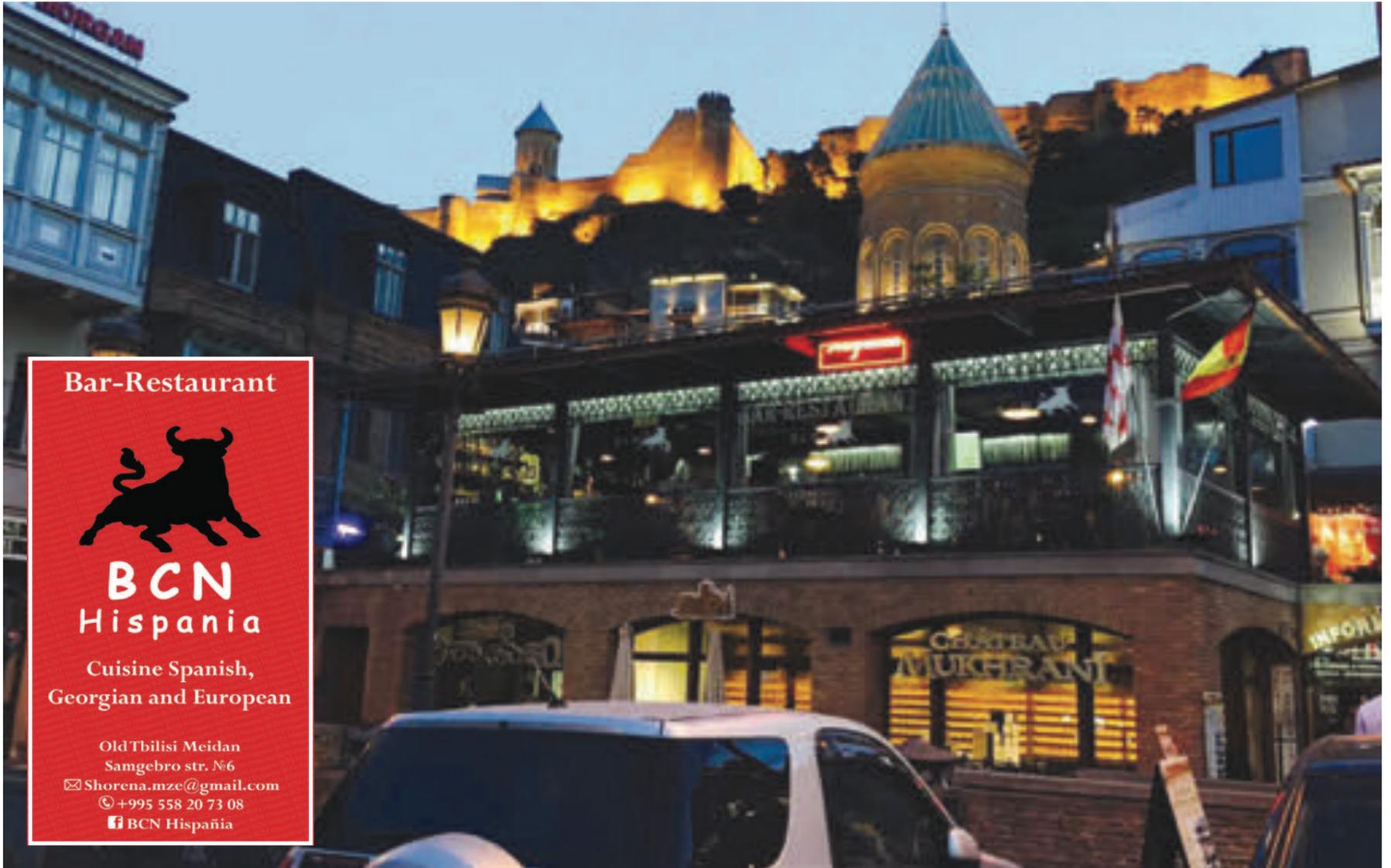
A cheerful host
 “Respecting guests like a real Georgian host is one of our main missions. Gujari is always ready to share its experience with friends. We hold different kinds of master classes in Georgian cuisine for foreign tourists, where our staff help our guests dip Churchela, bake bread in a Georgian oven, make vodka and learn the art of wrapping khinkali. They also take part in cooking our dishes.

Gujari for tourism development
 “Gujari is working to develop various tourism activities. We do not simply welcome guests to our area but arrange bus tours with professional guides. We are confident such offers will prove interesting for guests and will try our best to satisfy their curiosity about Georgia. Such initiatives will contribute to the development of tourism in our region”.

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BCN HISPANIA - Spain in Georgia

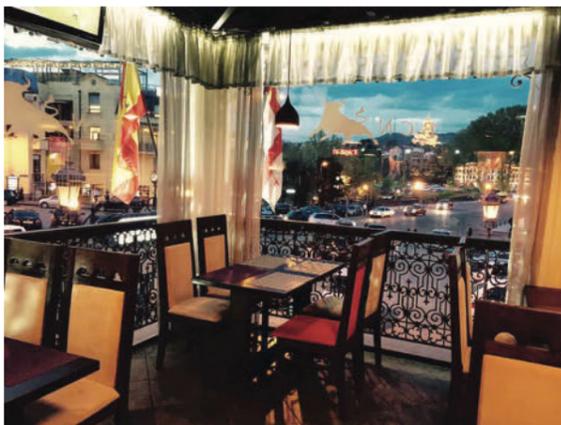


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"When will visit us you will discover a small Spain in Georgia. You will taste Georgian and Spanish snacks and embrace both countries' culture. No one day is like another at BCN HISPANIA, as you will see for yourself."

"BCN HISPANIA is a place for romantic dinners with background music, spending nice evenings with friends, having a funky birthday party or a beautiful wedding. Come on Friday evening for "Salsa Party" or bring your friends on Saturday, when our resident pianist will please your ear with music which meets the taste of any individual of any nationality.

"Football fans will definitely break out in cheers - our big screen is just right for you. In summer our open terrace with life-enriching views is at your disposal. BCN HISPANIA Gene Tonic promises you a delicious evening" - so says Jose Fernandez Garces, founder of BCN HISPANIA.

Here GT interviews Sen. Garces about his venture and future plans.

- How did it come to your mind to open a restaurant in Georgia?

When I first came to Georgia the country made a deep impression on me. I also realised that Spanish cuisine would be properly appreciated here. Our restaurant is the only place in Georgia where one can taste Spain's national food. Our initiative has worked. As Georgia is rich with delicious cuisine, Georgians do not often try foreign food; however, lots of Georgians and foreigners come to our place regularly. We have been receiving clients for over 4 years and demand is growing year on year.

- Do you offer only Spanish dishes?

Initially we did. Spanish cuisine gained wide appreciation in Georgia within our first year. Then we supplemented the menu with Georgian and European dishes, at client request. Our menu has changed a number of times over the years. The restaurant spares no efforts to offer a more diversified menu. This is the only place in Georgia where you can try Spanish Jamon, imported directly from Spain. As I am a real gourmet I often organise and cook the dishes myself in the kitchen.

- You spend the most of your time in the restaurant. What make your clients satisfied?

In addition to the delicious dishes we offer, I think our staff's contribution is of great importance. The quality of both food and service are equally important for us. Everyone smiles here. The atmosphere we create for our clients gives them a fine and comfortable day.

- Do you intend to open Spanish restaurants in other Georgian cities?

We have had to work hard to get BCN HISPANIA to where it is now. We put our heart and soul into its foundation and development. This is why we do not plan to create a similar product. We continually develop the restaurant so that it offers more and more to its clients. BCN HISPANIA is the only one of its kind, and our ambition for it has no limits. Our restaurant pines for the ideal, and this process must continue indefinitely.



SCHUCHMANN WINE BAR & RESTAURANT



Schuchmann Wine Bar & Restaurant is about presenting high standardized real Georgian wine and gastronomic experience... you will enjoy an exclusive Georgian avant-garde molecular kitchen, carefully prepared from bio food, premium class wines from Chateau Schuchmann, handmade pure Georgian interior design, open kitchen, non smoking environment, Georgian ethno-jazz, high quality service and well trained and professional stuff and experienced sommeliers who are always happy to welcome you!

"Schuchmann Wine Bar" location was carefully selected, and it was established in the old Tbileli Caravanserai in an inseparable part of the historical center of Tbilisi, which is located at 8 Sioni Street on the main artery of Tbilisi tourist route.

- #finedining
- #winetastings
- #avndgardmolecular
- #openkitchen
- #biofood



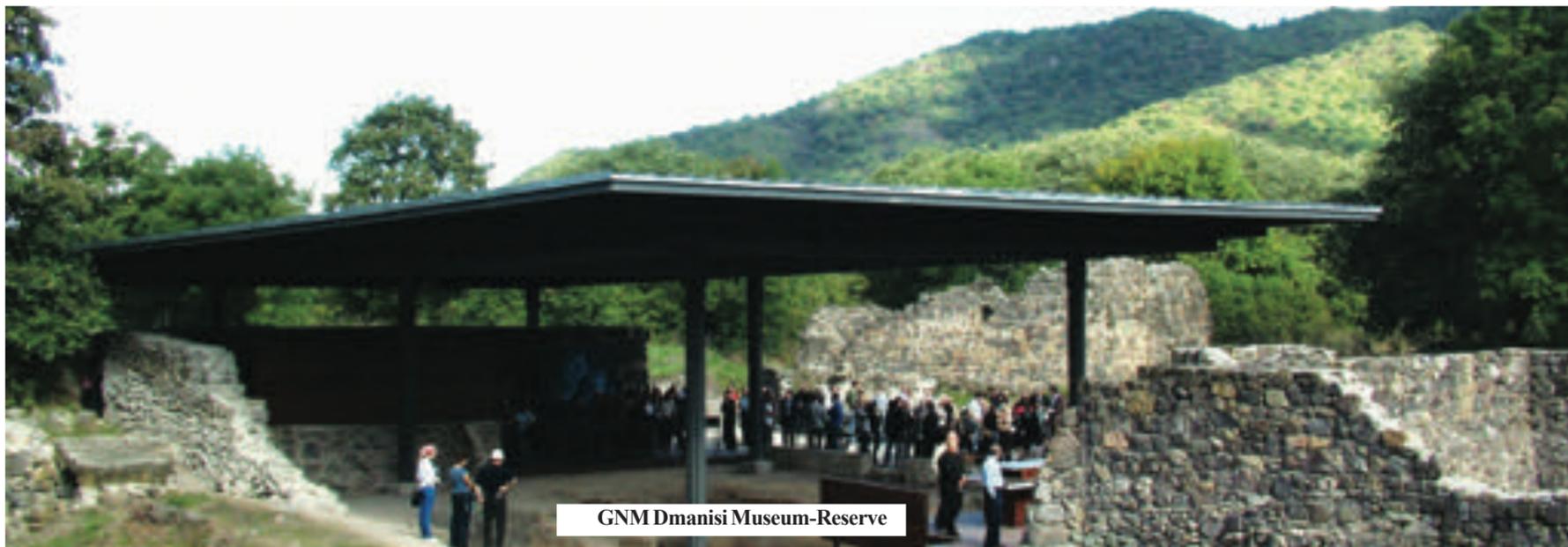
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Georgian National Museum - Art and Science in a single frame



GNM Dmanisi Museum-Reserve



David Lordkipanidze, Director General, Georgian National Museum (photo by Ira Kurmaeva)

Georgia's path through history has been a very uneven one. We are left with relics created by the aspirations of the Georgian people. We close our eyes and let our imaginations roam into the past, to see how Georgia looked at a particular time, what people wrote with, what pictures people drew and what the nature which inspired painters looked like.

In 1852 the first museum in Georgia and the South Caucasus was opened, called the Caucasian Museum. The Caucasian Museum laid the foundation for Georgian National Museum, which has been hosting visitors since 2004.

The Georgian National Museum upholds the long and rich museum traditions of the country. Its structural, institutional and legislative reforms

began to ensure long-term cultural heritage protection.

Here GT interviews David Lordkipanidze, General Director of the National Museum of Georgia.

The Georgian National Museum is the leading institution of the largest museum association in Georgia. Which particular cultural centres are part of it, and how important is its existence for our country?

The Georgian National Museum incorporates 10 museums, including the National Gallery, 4 house-museums and 2 research and scientific centres. Its main function is to be the guardian of our national treasures, their conservation and their exhibition to the public. The Georgian National Museum has established itself both in Geor-

gia and overseas due to the richness of its collection.

What does the Georgian National Museum hold, and what is exhibited?

The Museum of The Caucasus, founded in the 19th century, was the basis for the National Museum of Georgia. We are an encyclopedic museum which keeps specimens of natural and cultural heritage. These include ancient geological and paleontology items, which are tens million years old, and cultural heritage items from all eras. The museum is fundamentally a repository of heritage, and this is our main feature.

The museum has a rich photo-archive of invaluable documents, dating back to 1840. We exhibit paintings by modern Georgian painters and by Eastern, West European and Russian artists. Most importantly, the museum preserves thousands of years of history which you can see with your own eyes. You can find the oldest artefacts of our ancestors ever found and also their dwellings. The Georgian National Museum also has amazing items of Medieval Christian Art.

It is obvious that the museum is a strategic educational facility. What projects are being developed in this regard?

Education has been our priority since the day we were established. The Georgian National Museum is not only in-



GNM Dimitri Shevardnadze National Gallery 2

involved in science, but art, religion and culture. The main function of the museum is to ensure the transfer of values and knowledge. It is vitally important to develop children's thinking from early childhood, firstly based on fundamental values and then on knowledge and creativity.

The existence of museums is very significant for the region - vivid examples are the Sighnaghi Museum and Svaneti Museum of History and Ethnography. Museum educational programmes work with local schools and we have the capacity to provide many different forms of teaching. We also have specific partnership programmes with Western universities, and grant credits as part of these. During the summer season foreign students gain practical experience here, receive training credits and participate in excavations. A similar collaboration system has been operating in Dmanisi Museum for over 10 years.

The Georgian National Museum is distinguished by its interesting projects. Can

you expand on your future plans?

Six of our museums have been refurbished. Last year three more permanent exhibition halls were opened in Simon Janashia Museum of Georgia. As for our plans, our main goal is the transformation of the museums in the region. New museums are being built in Bolnisi and Vani.

We are attempting to create an association of different types of museum within the Georgian National Museum structure. There is the central museum in Tbilisi and the Akhaltsikhe, Svaneti and new Bolnisi museums outside the capital, which hold materials from all eras obtained from their regions. The Vani Museum is a local museum oriented on a specific monument, and we will endeavour to preserve the identity of each museum.

We have clear visions of the future. We intend to develop our location as the Museum Street. Lado Gudiashvili Street starts at Shalva Amiranashvili Museum of Fine Arts and ends at Dimitri shevardnadze National



Torso of a Youth, Vani, 2nd Century BC, Bronze

Gallery, and the city's leading museums and the National Library are all located on this street. Private institutions and high-class hotels and multifunctional cultural centres are also here. What Tbilisi has is like the museum island in Berlin, the museum quarter in Vienna and the Mall in Washington. In order to achieve the same status however we need to fully restore the Museum of Arts. This is our first and foremost future plan.

The number of visitors to our museums has increased by 1 million since 2004. Among these visitors are many young people, and certainly a great number of visitors are tourists.



Lucas Cranach, Procuress, 1548, oil on wood



GNM Simon Janashia Museum of Georgia, Exhibition - Medieval Treasury

VERONICA RESTAURANT

Welcome to the first and most well-established international five-star hotel, in the Black Sea, Adjara Region, the Sheraton Batumi Hotel, this is ideally located in the heart of the city. More than just the basics, the hotel offers all the services you expect from a five-star hotel.

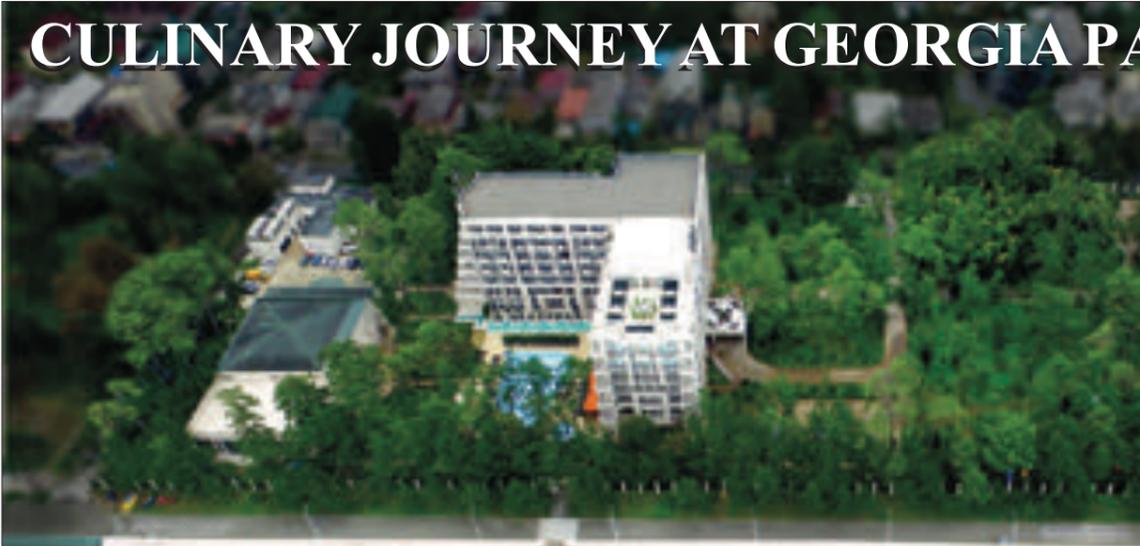
On the 20th floor of the hotel Restaurant Veronica with the stunning view over the city and the Black Sea the of-

fers variety of Lunch and dinner with top Georgian and International labels on the wine list. This is a place where Batumi is at your feet and haute cuisine on your plate.

From the end of May you will be able to visit our renovated restaurant Veronica with outstanding design and interior. The most important, you may taste our renewed menu with delicious dishes.



CULINARY JOURNEY AT GEORGIA PALACE HOTEL & SPA



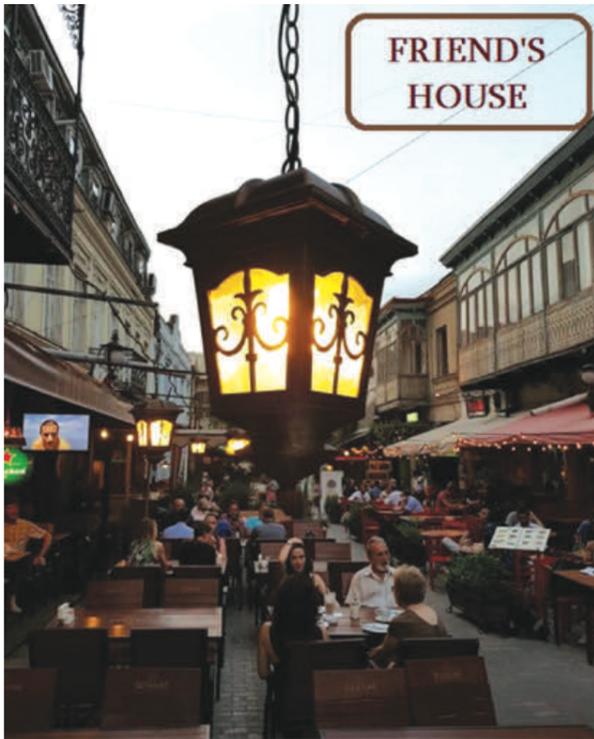
Roof Garden, our roof top restaurant with a panoramic view, brings together French fine dining food and the finest French and Georgian wines. Our fine dining menu, using the best local products, and together with the panoramic view on the black sea coast are creating a unique experience.

Set by the salt water pool, our Sushi bar is bringing a whole new experience to our hotel. Enjoy the vibrant Japanese food while sampling our cocktails and selected drinks. We selected the best ingredients in order to provide our guests a great menu in a relaxing setting.

Adjara restaurant, our main restaurant is offering lavish buffets to our guests. Set on the ground floor, with two terraces, you are guaranteed to have a great time, for breakfast lunch or dinner. Our selection of international food offers the best Georgian dishes, prepared with the best local ingredients. A great way to start and finish the day, while looking at the sun going down.



Make yourself at "FRIEND'S HOUSE"



Georgian cuisine? – is it! European? – Is there! Tea, coffee, mood? – There is, is and is! Friends will never say no at "FRIEND'S HOUSE". A place, where you can go at any time during the entire day and wait for a warm hospitability. This is a spot of unavoidable comfort. Even if it is your first visit to Georgia, "FRIEND'S HOUSE" will host you like its frequent, distinctive and favorite guest. You will witness firsthand the Georgian hospitality.

Georgian-European restaurant is located in the city center of Tbilisi. Just imagine that your friend has a house in the heartland of the capital city and you come to his or her place all of a sudden. You may take a rest, or have fun, drink an alcohol and spend a funky evening in the city center for weekend. Even if you have to stay up late to get work done, you may take your PC at "Friend's House", take a sit in a soft chair and enjoy a cup of coffee.

Friendly atmosphere of „FRIEND'S HOUSE" never leaves anyone indifferent. Those ones who have already witnessed the hospitality of this amazing spot, always keep coming back in order to taste Georgian cuisine and wine once again. A comfort, which is being offered here will make yourself at home. So, Tbilisi always offers you a place, which is yours – "FRIEND'S HOUSE".



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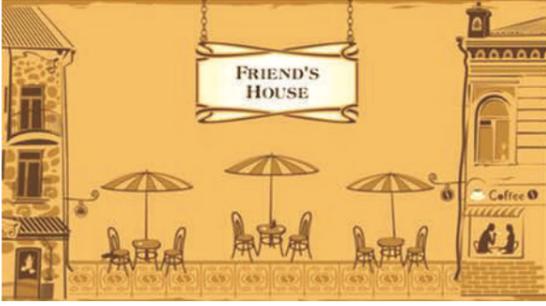
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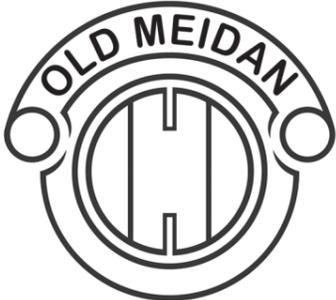
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