

Guidelines for tourists on behavior in Abkhazia

1. Please consume alcohol responsibly. Individuals in a state of severe intoxication are not permitted in the sea.
2. Prolonged exposure to direct sunlight during the day can be harmful. Protect your skin from ultraviolet rays, which can be very dangerous. Limit sun exposure for young children. Sunbathing is best done before 11 am and after 6 pm.
3. It is advisable to keep documents, valuables and money in the hotel safe. Avoid displaying large amounts of cash as, as in any other country, pickpockets are common.
4. Avoid accepting invitations to picnics, trips or visits from people you do not know.
5. When eating in restaurants, be aware that Abkhazian cuisine can be very spicy.
6. Abkhazians hold elders, parents and family in high regard. Keep this in mind when discussing your personal life and relationships.
7. In restaurants it is customary to tip 10% of the total bill.
8. Abkhazian law prohibits foreign nationals from buying property. Offers from agencies or private sellers involving property transactions on behalf of third parties should be considered fraudulent.
9. The mountains are sacred to the Abkhaz. Behaviour in the mountains is strictly regulated. Do not disrobe, use foul language, litter or otherwise show disrespect. Behave as you would in a place of worship.
10. Mountain lakes are not suitable for swimming as the water remains cold even in hot weather. Sudden temperature changes can be dangerous, especially for those with cardiovascular problems.
11. Mountain streams have strong currents. Be careful when swimming, especially in areas with fast currents and steep banks. The water remains cold even in warm weather.
12. Night falls quickly in the mountains of Abkhazia and temperatures drop sharply. Avoid travelling after dark to avoid the risk of falling into a ravine. Plan hikes to finish before evening.