

**Georgia – Azerbaijan
Textiles and Arts & Crafts of the Caucasus**



Suggested Reading List

The following titles are suggestions only. An enormous number of books have been written about the Caucasus, and it is difficult to make a brief selection. Although it could be useful (and enjoyable) to look at some of these titles, there is no assumption that you will have read any of them before you travel.

Recently published works are available in many bookstores. Others can be ordered through www.bookdepository.com, www.amazon.com, www.abebooks.com (second-hand books online) or similar sources. Some titles can now be downloaded as ebooks.

GUIDEBOOKS

Several excellent guidebooks cover the destinations we will be visiting. These include:

Bradt: Georgia (Tim Burford/Nancy Chuang, 2024)

The Rough Guide to Georgia, Armenia & Azerbaijan (Owen Morton/Adam Prince/Natalie Taylor Nov 2024)

Lonely Planet Georgia-Azerbaijan-Armenia (Country Guide) (updated edition 2024)

THE REGION IN GENERAL

Non-Fiction

De Waal, Thomas.

The Caucasus: An Introduction

(Oxford University Press 2019)

A scholarly introduction to the area, less than 300 pages thick, covers the main issues about the area thematically.

Blanch, Lesley

The Sabres of Paradise: Conquest and Vengeance in the Caucasus

(British Museum Press UK / University of Texas Press, 1991)

A bold work of narrative nonfiction, and the definitive biography of Imam Shamil, the “Lion of Daghestan”

Anahid MacKeen, Dawn

The Hundred-Year Walk: An Armenian Odyssey

(Marinar Books, 2016)

A Dayton Literary Peace Prize Finalist and New York Post Must-Read. “An emotionally poignant work” of survival during the Armenian genocide

Clayton, Matt

Tales from the Caucasus: Captivating Myths and Legends from Circassia, Armenia, and Georgia

(World Mythologies, 2021)

Naysmith, Peter

Georgia: In the Mountains of Poetry

(1998, ABRAMS)

An unforgettable portrait of its remarkable landscape, history, people and culture. Essential reading for anyone who wants to know more of this astonishing place.

Fiction

Nino Haratischvili (Author), Charlotte Collins (Translator), Ruth Martin (Translator)

The Eighth Life: (for Brilka)

(Scribe, 2019)

Longlisted for the 2020 international Booker Prize. An Observer Book of the Year

Said, Kurban

Ali and Nino: A Love Story.

(The Overlook Press, 1999)

A classic love story, one of those 'must reads' when traveling Georgia-Azerbaijan. Also a movie.

Hirst, Joel D.

An Excess of Nationalism: A Novel About Armenia

(Thames & Hudson, 1994)

An intriguing perspective from an author who grappled with life during Soviet times and provides a glimpse into the lives of Armenians during the Soviet era

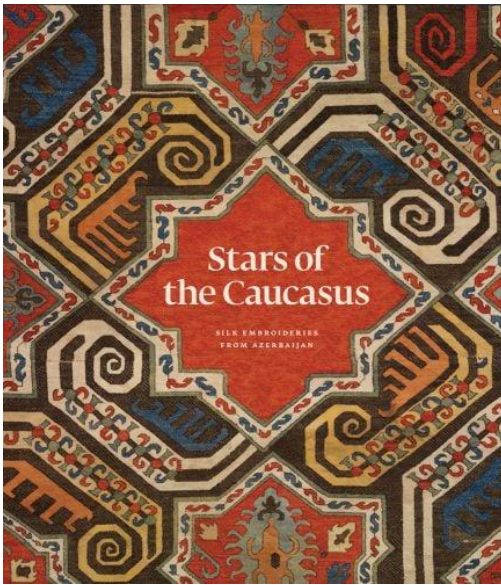
Films and documentaries

<https://www.imdb.com/list/ls052268149/>

TEXTILES, ARTS AND CRAFTS



Art on a carpet depicting Leyla and Majnun | © carpetgallery.eu/WikiCommons



Michael Franses
Jennifer Wearden
Moya Carey
Irina Koshoridze

Stars of the Caucasus: Silk Embroideries from Azerbaijan

Written by a team of international museum professionals and independent scholars, the first co-ordinated and detailed study of the West Caspian region's characteristic silk embroideries. The book traces the history, culture, and interaction of embroidery with the heritage of pile carpets in the Caucasus

Soltes, Ori Z. (Editor)

National Treasures of Georgia: Art and Civilisation Through the Ages

(Philip Wilson Publishers, 2003)

Twenty-three essays by scholars from all over the world give a vivid portrayal of Georgia's heritage in history, literature and manuscript production, archaeology and art throughout prehistoric, classical and Christian periods up to the Early Modern Era

Azerbaijan Ministry of Culture

Arts of Azerbaijan: Musical Instruments; Copper Works; Carpets; Medieval Manuscripts; Costumes and Jewellery

Published by Azerbaijan Ministry of Culture and Tourism, 2014

Available at Abe Books

Textiles, Arts and Crafts - Media

Knitting in the Caucasus

<http://knithistory.academicblogs.co.uk/a-georgian-knitting-odyssey/>

Ancient Art, Azeri carpets

<https://azerkhalcha.az/en/history/>

Quilting

<https://www.quiltofbelonging.ca/blocks/azerbaijan/>

CULINARY

Duguid, Naomi

Taste of Persia: A Cook's Travels Through Armenia, Azerbaijan, Georgia, Iran, and Kurdistan

(Artisan, 2016)

Winner, James Beard Award for Best Book of the Year, International (2017)

Winner, IACP Award for Best Cookbook of the Year in Culinary Travel (2017)

Named a Best Cookbook of the Year by The Boston Globe, Food & Wine, The Los Angeles Times, The New York Times, The New York Times Book Review, The San Francisco Chronicle, USA Today, and The Wall Street Journal

Eden, Caroline

Green Mountains: Walking the Caucasus with Recipes

[Pushkin House Bookshop](#)

Green Mountains charts a journey through the Caucasus, using food as a passport and stories as currency