

## E-2 ECOTOURISM ROUTE

### Dilijan-Jukhtak Monasteries-Chapel

**Starting point:** Set off 3km from Dilijan roundabout to Vanadzor road turning right onto Abovyan Street. Travel along 2.8km to reach the starting point.

**Trip description:** Get moving along the right side of the ground road from the starting point. Walking 600-700m, you will get to Jukhtak monasteries. Jukhtak monastery has a national origin. Jukhtak has two churches (it derives its name from the word “jukht” which means “a pair”): the churches of Saint Astvatsatin and Saint Grigor Lusavorich. Jukhtak monastery was founded in the 11th - 12th cc. Additionally, the monasteries of St. Peter and Gisheravank (Night monastery) are mentioned in engraved inscriptions on the walls of the churches. The medieval graveyard with its unique tombstones surrounds the churches. You can have a rest at the pavilion (situated 200m away, in the north-east of monasteries) making use of cold water of the source. Continue travelling along the left side of a small gorge and turn right passing 300m; proceed over the gorge, sloping upwards. Climbing the summit of the hill, if you turn right, you will see ancient tombstones. Make your way crossing the farm, then the stream along an old wooden bridge. Walking another 500m, you will reach the pavilions. Travelling along 200-250m, you will meet the crossroad; choose the way on the right side. Walking 600m you will see the mysterious chapel. You will meet fruit-bearing tree species; apple and pear trees. Including, here you can meet Common mallow and *Juncus tenuis* Willd, which is included in the red book of Armenia. The fauna species can be found here; common and blue rock thrushes registered in the Red Book of Armenia, as well as a fox and a rabbit.

**Route duration:** 1.5 hours / distance: 3km/.

**Presence of signs:** signed

**Trail type:** one-sided

**Degree of difficulty:** moderate

**Absolute altitude:** 1401m -1510m

**Road condition:** a ground, forest road

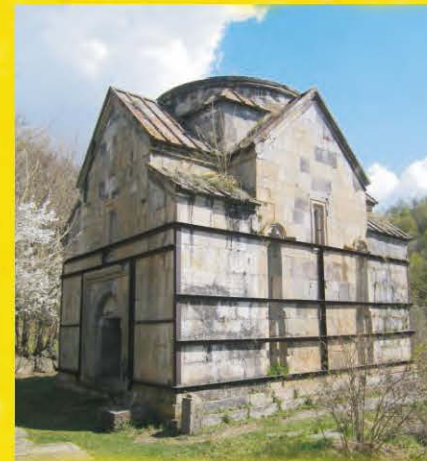
**Telephone communication:** available

### Schematic diagram of the route



### Conventional signs

	Ecotourism route		Pavilion		Crossroad
	Start		Tombstones		Chapel
	Church		Bridge		Finish



The church of Saint Grigor Lusavorich



The church of Saint Astvatsatin