Just 170 km from Tbilisi, in the Dedoplistskaro Municipality of the Kakheti region, lies the unique Chachuna Managed Reserve—an area that leaves a lasting impression with its diverse landscapes.

Chachuna is a remarkable site in Eastern Georgia of international importance, known for its high-value natural heritage, including Tugai-type floodplain forests, arid and semi-arid ecosystems, and rich biodiversity.

Visitors can enjoy unforgettable hiking trips, observe migratory, nesting, and scavenger birds, take photography tours, or try sport fishing in the area.

Chachuna has held managed reserve status since 1996 and covers a total area of 4,697 hectares. Its purpose is to preserve this internationally significant natural heritage, including the floodplain of the Iori River and its broad-leaved, sparse forests. The reserve is part of the Emerald Ecological Network.



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ქაჭუნას აღკვეთილი / Chachuna Managed Reserve



NATIONAL PARKS GEORGIA

Ministry of Environmental Protection and Agriculture of Georgia

Agency of Protected Areas of Georgia

www.nationalparks.ge

CHACHUNA
NATIONAL PARK



ECOTOURISM

Chachuna Managed Reserve is open year-round for the following activities:

- Hiking tours
- Photography tours
- Bicycle tours
- Birdwatching
- Sport fishing

Main ecotourism routes include:

- Dali Mountain Reservoir
- "Vultures' Restaurant," bird hide, picnic area
- Monks' dwelling

Overnight stays are possible in three tourist shelters located within the reserve. Once you arrive, you will feel as if you have entered a different world—defined by landscapes of savanna-like broad-leaved forests and semi-desert terrain.





BIODIVERSITY

Chachuna Managed Reserve is distinguished by its diverse flora and fauna. Along the banks of the Iori River, visitors travel through rare Tugai-type floodplain forests, while nearby hills and terraces are covered with various types of broad-leaved forests.

Numerous plant species listed in the Red List can be found here, including beautiful groves of pistachio trees. The absolute dominant species of the floodplain forest is the common aspen.

The natural surroundings of Chachuna are home to a wide range of mammals, including brown bear, jackal, wolf, jungle cat, lynx, badger, porcupine, otter, wild boar, and European hare.

Birdwatching enthusiasts can observe a wide variety of birds — falcons, sparrowhawks, and chukar. The limestone caves are habitats for griffon vultures and Egyptian vultures. The eastern imperial eagle nests in oak trees, while the bearded vulture prefers juniper trees. Black vultures can also be spotted in juniper trees. Chachuna Managed Reserve is an important habitat for one of Georgia's most beautiful birds — the black francolin.

Among reptiles, the Levant viper (Gyurza), the most venomous snake in Georgia, can be found here. When hiking, visitors should always stay on marked trails and be cautious not to accidentally step on one. Otherwise, the viper is not aggressive, and no attacks have ever been recorded.

For those interested in sport or amateur fishing, the Iori River is home to various fish species, such as Wels catfish, Mursa, Barbel, and Caspian shemaya, etc.



NEARBY TOURIST SITES

Vashlovani National Park | One of Georgia's most unusual and unique protected areas

Khornabuji Fortress | A 5th-century fortress founded by King Vakhtang Gorgasali

Church of Saint Elijah the Prophet on Mount Elias | A historical monument from the 5th–6th centuries

Domed Church of Saint Seraphim of Sarov | An 18th-century heritage site

House-Museum of Niko Pirosmani in Mirzaani | Dedicated to one of Georgia's most world-renowned artists, featuring original paintings by Pirosmani

