Lalayants Street (Լալայանց փողոց) 4.4km / 1h25m

Marshal Baghramyan Metro Station - Koeran - Old Yerevantsi Street - Moscow Cinema Open-air Hall - Sakharov Square - Chess House

Lalayants Street was one of the busiest streets of Yerevan, as it connected the southern market area to the town center, diagonally “short-cutting” through the perpendicular urban pattern of 19th century Yerevan. In the 1950s, this and other streets were officially closed, but a small portion of Lalayants Street remained in use until the early 2000s. Today, only a small part of the street remains, renamed “Old Yerevantsi Street,” meant to symbolize and commemorate the importance of the street, but is considered a slap in the face by the city’s residents. This walk starts from the Marshal Baghramyan Metro Station and Loves’ Park Yerevan, and through the Karen district takes us to the 17th century St. Zoravor Church. Moving through an arched courtyard leading away from St. Zoravor, you can experience Lalayants Street cutting through Northern Avenue, the Charles Aznavour and the Moscow Cinema, and finally, Sakharov Square, with the magnificent constructivist buildings of the State Insurance Company and the Geology Department (both designed by Karo Halabyan, Mikael Mazmazyan, Gevorg Kochar). You then move down Tparichneri Street (Printers’ Street) to the Chess House designed and built in the 1970s.

Around Erivan (Արևին շուկա) 6.9km / 2h05m

Yerevan was known as Erivan under Persian rule, and this layer of the city’s urban heritage is the focus of this walk. Start at the intersection of Pushkin and Parpetsi streets, and head eastward toward Yeznig Khachatryan Street. This part of the city was formed in the 1930s, and was home to many intellectuals of that era (writer Yeghishe Charents, architect architecture (Yos. Mamikonyan). Will be walked on掉了) and Business streets, which were called Tsara and Bubutovskaya during the Russian Tardom period, then toward Abovyan (formerly Abovyan) Street, then toward Sakharov Square. On the right side of the square you will see one of the best and well preserved examples of Constructivism-Moderism—the “State Insurance Company” and the Geology Department buildings (both designed by Karo Halabyan, Mikael Mazmazyan, Gevorg Kochar). Walking toward Republic Square you will reach the building of the National Gallery of Armenia which housed a Men’s Gymnasium in the 19th century. Continuing on Buzand Street, walk toward Zaykian Street, and continue to the Communal Park. Walking on Mashtots Avenue, you will see the only working Muslim heritage site in Yerevan—the Blue Mosque. Across Mashtots Avenue, you can see the Covered Market (Pak Shuka, designed by Grigor Aghababyan), which was transformed into a mall a few years ago, much to the disappointment of local residents and historic preservation activists. Continuing on Mashtots Avenue, finish your walk at Mashtots Park, which is a great example of youth civic engagement in the urban landscape. The Park was under threat of destruction, but was saved by a two-month long sit-in and protest demonstration in 2012.

Market Place: Ghanter (Ղանթարի շուկա) 6.2km / 1h00m

Arafat (Bebutovskaya) Cinema - Republic Square - Firdusi Street - Main Avenue - Harapatyan Street - Varden Mamikonyan Statue

The Republic Square and its surrounding areas served as Yerevan’s marketplace since the 18th century. That area, as well the market which stood where the current Yerevan Municipality building stands, was called Ghanter (meaning merchant) in Russian scale in Persian. Start your walk at the Varden Mamikonyan Statue, and walk through the outdoor arts and crafts flea market known as Vernissage, followed by the outdoor market of building materials. Then, walk on Tparichneri (Printers) Street, heading to the Synthetic Rubber Factory residential building, which is itself a good example of Yerevan’s constructivist (moderist) layer of the city’s urban heritage. It also has a great Yerevanian courtyard. Walking on Harapatyan Street (formerly Alaverdyan Street), walk back toward the Harapatyan School.

Kond (Խոնդ) 4.4km / 1h25m

Main Post Office Building - St. Hovhannes Church - Dvin Hotel and Kond Streets - Lee Street - St. Sargis Church - Historic Fortress area

Kond—one of the oldest neighborhoods of contemporary Yerevan, was a separate village until the early 19th century. This walk starts in front of the Main Post Office Building and heads eastward to the early 19th century Main Avenue and Sarayan Street. As you continue westward, you see one of Yerevan’s oldest churches, St. Hovhannes, built in the 12th century. Next to the Dvin Hotel is a great example of Late Soviet Armenian Modernism. Next to the Dvin Hotel is the Aghamalyan Family Estate, home in the late 19th and 20th centuries to King Aghamal, ruler of Yerevan in the 18th century. Roaming on the streets of Kond, you encounter the original urban fabric of Yerevan. Perhaps Notable are brick homes dating to the 18th century, a preserved mosque with a collapsed dome, and others. Moving toward Leo Street, you reach the historical Oznobryugh district, where you will see another well-preserved church, St. Sargis. Here you can experience breathtaking views of Hrazdan Gorge, and, if you are lucky, Mount Ararat. Finishing your walk in this area, you will see the few remaining walls of what used to be the Fortress of Yerevan.

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