



**Hiking over mountains, through valleys and canyons,  
discovering ancient monasteries and  
making friends along the way...**

# The Trail Today

- 16 day hike - 275km
- Armenia border to...
- Hadrut in Karabakh
- Southern half marked
- 5 monasteries
- 2 waterfalls
- 2 hotsprings
- Azokh Cave
- 1 giant 2,000 year tree













# Janapar Trail timeline - how did we get here?

- 2006 - Planning for Janapar Trail begins
- 2007 - Trail is virtually entirely marked
- 2012 - Second marking of southern sections of trail
- 2012 - Entire trail is included in a smartphone app to follow
- 2014 - Third marking of trail, extending it further north
- 2016 - Expansion planned to extend to Yerevan with help of Birthright Volunteers and OneArmenia

Birthright volunteers helped in all of the trail marking efforts so far.









janapar.org





# Homestays



- Each day's hike ends in a new village
- Each village offers homestay opportunities
- Original homestays were scouted
- Hikers are asked to suggest new homes
- Janapar.org lists homestays with notes











# Janapar Trail Expansion

- Expand the existing 275km trail an additional 560km, for a total of 820km (510 miles) of trail- all in Armenia.
- Approximately 45-days
- The completed trail will link Yerevan, Gyumri, the Georgian border, Lake Sevan, and Karabakh.
- Stars indicate main attractions along the expansion.



# Challenges and Lessons Learned



- Signs on poles were often vandalized and taken. Painting on trees and rocks minimized this issue.
- Unmarked sections remain, but now technology has allowed an elegant solution. The trail has been added to multiple smartphone hiking apps, which users can download and follow for free.
- Finding great homestays is not a simple task. Crowdsourcing this information is the best approach, but presents a new challenge to ensure feedback is provided.
- Naming your trail “Janapar” can cause confusion as visitors ask where the Janapar is, and locals point them to the road! But we still love the name.





Volunteers headed out this morning to scout the 2016 Janapar Trail expansion!

# Connect with Janapar Trail



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<https://www.facebook.com/janapar.trail>

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