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## Ia Tabagari

**Country, city:** Tbilisi, Georgia

**Position:** Director

**Organization/Business website:**

[www.gitoa.ge](http://www.gitoa.ge), [www.geofilmproduction.com](http://www.geofilmproduction.com), [www.travellivingroots.com](http://www.travellivingroots.com)

**Areas of Expertise:** Women role in responsible tourism, travel business & travel documentary films, tourism development projects

**Favorite Quote:** "Coming together is a beginning, working together is progress, staying together is success". Henry Ford



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### SHORT BIOGRAPHY:

Ia Tabagari was born in Tbilisi, Georgia into a family of scientists and medicine doctors. She decided to follow her enthusiasm for human studies and ethnology of the Caucasus region. She graduated from Tbilisi state university oriental studies faculty and got diploma in Linguistics. Later, in 1993 after 3 years study she graduated post graduate course of the Caucasus ethnology at the Institute of History & Ethnology of Georgian Science Academy / department of material & social culture. She determined her interests in folk culinary traditions, wine making, rituals, material and spiritual culture of the Caucasus ethnic groups. In 1997 she joined a large team of enthusiasts willing to develop tourism in Georgia. In 1999 she went to United States for internship: business administration & tourism management. 1997-2009 she used to work at leading tour-operator company "Caucasus Travel" in Georgia as product manager, event manager and general manager. She is co-founder of Travel Living Roots [www.travellivingroots.com](http://www.travellivingroots.com) & Geo Film Production [www.geofilmproduction.com](http://www.geofilmproduction.com). As an independent production company, Geo Film Production's mission is to develop documentary films that inform, educate and connect audiences of different backgrounds, interests and ideas. Since 2009 Ia Tabagari is PHD student at Ilia's University for business administration in Tourism for research: Destination management for responsible tourism. Since 2010 she is involved into "wine tourism development" project. At present she is a chairwoman of Georgian incoming tour operators association.

**Citizenship:** Georgian

**Education:** Oriental studies, Ethnology, Business administration

**Course of career:**

2012 – present	Co-founder of Travel Living Roots Ltd
2009 – present	Co-founder of Geo Film Production Ltd
2007 – present	Chairwoman at Georgian Incoming tour operators Association
2004 – 2009	General manager – Caucasus Travel Ltd
1997 – 2004	Product & event manager – Caucasus Travel Ltd
1993 – 1997	Scientist at the institute of History & Ethnology

**Some achievements:** Internship in USA (1999), award by state department of tourism (2009)

**Languages:** Georgian (mother tongue), English (fluent) German (beginner).

**Hobby:** Literature, documentary, skiing, horse riding, travelling, Jazz & Classic music, photography

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November 8-10, 2012  
Warsaw Marriott Hotel, Poland

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## CONTACT DETAILS:

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