

## **15 DAYS**

# **Best of Azerbaijan**



## **1ST DAY- ARRIVAL**

- > Transferring guests to the hotel
- > Accommodation at the hotel
- > Free time

## **2ND DAY-BAKU CITY TOUR**

The mysterious city of Baku, which combines the unity of ancient and modernity, has become an area of interest for many tourists. Our first



destination will be the sights of the attractive city of Baku, which is of interest to both local and international community.

Baku Boulevard (Seaside National Park), known for its magnificent fountains and greenery, stretches along the coast of the Caspian Sea. Known as the most crowded area of Baku in the evenings, you will be surrounded by amazing street music on the boulevard. Thus, a pleasant and warm atmosphere is created in this tourist area of Baku.

"Little Venice" is one of the most beautiful parts of the Seaside National Park in Baku. This town, reminiscent of the Italian city of Venice, gives the capital a special beauty with its charming scenery.

From the highest spot of the Baku "Highland Park", you will see major buildings of charming Baku, such as Flame Towers, National Flag Square, Crystall Hall, etc.

The 15th Century **Shirvanshahs Palace**, registered in UNESCO in 2000 and recognized as one of the masterpieces of world architecture, is considered one of Baku's oldest attributes.

One of the most beautiful tourist attractions in Baku is the **Maiden Tower**. This castle gives the city special beauty and grandeur. The 29-meter-high tower was built in the 12th century architectural style. There are various stories about the castle on which the ancient paintings are carved on the walls. These stories you will learn from our guide.

One of the sights that attracts tourists to Azerbaijan is the **History Museum**. Here is a piece of the main history of Azerbaijan. The museum consists of 3 parts. Part 1 preserves human bones and tombs with medieval items. The second part presents personal belongings of famous people of the country, and the third part presents items belonging to the Nagiyev family.



#### **3RD DAY- GUBA TOUR**

Our next destination will be **Guba** region, which has beautiful and charming nature. This fascinating region always attracts tourists. For this reason, excursion routes have been organized in order to visit the sights of the region. Guba is a vivid example of respect and reverence for different religions. There are many nationalities in the region, including Lezgins, flavors, Russians, Turks, Jews and others, that they live kindly.

Due to its convenient location and rich infrastructure, Guba district is one of the preferred tourist destinations.

Tourists are mostly interested in the symbol of our region, the dense forests, the ancient history of Guba, and the waterfalls which reminds the world of fairy tales.

**Qachresh forest**, where the systematic arrangement of the branches of a tree will impress you, makes the view of this village charming. You will have a chance to see Gudjalchay (Gudjal River), which gives a special beauty to the village.

The famous **Afurja Waterfall** on Valvalachay is included in the list of natural monuments in Azerbaijan and is protected by the state. There are also other waterfalls that attract the attention of tourists and travelers due to their uniqueness and originality. It's a pleasure to visit these sightseeing tourist trails

According to numerous historical sources and descriptions of European travellers, Azerbaijan in the Middle Ages was one of the outstanding centres of carpet-making in the whole Orient. Each region of Azerbaijan is famous for its original carpets and carpet-ware being quite peculiar to each place, but the Guba region is **the biggest carpet centre** in Azerbaijan. The carpets woven in this area are the decoration of a number of museums and private collections around the world. You will visit the huge carpet manufacturing centre in Guba.



## 4TH DAY- GUBA-KHINALIG TOUR

After the overnight in **Guba**, our visit will be continuing to the most beautiful and interesting village of Khinalig, located at the peak of the small **Caucasus Mountains**, 2350 m above the sea level, has preserved its ancient lifestyle to this day. For centuries, this village has been cut off from civilization by hard-to-reach mountains. After the road was paved, it became a place of pilgrimage for tourists.

We offer you an introduction to the culture of the village, explore their peculiar customs and traditions, and visits sacred places located nearby. Houses in this area are distinguished by their uniqueness, the floors and walls are covered with beautiful and warm carpets such as blankets, pillows, mutyakka, woven by the hostesses themselves. There are many historical places and holy caves, such as **Khidir Nabi**, **mosques of Sheikh Shalbuz and Abu Muslim**, etc. Called as the museum under the open sky, this picturesque village is included **UNESCO's List of World Heritage** as well.

End of the day we will drive back to Baku and be dropped to your hotel.

## **5TH DAY- GUSAR (SHAHDAG) TOUR**

Our next destination will be **Gusar** village. Known as the **Northern Gates**, Gusar is the largest settlement in northern Azerbaijan.

Gusar is an excellent staging point for several challenging hikes and day trips. In Gusar district, where is combined 4 out of 9 climate zones, The Shahdag tourist center is very popular. **Shahdag Mountain Resort**, which is the first and largest mountain sky resort with picturesque and calm nature, has become very popular with its seasonal cable cars, luxurious hotels and gourmet restaurants.



In the vicinity of the complex, the ancient Laza residential area, surrounded by mountains and famous for its waterfalls, is hosting racing on winter waterfalls. Half an hour from the region's center, Laza, which has a fascinating landscape, is undoubtedly Gusar's most popular destination for both adventure seekers.

**Laza Waterfall** - the waterfall is connected with the name of Laza village of Gusar. It is mainly a village waterfall that attracts people to this place.

Gusar is also known with ethnic Lezgins -- a hospitable people, the ancestors of Leahy, whose history is linked to the Caucasian Albania - one of the oldest states in the territory of Azerbaijan.

There are many historical monuments in Gusar. XIII century castle walls in Enix village, tomb of Sheikh Junaid, who was killed in 1460 by troops of Shirvanshah I Khalilullah Hasangala, XVIII Century Old Khudat, Khuray Village Mosques and Hil, Gunduzqala and Hasangala of the 19th Century, etc.

Then we will stay at the hotel in Gusar.

#### **6TH DAY- GOBUSTAN-ABSHERON TOUR**

Third morning of trip will be opened with visiting historical Absheron and Gobustan. Exploring natural and architectural sights in Absheron Peninsula and Gobustan, you will gain invaluable information about Azerbaijan's history.

Our first stop will be **Bibiheybat Mosque**, which is known as one of the most ancient mosques in Baku. After arrival to Gobustan, you will visit **Petroglyphs** museum- which is known as a museum in the open air, Mud volcanoes and the **Gobustan National Park** in this area.

The most of Mud volcanoes (350 of 800) is in Azerbaijan, especially in Gobustan area. They began their activity in the territory of Azerbaijan 25 million years ago.



Then we will continue our trip by visiting most famous fire temple - **Temple of the Fire** and **Fire Mountain (Yanardag)**, which has a ten meters long wall of fire, that never extinguishes and is burning continuously alongside the edge of the hill. This breathtaking view at the foot of the mountain will definitely amaze you. This mountain, which represents the Zoroastrianism, was a Zoroastrian worship of during the 17th and 18th centuries.

## **7TH DAY- FREE DAY**

- You will have a breakfast and stay overnight at the hotel
- No service

## 8TH DAY- SHAMAKHI-LAHIJ-GABALA TOUR

On the way to Shamakhi you will have a short stop near the **Diri Baba Mouseleum**. The monument is one of the most interesting examples of medieval Azerbaijan architecture due to its original architectural form, proportionality, elegance of decorative elements, harmony with natural surroundings and other qualities.

Shamakhi Juma Mosque, one of the oldest Muslim temples in the South Caucasus and the Middle East, was built in 743 in honor of the arrival of his brother Muslim ibn Valiyad to Azerbaijan during the reign of Khalifa Khalid ibn Valiyad. The domes are decorated with ornaments in ancient architectural style. The corridor of the mosque is remarkable for its unique design. With your guide informing you in detail, you will be left with a pleasant and unforgettable experience from this place.



Only four of the tombs in the **Seven Dome Tombs (Yeddigumbez Kompleksi)**, where Shirvan khans and their families are buried, have reached us today (XVIII century).

**Lahij** village is located in Ismayilli, on the southern slopes of the Greater Caucasus Mountain Range at a height of 1211 meters above sea level. Lahij is a notable place with its beautiful handicrafts traditions, particularly related to copper. The village's carpet and rug crafts are very popular in the South Caucasus. Lahij has an old sewage system (built 1000 – 1500 years ago).

After the reaching Gabala, you will enjoy the panoramic view of this village. One of the scenic lakes **Nohurgol**, surrounded by the magnificent mountains and the woods that lay like a carpet on these mountains, will definitely admire you. And of course it wouldn't be the lake without a good long hike — so to walk off lunch you will follow our professional guide, by which time the mist has cleared to reveal breath-taking views.

## 9<sup>TH</sup> DAY- SHEKI TOUR

The ancient city of Sheki, ranked among the 18 attractions of the world, is located on the Silk Road, and will impress you with its charming nature.

More than a hundred historical sites in Sheki are preserved by the government. Speaking of historical monuments in Sheki, it is impossible not to mention the **Sheki Khan Palace** here. The main facade of the building consists of a network of windows and doors, which are divided into small, geometric figures that have no analogues in the world, and are decorated with different colored glass. Most interestingly, no adhesive was used in the interior decorations of the building. One of the magnificient buildings is **Sheki Carvansarai**, which is one of the most historic buildings in Sheki that attracts tourists' attention. In ancient times, traders from the Middle East were mainly engaged in caravan trading.



Shaki is considered to be the center of Greater Caucasus Albania, and the famous **Kish Alban Temple** (Church) is one of the immemorial monuments that can become your object of interest.

**The House Shekikhanovs**, a historical building aged about 300, is considered one of the unique pearls of Sheki. The most of the room, except the exterior wall, is decorated with a "network" of ornaments.

When you travel to Shaki, it is impossible to end your journey without tasting the famous **Piti dish**. With its original cooking and eating method, Piti will lead you to the heights of gastronomic bliss. It takes approximately 7-8 hours to prepare this dish and the taste of Piti you can not be found in the cuisine of any other country in the world.

## **10<sup>TH</sup> DAY- GANJA TOUR**

After that, you'll cruise around **Ganja** passing the most ancient buildings and attractions which is indoors with nature.

Ganja with its charming nature is the second largest city in Azerbaijan and is located on the southern bank of the **Kur River**. Every corner of Ganja, fascinating with its magnificent monuments, sights, gardens and greenery, has unbreakable traces of our ancient history. You will discover the beautiful sights of Ganja with us.

One of the most interesting facts about the 17th century pearls- **Bottom Bath** (**Chokek Hamam**) is the use of egg-clay lime and red brick in the building's construction.

You will travel to the uninhabited world by seeing **"House of bottles"**, built with 50,000 bottles of glass and one of the most remarkable buildings in the center of Ganja.



It is impossible not to be amazed by the mysterious image of **Goygol lake**, which was created by the earthquake in 1139. The landscapes of **Maralgol lake**, created as a result of the same earthquake and surrounded by green forests, will also have a lasting effect on you.

## 11TH DAY- FREE DAY

- You will have a breakfast and stay overnight at the hotel
- No service

#### 12TH DAY-FREE DAY

- You will have a breakfast and stay overnight at the hotel
- No service

## **13TH DAY- SHOPPING TOUR**

Now, it is time to update your wardrobe, but new clothes and relax. You will firstly visit the biggest mall in Baku- **Ganjlik Mall**.

It contains over 80 stores, big bowling hall, 3D cinema, playground area for children, supermarket, VIP restaurants, etc. You will have an opportunity to see nation's largest Cinema Plus movie theater, Dolby Atmos, is located on the 3rd floor of the mall.

Then you will continue your shopping in **Park Boulevard** which is a multi-stores shopping mall located on Baku Seaside Park (Baku Boulevard), downtown Baku. The mall is located 5 minutes of walking distance from Sahil Metro station of Baku Subway and Baku Government House. The building has all architectural attributes of the East and modern art of the West. It consists of



six floors, including two underground floors. The general area of the mall is 17,000 square meters.

If you want to experience the local Azerbaijan culture without travelling too far from the centre, head to **Taza Bazaar**. The largest market in Baku sits halfway between Nizami and 28 May Metro Station. Photogenic sites capture the essence of ordinary life, and the smells of exotic spices and fish linger in the air.

"Green Market", offers an authentic local experience when you travel to Baku. People from around Azerbaijan sell organic vegetables and fruits at Yasil Bazaar. Lower prices and making a direct contribution to the local economy makes this bazaar a win-win for everyone.

## **14TH DAY- FREE DAY**

- > You will have a breakfast and stay overnight at the hotel
- No service

#### 15TH DAY-DEPARTURE

After having breakfast at the hotel in Baku and free time about 2 or 3 hours, you will be transferred to the airport.



## HIGHLIGHT

DAY 1: Arrival

Transfer from Airport to hotel

Accommodation in the hotel

DAY 2: Baku city tour

DAY 3: Guba tour

DAY 4: Guba-Khinalig tour

DAY 5: Gusar(Shahdag) tour

DAY 6: Gobustan-Absheron tour

DAY 7: Free day

DAY 8: Shamakhi-Gabala tour

DAY 9: Shaki tour

DAY 10: Ganja tour

DAY 11: Free day

DAY 12: Free day

**DAY 13:** Shopping tour in Baku

DAY 14: Free day

**DAY 15:** Departure



## 1<sup>ST</sup> OPTION

Ascar Hotel, Baku, Standard Double Room (10 Nights)
Kaspia City Hotel, Gabala, Standard Double Room (1 Night)
Shahdag Guba Hotel & SPA, Guba, Standard Double Room (2 Nights)
Sheki Olimpiya Hotel, Sheki, Standard Double Room (1 Night)

Nº OF PEOPLE	<u>01</u>	<u>02</u>	<u>03</u>	<u>04</u>	<u>05</u>	<u>06</u>	<u>07</u>	<u>08</u>	<u>09</u>	<u>10</u>
PP PRICE IN USD	<u>2189</u>	<u>1470</u>	<u>1354</u>	<u>1203</u>	<u>1113</u>	<u>1053</u>	<u>1023</u>	<u>991</u>	<u>966</u>	<u>947</u>

Single Supplement: 218 \$

#### **2ND OPTION**

Metrocity Hotel, Baku, Standard Double Room (10 Nights)
Qafqaz Riverside Hotel, Gabala, Standard Double Room (1 Night)
Quba Palace, Guba, Standard Double Room (2 Nights)
Sheki Palace, Sheki, Standard Double Room (1 Night)

Nº OF PEOPLE	<u>01</u>	<u>02</u>	<u>03</u>	<u>04</u>	<u>05</u>	<u>06</u>	<u>07</u>	<u>08</u>	<u>09</u>	<u>10</u>
PP PRICE IN USD	<u>2389</u>	<u>1669</u>	<u>1554</u>	<u>1403</u>	<u>1312</u>	<u>1253</u>	<u>1222</u>	<u>1190</u>	<u>1165</u>	<u>1146</u>

Single Supplement: 478 \$



## **INCLUSIONS**

- Accommodation in twin rooms
- Daily breakfast at the hotel
- Transportation in a fully air-conditioned, non-smoking vehicle
- Professional English-speaking tour guide and driver
- Taxi Fees to Mud Volcanoes and Kish Albanian Temple (Church)
- Entrance Fees (Shirvanshah Palace, Gobustan Museum, Fire Temple (Ateshgah), Fire Mountain (Yanardag ), Shaki Khan Palace, Kish Albanian Temple, Goygol Lake)

## **EXCLUSIONS**

- Personal expenses
- Single room supplement
- Optional activities
- Lunch and dinner during the tour
- Cable car activity supplement in Gabala (16 \$)

**Click here to Submit Enquiry** 

(BT-08/10/2019)