

Highlights of Azerbaijan - 6 days

AZ-01



With so many treasures scattered throughout the country, it can be hard to know where to begin on a tour of Azerbaijan. This six day tour comprises the highlights and is a good introduction to this fascinating country.

DEPARTURE DATES: 05.06.2022; 12.06.2022; 19.06.2022; 26.06.2022; 03.07.2022; 10.07.2022; 17.07.2022; 24.07.2022; 31.07.2022; 07.08.2022; 14.08.2022; 21.08.2022; 28.08.2022; 04.09.2022; 11.09.2022; 18.09.2022; 25.09.2022; 02.10.2022; 09.10.2022; 16.10.2022; 23.10.2022; 30.10.2022; 06.11.2022; 13.11.2022; 20.11.2022.

ITINERARY

Day 1 - Baku

Upon arrival at the international airport of Baku you'll be met by our representative for your transfer to the hotel. After check in there'll be free time. You'll overnight in Baku. (D)

Day 2 - Baku - Shamakhi - Kish - Sheki

A visit to Azerbaijan reveals a long history. Shamakhi is one such place. Long ago it was the capital of the Shirvan Empire and home to the Shirvan Dynasty. Nowadays Shamakhi is known for its winemaking. Visiting this city you'll have an opportunity to explore the Yeddi Gumbez mausoleum. Its magnificent domes rise mysteriously above an almost silent valley with stunning views back to Shamakhi. Nearby, the tombs of Diri Baba are equally atmospheric, built into the rock with the appearance of an eagle's nest. Approaching, we see only one side; the others are hidden in the cliffs, giving the impression that the tomb is suspended off the ground. The monument has two storeys: the lower floor was probably for servants while the upper, reached by stairs, would have been the salon. Whether it is a sacred site or a place of burial is open to interpretation. Continuing towards Sheki, we stop at Kish, the site of a centuries-old Albanian church incorporated into the Armenian Apostolic Church in 1836. Near the church you'll find an ancient cemetery where buried bodies are visible through a glass cupola. The remains impress with their height, appearing to be 2.5 metres or more. Ancient Albanian people were giants with white skin; their hair was golden. They looked unlike residents of the modern Caucasian nations. Overnight in Sheki. (B, D)

Day 3 - Sheki - Baku

An excursion to Sheki will delight; this is the oldest city in Azerbaijan. In ancient times people sold silk here. It was famous among merchants from the Great Silk Road. There's much to see here including the history museum. The star of Sheki's show is Khan's Summer Palace with its wonderful façades built from brick, river stones and oak, decorated with floral motives. Its interior design impresses even more. Within its six rooms, you can see different frescoes painted by talented craftsman; some of them feature flowers, while others give us pictures of hunting or battle scenes. There are two beautiful mirrored balconies, ornate decoration using rare coloured Venetian glass and exquisite paintings featuring colourful depictions of birds and animals. The first floor of this palace shows Khan's richness and powerful reign. A great number of animals and hunting motifs on the walls are thought to be symbols of nobility. In ancient times the palace was surrounded by beautiful gardens, though nowadays only two big trees remain. Later, you'll be driven to Baku where you'll check into the hotel for an overnight stay. Overnight in Baku. (B, D)

Day 4 - Baku

After breakfast, we begin our discovery of the city of Baku. You'll enjoy a sightseeing tour of Baku with a visit to the city's monumental, historical and architectural attractions as well as taking in a panorama of the Azeri capital and its bay from Upland Park, the city's highest point. From there we'll make our way down to the old city, also known as Icheri sheher. This area contained all of Baku until the mid-19th century when, as a result of the oil boom, growth spilled beyond its defensive walls. This tiny area measures just 22 square hectares yet contains many of the city's must-see sights, including the Shirvanshahs Palace, the Maiden Tower and the Karavansaray, once the place of merchants' rest. Today, 1300 families still call Icheri sheher home, this ancient city found within

the modern city of Baku. It's a delightful place to take an evening stroll through the warren of streets to Fountains Square. Overnight in Baku. (B, D)

Day 5 - Baku - Gobustan - Yanar Dag - Baku

Today after breakfast our guide will be waiting to collect you for your included excursion to Gobustan. Gobustan National Park is situated in East Azerbaijan and borders the southern slopes of the Major Caucasus ridge to the north, Pirsaat River to the west, the Harami and Mishov Mountains to the south and the Caspian Sea and Absheron peninsula to the east. Gobustan is an archaeological reserve and a culturally important landscape of historic rock carvings. Over 6000 petroglyphs have been discovered here together with ancient caves and archaeological remains. Incredibly, some are thought to date from as early as the 18th century BC and offer a fascinating insight into the evolution of human activity, showing scenes of mountain goat hunts, maritime imagery and ceremonial dances as well as domestic tableaux. On our way back to Baku, we make a stop at Yanar Dag. This intriguing natural phenomenon is known as the Burning Rock. It's fuelled by seepage of natural gas and regularly sees flames up to three metres high rising from the sandstone hillside. It's thought by some that Yanar Dag is the reason Azerbaijan has the nickname, the Land of Fire. Overnight in Baku. (B, D)

Day 6 - Baku

After breakfast you'll transfer to the airport for departure. (B)

TOUR INCLUSIONS AND OPTIONAL EXTRAS

Included

[International flights](#)
[Accommodation](#)
[Guided tours & cultural programme](#)
 English - speaking guides
[Half board meals](#)
[Ground transportation](#)
[Airport transfers](#)
[Azerbaijan e-visa](#)

Not included

[Personal travel insurance](#)
[Optional excursions](#)

Practical information

[About Best of Caucasus company](#)
[Book with confidence - covid FAQs](#)
[Contact our travel consultants](#)

AVAILABLE PACKAGES

COMFORT - 3* PACKAGE

Dates	Excl. flights	Incl. flights*	Single suppl.
05/06/2022 - 10/06/2022	£945	£1345	£105
12/06/2022 - 17/06/2022	£945	£1345	£105
19/06/2022 - 24/06/2022	£945	£1345	£105
26/06/2022 - 01/07/2022	£945	£1345	£105
03/07/2022 - 08/07/2022	£945	£1345	£105
10/07/2022 - 15/07/2022	£945	£1345	£105
17/07/2022 - 22/07/2022	£945	£1345	£105
24/07/2022 - 29/07/2022	£945	£1345	£105
31/07/2022 - 05/08/2022	£945	£1345	£105
07/08/2022 - 12/08/2022	£945	£1345	£105
14/08/2022 - 19/08/2022	£945	£1345	£105
21/08/2022 - 26/08/2022	£945	£1345	£105
28/08/2022 - 02/09/2022	£945	£1345	£105
04/09/2022 - 09/09/2022	£945	£1345	£105
11/09/2022 - 16/09/2022	£945	£1345	£105
18/09/2022 - 23/09/2022	£945	£1345	£105
25/09/2022 - 30/09/2022	£945	£1345	£105
02/10/2022 - 07/10/2022	£945	£1345	£105
09/10/2022 - 14/10/2022	£945	£1345	£105
16/10/2022 - 21/10/2022	£945	£1345	£105
23/10/2022 - 28/10/2022	£945	£1345	£105
30/10/2022 - 04/11/2022	£945	£1345	£105
06/11/2022 - 11/11/2022	£945	£1345	£105
13/11/2022 - 18/11/2022	£945	£1345	£105
20/11/2022 - 25/11/2022	£945	£1345	£105

PREMIUM - 4* PACKAGE

Dates	Excl. flights	Incl. flights*	Single suppl.
05/06/2022 - 10/06/2022	£995	£1395	£145
12/06/2022 - 17/06/2022	£995	£1395	£145
19/06/2022 - 24/06/2022	£995	£1395	£145
26/06/2022 - 01/07/2022	£995	£1395	£145
03/07/2022 - 08/07/2022	£995	£1395	£145
10/07/2022 - 15/07/2022	£995	£1395	£145
17/07/2022 - 22/07/2022	£995	£1395	£145
24/07/2022 - 29/07/2022	£995	£1395	£145
31/07/2022 - 05/08/2022	£995	£1395	£145
07/08/2022 - 12/08/2022	£995	£1395	£145
14/08/2022 - 19/08/2022	£995	£1395	£145
21/08/2022 - 26/08/2022	£995	£1395	£145
28/08/2022 - 02/09/2022	£995	£1395	£145
04/09/2022 - 09/09/2022	£995	£1395	£145
11/09/2022 - 16/09/2022	£995	£1395	£145
18/09/2022 - 23/09/2022	£995	£1395	£145
25/09/2022 - 30/09/2022	£995	£1395	£145
02/10/2022 - 07/10/2022	£995	£1395	£145
09/10/2022 - 14/10/2022	£995	£1395	£145
16/10/2022 - 21/10/2022	£995	£1395	£145
23/10/2022 - 28/10/2022	£995	£1395	£145
30/10/2022 - 04/11/2022	£995	£1395	£145
06/11/2022 - 11/11/2022	£995	£1395	£145
13/11/2022 - 18/11/2022	£995	£1395	£145
20/11/2022 - 25/11/2022	£995	£1395	£145

ALTERNATIVE TOURS AND TAILOR-MADE ARRANGEMENTS

In addition to organized group tours, we also offer individual trips. This could be an entirely separate holiday arrangement or an extension to a regular "Best of Caucasus" trip. Whether you would like to travel independently, or just with the group of your friends or colleagues, we can help to realise your holiday plans. Depending on your preference for either comfort or budget, we can help you to design the ideal itinerary and provide the optimal value-for-money quote. Please [contact us for a quote](#).

Based on your chosen tour we believe you might be interested in alternative trips listed below:

- > [Great Armenian Discovery - 10 days \(AM-03\)](#), Price from £1,695, 10 days
- > [Best of Azerbaijan - 8 days \(AZ-02\)](#), Price from £1,245, 8 days
- > [Best of Georgia - 10 days \(GE-02\)](#), Price from £1,495, 10 days
- > [Short Break in Istanbul - 3 days \(TR-01\)](#), Price from £595, 3 days

HOW TO BOOK

Step 1 - Choose Your Holiday & Departure Dates

It is important that you choose a trip that is well suited to your interests, capabilities and experience. All our staff has first hand experience of a range of Best of Caucasus holidays and will be happy to talk to you about your chosen trip, enabling you to assess its suitability. We also recommend that you read the descriptions of the relevant region, general information about our services, booking conditions, and trip dossiers carefully. Once you know what tour is right for you, as well as your departure dates, you can start your booking.

Step 2 - Complete the Booking Form

Online: log on to www.best-of-caucasus.co.uk and open the tour you wish to book and click "Book now". To provide you with a more personalised and relevant experience in all your contact with Best of Caucasus, when you book online we ask you to register on our system. Once registered you can retrieve your bookings, update newsletter subscriptions, passenger and emergency contact details, submit special dietary requests, view invoices and receipts, download trip documents.

Email: alternatively, you can book your tour per email - info@best-of-caucasus.co.uk, or

Phone: call us on **+44 (0)20 30 51 76 40**

When booking by email or over the phone please confirm your personal details (full name and address), chosen tour, departure date, package type (hotel category), and available upgrades.

Step 3 - Confirmation of your booking

On receipt of your booking form, we will make any necessary reservations for you and send you confirmation invoice, including the flight details, and additional information about your destination: advice on visas, vaccinations and what to take. The invoice will also show you the exact due date of the payment.

Step 4 - Payment

Please note, if your departure date is more than 56 days you will need to pay the deposit, which should cover the full cost of the flight (if applicable), plus 10% of the land-only arrangements (minimum £100) per person towards your tour. The outstanding payment must be made 56 days prior to departure. If you book less than 56 days before departure, full payment must be made at the time of your booking. You can make your payment by bank transfer, debit or credit card, cheque, bankers draft or postal order. You will find all relevant payment details in your invoice.

