

## Great Azerbaijan Discovery - 10 days

AZ-05



Embark on a 10-day journey through Azerbaijan's vibrant cities, historic landmarks, and stunning natural landscapes. From the timeless charm of Old Baku to the fiery phenomenon of Yanardag and the ancient artistry of Gobustan, this tour offers a perfect blend of history and modernity. Explore cultural treasures like the Ateshgah Fire Temple, the mountain village of Lahij, and the diverse beauty of Gabala, Sheki, and Ganja. Discover the heart of Azerbaijan with this comprehensive adventure!

**DEPARTURE DATES:**

09.05.2025; 16.05.2025; 23.05.2025; 30.05.2025; 06.06.2025; 13.06.2025; 20.06.2025; 27.06.2025; 04.07.2025; 11.07.2025; 18.07.2025; 25.07.2025; 01.08.2025; 08.08.2025; 15.08.2025; 22.08.2025; 29.08.2025; 05.09.2025; 26.09.2025; 03.10.2025; 10.10.2025; 17.10.2025; 24.10.2025; 31.10.2025; 07.11.2025; 14.11.2025; 21.11.2025; 28.11.2025; 05.12.2025; 12.12.2025; 19.12.2025.

## ITINERARY

**Day 1 - Baku**

Arrive in Baku, the vibrant capital of Azerbaijan. Meet your driver at the airport for a transfer to your hotel. Overnight in Baku. (D)

**Day 2 - Baku**

Today, embark on an unforgettable journey through Baku, a city where history and modernity collide. Your adventure begins with a guided tour of Baku's most captivating sights, from grand monuments to remarkable architectural landmarks. Ascend to Upland Park, the city's highest point, where you'll be treated to breathtaking panoramic views of the Azeri capital and its sparkling bay. Next, step back in time as you descend into the heart of Baku's Old City, \*Icheri Sheher\*. This UNESCO-listed historic core, encircled by ancient walls, was the entirety of Baku until the mid-19th century, before the oil boom spurred its rapid expansion. Despite its compact size of just 22 hectares, \*Icheri Sheher\* brims with iconic treasures, including the majestic Shirvanshah's Palace, the enigmatic Maiden Tower, and the atmospheric Karavansaray, once a haven for traveling merchants. Wander through the labyrinth of narrow streets, where just 1,300 families reside, preserving the charm of this "city within a city." As the day winds down, enjoy a leisurely stroll to Fountains Square, a lively hub perfect for relaxing or indulging in some shopping. Overnight in Baku. (B, D)

**Day 3 - Baku - Gobustan - Yanardag - Baku**

Get ready for a day of adventure as we explore some of Azerbaijan's most fascinating natural and cultural treasures. The journey begins with a visit to Gobustan National Park, a UNESCO World Heritage Site renowned for its ancient rock art. These petroglyphs, some dating back over 40,000 years, offer a window into the lives of prehistoric humans. As you walk through this open-air museum, marvel at the intricate carvings depicting hunting scenes, rituals, and daily life. Next, we head to one of Azerbaijan's most unique geological phenomena - its mud volcanoes. Home to nearly half of the world's mud volcanoes, Azerbaijan boasts a surreal landscape of bubbling craters and oozing mudflows. These natural wonders are not only visually captivating but are also said to have therapeutic properties. In the afternoon, visit Yanar Dag, a natural gas fire that has been burning continuously for centuries. This "eternal flame" is a mesmerizing sight, with flames dancing along the hillside - a striking reminder of Azerbaijan's nickname, the "Land of Fire." Witness the mystical beauty of the fire as it illuminates the surroundings, creating a truly unforgettable spectacle. Return to Baku in the evening. Overnight in Baku. (B, D)

**Day 4 - Baku - Gala - Ateshgah - Ramana - Baku**

Set out on a captivating journey to explore the rich heritage and mystical landmarks of Azerbaijan. Begin your day with a visit to the Gala Archaeological and Ethnographic Museum Complex. This open-air museum offers a fascinating glimpse into the lifestyle of Azerbaijan's ancient inhabitants. Wander through restored dwellings, ancient tools, and artifacts that vividly depict the region's rural traditions and history, immersing you in the daily lives of its past communities. Continue to Ateshgah, the Fire Temple of Baku, a unique historical site that reflects Azerbaijan's ancient connection to fire worship. This pentagonal complex, once a place of worship for Zoroastrians and later Hindus, features a central altar where natural gas flames once burned continuously.

Discover the spiritual and historical significance of this remarkable temple as you walk through its chambers and courtyards. Conclude the day with a visit to the Ramana Castle, an imposing fortress that dates back to the 12th century. Perched atop a rocky hill, this defensive stronghold once safeguarded the region and now offers spectacular views of the surrounding area. Stroll around its ancient walls and imagine the stories they hold from centuries past. Return to Baku in the evening. Overnight in Baku. (B, D)

### **Day 5 - Baku**

Today, immerse yourself in the vibrant modern side of Baku, where cutting-edge architecture and contemporary culture blend seamlessly with the city's rich history. Start your day with a relaxing stroll along Baku Boulevard, a scenic promenade stretching along the Caspian Sea. Enjoy the refreshing sea breeze and stunning views of the bay, while taking in the many attractions along the way, including cafes, parks, and cultural venues. Next, head to the iconic Flame Towers, the tallest structures in Baku, which are a striking symbol of the city's modern growth. Afterward, visit the Azerbaijan Carpet Museum, a true gem showcasing the country's rich tradition of carpet weaving. Explore an impressive collection of carpets, textiles, and tapestries that reflect Azerbaijan's cultural heritage, with beautifully crafted examples spanning centuries. No visit to modern Baku would be complete without seeing the Heydar Aliyev Centre, an architectural masterpiece designed by Zaha Hadid. This fluid, futuristic building is a stunning example of innovative design, and inside, you'll find a museum dedicated to the vision of the late President Heydar Aliyev. Finally, enjoy some free time to shop at Park Boulevard Mall, a modern retail haven located near the Caspian Sea. Enjoy a coffee at one of the stylish cafes, or simply relax in this lively shopping hub. Overnight in Baku. (B, D)

### **Day 6 - Baku - Shamakhi - Lahich - Gabala**

Embark on a scenic journey to Gabala, experiencing the charm of Azerbaijan's countryside along the way. First, stop in Shamakhi, a city rich in history and natural beauty. Visit the Juma Mosque, one of the oldest in Azerbaijan, dating back to the 8th century, and admire its intricate architecture and peaceful atmosphere. Also, explore the Shamakhi Mausoleum, the resting place of notable historical figures, set amidst stunning landscapes. The region is known for its vineyards and orchards, offering a tranquil, scenic backdrop. Next, continue to Lahich, a quaint mountain village famous for its traditional copperware. Explore the local workshops where artisans craft intricate copper items, and perhaps pick up a unique souvenir to take home. After these enriching visits, continue your journey to Gabala, nestled in the lush foothills of the Caucasus Mountains. Settle in for an evening in this peaceful town, surrounded by stunning natural landscapes. Overnight in Gabala. (B, D)

### **Day 7 - Gabala - Gabala - Sheki**

Begin your day with an exploration of Gabala, a charming town nestled in the foothills of the Caucasus Mountains. Discover its stunning natural beauty, including the lush forests, tranquil lakes, and scenic landscapes. Gabala is also known for its rich cultural history, with opportunities to visit local markets and craft workshops. After soaking in the sights of Gabala, continue your journey to Sheki. On the way, stop at Kish, a quaint village home to the ancient Albanian Church of Kish, one of the oldest Christian churches in Azerbaijan. This beautifully preserved structure, dating back to the 1st century AD, offers a fascinating glimpse into the early Christian heritage of the region. Arrive in Sheki, where you'll spend the evening soaking in the charm of this historic town, famous for its traditional architecture and lush surroundings. Overnight in Sheki. (B, D)

### **Day 8 - Sheki - Sheki - Ganja**

The historic town of Sheki, renowned for its rich heritage and charming landscapes, invites exploration. A highlight is the Sheki Khan's Summer Palace, an exquisite 18th-century architectural gem adorned with intricate frescoes, vibrant stained glass, and elegant tilework. Surrounded by lush gardens, the palace provides a window into the opulent lifestyle of the Sheki Khan family. Be sure to take in the breathtaking views from its balconies. After immersing yourself in the beauty of Sheki, journey onward to Ganja. Upon arrival, check into your hotel and enjoy an overnight stay. Overnight in Ganja. (B, D)

### **Day 9 - Ganja - Ganja - Goygol - Baku**

Start your day with a visit to Ganja, the second-largest city in Azerbaijan, rich in history and culture. Explore the iconic Shah Abbas Mosque, a stunning example of Islamic architecture, and the medieval caravanserai, once a bustling resting place for travelers. Visit the Museum of Miniature Books, home to an impressive collection of tiny literary works, and the unique Bottle House, a quirky local landmark. Pay tribute to the great Azerbaijani poet Nizami Ganjavi at his mausoleum, a site of cultural significance. Take time to wander through the vibrant local bazaar, where you can experience the bustling energy of Ganja's market life. Next, head to the nearby town of Goygol, where the picturesque village of Xanlar awaits. Founded in 1819 by German winemakers as Helenendorf, Xanlar has a unique blend of Azerbaijani and German influences. Admire the charming German-style architecture, including the old church that now houses a small museum, and explore the tree-lined streets that exude a peaceful atmosphere. The area has a rich history, with Bronze Age settlements and fascinating archaeological finds on display at the local museum. You'll also have the chance to learn about the German

community that once lived here and visit the history museum, which offers a glimpse into the area's past, including the German deportations during Stalin's regime. After exploring Xanlar and Goygol, continue your journey back to Baku. Overnight in Baku. (B, D)

Day 10 - Baku

After breakfast, transfer to the airport for your flight home. (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](#)
- [How our tours are run](#)
- [Contact our travel consultants](#)

AVAILABLE PACKAGES

COMFORT - 3\* PACKAGE

Dates	Excl. flights	Incl. flights*	Single suppl.
09/05/2025 - 18/05/2025	£1545	£1945	£155
16/05/2025 - 25/05/2025	£1545	£1945	£155
23/05/2025 - 01/06/2025	£1545	£1945	£155
30/05/2025 - 08/06/2025	£1545	£1945	£155
06/06/2025 - 15/06/2025	£1545	£1945	£155
13/06/2025 - 22/06/2025	£1545	£1945	£155
20/06/2025 - 29/06/2025	£1545	£1945	£155
27/06/2025 - 06/07/2025	£1545	£1945	£155
04/07/2025 - 13/07/2025	£1545	£1945	£155
11/07/2025 - 20/07/2025	£1545	£1945	£155
18/07/2025 - 27/07/2025	£1545	£1945	£155
25/07/2025 - 03/08/2025	£1545	£1945	£155
01/08/2025 - 10/08/2025	£1545	£1945	£155
08/08/2025 - 17/08/2025	£1545	£1945	£155
15/08/2025 - 24/08/2025	£1545	£1945	£155
22/08/2025 - 31/08/2025	£1545	£1945	£155
29/08/2025 - 07/09/2025	£1545	£1945	£155
05/09/2025 - 14/09/2025	£1545	£1945	£155
26/09/2025 - 05/10/2025	£1545	£1945	£155
03/10/2025 - 12/10/2025	£1545	£1945	£155
10/10/2025 - 19/10/2025	£1545	£1945	£155
17/10/2025 - 26/10/2025	£1545	£1945	£155
24/10/2025 - 02/11/2025	£1545	£1945	£155
31/10/2025 - 09/11/2025	£1545	£1945	£155
07/11/2025 - 16/11/2025	£1545	£1945	£155
14/11/2025 - 23/11/2025	£1545	£1945	£155
21/11/2025 - 30/11/2025	£1545	£1945	£155
28/11/2025 - 07/12/2025	£1545	£1945	£155
05/12/2025 - 14/12/2025	£1545	£1945	£155
12/12/2025 - 21/12/2025	£1545	£1945	£155
19/12/2025 - 28/12/2025	£1545	£1945	£155

PREMIUM - 4\* PACKAGE

Dates	Excl. flights	Incl. flights*	Single suppl.
09/05/2025 - 18/05/2025	£1645	£2045	£175
16/05/2025 - 25/05/2025	£1645	£2045	£175
23/05/2025 - 01/06/2025	£1645	£2045	£175



30/05/2025 - 08/06/2025	£1645	£2045	£175
06/06/2025 - 15/06/2025	£1645	£2045	£175
13/06/2025 - 22/06/2025	£1645	£2045	£175
20/06/2025 - 29/06/2025	£1645	£2045	£175
27/06/2025 - 06/07/2025	£1645	£2045	£175
04/07/2025 - 13/07/2025	£1645	£2045	£175
11/07/2025 - 20/07/2025	£1645	£2045	£175
18/07/2025 - 27/07/2025	£1645	£2045	£175
25/07/2025 - 03/08/2025	£1645	£2045	£175
01/08/2025 - 10/08/2025	£1645	£2045	£175
08/08/2025 - 17/08/2025	£1645	£2045	£175
15/08/2025 - 24/08/2025	£1645	£2045	£175
22/08/2025 - 31/08/2025	£1645	£2045	£175
29/08/2025 - 07/09/2025	£1645	£2045	£175
05/09/2025 - 14/09/2025	£1645	£2045	£175
26/09/2025 - 05/10/2025	£1645	£2045	£175
03/10/2025 - 12/10/2025	£1645	£2045	£175
10/10/2025 - 19/10/2025	£1645	£2045	£175
17/10/2025 - 26/10/2025	£1645	£2045	£175
24/10/2025 - 02/11/2025	£1645	£2045	£175
31/10/2025 - 09/11/2025	£1645	£2045	£175
07/11/2025 - 16/11/2025	£1645	£2045	£175
14/11/2025 - 23/11/2025	£1645	£2045	£175
21/11/2025 - 30/11/2025	£1645	£2045	£175
28/11/2025 - 07/12/2025	£1645	£2045	£175
05/12/2025 - 14/12/2025	£1645	£2045	£175
12/12/2025 - 21/12/2025	£1645	£2045	£175
19/12/2025 - 28/12/2025	£1645	£2045	£175

## 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:

- > [Highlights of Azerbaijan - 6 days \(AZ-01\)](#), Price from £995, 6 days
- > [Best of Azerbaijan - 8 days \(AZ-02\)](#), Price from £1,295, 8 days
- > [Great Azerbaijan Discovery with Jewish Legacy - 13 days \(AZ-06\)](#), Price from £1,945, 13 days
- > [Best of Georgia and Azerbaijan - 12 days \(CT-03\)](#), Price from £2,295, 12 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](http://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](mailto: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 BJ100) 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.

On request we can organise an additional programme for you, please inquire about the price and availability of the optional excursions.

Please find below some space to write down your queries or comments regarding this trip

This image shows a single sheet of white paper with horizontal ruling lines. The lines are evenly spaced and run across the width of the page. There are no margins, text, or other markings on the paper.