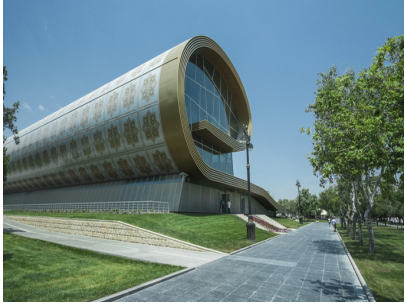


## Great Azerbaijan Discovery - 10 days

AZ-05



## DEPARTURE DATES:

Embark on a captivating 10-day journey through Azerbaijan, where vibrant cities, historic landmarks, and breathtaking natural landscapes await. From the timeless allure of Old Baku and the fiery spectacle of Yanardag to the ancient petroglyphs of Gobustan, this tour masterfully blends history with modern marvels. Explore cultural treasures such as the Ateshgah Fire Temple, the artisanal village of Lahij, and the diverse landscapes of Gabala, Sheki, and Ganja. Immerse yourself in the heart of Azerbaijan on this comprehensive adventure, where every day brings a new discovery.

01.03.2025; 01.10.2025; 01.17.2025; 01.24.2025; 01.31.2025; 02.07.2025; 02.14.2025; 02.21.2025; 02.28.2025; 03.07.2025; 03.14.2025; 03.21.2025; 03.28.2025; 04.04.2025; 04.11.2025; 04.18.2025; 04.25.2025; 05.02.2025; 05.09.2025; 05.16.2025; 05.23.2025; 05.30.2025; 06.06.2025; 06.13.2025; 06.20.2025; 06.27.2025; 07.04.2025; 07.11.2025; 07.18.2025; 07.25.2025; 08.01.2025; 08.08.2025; 08.15.2025; 08.22.2025; 08.29.2025; 09.05.2025; 09.12.2025; 09.19.2025; 09.26.2025; 10.03.2025; 10.10.2025; 10.17.2025; 10.24.2025; 10.31.2025; 11.07.2025; 11.14.2025; 11.21.2025; 11.28.2025; 12.05.2025; 12.12.2025; 12.19.2025.

## ITINERARY

**Day 1 - Baku**

Arrive in Baku. Meet your driver at the airport for a transfer to your hotel. Overnight in Baku. (D)

**Day 2 - Baku**

Today, set out on a mesmerizing exploration of Baku, a city where the ancient and the contemporary exist in perfect harmony. Your day begins with a guided tour of the city's most remarkable landmarks, blending historic grandeur with modern sophistication. Start at Upland Park, the highest vantage point in Baku, offering stunning panoramic views of the cityscape and the glistening Caspian Sea. Next, journey into the heart of history as you explore \*Icheri Sheher\*, Baku's UNESCO-listed Old City. Once enclosed by fortress walls and encompassing the entire city until the mid-19th century, this compact yet captivating area spans just 22 hectares. Within its ancient walls, you'll discover cultural gems such as the elegant Shirvanshah's Palace, the mysterious Maiden Tower, and the atmospheric Karavansaray, which once welcomed weary traders. Meander through the maze of narrow streets, where a close-knit community of 1,300 families continues to keep the spirit of this historic enclave alive. Conclude your day with a visit to Fountains Square, a vibrant gathering spot where you can unwind, take in the local atmosphere, or enjoy some shopping. Overnight in Baku.(B, D)

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

Prepare for an exhilarating day as we uncover some of Azerbaijan's most extraordinary natural and cultural wonders. Start your journey with a visit to Gobustan National Park, a UNESCO World Heritage Site famed for its ancient rock carvings. These remarkable petroglyphs, some over 40,000 years old, depict scenes of hunting, rituals, and everyday life, offering a fascinating glimpse into the world of prehistoric communities. Stroll through this open-air gallery and immerse yourself in the stories etched into the stone. From here, venture to one of Azerbaijan's most intriguing geological marvels-its mud volcanoes. With nearly half of the world's mud volcanoes located here, Azerbaijan offers an otherworldly landscape where bubbling craters and slow-moving mudflows create a surreal and captivating scene. These natural phenomena are not only a spectacle to behold but are also believed to possess therapeutic qualities. In the afternoon, visit Yanar Dag, the famous "Burning Mountain," where natural gas seeping from the earth has fed a continuous flame for centuries. This enchanting fire dances along the hillside, casting a warm glow and reminding visitors why Azerbaijan is known as the "Land of Fire." Experience the mystical allure of this natural wonder as the flames illuminate the surrounding landscape. Return to Baku in the evening to relax after an unforgettable day. Overnight in Baku. (B, D)

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

Embark on an enchanting journey to uncover the cultural treasures and mystical sites of Azerbaijan. Begin your day at the Gala Archaeological and Ethnographic Museum Complex, an open-air museum that brings Azerbaijan's ancient heritage to life. Explore reconstructed dwellings, ancient tools, and artifacts that showcase the daily lives, traditions, and craftsmanship of the region's early inhabitants. Wander through this immersive display and

connect with the history of rural Azerbaijan. Next, head to Ateshgah, the famed Fire Temple of Baku, a site that symbolizes Azerbaijan's deep-rooted association with fire worship. This pentagonal structure, revered by Zoroastrians and later Hindus, features a central altar where eternal flames once burned, fueled by underground natural gas. As you explore the chambers and courtyards of this sacred complex, delve into its spiritual and cultural significance, which spans centuries. Your final stop is Ramana Castle, a striking 12th-century fortress perched atop a rocky hill. Once a key defensive structure, the castle offers a glimpse into Azerbaijan's medieval history and breathtaking panoramic views of the surrounding landscape. Walk along its ancient walls and imagine the scenes of a bygone era, when the castle stood as a sentinel of the land. Return to Baku in the evening to unwind after a day rich in history and discovery. Overnight in Baku. (B, D)

### **Day 5 - Baku**

Immerse yourself in the dynamic modern side of Baku, where innovative architecture and contemporary culture blend harmoniously with the city's historical roots. Begin your day with a leisurely walk along Baku Boulevard, a picturesque promenade lining the Caspian Sea. Take in the refreshing sea breeze and admire panoramic views of the bay while exploring the vibrant attractions, including charming cafes, lush parks, and cultural landmarks. Continue to the Flame Towers, Baku's iconic trio of skyscrapers, which dominate the skyline and symbolize the city's rapid modernization. Their gleaming facades make for a stunning visual spectacle, especially when illuminated at night. Next, delve into Azerbaijan's rich artistic heritage with a visit to the Azerbaijan Carpet Museum. This unique museum, shaped like a rolled carpet, houses a breathtaking collection of carpets, tapestries, and textiles, offering insight into the centuries-old tradition of Azerbaijani carpet weaving. Your journey into modernity wouldn't be complete without a stop at the Heydar Aliyev Centre. Designed by the renowned architect Zaha Hadid, this architectural marvel is famed for its flowing, futuristic design. Inside, explore exhibitions that celebrate Azerbaijan's cultural and historical legacy, as well as the life and contributions of Heydar Aliyev. Conclude your day with free time at Park Boulevard Mall, a stylish shopping destination near the Caspian Sea. Browse the array of shops, relax at a chic café, or simply soak in the lively atmosphere of this bustling retail hub. Overnight in Baku. (B, D)

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

Embark on a picturesque drive to Gabala, immersing yourself in the serene beauty of Azerbaijan's countryside. Along the way, make a stop in Shamakhi, a city steeped in history and surrounded by breathtaking landscapes. Begin with a visit to the Juma Mosque, a remarkable 8th-century structure renowned for its timeless design and tranquil ambiance. Then, explore the Shamakhi Mausoleum, a historical site that houses the resting places of notable figures, offering a blend of cultural significance and natural splendor. The rolling vineyards and orchards of the region add to its idyllic charm. Continue your journey to the mountain village of Lahich, a living museum of Azerbaijani craftsmanship. Stroll through its cobblestone streets lined with traditional workshops, where skilled artisans create exquisite copperware using techniques passed down through generations. Take the opportunity to witness this intricate craftsmanship firsthand and perhaps select a one-of-a-kind keepsake. As the day unfolds, arrive in Gabala, nestled in the verdant foothills of the majestic Caucasus Mountains. Surrounded by lush scenery, this tranquil town provides the perfect setting to unwind after a day of exploration. Overnight in Gabala. (B, D)

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

Start your day with an exploration of Gabala, a picturesque town nestled at the foot of the majestic Caucasus Mountains. Immerse yourself in the town's natural splendor, characterized by dense forests, serene lakes, and breathtaking landscapes. Gabala also offers a glimpse into its cultural heritage, with local markets and traditional craft workshops showcasing the region's artisanal skills. After enjoying the wonders of Gabala, embark on a scenic drive to Sheki, with an enriching stop at the village of Kish. Here, visit the historic Albanian Church of Kish, a remarkable site considered one of the earliest Christian churches in the Caucasus, dating back to the 1st century AD. This well-preserved sanctuary is not only an architectural gem but also a testament to the region's ancient Christian roots. Continue to Sheki, a town steeped in history and renowned for its distinctive architecture, vibrant culture, and lush surroundings. Overnight in Sheki. (B, D)

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

Explore the historic town of Sheki, celebrated for its rich cultural heritage and breathtaking scenery. Begin with a visit to the Sheki Khan's Summer Palace, an 18th-century architectural marvel adorned with intricate frescoes, vivid stained glass, and elegant tilework. Surrounded by lush gardens, the palace offers a glimpse into the grandeur of the Sheki khans' lifestyle. Don't miss the chance to admire the panoramic views from its balconies, showcasing the beauty of the surrounding landscapes. After taking in the highlights of Sheki, continue your journey to Ganja. Upon arrival, check into your hotel and unwind, readying yourself for the adventures to come. Overnight in Ganja. (B, D)

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

Begin your day in Ganja, Azerbaijan's vibrant second city, steeped in history and culture. Visit the Shah Abbas Mosque, a masterpiece of Islamic architecture, and explore the medieval caravanserai, once a lively hub for Silk Road traders. Discover the Museum of Miniature Books, a fascinating collection showcasing literary works in a diminutive format, and marvel at the quirky Bottle House, an artistic landmark constructed from glass bottles. Pay homage to the celebrated Azerbaijani poet Nizami Ganjavi at his grand mausoleum, a cultural treasure. Wrap up your Ganja exploration with a visit to the bustling local bazaar, soaking in the sights, sounds, and flavors of the city. Continue to the picturesque town of Goygol, where the charming village of Xanlar (formerly Helenendorf) offers a unique blend of Azerbaijani and German heritage. Established in 1819 by German settlers, the village boasts tree-lined streets, quaint German-style architecture, and an old Lutheran church that now houses a museum. Explore the local history museum to learn about the region's Bronze Age roots, German settlement history, and the poignant stories of deportations during Stalin's era. After this enriching day, return to Baku, where you'll spend the evening at leisure. 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

- 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	Tour Price	Single suppliment
01/03/2025 - 01/12/2025	\$1695	\$195
01/10/2025 - 01/19/2025	\$1695	\$195
01/17/2025 - 01/26/2025	\$1695	\$195
01/24/2025 - 02/02/2025	\$1695	\$195
01/31/2025 - 02/09/2025	\$1695	\$195
02/07/2025 - 02/16/2025	\$1695	\$195
02/14/2025 - 02/23/2025	\$1695	\$195
02/21/2025 - 03/02/2025	\$1695	\$195
02/28/2025 - 03/09/2025	\$1695	\$195
03/07/2025 - 03/16/2025	\$1695	\$195
03/14/2025 - 03/23/2025	\$1695	\$195
03/21/2025 - 03/30/2025	\$1695	\$195
03/28/2025 - 04/06/2025	\$1695	\$195
04/04/2025 - 04/13/2025	\$1695	\$195
04/11/2025 - 04/20/2025	\$1695	\$195
04/18/2025 - 04/27/2025	\$1695	\$195
04/25/2025 - 05/04/2025	\$1695	\$195
05/02/2025 - 05/11/2025	\$1695	\$195
05/09/2025 - 05/18/2025	\$1695	\$195
05/16/2025 - 05/25/2025	\$1695	\$195
05/23/2025 - 06/01/2025	\$1695	\$195
05/30/2025 - 06/08/2025	\$1695	\$195
06/06/2025 - 06/15/2025	\$1695	\$195
06/13/2025 - 06/22/2025	\$1695	\$195
06/20/2025 - 06/29/2025	\$1695	\$195
06/27/2025 - 07/06/2025	\$1695	\$195
07/04/2025 - 07/13/2025	\$1695	\$195
07/11/2025 - 07/20/2025	\$1695	\$195



07/18/2025 - 07/27/2025	\$1695	\$195
07/25/2025 - 08/03/2025	\$1695	\$195
08/01/2025 - 08/10/2025	\$1695	\$195
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11/28/2025 - 12/07/2025	\$1695	\$195
12/05/2025 - 12/14/2025	\$1695	\$195
12/12/2025 - 12/21/2025	\$1695	\$195
12/19/2025 - 12/28/2025	\$1695	\$195

#### PREMIUM - 4\* PACKAGE

Dates	Tour Price	Single suppliment
01/03/2025 - 01/12/2025	\$1795	\$225
01/10/2025 - 01/19/2025	\$1795	\$225
01/17/2025 - 01/26/2025	\$1795	\$225
01/24/2025 - 02/02/2025	\$1795	\$225
01/31/2025 - 02/09/2025	\$1795	\$225
02/07/2025 - 02/16/2025	\$1795	\$225
02/14/2025 - 02/23/2025	\$1795	\$225
02/21/2025 - 03/02/2025	\$1795	\$225
02/28/2025 - 03/09/2025	\$1795	\$225
03/07/2025 - 03/16/2025	\$1795	\$225
03/14/2025 - 03/23/2025	\$1795	\$225
03/21/2025 - 03/30/2025	\$1795	\$225
03/28/2025 - 04/06/2025	\$1795	\$225
04/04/2025 - 04/13/2025	\$1795	\$225
04/11/2025 - 04/20/2025	\$1795	\$225
04/18/2025 - 04/27/2025	\$1795	\$225
04/25/2025 - 05/04/2025	\$1795	\$225
05/02/2025 - 05/11/2025	\$1795	\$225
05/09/2025 - 05/18/2025	\$1795	\$225
05/16/2025 - 05/25/2025	\$1795	\$225
05/23/2025 - 06/01/2025	\$1795	\$225
05/30/2025 - 06/08/2025	\$1795	\$225
06/06/2025 - 06/15/2025	\$1795	\$225
06/13/2025 - 06/22/2025	\$1795	\$225
06/20/2025 - 06/29/2025	\$1795	\$225
06/27/2025 - 07/06/2025	\$1795	\$225
07/04/2025 - 07/13/2025	\$1795	\$225
07/11/2025 - 07/20/2025	\$1795	\$225
07/18/2025 - 07/27/2025	\$1795	\$225
07/25/2025 - 08/03/2025	\$1795	\$225
08/01/2025 - 08/10/2025	\$1795	\$225
08/08/2025 - 08/17/2025	\$1795	\$225
08/15/2025 - 08/24/2025	\$1795	\$225
08/22/2025 - 08/31/2025	\$1795	\$225
08/29/2025 - 09/07/2025	\$1795	\$225

09/05/2025 - 09/14/2025	\$1795	\$225
09/12/2025 - 09/21/2025	\$1795	\$225
09/19/2025 - 09/28/2025	\$1795	\$225
09/26/2025 - 10/05/2025	\$1795	\$225
10/03/2025 - 10/12/2025	\$1795	\$225
10/10/2025 - 10/19/2025	\$1795	\$225
10/17/2025 - 10/26/2025	\$1795	\$225
10/24/2025 - 11/02/2025	\$1795	\$225
10/31/2025 - 11/09/2025	\$1795	\$225
11/07/2025 - 11/16/2025	\$1795	\$225
11/14/2025 - 11/23/2025	\$1795	\$225
11/21/2025 - 11/30/2025	\$1795	\$225
11/28/2025 - 12/07/2025	\$1795	\$225
12/05/2025 - 12/14/2025	\$1795	\$225
12/12/2025 - 12/21/2025	\$1795	\$225
12/19/2025 - 12/28/2025	\$1795	\$225

## 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 \$1,095, 6 days
- > [Best of Azerbaijan - 8 days \(AZ-02\)](#), Price from \$1,395, 8 days
- > [Great Azerbaijan Discovery with Jewish Legacy - 13 days \(AZ-06\)](#), Price from \$2,245, 13 days
- > [Best of Georgia and Azerbaijan - 12 days \(CT-03\)](#), Price from \$2,595, 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.com](http://www.best-of-caucasus.com) 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.com](mailto:info@best-of-caucasus.com), or

**Phone:** call us on **+1 (917) 259 13 33**

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 \$250) 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.

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