



explore
Azerbaijan
by Victory Tour



Baku



Baku is the capital, the largest city and the largest port of Azerbaijan and the Caucasus region.

It is located on the southern shore of the Absheron peninsula of the Caspian Sea. The town consists of two main parts: the central part and the old town.

Inner City of Baku, as well as the Palace of the Shirvanshahs and Maiden Tower were included in the UNESCO World Heritage List in 2000. The city is also the scientific, cultural and industrial center of Azerbaijan.

Azeri Carpets



Carpet weaving is one of the most ancient kinds of arts and crafts of Azerbaijan. The archeological data gathered on the territory of Azerbaijan as well as the literature pieces testify that carpet weaving art of Azerbaijan originated in extreme antiquity. Carpets and carpet related items made in Azerbaijan have been repeatedly eulogized in many historical books, classical literature and folklore.

Tour «Secrets of Ancient Crafts»

Duration: 7 days, 6 nights

Dates of tour: From April to September

At any corner of Azerbaijan you will find the workshops of Azeri craftsmen who passed their secrets of art through the generations. This trip will open up a wonderful world of Caucasus crafts – glimpses of silk's colors, tinkling of brass dishes and gold jewelry, majestic beauty of Azerbaijani carpets.

The chance to take part in the process of making will give you a unique souvenir that you will bring home and which will keep a tiny part of Azerbaijani soul.

Program:

Day 1. Baku

Arrival in Baku – check-in.

Check-in at the hotel (from 14:00).

Free day.

Overnight in the hotel.

Day 2. Baku

Breakfast at the hotel.

City tour begins with a visit to the Upland Park.

Upland Park is located on a hill in the western part of the city. This is the best place to see the city and the Baku Bay.

The tour proceeds with the visit to the Old City - with its fortress walls, historical buildings and narrow paved streets. The tourists will see and appreciate the main attractions of the Old City, including the Palace of the Shirvanshahs and the famous Maiden Tower. Just imagine that the bricks under your shoes for centuries keep memory of city's history, its fame and glory, its grieves and sufferings. During the walk you will definitely feel that the air smells like a magic – salty and oily odor of the Caspian Sea mixes up with the flavors of Oriental spices and kabab from the numerous restaurants. Baku is a young girl – it is full of energy, beautiful, bright and vivid. It is ready to change but nevertheless follows the traditions of ancestors. Behind the walls the city life sparkles like a melting pot, while in the Old City everything is calm and dutiful as it was for centuries. Baku people do not like to live in hurry.

Lunch (for additional price)

Drive to Azer-Ilme carpet factory

Excursion to Azer-Ilme Carpet Factory.

Next, guests will visit the factory "Azer-Ilme", where national modern

Lahij



Lahij represents an original monument of the Persian town-planning and architectural art of an antiquity. It is a medieval city with paved streets and areas, developed system of water drain and water supply.

Sheki



Sheki is situated in northern Azerbaijan on the southern part of the Greater Caucasus mountain range, 325 km (200 miles) from Baku. The population of Sheki is 63,000. Sheki is surrounded by snowy peaks of the Greater Caucasus; in some places reaching 3000–3600 m. Sheki has one of the greatest densities of cultural resources and monuments that include 2700 years of Azerbaijani history. The city boasts a lot of houses with red roofs. In pop culture, probably the most famous feature of Shakinians are their nice sense of humor and comic tales.

Kish



KISH CHURCH one of the oldest churches in the Caucasus. The instigators of the project wanted to make Kish Church à Caucasus-Albanian Historical Museum

carpets are made. High quality and reputation of Azerbaijani carpets allow them to be spread widely around the world, and today they are in great demand. Factory contributes to the further development of the traditional art of carpet weaving in Azerbaijan at the modern level of technology, which has made an invaluable cultural and material contribution to world civilization.

Here you can see the entire process of carpet creation - from the beginning to the end. In the paint shop you will be shown how to dye yarn with natural dyes, then how the carpets are woven from these threads. Then the carpets are being washed, dried and ironed. Here you can get acquainted with the work of restorers, carefully restoring old models of national carpet art.

In "Azer-Ilme" gallery the best examples of unique Azerbaijani carpets and rugs are exhibited.

There is a shop at the factory where everyone can purchase their favorite carpets and silk scarves for women.

Drive to the national restaurant where you will taste traditional meals and will have a chance to see the process of tendir (national type of bread) cooking in the authentic ceramic oven. (for additional price)

Free time.

Overnight in Baku.

Day 3. Trip to Ismailly region (North-West region of Azerbaijan – 290 km)

Breakfast.

Check out from the hotel.

Drive to Baskal village. We start our trip to Ismailly region where you will see the unique process of kelagai-making. Kelagai is traditional women's silk headgear. There were age and social differences in its wearing: older women wore kalaghais of darker colours, mostly black and dark blue, whereas younger women opted for brighter ones, such as white, beige, bright blue, etc. A kalaghai was tied in various ways, depending on the region. The process of hot silk coloring, called "batik", is very complicated and consists of several steps. You will enjoy the work of masters and also will be able to try yourself as a kelagai-maker.

Drive to Lahij. Lahij represents an original monument of the Persian town-planning and architectural art of an antiquity. It is a medieval city with paved streets and squares, developed system of water drain and water supply. This village is inhabited by hereditary tanners, engravers, potters, blacksmiths, and metal and wood carvers. During the excursion, you will see an ancient bridge connecting two villages, a stone water-pipe from the 16th century, and specimens of dwellings from the 19th century with murals; we will also visit the Museum of regional studies, where ancient carpets and brass articles are kept.

Right after arrival at Lahij you will enjoy meal at the local restaurant and taste the peculiarities of the Lahij cuisine. (for additional price)

In the second half of the day you will have a walk around the village and enter various craft workshops where you will see the work of blacksmiths, chasers, potters and other masters of craftsmanship. Also you can buy any item you like or order to produce right here and now.

Dinner and overnight in a village house where you will touch the soul of the Caucasian family, being in the heart of villagers' everyday life.

covering the history of Northern Azerbaijan (now the Republic of Azerbaijan) from the 4th to the 7th centuries AD. Despite the spread of Islam from the end of the 7th century, we know that certain areas maintained their Christian identity right up to the year 1836. The Gospel was already beginning to spread in Caucasus Albania in the first century and by the 4th century Christianity was the state religion. As the most ancient apostolic church not only in Azerbaijan but also in the whole of the Caucasus, Kish Church can be considered one of the cradles of Christianity and the very embodiment of this country's ancient history and rich cultural heritage through the centuries.

The Ethnographic Museum Complex Gala



One of the oldest settlements in Absheron is Qala village that is located in the northeast of the Peninsula. There are 215 architectural and archaeological monuments in Qala village and the surrounding regions. The environment which is dated back to 3rd millennium BC is preserved here. There are several architectural monuments – 5 mosques, 3 bathhouses, 4 water houses (ovdan), houses, agricultural buildings, sepulchers, tombs, barrows, remnants of castle, etc. – of historical importance in Qala which belong to the period between 3rd millennium BC and 20th century. Qala village with its history of five thousands years old had several districts. Of those, Tarakama, Balaverdi, Haji Ramazan, Chambarakand are preserved till today.

Day 4. Trip to Sheki (155km)

Breakfast in village house.

Drive to Sheki. Start exploring Sheki. Sheki is one of the most famous and ancient places of Azerbaijan. Situated 700 m (2297 ft.) above sea level like an amphitheatre surrounded by the mountains and forests of oak trees, this ancient city was long famed as a silk centre and an important stop on the Great Silk Route. We'll start our Sheki tour from visiting the 18th century Khan's summer Palace with magnificent frescos and exquisite stained glass work.

Lunch (for additional price).

Then visiting of "Shebeke" (handmade frescos) workshop, "Pakhlava" (special and famous in Azerbaijan sweet) workshop and Tekulduz (a kind of weaving popular in this area) workshop. Walking in the old street and visiting of different craftsman workshops.

Dinner (for additional price).

Overnight in Sheki.

Day 5. Departure to Baku (300 km)

Breakfast in Sheki.

Drive to Baku.

Free time.

Overnight in Baku.

Day 6. Exploring outskirts of Baku (30 km)

Breakfast at the hotel.

Excursion to Gala village.

Ethnographic Open-Air Museum "Gala" is about a 40-minute drive from Baku. The museum is created on an archaeological site.

The village is five thousand years, nevertheless there are still some neighborhoods that have survived to the present day.

During the tour you will get acquainted with the ancient dwellings, with the life of that time, traditions, with methods of farming.

Participants will be told about the way of living of people who lived here many centuries ago, you will see the real objects of that time. But the most important thing is that visitors have the opportunity to plunge into the ancient life. In this museum visitors bake real bread cakes, sit at a loom or smear in clay, trying themselves at the potter's wheel.

Gala dinner in traditional restaurant with national music.

Drive to hotel.

Overnight.

Day 7. Baku

Breakfast. Free time. Check out from the hotel.

Transfer to the airport. Departure.

For more information please contact:

40 J. Jabbarli Str., Caspian Plaza, Baku, Azerbaijan, AZ 1065

Tel: (+99412) 4379090, Mob: (+99450) 2291157

Email: tdm@victorytour.az , Skype: [tdm-victorytour](https://www.skype.com/name/tdm-victorytour)

www.victorytour.az , www.exploreazerbaijan.com

Tour Price:

Number of Persons	Single	Double
6	\$637	\$529
8	\$560	\$452
10	\$513	\$405
12	\$482	\$374
14	\$499	\$391
16	\$478	\$370
18	\$461	\$353
20	\$448	\$340

Tour cost includes:

Accommodation in 3 * hotel in double room
Breakfasts
Comfortable transport during the excursions
English/Russian speaking guide
Entry fees to the museums
A bottle of water per person per day

Cost of tour doesn't include:

Transfers: Airport – Hotel – Airport
Medical insurance
Lunches and dinners
Alcohol beverages
Extras in the hotel and during the excursions

Notes: The cost of the tour includes accommodation in comfortable hotels of 3*category. With additional payment, depending on customer, hotel can be changed to a higher category.

Visa:

Visa on arrival at the international airports of Azerbaijan can only be obtained by the citizens of Turkey, Israel, UAE, Japan. For the citizens of Russia and CIS countries (except Turkmenistan) visa to Azerbaijan is not required. Citizens of other countries must obtain a visa prior to arrival via the Azerbaijani consulate in their home country or to issue electronic visas through our travel agency. To obtain a visa, please contact our managers at least 4 weeks prior to arrival to Azerbaijan.

Practical Information:

Foreign exchange market information is the exchange rates can be obtained by clicking the following link:

<http://www.cbar.az/>

Local currency: Manat

Recommended currency for exchange: USD or EURO.

Where to exchange currency: at the airport guide will give exact information on where and how to exchange cash in the local currency.

Availability of ATMs: only in major cities.

Accepting Credit Cards: only in major cities.

Climate:

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
 Avg. temperature	6	5	8	15	18	30	32	30	20	17	12	8
 Avg. Max. temperature	10	8	12	19	22	30	35	37	25	21	16	12
 Avg. Min. Temperature	3	2	4	10	13	25	30	33	16	13	8	6
 Avg. Rainy days	4	5	3	3	4	3	5	4	3	4	2	5
 Avg. Snowy days	0	3	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

Vaccinations & Protection:

Not necessarily

Power Supply and Plugs:

For more information about the voltage and type of outlets used in Azerbaijan, see ref.

[Http://www.kropla.com/electric2.htm](http://www.kropla.com/electric2.htm)

Travel insurance:

Travel insurance is compulsory for all our customers. You should make sure that your policy covers all medical expenses.

Baggage:

Remember that you have to carry your own luggage, and do not trust him unfamiliar people.

Permitted weight: 20 kg.

Clothing:

Weather is changeable in Azerbaijan. In the north and the highlands can be cool, especially at night, so bring warm clothes. During the summer, hot, hats and cream for sun protection is required. You must also carry a handkerchief to visit churches and mosques.

Footwear:

It is advisable to bring your most comfortable shoes. Be sure to have shoes or sneakers, to visit the rocky terrain.

Comments:

Azerbaijan is a secular country, in spite of the strong Muslim and Caucasian traditions. In Baku and other large cities, most of the population speaks Russian, young people also speak English. For tourists are here, as elsewhere in the East and the Caucasus, friendly and hospitable. The country is safe and crime low.

Please note that the tourism infrastructure continues to be on the stage of development and a program to be changed if necessary. You will need some extra money to cover meals, souvenirs and items of a personal nature such as laundry, etc. which are not included in the tour price. The approximate cost of USD 30 per day per person. Local food is not expensive. You can choose the national restaurants and small cafes to eat. Estimated price menu per person is 10 USD.

Hotel check-out and check-in rules:

* For the convenience of the tourists it is kindly asked to inform about the early check-in or late check-out of your guests.

* Depending on the hotel additional price can be charged for early check-in or late check-out.

Check-in earlier than at 06:00 am: a surcharge of 100% of the daily rate.

Check-in after 06:00 am but before 14:00: a surcharge of 50% of the daily rate.

- * All reservations must be made in written form, with the exact spelling of guests' name and dates of their births.
- * Payment of all confirmed orders must be made at least 10 days before the planned date of arrival of tourists to the hotel.

Children policy:

- *Children under 2 years old participate in tour for free.
- *Children from 2 till 12 participate in tour with 30% discount of the tour's price.

Cancellation and penalties:

- * All modifications and cancellations of confirmed orders must be made in written form.
- * Cancellation of confirmed applications earlier than 7 days prior to arrival is not subject to penalties.
- * Cancellation of confirmed applications later than 7 days and more than 3 days before the planned arrival: a penalty of 50% of the total cost of the tour.
- * Cancellation of confirmed applications later than 3 days, or after the date of the planned arrival: penalty is 100% of the full cost of the tour.

Transfers and additional services:

Price for transfer Airport- Hotel: 35 USD / one way /for a car up to 3 seats.

The cultural life of Baku is very diverse.

Our consultants and guides are always happy to provide a wide range of cultural programs to brighten up leisure activities.

For information about events and concerts visit the website: www.citylife.az