



ALMATY & BEYOND

HIGHLIGHTS

Shymbulak with cable car/ Kok Tobe with cable car/ City tour /Shopping tour/ Big ALmaty Lake/ Walking tour of Baku Boulevard & Mini Venice / Old City (Icheri Seher) Tour/ Temple of Fire / Burning Mountain / Gobustan Rock Arts / Bibi-Heybat Mosque / World's First Oil Well / Private transportation / English speaking guides / daily meals / Visa

DAY 01		WELCOME ALMATY KOK TOBE TOUR	
15:30 Hrs		Welcome to Almaty!! After clearing custom & immigration procedures followed by baggage collection, you will be met by our English speaking office staff in the arrivals hall.	
16:30 – 17:30 Hrs		Our team will escort the group to the vehicle which will transport the guests to the hotel. Upon arrival at the hotel group will check-in to their respective rooms.	
19:00 – 21:00 Hrs		Continue the tour to KOK-TOBE mountain entertainment. You will reach KOK-TOBE using a short picturesque Gondola ride.	
19:00 – 21:00 Hrs		Kok Tobe is the highest point in the city of Almaty standing on an 1100 m hill at the south-east edge of the city. It is worth a visit to KokTobe because of its panoramic view of the city from all directions. To reach the KokTobe hill, one should take a cable car ride which starts near Hotel Kazakhstan and goes over some of the oldest parts of Almaty and the magnificent fruit growing gardens.	
21:00 – 22:00 Hrs		Dinner at Indian restaurant. Later transfer to the hotel. Evening at your personal disposal	

DAY 02		FUN IN SHYMBULAK SKI RESORT CITY TOUR	
07:00 – 10:00 Hrs		Breakfast at the hotel.	

10:00 – 13:30 Hrs	<p>Proceed on an excursion to the beautiful mountain resort of Shymbulak Ski resort including Gondola tickets to level 3 and services of our English speaking guide.</p> <p>“Shymbulak Ski Resort” is located in the beautiful Zailiyskiy Alatau mountain at 2260 m above sea level. It is 25 Km from the city centre of Almaty city and has an average temperature of +25C in the summer & -7C in the winter months. The average snowfall is around 1.5M. It is usually very sunny as the average number of sunny days a year can reach 90%. Ski season is normally begins in December and can run into April.</p> <p>The ski slopes are served by Gondola cars from “Medeu” to the base of Shymbulak, 2260 m above sea level. This Gondola is the world’s third-longest Gondola with a length of 4.5 KM. The Gondola has 114 comfortable cabins for all guests of the resort and has the capacity of 2,000 people per hour. The Ski resort has six lifts that service the mountains. Two combination lifts (Combi1 & Combi2) that have both quad-chairs and 8 passenger cabins, two quad-chair lifts. The lift system will take you to Talgar pass where you are 3180 m above sea level. A vertical rise of 920 m. The majestic mountain view with snowy slopes and evergreen Tien Shan are spectacular and must be seen.</p> <p>Located in the resort is a hotel, restaurants, café and coffee shop with a variety of cuisine to suit all taste.</p> <p>Time at leisure.</p>
14:00 – 15:00 Hrs	Lunch at Indian restaurant.
16:00 – 19:00 Hrs	<p>Sightseeing tour starts in the central part of Almaty. You will know more about history and development if the southern capital of Kazakhstan and see its major attractions: Palace of President, Republic Square & monument of independence, Astana Square, Abai Square & Republic palace. The tour will continue in one of the oldest Almaty parks – Panfilov park, where you will see of the unique wooden buildings in the world – Zenkov cathedral and also visit the memorial of Glory & eternal flame, dedicated to the memory of the fighters who died for freedom & independence of the country.</p>
20:00 – 22:00 Hrs	Dinner at Indian restaurant.

DAY 03 BIG ALMATY LAKE | GREEN BAZAAR

07:00 – 10:00 Hrs	Breakfast at the hotel.
10:00 – 13:30 Hrs	<p>Our guide and driver will meet you at hotel lobby to take a tour to the Big Almaty Lake located at an altitude of 2500 meters above sea level. The inhabitants call it Zhasylkol which means "Green Lake" in Kazakh language. You will spend a few hours enjoying the pristine natural beauty of the glaciers, the harsh peaks and pine forests. On the return back to the city, the group will make a quick halt to visit The First President Park. The total area of the park is 73 hectares. The main idea of the creation the park is a combination of the unique natural landscape of Almaty and scientific achievements of the twentieth century. (Time permitting)</p>
14:00 – 15:00 Hrs	Lunch at Indian restaurant.
16:00 – 19:00 Hrs	<p>The Green Bazaar, or Zelionyj Bazar, is a place you really should visit when visiting Almaty. This market is central to the everyday life of the local people and it is so called the ‘Green Bazar, or market, because in the past it was the traditional place to buy and sell local produce like vegetables. It is by no means the only market in Almaty, but it is the most well-known, and probably, sells the widest range of goods. This is a great place to feel the real atmosphere of central Asia and to get involved with a bit of ‘haggling’ and sampling of</p>

local produce.

20:00 – 22:00 Hrs Dinner at Indian restaurant.

DAY 04 GOOD BYE ALMATY | WELCOME TO BAKU | WALKING TOUR OF BAKU BOULEVARD & MINI VENICE

05:30 – 08:00 Hrs Breakfast at the Hotel.

08:30 Hrs Transfer to airport for Baku.

12:00 Hrs Welcome to Baku!! After clearing custom & immigration procedures followed by baggage collection, you will be met by our English speaking office staff in the arrivals hall.

12:30 Hrs Our team will escort the group to their vehicle. Proceed to your hotel. Upon arrival at the hotel group will check-in to their respective rooms.

14:30 Hrs Lunch at Indian restaurant.

16:00 Hrs Baku Boulevard, a breezy promenade hugging the Baku seafront, was established in the early 20th century when local oil barons began building grand waterfront mansions along the shores of the Caspian Sea. Extending 3 miles (5 km) from National Flag Square beyond Freedom Square, modern-day Baku Boulevard offers a wide swatch of sidewalk lined with trees, shops and al fresco cafes.

Popular with both visitors and locals, it's common to see walkers, joggers, cyclists and rollerbladers whizzing along the promenade. Bicycles and pedal cars are available for rent along the Baku Boulevard.

At the end of the Baku Seaside Boulevard promenade, there's an area with some artificial canals and bridges, which is meant to give a bit of a Venice feel. The guest will enjoy Boat ride experience at Little Venice.

20:00 Hrs Dinner at Indian restaurant.

Over Night in Baku.

DAY 05 OLD CITY TOUR | FIRE TEMPLE | BURNING MOUNTAIN

07:00 – 10:00 Hrs Breakfast at the hotel.

10:00 – 13:30 Hrs We will head to the Old City to Explore the UNESCO heritage site. The ancient heart of Baku is Icheri Sheher, a magical maze of narrow lanes and alleyways that's still mostly ringed by battlement-topped defensive walls erected in the 12th century, build on a site inhabited since the Palaeolithic period, this old city core reveals evidence of Zoroastrian, Sasanian Arabian, Persian, Shirvani and ottoman presence. During the tour, you will discover traditional mosques with calligraphic facades, old Hammams, merchants' houses and charming trading street made all the more colourful with quirky little art galleries and carpet shops. Photo Tour to the mysterious Maiden Tower (Giz Galasy), a possibly as early as the 6th century BC. And to finish off, you'll explore the 15th century Shirvanshahs' Palace. Once home to the noble dynasty under which Baku had its first major period of historical brilliance

14:00 – 15:00 Hrs Lunch at Indian restaurant.

15:00 – 19:00 Hrs	<p>Apsheron Peninsula tour includes a combination of the two most interesting places not far from Baku such as Atashgah Fire Temple&Yanardag. Our guide will help you not to get lost in the maze of the history of the Absheron Peninsula.</p> <p>Your tour starts at your hotel, and your first stop will be Ateshgah Fire Temple, which located in the Suraxani village, 30 km away from Baku. It is situated on a rock where natural emergences of gas on the surface have been burning for thousands of years. Here you will learn more about one of the most remarkable Zoroastrian temples which was actually built by 18th century Indian Shiva devotees.</p> <p>Your excursion continues on the other most famous and popular tourist places of the “eternal flame” in Azerbaijan is the Yanar Dag Burning Mountain, which is located near Mahammadli village, 25 km from downtown. In the 13th century, Marco Polo mentioned many natural gas flames burning spontaneously from the territory of Abşeron Peninsula. One of such places Yanardag (burning mountain from azerb) still exists. Natural gas burning on its slope from ancient times. Meter long tongues of fire are licking the stratified earth approximately for 10 m in width, searing those who approached too close. People occupy the benches to watch the blazing hill in the evening, when its sight is most effective. Here you will have a chance to discover why Azerbaijan nickname is “Land of Fire”.</p>
20:00 – 22:00 Hrs	<p>Dinner at Indian restaurant.</p> <p>Overnight in Baku.</p>

DAY 06 GOBUSTAN ROCK ARTS | BIBI-HEYBAT MOSQUE & WORLD'S FIRST OIL WELL

07:00 – 10:00 Hrs	Breakfast at the hotel.
10:00 – 13:30 Hrs	<p>Today we will visit “Gobustan Excursion on historical-art reserve “Gobustan”, where rock paintings have perfectly remained, barrows and housing objects dated from X-XIII millennial BC to the Middle Ages. There are certificates of inhabitants of region of an epoch of the Stone Age and the subsequent periods in “Gobustan” - Rock drawings, person parking, gravestone monuments, are concentrated there. Nearby is “Gaval Chalan” - original stone- tambourine, representing flat wise established huge plate. It is possible to hear rhythmic accurate motives by knocking on it. It is considered that these sounds accompanied ritual dances and ceremonies. Visiting of “Gobustan” will transfer you to other world, the world of last mankind and will allow you to feel the atmosphere of thousand – year history of this place.</p>
14:00 – 15:30 Hrs	Lunch at Indian restaurant.
16:00 – 19:00 Hrs	<p>Our experienced and friendly guide will pick you up at your hotel. Get an early start to take in Azerbaijan’s capital, Baku. Begin touring with a visit to the beautiful Bibi-Heybat Mosque, originally constructed in the 13th century in honour of the sister of Imam Ali. Today, it sits near one of Azerbaijan’s first oil fields, which grew during the first oil boom in the late 19th and early 20th centuries.</p> <p>The world’s first-ever mechanically drilled oil well (World’s First Oil Well), located in the Bibi-Heybat settlement 10 kilometres west of Baku. The well produced the first gush of oil in 1847 and was just 21 meters deep at that time. On 26 April 2017, the State Oil Company of the Azerbaijan Republic (SOCAR) completed the reconstruction of this first oil well.</p>
20:00 – 20:30 Hrs	<p>Dinner at Indian restaurant. Later transfer to the hotel.</p> <p>Overnight at Baku.</p>

DAY 07**GOOD BYE BAKU!**

07:30 – 10:00 Hrs

Breakfast at the Hotel.

10:00 – 12:00 Hrs

Free time for leisure.

12:00 Hrs

Transfer to the airport in Baku and scheduled flights from Baku to home.