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# **SHAMAHAN QUEEN (6 nights)**

***Azerbaijan is an ancient land, its culture was formed under the influence of great empires: Persian, Ottoman, and later Russian. Independent states existed on the territory of modern Azerbaijan: the Great Caucasian Albania, which was Zoroastrian, Christian, and finally converted to Islam, the Shirvan and Sheki Khanates. The heritage of these cultures is numerous architectural monuments - mosques, mausoleums of Sufis, Christian churches, palaces of Shirvanshahs and mansions of oil industrialists of the times of the Russian Empire. The land of Azerbaijan has presented the world with great scientists and philosophers, and the works of craftsmen decorate the best museums in the world. A special pleasure is Azerbaijan cuisine. You will appreciate the Caspian fish restaurants, Caucasian meat dishes and, of course, oriental sweets - the famous Baku baklava and halva.***

**ACCOMMODATION: 5 nights in Baku, 1 night in Sheki**

**GUARANTEED DAYS OF ARRIVALS FOR 2020: 03.03.20, 03.04.20, 01.05.20, 05.25.20, 08.28.20, 09.25.20, 30.10.20**

**DAY: 1 BAKU**

* Arrival in Baku.
* Meeting at Baku airport, transfer and check-in at the hotel 14:00.
* Free time.
* Overnight at a hotel in Baku

**DAY: 2 BAKU**

* Breakfast in the hotel.
* Walking tour of the old city of Icheri Sheher. This is an old residential quarter in the center of Baku, surrounded by walls with the famous Maiden’s Tower. Dozens of historical monuments are located on the territory of the old city - the Market Square, mosques, caravanserais, baths, houses and the Shirvanshahs palace complex - the pearl of Azerbaijani architecture.
* Lunch in a restaurant with national cuisine (paid by the menu yourself).
* Further, acquaintance with the architectural heritage of the time of the first oil boom (early 20th century) - magnificent mansions of the Baku oil magnates at the end of the external examination of the Azerbaijan History Museum, which is located in a historic building, the mansion of the famous philanthropist Tagiyev.
* Free time.
* Overnight at a hotel in Baku

**DAY 3: BAKU - GOBUSTAN RESERVE**

* Breakfast in the hotel.
* Excursion to the Gobustan reserve of cave paintings and mud volcanoes. Many do not even assume that about 40% of the mud volcanoes of the whole world are located in Azerbaijan, and their largest number is in Gobustan. On the way, you will see the famous floating oil platforms.
* Upon returning to Baku, inspection of the Bibi-Kheibat mosque.
* Lunch at a seafood restaurant on the seafront (payable à la carte).
* Further, an external examination of the Carpet Museum, the treasury of Azerbaijani national culture, the Museum Building is a miracle of modern architecture, it has the shape of a folded carpet. The design of the building was made by the Austrian architectural studio Hoffman.
* At the end, transfer to the hotel.
* Overnight at a hotel in Baku

**DAY 4: BAKU - APSHERONIAN PENINSULA**

* Breakfast in the hotel.
* Market visit.
* Further excursion to the Absheron peninsula, you will visit the Temple of Fire-worshipers
* Ateshgah, located 25 km from Baku. This is an ancient religious building built on the site of the release of natural gas. The temple was restored in the XVII century. In the former cells where the pilgrims stayed, the museum is now located. Then a trip to the historian - the ethnographic museum-reserve Gala. On the territory of the reserve, mosques, hammams, residential buildings, tombs, barrows and other monuments related to the centuries-old history of Azerbaijan. Further excursion to Yanardag is another unique object of the ancient Land of Fire-worshipers.
* Return to Baku.
* Visit to the Heydar Aliyev Center, which is located in a building designed by the legendary architecture diva Zaha Hadid. The cultural center has several museums, an exhibition complex, a concert hall, a library, as well as rooms for special events. The largest events of Azerbaijan and the entire Caucasus-Caspian region are taking place there.
* Then visit the famous "Villa Petrolea", where the Nobel Brothers Museum is open. The Nobel Brothers fellowship, which had a huge impact on the development of the oil industry in Russia, did not build beautiful tenement houses. They arranged Nobel towns for employees and oil workers with hospitals, schools, etc. A worthy monument to the good deeds of the Nobel family in Baku is the town of Villa Petrolea, where the park and a beautiful two-story mansion in the Byzantine style are preserved - the Baku residence of the founders of the famous Swedish Partnership Nobel brothers. "
* At the end of the tour, transfer to the hotel.
* Free time
* Overnight at a hotel in Baku

**DAY 5: BAKU-MARAZA-SHAMAHA-LAGICH-SHEKI**

* Breakfast in the hotel.
* Vacate the promises.
* Transfer to the city of Sheki.
* There are several stops along the way: the first in the village of Maraza to look at the Diri Baba mausoleum (XIV century).
* Next stop in Shamakhi (120 km from Baku) - the oldest city on the Great Silk Road. In the IX-XVI centuries. was the capital of the Shirvan Khanate, and since the mid-18th century - the residence of the Shirvanshahs. Inspection of the Eddie Gumbez mausoleum and the Juma mosque.
* Lunch at a restaurant in the nature.
* A trip to the mountain village of Lagic - a unique historical monument. The village has preserved the appearance of a medieval Persian city and traditional crafts. Products of his blacksmiths, chasers, metal engravers are represented in many art museums around the world. You can look into the workshops of modern masters while walking along the narrow streets of the city.
* Arrival in Sheki (Ancient Nuha) - a city with a 2500-year history. The main attraction is the palace of Sheki khans (18th century) with magnificent wall paintings and openwork windows, an excursion to the palace.
* Inspection of other sights of the city: the fortress walls and towers of the medieval city, the caravanserai, the Juma mosque (XVIII century), medieval baths are interesting. Those who wish can stroll through the streets of evening Sheki, where city shops work until late, buy souvenirs and the famous Sheki halva.
* Overnight at the hotel in Sheki.

**DAY 6: GABALA - NIJ - BAKU**

* Breakfast in the hotel.
* Vacate the promises.
* Moving to the village of Kish with one of the oldest Christian churches in the Caucasus, it is a monument of Albanian architecture of the 5th century. The church was rebuilt several times.
* Then transfer to Gabala, on the way visit to the village of Nij, visiting the Cathedral Church of Udiny - Christians, one of the most ancient nationalities of Azerbaijan. The Oudins were able to preserve their culture and language, one of the oldest.
* Lunch at a restaurant in Gabala.
* A trip to the acropolis of Kabbalah, which is more than 2500 years old. The remains of the walls and the ancient city are preserved there.
* Transfer to Baku.
* Accommodation at the hotel.
* Free time.
* Overnight at the hotel in Baku.

**DAY 7: BAKU**

* Breakfast in the hotel.
* Free time, check out at 12:00
* Airport transfer.

**THE PRICES ARE SPECIFIED FOR THE WHOLE TOUR, FOR ONE PERSON IN USD**

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| **ОТЕЛЬ 4\*** | **SNGL** | **DBL** |
| **CENTRAL PARK BOUTIQUE AUROOM** | 685 | 525 |

**THE PRICE INCLUDES**

* Accommodation in the hotel
* Meals: Breakfast
* 1 Bottle of water per person per day
* All transfers and transfers according to the tour program
* All excursions according to the tour program
* Professional guide service
* Entrance fees to museums: Gobustan, Ateshgah, Gala, Yanardag, Heydar Aliyev Center
* Additional car to mud volcanoes

**THE PRICE EXCLUDES**

* Flights
* Personal expenses
* Lunches and dinners outside the program
* Medical insurance

*\*Prices can be changed according to dollar exchange at the time of booking.  
\* Company has the right to change excursion days and sequence of tourist sites, according to the weather and/or other force-majeure situations.  
\*The hotels can be replaced with similar ones.   
\* Transfers airport - hotel - airport, will be made for all flights from 08:00 to 20:00  
\* For Transfers from 20:00 to 08:00 (night transfers) charge of +20 USD per car.*