

6<sup>th</sup> WORLD FORUM ON INTERCULTURAL DIALOGUE BAKU 1-3 MAY 2024

# SPOUSE PROGRAMME



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## To ensure your stay is both enriching and memorable, we have list of options for you to explore Baku on the side of the 6th World Forum on Intercultural Dialogue.

## CARPET MUSEUM AND BAKU BOULEVARD

1 May - Afternoon



The first such dedicated museum in the world, home to a large collection of over 6,000 carpets from between the 17<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> centuries, arranged according to style and region.

This museum does not only store a rich collection of artifacts and carpets, one of the most valuable heritages of Azerbaijan, but also operates as the site for the comprehensive research of traditional carpet weaving art and its popularisation within the world culture.

Baku Boulevard provides ever-changing views of the city and Baku Bay and boasts an abundance of trees and green spaces, making it an ideal escape from the urban hustle and bustle.

### National Museum of Art

#### 1 May - Afternoon



Azerbaijan National Museum of Art is a precious cultural treasure that has preserved the national and universal, the tangible and intangible cultural heritage from ancient times to now and passed down these art pearls from generation to generation.

Over 18,000 exhibits in its rich collection containing examples of national decorative and applied art, along with various styles of Western and Eastern art from different periods, reflecting the centuries-old cultural relations of Azerbaijan.

#### Ateshgah Zoroastrian Fire Temple

#### 2 May - Morning

about 20 km away from Baku



Built in the 17<sup>th</sup> and18<sup>th</sup> centuries around naturally burning flames which were previously worshipped by Zoroastrians, the site was, until the 1880s, an important place of pilgrimage for fire-worshipping Hindus.

Today it houses a well-designed museum and is often coupled with a trip to nearby Yanardag, the Burning Mountain in Mammadli village where a 10-metre wall of flames blazes day and night at the base of a hillside. From ancient times until the 19<sup>th</sup> century, natural gas oozed from the surface and was the reason for the phenomenon of the Eternal Flames.

These natural flames were described by Marco Polo in the 13<sup>th</sup> century and continue to mesmerise those who visit the site.

#### Gala State Historical and Ethnographic Reserve

## 2 May - Morning

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about 30 km away from Baku



This reserve showcases rock paintings, constructions and everyday items from the 3rd-2nd millennia BC. Clothes, crockery, coins and ornaments reflect the daily lives of people living during medieval times.

It also has a fortress dating from the 14<sup>th</sup> century, from where an incredible view opens up of the Absheron Peninsula.

## **Old City – Icherisheher**

#### 2 May - Afternoon



The Baku Old City, also known as Icherisheher, is an ancient walled fortress which was inscribed as a UNESCO World Heritage Site in 2000. The cobblestone streets, narrow alleys, famous 12<sup>th</sup> century Maiden Tower and Shirvanshahs' Palace reflect the architecture, art, and culture of medieval Azerbaijan.

Besides these two best-known sites there are plenty of hidden gems to discover, from the Museum of Miniature Books, whose collection includes the world's smallest book measuring just 2x2mm, and the Marionette Theatre.

There is a wealth of historic mosques, caravanserais, and hammams to explore, which sit side by side with small, independent art galleries, restaurants, rooftop bars and cafes.

## Heydar Aliyev Center

#### 2 May - Afternoon



Being one of the most recognized architectural landmarks worldwide, the Heydar Aliyev Center is a landmark of modern Baku.

In 2014, the stunning structure, which does not have a single straight line, won the London Design Museum's prestigious Design of the Year Award.

It is designed to offer an aspirational platform for effective communication, engagement, and interaction.

#### For further information, you can contact +994502108174 and +994702222349.



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