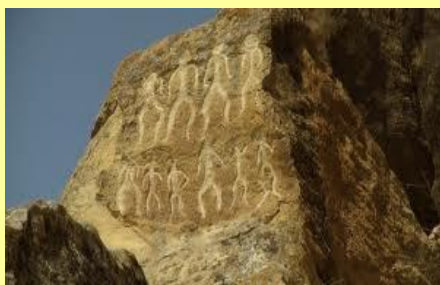


## Gobustan National Park



Gobustan National Park officially Gobustan Rock Art Cultural Landscape is a hill and mountain site occupying the southeast end of the Big Caucasian Ridge in Azerbaijan, mainly in the basin of Jeyrankechmaz River, between the rivers Pirsagat and Sumgait. It is located west of the settlement of Gobustan, about 40 miles (64 km) southwest of the centre of Baku on the west bank of the Caspian Sea. The territory of Gobustan is cut up with numerous, sometimes rather deep ravines. That is a suggested origin of the Gobustan geographical name. In 1966 Gobustan was declared a national historical landmark of Azerbaijan in an attempt to preserve the ancient carvings, relics, mud volcanoes and gas-stones in the region. The mountains Boyukdash, Kichikdash, Jingirdag, and the Yazili hill were taken under legal government protection. These mountains are located near the Caspian Sea, in the southeast part of Gobustan.

## Hirkan Talysh Mountains National Park



Hirkan National Park — is a national park of Azerbaijan. It was established by the decree of the President of Azerbaijan Ilham Aliyev,

## Ecotours to National Parks of Azerbaijan

### 1. Tour to Gobustan National Park from 90 AZN

*Duration: 1 day*

*Distance: 70-80 km*

*Minimal number of persons: from 1 person*

*Season: all year*

Description: Visiting of Absheron National Park "Gobustan Historical-Cultural Reserve" Great Kanizadaq (Dashgil or other) mud volcano, mixed route - vehicle-pedestrian, the pedestrian path length - 5-8 km Gobustan is very rich in archaeological monuments. The reserve has more than 6,000 rock engravings dating back between 5,000 - 40,000 years. The site also features the remains of inhabited caves, settlements and burials, all reflecting an intensive human use by the inhabitants of the area during the wet period that followed the last Ice Age, from the Upper Paleolithic to the Middle Ages. The site, which covers an area of 537 ha, is part of the larger protected Gobustan reservation.

### 2. Hirkan Talysh Mountains National Park tour from 265 AZN

*Duration: 2 days*

*Distance: 283 km*

*Minimal number of persons: from 1 person*

*Season: all year*

Description: Talysh Mountains on the south slopes of the south-east forests (forests in the 4th period, the relict and endemic), and others hiking mixed route vehicle-pedestrian. The area of Hirkan National Park is 99% covered by forests in a primarily mountainous region, and is strictly protected. It constitutes one of the largest contiguous forests in Azerbaijan, which is not interrupted by any settlement or pasture. The Hirkan National Park protects the humid subtropical and humid temperate forests in the area of the Lenkoran Lowland and the Talysh Mountains, sheltering many endemic plant and animal species. The ecosystem of the Hirkan National Park, belongs to the Caspian Hyrcanian (Girkan) mixed forests ecoregion, an area of lush deciduous broadleaved lowland and mountain forests (subtropical and temperate rainforests) that completely cover the Talysh Mountains and partially cover the Lankaran Lowland.

### 3. Shahdag National Park tour from 886 AZN

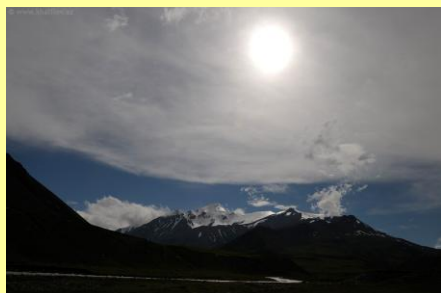
*Duration: 3 days*

*Distance: 250 km*

*Minimal number of persons: from 3 persons*

in an area in Lankaran Rayon and Astara Rayon administrative districts on February 9, 2004 on the basis of the former "Hirkan State Reserve" which it superseded, on a surface area of 29,760 hectares (297.6 km<sup>2</sup>)

### **Shahdag National Park**



Shahdag National Park was established in accordance with the decree of the President of the Republic of Azerbaijan № 1814, dated December 8, 2006. Its territory is primarily 115895 ha. Ismayilli and Pirqulu State Nature Reserves consist 21014 ha, state forest foundation lands located in the administrative territories of Quba, Qusar, Ismayilli, Qabala, Oguz and Shamakhi regions compose 81797 ha and useless summer pastures in mountains situated in the heights of boundaries of those regions compose 13084 ha of the National Park.

### **Babadag National Park**



Babadag (Father Mt.) is the mountain which sets off the famous scenic beauty of Oludeniz, part of the Taurus range running across southern Turkey. It is rare to find a mountain directly rising from sea level to a summit of 1969m. Hosting a large variety of flora ranging from rare orchids to old cedar trees, along with an ancient road dated to the Lycian period, this route makes an interesting hike. If lucky you may even glimpse eagles soaring on one of the ridges.

*Season: From May to September*

Description: Gusarchay River Valley, Plateau Shahlaylag. A different sort of hiking on more than 10 vertices.

Price Includes: transport, guide, the tax for the entrance to the National Park, hotel, rental of hiking supplies, food, rental of horses

#### **4.Camping, picnic, bike tour on Sahdag, Shirvan, Hirkan National Park from 931 AZN**

*Duration: 3 days*

*Distance: 250 km*

*Minimal number of persons: from 8 persons*

*Season: all year*

Description: The territory of the National Park was enlarged 14613 ha with the decree of the Cabinet of Ministers of the Republic of Azerbaijan № 193/S, dated July 8, 2010, hence its territory was reached 130508 ha. The aim of establishment of the Shahdag National Park is rehabilitation, maintenance and management of global mountain forests and pasture ecosystems located in high mountainous areas including various endemic and endangered species and trans boundary migratory animals, preservation of fertile soil layer, protection, reproduction and enrichment of fauna and flora species characteristic for the area, as well as regulation of natural complex stability, offer of all necessary facilities for the implementation of scientific-research works, environmental monitoring, environmental enlightenment of population and provision of development of ecotourism in the territory which has great tourism potential.

Price Includes: transport, guide, entrance fee, food, rent of hiking accessories and horses

#### **5.Hike to the top of Babadag tour from 900 AZN**

*Duration: 3 days*

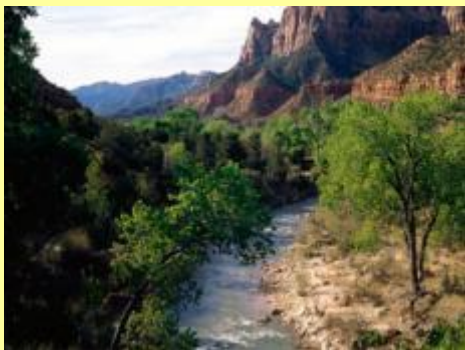
*Distance: 250 km*

*Minimal number of persons: from 3 persons*

*Season: July – august*

Description: The top Babadag (3629 m) - one of the most esteemed peers in Azerbaijan. In the summer months on the rocky trails, gorges Girdiman-tea, tea Geok-south and Kara-Chai Baba Chai from the north, on the spur of the Greater Caucasus mountain range to the top of Babadag are strings of pilgrims. The pilgrimage lasts for several days and during this time the young and the elderly, having forgotten about the fatigue and comfort, fording turbulent mountain rivers of ice water, bravely enduring the cold night air and fog, bad weather and exhausting heat, step-by-step climb to the feast. And, as it rises to the top, in front of people more and more is revealed the world and forget about the difficulties and fatigue. For snow and stone spurs open alpine meadows, dark green velvet cloth spread out the expanse of mountain forests and finally even further in the rays of the sun to the horizon in the sultry haze extends Shirvan steppe, while in the north the horizon merges with the sea. Many hours of climbing to feast on a steep trail, the black scree and snow slopes leading to the

## Samur-Yalama National Park



The head of state, as part of Azerbaijan's commitments under the project "Establishment of the Samur-Yalama National Park," ordered to create the Samur-Yalama National Park. The park was created at the site of 11,772.45 hectares in Khachmaz.

## Shirvan National Park



Shirvan National Park was established in July 2003 in an area of 54 373, 5 hectares. It is a part of specially protected site with an overall area of 65589 hectares on the south-eastern plain of the Kura-Araz lowland which also includes, Shirvan State Nature Reserve having an area of 6232 hectares and Bandoan State Natural Sanctuary with an area of 4930 hectares.

The National Park was created with a view to the conservation of foremost components of a semi-desert landscape, the protection of goitred gazelles listed in the "Red Data Book" of Azerbaijan and species of fauna that are typical to this territory. Its functions also envision the implementation of environmental monitoring, public environmental education, as well as creating conditions for tourism and recreation.

shrine - the tomb of a holy man. People who had been here, talk about different feelings, usually about a feeling of goodness that swept them on happily overcome the difficulties, but I was not able to meet a single person remaining indifferent. Met on the trail, the pilgrims greet each other and wish to God accepted their worship.

Price Includes: transport, guide, rent hiking supplies, food.

### **6. Broad-leaved forests of the Greater Caucasus from 400 AZN**

*Duration: 2 days*

*Distance: 220 km*

*Minimal number of persons: from 2 persons*

*Season: From May to September*

Description: Walk and familiarity with the flora and fauna of Samur - Yalama national park

Price Includes: transport, guide, hiking supplies, food.

### **7.Samur-Yalama National Park from 280 AZN**

*Duration: 2 days*

*Distance: 220 km*

*Minimal number of persons: from 1 person*

*Season: all year*

Description: Walk and familiarity with the flora and fauna of Samur - Yalama national park

Price Includes: transport, guide, hiking supplies, food.

### **8.Shirvan National Park observing animals and migratory birds from 226 AZN**

*Duration: 1 day*

*Distance: 102 km*

*Minimal number of persons: from 1 person*

*Season: From October to May*

Description: Despite its location in a semi-desert zone the national park is rich in animals. There are a large number of mammals, reptiles and amphibians here. Up to 65 bird species inhabit the shores of the Flamingo Lake and the Caspian sea. 12 fish species occur in the Flamingo Lake and channels. The national is a habitat for the following species of animals: goitred gazelle, wild boar, beaver, wild cat, hare, wolf, jackal, fox, badger etc.

Price Includes: transport, guide, entrance fee to the National Park , hotel, food.

**For more details:**

**15, Nakhchivani str., Jupiter Plaza Baku, Azerbaijan, AZ 1065**

**Tel: (+99412) 4379090, ext.218 Mobile:(+99450) 2951156**

**Email:incoming2@exploreazerbaijan.com**

**Accommodation:** Accommodation according to the choice of the tour is either in cottages or tents

**Tour cost excludes:**

Accommodation on arrival date  
Flight expenses  
Health insurance  
Visa expenses  
All additional costs  
Lunches and dinners  
Alcoholic beverages

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**Equipment designed to be rented to tourists in National Parks Price**

**C A L I V E D**

<b>equipment Name</b>	<b>Price</b>
<b>Big Tent (for 4 people)</b>	<b>10 AZN</b>
<b>Small tents (2 people)</b>	<b>5 AZN</b>
<b>sleeping bag</b>	<b>3 AZN</b>
<b>binoculars</b>	<b>3 AZN</b>
<b>compass</b>	<b>1 AZN</b>
<b>waistcoat</b>	<b>5 AZN</b>
<b>panama</b>	<b>1 AZN</b>
<b>Photo camera</b>	<b>3 AZN</b>
<b>saddle-horse</b>	<b>25 AZN</b>
<b>bicycle</b>	<b>5 AZN</b>
<b>ATV</b>	<b>50 AZN (with fuel)</b>
<b>Snowmobile</b>	<b>100 AZN (with fuel)</b>

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## Visa

Visa upon arrival in International Airports of Azerbaijan can be obtained only by Turkish and Israel citizens. Citizens of other countries have to obtain visa before arrival through consulates of Azerbaijan around the world.

To obtain tourist visa to Azerbaijan you will need an official Letter of Invitation (LOI) or Tourist Voucher from our travel agency. Procedures and prices are different and depend of citizenship and consulate location. Please contact with our managers at list 6 weeks before to arrange our visa to Azerbaijan.

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## Practical Information

Foreign Exchange: Up-to-date information on exchange rates can be obtained here: <http://www.cbar.az/>

Local Currency: Manat

Recommended Currency for Exchange: USD or EURO.






Where to Exchange: Most major towns - your guide will advise you on arrival.

ATM Availability: Only in major towns.

Credit Card Acceptance: Only in major towns.

Travelers Cheques: Travelers cheques are difficult to change.

## 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. Rain Days	4	5	3	3	4	3	5	4	3	4	2	5
 Avg. Snow Days	0	3	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

## Vaccinations & Protection

Nothing compulsory

## Electric Supply & Plugs

For comprehensive information regarding voltages and plug types in use in Azerbaijan see the link <http://www.kropla.com/electric2.htm>

## Travel Insurance

Travel insurance is compulsory for all our customers. You should ensure that your policy covers you for medical expenses and repatriation.

## Packing for your trip

Unfortunately it does occasionally happen that luggage does not always reach its destination on the same flight as its owner, or possibly it may be damaged in transit. If you are unlucky enough for this to occur, it is important that you file a PIR (Property Irregularity Report) with the airline before leaving the airport. This is essential when you come to make a claim either against the airline or from your travel insurance company

## Luggage

Remember you are expected to carry your own luggage so don't overload yourself.

One main piece of baggage and daypack. Total allowance: **20 kg**.

### **Clothing**

Pack essentially for '**Hot Conditions**'. Weather is changeable in the north and mountains; it can be cool especially at night, bring a warmer jacket. Raingear is essential at all times. In remote parts of Caucasus you should avoid shorts and vest tops; long trousers or skirts are ideal. A headscarf is essential for visiting churches and mosques.

### **Footwear**

Comfortable shoes for visiting sites and hilly towns; sandals; lightweight walking/trail boots for optional day walks.

### **Equipment**

Swimsuit, Sunhat, Sun Cream and Sunglasses.

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### **Comments**

While it is our intention to follow the itinerary printed, tours within Azerbaijan may be subject to change a bit. The infrastructure for tourism is still developing in this region.

You'll need some extra money to cover meals not included in the tour price, other sightseeing, souvenirs and items of a personal nature such as laundry. Approximately USD 30 per day per person.

Local food is not expensive and you can choose local national restaurants and small cafes to eat, approximate menu price for one person is from USD 10.

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