71st CEU | UN Tourism Commission for Europe

4 – 6 June 2025, Baku, Azerbaijan

General Information Note

Date and Place

1. The 71st Meeting of the UN Tourism Commission for Europe (CEU Meeting) and the Conference “From Momentum to Milestones: Advancing Climate Action in Tourism Beyond COP29” will take place in Baku, Azerbaijan, from 4 to 6 June 2025.
2. Both events will be hosted at JW Marriott Absheron Hotel Baku (674 Azadliq Square, Baku AZ-1010, Tel.: +99412 499 8888, website).



Registration and identification badges

3. Registration for the CEU Meeting and the Conference will be conducted online via the link provided by the Regional Department for Europe. Participants are kindly requested to complete their registration by **15 May 2025**.
4. Access to the designated areas for the CEU Meeting will be restricted to participants wearing official identification badges. Badges can be collected at the UN Tourism Registration Desk, located in the lobby of the JW Marriott Absheron Hotel Baku, on 4 June 2025, from 10:00 to 20:00, or on 5 June 2025, from 09:00 to 10:00, prior to the start of the CEU Meeting and Conference.
5. For further information or assistance, please contact:

UN Tourism

State Tourism Agency of the Republic of Azerbaijan

State Tourism Agency of the Republic of Azerbaijan	UN Tourism Secretariat
Ms. Naila Shikhaliyeva International Relations Department M: +99450 450 36 44 E: naila.shikhaliyeva@tourism.gov.az	Mr. Azar Abasaliyev Officer Regional Department for Europe E: aabasaliyev@untourism.int
Ms. Fidan Mikayilzada International Relations Department M: +99450 200 23 12 E: fidan.mikayilzada@tourism.gov.az	Ms. Nina Kušar Programme Officer Regional Department for Europe E: nkusar@untourism.int

Frontier formalities and visa requirements

6. Delegates requiring a visa to enter Azerbaijan should apply through http://evisa.gov.az or the embassies and consulates of the Republic of Azerbaijan nearest to their country of origin or residence.
7. The electronic visa, issued within three working days through “ASAN Visa” system, allows a stay of up to 30 days. The state fee for the e-Visa is 20 USD. Applications can be submitted for an individual, a family (minimum of 2 and maximum of 10 persons) or a group (minimum of 10 and maximum of 300 persons). Required information must be entered directly into the system, and payment is made electronically. The approved e-Visa is sent to the applicant’s e-mail address.
8. If there is no Azerbaijani embassy or consulate in the applicant’s country of residence, or if the country is not on the Visa on Arrival (VOA) list, a special VOA arrangement will be available at Heydar Aliyev International Airport (GYD) in Baku, exclusively for registered participants.
9. Participants requiring a Visa on Arrival (VOA) must submit their details—including a passport copy, flight confirmation, and hotel booking confirmation—to naila.shikhaliyeva@tourism.gov.az by 15 May 2025. All participants and delegates must hold a valid passport with at least six months’ validity or an appropriate travel document, along with an official invitation letter from the event organizers.

Transport

10. The host country will provide complimentary transfers for delegates between Heydar Aliyev International Airport and the designated hotels in Baku upon arrival and departure.

Additionally, transfers will be arranged between the selected hotels and the venue of the CEU Meeting and Conference, as well as all official social events.

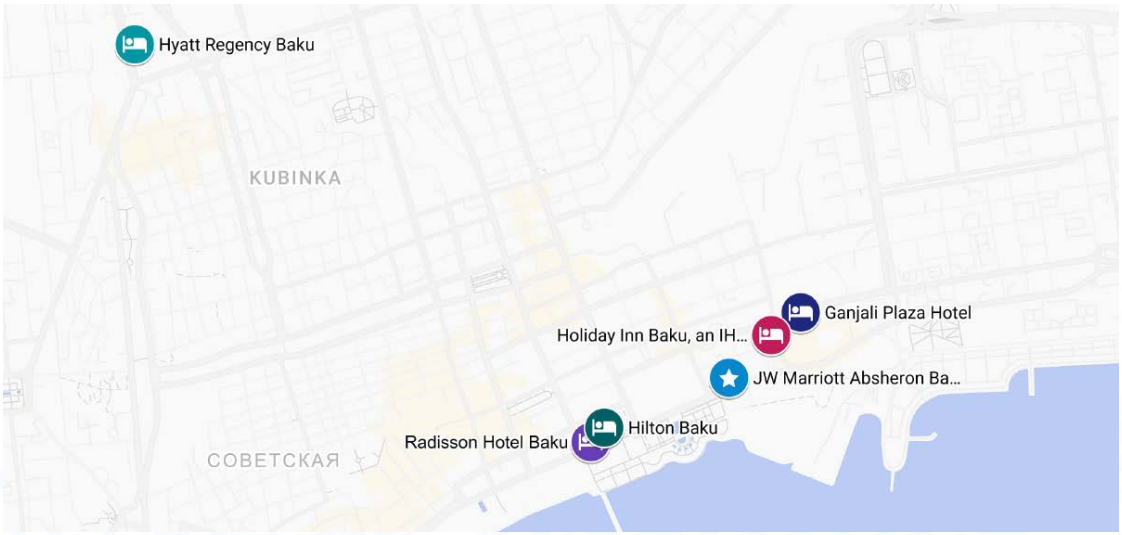
11. Heydar Aliyev International Airport serves as a key transport hub, offering high-level service and comfort. For more information, please visit: https://airport.az/

Accommodation

12. Preferential rates have been negotiated for delegates attending the CEU Meeting and the Conference at hotels of different categories, as outlined in paragraph 15.
13. Important considerations:
    - Reservations, payment, and cancellations must be made in accordance with the instructions in paragraph 15.
    - The preferential rates are valid for stays **between 3 and 7 June 2025**.
    - A limited number of rooms are available at the preferential rates for the specified period. Participants are encouraged to make their reservations as soon as possible.
    - Unless otherwise stated, the rates are per night for single occupancy and include VAT, other applicable taxes, breakfast, and complimentary high-speed wireless internet in both rooms and common areas.
    - Hotel accommodation can be guaranteed using a Visa or Mastercard credit/debit card.
    - For urgent assistance with accommodation reservations, please contact Ms. Naila Shikhaliyeva and Ms. Fidan Mikayilzada (contact details in paragraph 5).
14. The selected hotels are located in close proximity to the CEU Meeting and Conference venue.
15. Selected hotels:

1. JW Marriott Absheron Hotel Baku 5*	
Address: 674 Azadliq Square, Baku, AZ-1010 Hotel check-in: 15:00 Hotel check-out: 12:00	Reservation: jw.baku.reservations@marriott.com
Discount code: **CEU71 – 20% discount**	Venue of the CEU Meeting and Conference
2. Hilton Hotel Baku 5*	
Address: 1B Azadliq Avenue, Baku, AZ1000 Hotel check-in: 15:00 Hotel check-out: 12:00	The link of reservations with special rates: link
Discount code:	Walking distance from the venue:

GCEU25 – special rates	**650 m** from JW Marriott Absheron Baku
3. Hyatt Regency Hotel Baku 5*	
Address: 6 Izmir Street, Baku, AZ 1065 Hotel check-in: 15:00 Hotel check-out: 12:00	Reservation: bakuh.reservation@hyatt.com
Discount code: **CEU71 – 15% discount**	Distance from the venue: **approximately 5 kilometers** By taxi, the journey takes around 7 minutes.
4. Holiday Inn Hotel Baku 4*	
Address: Keykab Khanim Safaraliyeva St 5, Baku, AZ1010 Hotel check-in: 15:00 Hotel check-out: 12:00	Reservation: reservation@hi-baku.com
Discount code: **UNHI2025 – 15% discount**	Walking distance from the venue: **440 m** from JW Marriott Absheron Baku
5. Radisson Hotel Baku 4*	
Address: Azadlig Avenue 1, Baku, AZ 1000 Hotel check-in: 15:00 Hotel check-out: 12:00	Reservation: link
Discount code: **CEU71 – 10% discount**	Walking distance from the venue: **700 m** from JW Marriott Absheron Baku
6. Ganjali Plaza Hotel Baku 3*	
Address: Uzeyir Hajibeyov str. 48, Baku, AZ1000 Hotel check-in: 15:00 Hotel check-out: 12:00	Reservation: link
Discount code: **CEU71 – 10% discount**	Walking distance from the venue: **630 m** from JW Marriott Absheron Baku



Programme

16. The provisional programme is provided in Annex I.

Airport transfers

17. The Government of the Republic of Azerbaijan, through its State Tourism Agency, will provide private car transfers from the airport to the respective hotels, and vice versa, for the ministerial level participants.

    General transfer will also be provided to the delegates who indicate their travel details in the registration form before deadline.

Liaison Officers

18. Liaison officers will be assigned exclusively for Ministers.
19. An email with relevant information will be sent by the liaison officers to the members where the Minister's participation has been confirmed. Please ensure to check your email for this communication. If you have not received any correspondence, please contact the Regional Department for Europe, and we will promptly provide you with the contact details of your designated liaison officer.

Venue transfers

20. Given the short distances between the official hotels and the CEU Meeting and Conference venue, we recommend walking to the meeting venue and social activity locations. Walking may be more time-efficient due to heavy traffic. Local support staff will be available to assist with navigating the city.
21. Complimentary transfers from all official hotels to the CEU Meeting and Conference venue as well as social activities can be arranged upon special request.

Submission of credentials

22. In virtue of Rules 12 and 57 of the Rules of Procedure of the General Assembly of the Organization, the names of the delegates should, if possible, be communicated at least

fifteen days before the CEU Meeting opens. Therefore, Members are kindly requested to submit a scanned copy of their credentials electronically to the Regional Department for Europe (rdeu@unwto.org) by **20 May 2025**.

23. The credentials of the delegates, issued by the competent authority of the State[1], must be presented to the Secretariat at the headquarters in Madrid or at the CEU Meeting venue in Baku, the day before the meeting opens.
24. Model credentials letters will be available in the webpage of the CEU Meeting.

Working documents and languages

25. The documents for the CEU Meeting and the Conference programme will be available on the webpage https://www.unwto.org/europe/71ceu.
26. Participants are requested to bring any documents they wish to use in printed form.
27. Simultaneous interpretation will be available in English, French, Russian and Spanish during the CEU Meeting, and in English during the Conference.

Further information

28. Climate: In June, Baku experiences summer temperatures ranging from 22°C to 30°C, with occasional peaks above 35°C. The city is typically dry, with strong winds that make the heat more bearable, especially along the Caspian Sea coast.
29. Language: The official language of Azerbaijan is Azerbaijani. English and Russian are widely spoken.
30. Time zone: Baku operates on Azerbaijan Time (AZT), UTC+4.
31. Business hours:
    - Government Offices & Banks: Monday–Friday, 09:00–18:00 (closed on weekends).
    - Shops & Malls: Monday–Sunday, 10:00–22:00 (some malls close at 23:00).
    - Restaurants & Cafés: Most open from 10:00–00:00, with some cafés and fast-food places open 24/7.
    - Supermarkets & Convenience Stores: Many are open 24/7, while smaller stores typically operate from 08:00–23:00.
32. Official currency: The official currency of Azerbaijan is the Azerbaijani manat (AZN). Banks accept foreign exchange, and credit card holders can withdraw cash from ATMs that operate 24/7. Currency exchange offices are located at the airport and in Baku's city center.

33. Currency rates: The most up-to-date exchange rates are available on the official website of the Central Bank of the Republic of Azerbaijan: https://www.cbar.az

34. Electronics: Azerbaijan uses a 220V supply voltage and 50Hz. Power plug sockets are of types C and F (European standard, similar to those used in Türkiye, Germany, and many European countries).

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Annex I: Provisional Programme

Wednesday, 4 June 2025

19:30 – 21:00 Welcome cocktail

Thursday, 5 June 2025

10:00 – 10:30 Opening of the 71st Meeting of the Commission for Europe

10:30 – 10:45 Family photo and doorstep media statements

10:45 – 13:15 71st Meeting of the Commission for Europe

13:15 – 14:30 Lunch

14:30 – 16:00 71st Meeting of the Commission for Europe

16:00 – 16:15 Short break

16:15 – 18:30 71st Meeting of the Commission for Europe

18:30 – 18:45 Closing of the 71st Meeting of the Commission for Europe

20:30 – 23:00 Gala Dinner

Friday, 6 June 2025

10:00 – 13:00 Conference “From Momentum to Milestones: Advancing Climate Action in Tourism Beyond COP29”

13:00 – 14:30 Lunch

15:00 – 19:00 Social programme:

– Mud Volcanoes Tourism Complex with a cocktail reception (4 hours)

– Baku City Sightseeing Tour (2 hours)

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Annex II: Social programme

Wednesday. 4 June 2025

19:30 – 21:30 **Welcome Cocktail**

Location: ***JW Marriott Absheron Hotel Baku***

Dress Code: **semiformal**

Thursday, 5 June 2025

13:15 – 14:30 **Lunch**

Location: ***JW Marriott Absheron Hotel Baku***

14:00 – 16:00 **Old City Tour of Baku for accompanying persons**

Start & End Point: **JW Marriott Absheron Baku**

Dress Code: **casual, comfortable footwear recommended**

Registration: **by 3 June 2025** via email at naila.shikhaliyeva@tourism.gov.az or khaliddin.sadikhov@tourism.gov.az

20:00 – 23:00 **Gala Dinner**

Location: ***TBC***

Dress Code: **formal**

Friday, 6 June 2025

15:00 – 19:00 **Mud Volcanoes Tourism Complex with cocktail**

Start and finish point: ***JW Marriott Absheron Hotel Baku***

15:00 – 17:00 **Baku City Sightseeing Tour**

Start and finish point: ***JW Marriott Absheron Hotel Baku***

UN Tourism

State Tourism Agency of the Republic of Azerbaijan

Tour to Mud Volcanoes Tourism Complex in the Gobustan village for delegations



- Date: **6 June 2025**
- Start & End Point: **JW Marriott Absheron Baku**
- Dress Code: **casual, comfortable footwear recommended**
- Registration: **by 3 June 2025** via email at naila.shikhaliyeva@tourism.gov.az or khaliddin.sadikhov@tourism.gov.az
- Description: An optional tour to the Mud Volcanoes Tourism Complex, showcasing Azerbaijan's unique geological wonders. The tour includes a cocktail and a DJ party.
- An encounter with Azerbaijan's mud volcanoes gives visitors a rare chance to behold one of the planet's most outstanding displays and deepens their understanding of the Earth's geological marvels. Azerbaijan boasts the world's largest concentration of mud volcanoes, with over 400 scattered throughout the country, treating visitors to a special opportunity to see the geological rarities and scenic spectacles of the region.

Baku City Sightseeing Tour with the Hop-On-Hop-Off bus for delegations



- Date: **6 June 2025**
- Start & End Point: **JW Marriott Absheron Baku**
- Dress Code: **casual**
- Registration: **by 3 June 2025** via email at naila.shikhaliyeva@tourism.gov.az or khaliddin.sadikhov@tourism.gov.az
- Description: Experience the best of Baku with the Hop-On Hop-Off bus tour, which covers all the major attractions along a 25 km route in just 1.5 hours. Enjoy an audio guide available in eight languages, providing rich insights into the city's landmarks.