



UN-HABITAT



2 October 2023 | Baku, Azerbaijan

**World  
Habitat  
Day**

Resilient urban economies.  
Cities as drivers of growth  
and recovery.

## INFORMATION FOR PARTICIPANTS

**Global Observance of World Habitat Day**

**02 October 2023**

**Baku, Republic of Azerbaijan**

**Venue: Marriott Hotel Boulevard**



## GENERAL INFORMATION

This note contains important information about the Global Observance of World Habitat Day (WHD) and is designed to help you plan and make the most of your time. Please read carefully and do not hesitate to get in touch with us if you have any questions about your attendance.

## VENUE

The conference will be taking place at the “Baku Marriott Hotel Boulevard” located in Khagani Rustamov Street, 4C Khatai District, Baku, the capital city of Azerbaijan.

### REGISTRATION AND BADGE

#### **Registration**

Participants will receive their badge upon arrival at the registration desk, which will be located at the hotel lobby/WHD entrance. Participants are asked to wear their badge during the entire meeting, and to show their badge upon request. All participants are asked to bring their passport or equivalent national identity card (with photo) used during online registration to obtain their badge. Please register before 27 September 2023 [here](#) if not yet done.

#### **Broadcasting**

The Global Observance of World Habitat Day with the high-level celebration and afternoon roundtables will be broadcasted live on **UN Web TV** and **Zoom**. The respective links will be broadcasted on the World Habitat Day [webpage](#).



### CONFERENCE LANGUAGE

The conference related events will be held in Azerbaijani and English with simultaneous translation into Arabic, Chinese, French, Russian and Spanish. International Sign Language will be provided.

### CONFERENCE FACILITIES

All conference facilities and meeting rooms are equipped with WIFI.

## ARRIVAL INFORMATION

### AIRPORT

Heydar Aliyev International Airport (GYD) in Baku is located 26 Kilometres north-east from Baku’s central business district and 17.4 Kilometres from the Baku Marriott Hotel Boulevard.

## VISA ARRANGEMENTS

For information on how to obtain an e-Visa for Azerbaijan, please visit the Azerbaijan e-Visa Portal through the following link:

<https://evisa.gov.az/en/>

Standard e-Visa processing time is generally 3 - 5 working days with a fee of approximately USD 25. Applicants obtain their visas electronically after entering the required information and making payments by a credit or debit card. Once the e-Visa has been processed a link to download the E-visa will be sent to the E-mail address of the applicant. Payment operations can be made only using Visa, Mastercard and UnionPay. The card does not have to be under your name.

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For Azerbaijan visa, regardless of the processing time, the applicant needs to provide the scan of the biography page of the passport as well as the address of the hotel booked. Please follow the online instructions and pay by credit card. To avoid any issues at the check-in for your flight to Baku, you may want to print or save a copy of the e-Visa on your smartphone.

If you are officially invited with a letter from the Government of Azerbaijan and your country of Nationality is not eligible for E-visa, you can either apply through the Azerbaijani Embassy in your country to request visa upon arrival. Please ensure to print a copy of the letter in order to present it at the visa counter in the airport in Baku where your details will need to be registered first, before you can proceed to receive the printed visa.

## INSURANCE

The organizers are not responsible for the medical, accident and travel insurance. It is recommended that an international medical insurance be obtained for the period of participation.

## COVID-19 RELATED TRAVEL ARRANGEMENTS

Based on recent updates, the vaccination requirement for entry into Azerbaijan has been lifted, eliminating the need for proof of vaccination or recovery. However, it is crucial to acknowledge that prioritizing health remains paramount. Travelers are strongly advised to take care of their well-being and stay updated on their health status, even though it is no longer a prerequisite for entry. Ensuring personal health and staying informed are recommended practices for a safe and secure travel experience.

## PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION

Baku Metro is a rapid transit system in Baku, Azerbaijan. Four lines and 24 stations serve the capital of Azerbaijan. Metro began operation in November 1967.

One ride cost 0.30 AZN, and BakiKarts can be purchased from vending machines located at Metro stations and some bus stops. Baku Metro is open from 06:00 to midnight. A link with a detailed metro system map has been provided:

<https://www.metrolinemap.com/metro/baku/>

### ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS:

1. Baku has a bus system which is an inexpensive way to travel within Baku (0.30 AZN). BakiKarts are valid on all buses. The bus schedule is available at the bus stops. Google Maps provides useful information to navigate Baku's bus system.
2. Please be informed that the "English taxi" (also known as black cab or London taxi) is luxury class with a higher fare. Standard taxis are easily identified. Bolt taxis are cheap and can be booked through the Bolt App (found on Play store or App store in your mobile). Make sure to have small cash notes. Uber is also widely available in Baku, but through an Azerbaijani-only App.

## ACCOMODATION

Participants have flexibility to select their preferred accommodation from among any of the existing online booking platforms. The three hotels listed below have a special rate for WHD participants.

For reservations, please contact:

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Almaz Mammadova - Reservation Manager

[exhibitions@gwtc.az](mailto:exhibitions@gwtc.az)

Tel. +994 12 488 08 71

Mob. +994 77 277 60 63

**Iris Hotel 4\*** (free cancellation - 8 days prior to check in) not far from city centre.

<https://irishotelbaku.com/en>

28.09-30.09- Single 70 AZN; Double 80 AZN

01.10-03.10- Single 90 AZN; Double 100 AZN

Iris Hotel is located 2-3 min walking distance from 28 Mall. It is situated next to 28 May Metro Station (2<sup>nd</sup> exit) not far from city centre.

**Alison Hotel 4\*** (free cancellation -5 days prior to check in)

<https://alison-hotel.aboutbakuhotels.com/en/>

28.09.2023-30.09.2023. Standard Single/ Double - 65 AZN

01.10.2023-03.10.2023. Standard Single/ Double - 120 AZN

Alison Hotel is located 5-6 min walking distance from Baku Marriott Hotel Boulevard (next to Azure Business Center) not far from the WHD venue.

**Parkside Hotel & Apartments 4\*** (free cancellation - 16 days prior to check in) not far from city centre.

<https://parksidebaku.com/>

28.09-03.10- Standard Single/ Double - 102 AZN

## SAFETY AND SECURITY

The country is regarded as a secure tourist destination, offering ample opportunities to explore, discover, and enjoy your surroundings with ease.

## ABOUT AZERBAIJAN

### GENERAL INFORMATION

Situated at the crossroads of Eastern Europe and Western Asia, the Republic of Azerbaijan is a country in the South Caucasus region. It shares borders with Russia to the north, Georgia to the northwest, Armenia and Turkey to the west, and Iran to the south, while the Caspian Sea lies to its east.

### CAPITAL CITY

With a population of around 2.5 million, Baku serves as both the capital and the largest city of Azerbaijan.

### LANGUAGE

Azerbaijani is the official language. Russian is widely spoken. Turkish and English are common, especially in tourist areas of the city centre.

### CLIMATE

The weather in Baku in October is expected to be as follows:

Average high temperature: 22.2°C (71.96°F). Average low temperature: 12.1°C (53.78°F).

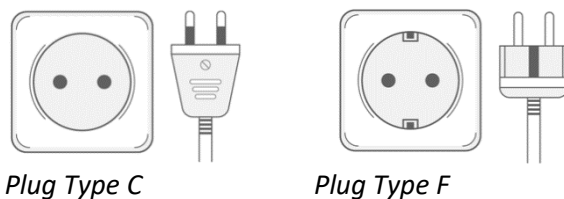
Baku is known for its strong winds. It is recommended for participants to be prepared and pack their clothing accordingly.

## TIME

The time in Baku is (GMT+4). According to the Baku regulations, the commercial shops and centers open from 9:00 until 17:00, while restaurants open from 9:00 to midnight. Most shops are also open on Sundays.

## POWER SUPPLY

For Baku there are two associated plug types C and F. Plug Type C is the plug which has two round pins and plug type F is the plug which has two round pins with two earth clips on the side. Azerbaijan operates on a 220V supply voltage and 50Hz.



## FOREIGN EXCHANGE AND CURRENCY

**The exchange rate (approximately):** USD 1.0 = AZN 1.7  
EUR 1.0 = AZN 1.9

Please note that the exchange rate is defined on daily basis and while the AZN currency is very stable, changes may occur.

**Exchanging money:** It is recommended to exchange money into AZN (Manats) at the forex bureau within the airport, as the availability of local currency using ATM can be limited. Please note that some ATM only provide USD. Changing cash into AZN at the hotel will be at a lower rate.

**Payment methods:** We recommend settling small expenses while in Baku with cash, however debit and credit cards are accepted widely in hotels (sometimes with an extra fee), restaurants and shops.

## COMMUNICATIONS

The Azerbaijan country code is +994. Upon your arrival at Heydar Aliyev International Airport, we recommend acquiring a SIM card from the dedicated airport SIM card retail outlet.

We recommend using a SIM card from Azercell for best value for money, however, other providers are working well too. SIM cards are sold before exiting the airport.

## EMERGENCY NUMBERS

- Police: 102
- Ambulance: 103
- Fire: 101

## HOSPITALS

For any medical needs at own cost, participants can be assured that Baku offers a selection of well-established and reputable hospitals with high standards of care.

## CONTACT US

Please feel free to contact us on our email address: [unhabitat-whd@un.org](mailto:unhabitat-whd@un.org)