



INDIAN SCHOOL AL WADI AL KABIR  
P. O. Box 513, Code 117, Al Wadi Al Kabir  
Sultanate of Oman  
[www.iswkoman.com](http://www.iswkoman.com)

Ref: ISWK/2023-24/GEN/032

5<sup>th</sup> October 2023

**CIRCULAR TO PARENTS**  
**(CLASSES VIII - XII)**

Dear Parents,

Greetings from ISWK!

Educational excursions and tours play a significant role in imparting knowledge through hands-on experiences and make learning exciting and interesting. With a view to offer our students the best of learning experiences, ISWK plans to organize International Education tours to the below mentioned destinations during the Winter Holidays in December 2023.

1. AZERBAIJAN- RO 495/- (Subject to change)
2. GARUDMAACHI - INDIA (PUNE) - RO 265/- (Subject to change)

To gauge the level of interest and participation, we kindly request you to fill up the Google form from the link given below.

<https://forms.gle/P7KuEhaBk1aubsXL6>

The last date for confirming your ward's participation in the trip is October 14, 2023.

The itinerary for the Azerbaijan and Garudmaachi trips are attached for your kind perusal. Please note that the trip to each of these destinations will be organized subject to a minimum of 20 students opting for the same.

In case of any questions or concerns regarding the upcoming trip, please contact Mr. Kailash Patro on 968 99169280 / [kailash@iswkoman.com](mailto:kailash@iswkoman.com)

We thank you for your continuous support in our endeavours to provide our students with unique educational experiences.

With best wishes and warm regards.

**D. N. Rao**  
Principal

**5 NIGHTS / 6 DAYS**  
**EDUTOUR TO AZERBAIJAN**  
(BAKU – GABALA – ABSHERON - GOBUSTAN)

**Tour Itinerary prepared for Indian School Wadi Al Kabir**  
**15-20 Dec '2023**



**FLIGHTS:**

FLIGHT	DATE	FROM	TO	DEPART	ARRIVE
FZ 46	15-Dec	MUSCAT	DUBAI	09:20	10:30
FZ 707	15-Dec	DUBAI	BAKU	14:05	17:05
FZ 710	20-DEC	BAKU	DUBAI	12:15	15:15
FZ 47	20-Dec	DUBAI	MUSCAT	18:50	20:00

**HOTEL:**

CHECK IN	CHECK OUT	NIGHTS	CITY	HOTEL
15-Dec	17-Dec	2	BAKU	Premier Palace 4* or similar
17-Dec	18-Dec	1	GABALA	Gabala Garden Hotel 5* or similar
18-Dec	20-Dec	2	BAKU	Premier Palace 4* or similar

*\*Hotels / flights are subject to availability at the time of final confirmation*

## TOUR ITINERARY:

### Day 1 | 15 Dec      ARRIVAL, NIGHT BAKU TOUR

Arrival to Baku, meeting at the airport and transfer to the Hotel. Check-in. Night tour.

Want to have a close look at the Baku's most popular landmark? Baku business and hotel complex **Flame Towers Baku** is composed of 3 buildings. The surface of the Towers is fully covered with LED screens reflecting different visual characters in motion, easily visible from the far corners of the city in the evening. Walk along the **Alley of Martyrs** which is usually being included in the protocol visits of the foreign officials. Enjoy the panoramic view of the city and its bay from Baku's **Highland Park** (also called Upland Park), the highest point in the Azerbaijani capital.

Dinner.

Overnight in Baku.

### Day 2 | 16 Dec      BAKU OLD CITY – ATESHGAH - YANARDAG

Breakfast at the hotel.

Icherisheher (Inner City), known as a "Fortress" or "**Old City**", a unique historical and architectural conservation area in the center of Baku. This is one of the most ancient places of the country where archaeological excavations revealed burial vaults of the Bronze Age. **Maiden Tower** (12th century) and **The Palace of Shirvanshahs** (13th-16th centuries) are the best-known historical monuments located in the Old City. Besides them there are a lot of other unique monuments such as mosques, minarets, the remnants of caravanserais "Multani" and "Bukhara", ancient baths, etc. Stroll down the paved streets of this ancient city and drop to some of the numerous souvenir shops where you can buy national clothes, kerchiefs, scarves and caps, dishes and handmade carpets.

Our next stop is **Ateshgah Fire Temple** in the village of Surakhani that for centuries has been attracting crowds of thrill seekers. Built in the 17th–18th centuries around naturally burning flames which were previously worshipped by Zoroastrians, the site then had become an important place of pilgrimage for fire-worshipping Hindus until the 1880s. Today it houses a well-designed open air museum.

Lunch

And the final stop of our "fiery tour" is State Historical, Cultural and **Natural Reserve Yanardag** (literary "Burning Mountain"), a complex built around the hill located on the top of the natural gas pocket causing continuous flame eruption. Most probably the fire has been burning in Yanardag for over 20,000 years. These natural flames were described by Marco Polo in the 13th century and continue to mesmerize those who visit the site.

Dinner

Overnight in Baku.

### Day 3 | 17 Dec      **BAKU - GABALA**

Breakfast at the hotel. Check-out and transfer to Gabala.

Gabala is one of the most beautiful provinces of Azerbaijan with rich and ancient history. For 600 years the city named Kabala used to be the capital of Caucasian Albania, an ancient state that used to exist on the territory of modern Azerbaijan back in the days. The ruins of the ancient city and the main gate of Caucasian Albania had survived until today.

Later we will spend some time in **Nohur Lake** which has a fabulous location with a spectacular view to the Caucasus Mountains.

Later we will spend some time in **Tufandag Winter-Summer Tourism Complex**. It provides skiing in winter, going up to the mountains by cable cars in summer, as well as many other types of entertainment like mountain climbing by ATV quad bikes, mountain biking, horse riding, etc.

Lunch

**Seven Beauties** (or Yeddi Gozel) Waterfall is situated in Vandam village. The name of the waterfall comes from the name of seven roads that should lead to the waterfall. During the spring and summer there are operating tea houses which operate on every mountain road, where guests can enjoy a tea set with traditional varieties of local jams in Gabala (for example, walnut and white cherry jam).

At **Gabala Shooting Club** in the village of Bum you can improve your aim and enjoy its beautiful natural surroundings (optional). It is a multi-purpose and world-class shooting facility that can serve both as a recreational and entertainment center.

Dinner

Check-in at the hotel.

Overnight in Gabala.

### Day 4 | 18 Dec      **GABALA – BAKU CITY TOUR**

Breakfast at the Hotel. Check-out and transfer to Baku.

Your excursion will start with visiting **Heydar Aliyev Centre** designed by world-famous architect Zaha Hadid. It is vast and jaw-droppingly majestic statement of fluid 21st-century architecture forming abstract waves and peaks that seem to melt together. The real delight is simply pondering and photographing the extraordinary exterior from ever-changing angles. Make a stop next to the popular **"I love Baku"** sign to take some photos.

Lunch

Walk down to **Baku Boulevard** to view the International **Mugham Center** (without entering) created in order to widely promote Azerbaijani 'mugham' (folk musical composition) in the world and shaped as the national musical instrument – 'tar'. Here you will also see Azerbaijan National **Carpet Museum**, designed by Austrian architect Franz Janz and looking like a rolled carpet.

Wander between the decorative stone bridges of so-called Little Venice, a small town on the water and one of the jewels of Baku. It has two large and several small islands and its gondolas are travelling in the channels full of still and clean water.

**Fountain Square**, the most popular public place with many restaurants and shops, main location for public festivals, shows and celebrations and pedestrian **Nizami street**, old trading zone with lots of shops and boutiques.

Dinner

Overnight in Baku

### Day 5 | 19 Dec            **GOBUSTAN - SHOPPING**

Breakfast at the Hotel.

Have you ever seen where one of the first civilization has started? Seek no more, because **Gobustan Historical-Artistic Preserve** is exactly what you need! Included in the UNESCO heritage list, being one of the cradles of human civilization, Gobustan located barely one-hour drive from Baku. It has an astonishing collection of over 6,000 ancient petroglyphs depicting the ways of life dating back as far as 40,000 years. Innovative technology will help you to get closer to the prehistoric times in Gobustan State Historical-Artistic Museum using its touch screens provided with special multimedia programs, educational and entertaining games, interactive displays, 3D video, etc.

Not far from Gobustan there is a second miracle that will amaze you no less than the prehistoric drawings on the rocks – these are **Mud Volcanoes**. NASA geologists have concluded that they are similar in structure to the hills on the planet Mars. Azerbaijan ranks first in terms of the number of mud volcanoes: 350 out of 800 mud volcanoes in the world are located here, one of which is listed in the Guinness Book of Records as the largest in the world.

Lunch

Spending time in local bazaar “**Sharg Bazaar**”: here guests will have opportunity to buy local products which are typical for our country like Narsharab which is good to eat with fish and meat, Pomegranates which is one of the symbols of prosperity and richness in Azerbaijan, Local jams from white cherry, walnut and many other versions, Caviar and so on

Visiting one of the **shopping malls** like 28 Mall, Ganjlik Mall or Daniz Mall.

Dinner

Overnight in Baku

### Day 5 | 20 Dec            **DEPARTURE**

Breakfast at the Hotel. Check out and Transfer to the Airport.

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**TOUR COST:**

<b>BASED ON MINIMUM 20 STUDENTS TRAVELLING</b>	<b>OMR</b>
PER STUDENT ON TRIPLE / TWIN SHARING BASIS	<b>495</b>

**INCLUSIONS:**

- ✓ Return Economy class Airfare on Fly Dubai or similar (20KG + 7KG Baggage)
- ✓ 4 Nights stay at Baku as per above mentioned hotel or similar
- ✓ 1 Night stay at Gabala as per above mentioned hotel or similar
- ✓ Triple sharing rooms for Students & Single rooms for Teachers
- ✓ Daily buffet breakfast at the hotel
- ✓ 4 Lunches, 5 Dinners (VEG / NON-VEG)
- ✓ Excursions & transportation according to the program
- ✓ Entrance fees to Shirvanshahs' Palace, Heydar Aliyev Center, Gobustan museum, Ateshgah & Yanardag, Cable car in Gabala.
- ✓ Professional English speaking Guide service
- ✓ Services of experienced Zahara Holidays Tour Manager
- ✓ E-visa cost (Indian passport holders only)
- ✓ Travel Insurance – Premier Plan
- ✓ 1 bottle of water per person per day
- ✓ 1 T-shirt & Cap with School Logo for students and teachers.
- ✓ 1 Local Sim Card for each teacher.
- ✓ Tips to Local Guides

**EXCLUSIONS:**

- Any items of personal nature
- Any services not mentioned in cost inclusion / itinerary
- Visa cost for nationals other than Indians

**Important Note:**

- ❖ This is only a quotation and we are not holding any confirmed services
- ❖ All services including flights are subject to availability
- ❖ Early check-in & late check-out cannot be guaranteed and subject to availability
- ❖ Lunch and dinner will be mostly in Indian restaurants and, in some locations, local / fast-food restaurants also will be used
- ❖ Visas are subject to the respective country / authority approval
- ❖ Minimum 6 months validity for passport required to apply e-visa
- ❖ Once confirmed Airfare will be 100% Non-Refundable Non-Amendable
- ❖ To operate the group minimum 20 students required and if the number is less than 20 students there will be a supplement cost.

**Payment Policy:**

RO 150 Non-Refundable Deposit at the time of confirming.  
Balance payment 30days prior to departure

We can accept payments by Bank Transfer or by Cheque favoring the beneficiary.

Bank Account Details:

Beneficiary Name : Zahara Travel and Service Bureau LLC  
Beneficiary Account : 042301 07725 90018  
Beneficiary Bank : Bank Muscat SAOG, Muscat, Oman

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We look forward your positive feedback soon.

Regards,

Sujit Sreekumar

**Zahara Holidays**

P.O. Box 833, Ruwi, Postal Code: 112, Sultanate of Oman

Tel: +968 24400805, Mob: +968 97308299

[www.zaharaholidays.com](http://www.zaharaholidays.com) | [sujit@zaharaholidays.com](mailto:sujit@zaharaholidays.com)



Dates as Per School Schedule

14<sup>th</sup> dec to 18<sup>th</sup> dec. (4 days 3 nights)

14<sup>th</sup> Leaving Mct (Night flight)

15<sup>th</sup> Mumbai- Garudmacchi

(Reaching Mumbai Airport and then by Ac Bus to Garudmachi Pune)

16<sup>th</sup> G machi at the site

17<sup>th</sup> G machi at the site

18<sup>th</sup> G Machi- Mumbai – Muscat (G Machi to Mumbai by Bus and then Air travel to Mct)

### Experiences would include:

Tent Pitching, Lighting the Fire, Safety and Basic First Aid, Cooking, Night Patrol, Rappelling, River crossing, Drawing a map of the campus, Orienteering, Pacing, Treasure Hunt using the map and the compass.

### Short Activities:

Name your team and make a Logo – Creativity, Make your slogan – Creativity & Focus, Pass the Tyre – Co-ordination, Wavered Flock – Communication and Understanding, Find your partner, Visual Memory.

### Objectives of the Program

- ✚ Learning to share and adjust to needs of others
- ✚ Co-operate with peers for achievement of tasks.
- ✚ Increase Self Confidence over fear
- ✚ Understand various modes of communications.

### Program Flow– Children camp



Day 1	
15 <sup>th</sup>	!4 th night flight .... 15 <sup>th</sup> morning camp starts ...Introduction
	Orientation Walk—nature and flora fauna. The children are made aware of the various plants and trees of the region. Concepts of botany are better explained than just through pictures
	Flag making – art
	Pottery – knowledge about diff soils and making of pots / creativity. Soil properties get highlighted and how these are required for making pots.
	Orienteering & Pacing – compass reading. Concepts of the earths magnetic field are explained by use of the compass. Geography as well map reading is taught
	Treasure Hunt- team work, decoding of the clues in terms of language and math are an integral part of this activity
Day 2	
16 <sup>th</sup>	Valley View - nearby power station information / electricity generation. Concepts of Hydro power are explained/
	Warm-up- yoga and physical fitness learning/ healthy food habits
	Rock Climbing – learning about heights/ discipline, gravity. Three point climbing highlights concept of balance
	Rappelling—overcome fear and adventure activity training. Physics and the concept of friction is explained.
	Knots session- - usage of each knot and application
	Camp setup- independent work in team
	Cooking & Camping – learning about cutting to cooking on chulha/ biogas

Day 3	
17 <sup>th</sup>	Warm-up
	Trek—nearby / info on diff birds/ trees / reptiles
	Ground Activities- team building / leadership qualities/ coordination
	Human Foosball matches – fun and learn, skit performance and campfire
Day 4	
18 <sup>th</sup>	Wakeup
	Breakfast, yoga, few activities, Photos certificates awards Afternoon to Mumbai and then flight for Muscat.

This is a tentative program. We can change or add few activities accordingly once the group reached.



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**Bin Tamman International LLC**

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The Program fees will be as follows –

**4 days and 3 nights- 135 Omani Rials / Per child**

**Air fare (Muscat-Mumbai-Muscat) – Not included in the fees.**

Tentative airfare will be O.R.130 (Muscat- Mum- Muscat) it might change

Here and there.

**Total cost for the program = 135+130 = 265 Omani rials only**

**Stay at Dormitory and Indian home cooked food.** (B Fast, Lunch, Snacks tea/coffee and dinner... veg and nonveg).

Aqua guard water to drink.

Hot water for bath, Western rest rooms, Hygiene Maintenance, Covid Protocol,

To and From Mumbai to G machi to Mumbai by Ac Bus. Highly skilled trainers and facilitators and top-class adventure equipment's. Safety is the highest priority and primary health care is available at the Venue.

Teacher - Student Ratio 1: 10

Dates --- 14<sup>TH</sup>December 2023 to 18<sup>TH</sup> DEC 2023

Experience, Understand, Appreciate and Value Nature and Develop a Fondness and care for it.