

Welcome to IOI 2019!

Dear IOI Community,

It is my pleasure to welcome you to Azerbaijan on behalf of the IOI 2019 Organizing Committee.

The International Olympiad in Informatics brings together the best and the brightest in Computer Science and algorithmic problem solving, making this competition one of a kind in the field. We are honored to host this prestigious event in Baku.

Baku has turned into a hub for major international events and we are excited that IOI made it to our capital. Our city has just seen off young athletes who competed in the European Youth Olympic Festival, a leading multisport event which took place from 21 July through 27 July 2019.

Starting from today, the brightest minds will prepare to tackle programming tasks within the IOI 2019. I wish all teams good luck and believe that this Olympiad will, apart from allowing the contestants to compete with their peers for the best results, offer a chance to make friends with fellow contestants from all over the world. I encourage all contestants to do their best to win and to also enjoy our beautiful city through activities so carefully prepared for all guests by the Organizing Committee.

Once again welcome and good luck!



Jeyhun Bayramov

Minister of Education of the Republic of Azerbaijan
Chair of the IOI 2019 Azerbaijan Host Organizing Committee

QUICK FACTS ABOUT IOI

The International Olympiad in Informatics (IOI) is an annual programming competition for secondary school students held since 1989.

The very first IOI took place in Bulgaria – participants from 13 countries and regions competed for medals. Shortly after this, the IOI started to gain popularity and the Olympiad in the following year (1990) in Minsk had contestants from 25 countries and regions.

Countries which hosted IOI twice are:

- Bulgaria: 1989 and 2009
- Greece: 1991 and 2004



The number of registered delegations in this year's IOI (31ST Olympiad) is **88**



Did You Know?



REPUBLIC OF
AZERBAIJAN



Etymology: the name translates as "Land of Fire" and refers to naturally occurring surface fires on ancient oil pools or from natural gas discharges

Borders: Georgia, Iran, Russia, Turkey, Armenia

Type of Government: presidential republic

Area: 86,600 square kilometres

Religion: According to the Constitution, Azerbaijan is a secular state. The predominant religion is Islam.

Population: 10 million

Independence: 18 October 1991

Capital: Baku (largest city)

Etymology: the name derives from the Persian name of the city "bad-kube" meaning "wind-pounded city" and refers to the harsh winds and severe snowstorms that can hit the city. Baku is also known as the "City of Winds."

National Holiday: 28 May – Republic Day (founding of the Democratic Republic of Azerbaijan), 28 May 1918

Language: Azerbaijani (official), Russian is also widely used

Currency: Manat (₼) (AZN)

National symbol(s): tricolor flag, emblem and anthem

Flag: three equal horizontal bands of sky blue (top), red, and green; a vertical crescent moon and an eight-pointed star in white are centered in the red band; the blue band recalls Azerbaijan's Turkic heritage, red stands for modernization and progress, and green refers to Islam; the crescent moon and star are a Turkic insignia; the eight star points represent the eight Turkic peoples of the world.

Emblem: Depicted in the center of the emblem are tongues of flame which symbolize "The Land of Fire." Colors used in the emblem are the colors of the national flag of Azerbaijan: blue, red and green. An eight-pointed star symbolizes eight branches of Turkic nation. A stalk at the bottom of the emblem symbolizes richness and fertility, a branch of oak represents antiquity of the country. A shield is the symbol of defense.

Anthem: the anthem of Azerbaijan is the "March of Azerbaijan" officially adopted by the government in 1920. The music was composed by Uzeyir Hajibeyli, the father of Azerbaijani composed classical music and opera, the first composer of an opera in the Islamic world. Lyrics belong to a prominent Azerbaijani poet Ahmad Javad.



Baku City Tour



Icherisheher (Old City)

The Old City or literally, the Inner City, is the historical core of Baku, its most ancient part. The most ancient monument of Icherisheher is the Maiden Tower: some evidence suggests that the construction of the Tower might have been as early as the 7th-6th centuries BC. Another monument of universal value, one of the pearls of Azerbaijan's architecture is the Shirvanshahs' Palace (12-15th century), located at the highest point of Icherisheher. Together with the Maiden Tower, forms an ensemble of historic monuments inscribed under the UNESCO World Heritage List of Historical Monuments.



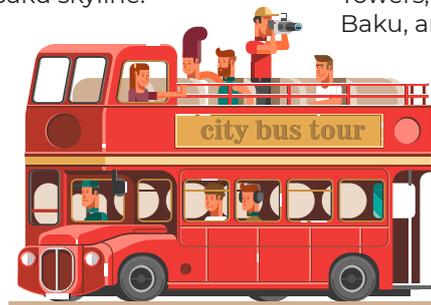
Flame Towers

Baku's long history of fire worshiping provided the inspiration for the Flame Towers, a trio of skyscrapers standing at 140 meters high and seen from most vantage points within the surrounding area. Completely covered with LED screens, the Towers have become the most prominent feature of Baku skyline.



Highland Park

Highland park, located in the heart of Baku, is one of the most favorite places of both locals and tourists to have walk, rest, and enjoy the sea view. It is regarded as one of the most beautiful parks of Baku and is also known as the "Viewing Square" that offers an amazing panorama of the city. The Flame Towers, a symbol of the modern Baku, are very close to the park.



Words of Wisdom

**Both worlds can fit within me, but in this world, I cannot fit
I am the placeless essence, but into existence I cannot fit**

In the original language (Azerbaijani):

Məndə siğar iki cahan, mən bu cahanə siğmazam,
Cövhəri la məkan mənəm, kövnü məkanə siğmazam.

Imadaddin Nasimi (1369 – 1417), a prominent Azerbaijani poet, an adherent of the Hürufi movement – a branch of Sufizm which is defined as "Islamic mysticism." These very famous verses of Nasimi refer to a contrast between the physical and the spiritual worlds, which are ultimately united in the human being.

The year of 2019 was declared a Year of Nasimi in Azerbaijan to celebrate poet's 650th anniversary



IOI 2019: Facts



88
Number of delegations

607
Number of visitors (contestants, leaders, guests)

88
Number of teams (Azerbaijan competes with 2 teams)



JOURNEY TO AZERBAIJAN

Contestants who had the shortest journey are from:
Iran, Georgia, Kazakhstan, Russia, Turkey, and Turkmenistan

Contestants who had the longest journey are from:
Argentina, Chile, and New Zealand



335
Number of contestants

321
Number of boy-contestants

14
Number of girl-contestants

Photo of the Day



Technical Committee led by Dr. Jamaladdin Hasanov and teams of volunteering students from the ADA University School of IT and Engineering.

Ready for IOI 2019

Baku is fully ready to host the 31st International Olympiad in Informatics and everyone is very excited to welcome the delegations from all over the world. 88 countries and regions! This is how many we expect to soon arrive in Baku. Careful preparations were made to ensure comfortable stay of all guests. Cultural program and trips will sure turn this event, and your entire summer really, into an unforgettable experience. Welcome to Baku!

Want your picture to be featured in the IOI 2019 Newsletter? It's easy!

Share your pictures on Social Media (Facebook and Instagram) publicly with official IOI 2019 hashtags **#ioi2019 #ioi2019baku#ioi2019azerbaijan** by mid-night each day. The best picture will appear on this very spot in the future issues of the newsletter.



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