

Azerbaijan

“Wings of Innovation : Charting New Paths in Logistics”



Incredible!ndia

ACAI
48th Annual Convention 2024



5th - 8th December,
2024 BAKU, AZERBAIJAN



THE AIR CARGO AGENTS ASSOCIATION OF INDIA

BAKU - Azerbaijan



5th - 8th December, 2024



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



Dear Members and Esteemed Guests,

We are pleased to inform you that the 48th Annual Convention of The Air Cargo Agents Association of India (ACAII) will be held in the beautiful city of Baku, Azerbaijan, from December 5th to 8th 2024. This Convention marks another milestone in our journey of growth, collaboration, and innovation within the cargo industry. ***The Theme of the Convention this year is “Wings of Innovation: Charting New Paths in Logistics”***

Baku, known for its stunning architecture, rich history, and vibrant culture, provides an ideal setting for our event. The city offers excellent sightseeing option, allowing you to explore and enjoy its unique charm. We are excited to announce the Convention and Accommodation will be hosted at the luxurious Hotel Marriott Baku Boulevard, which boasts top-notch Convention facilities and comfortable lodging.

We look forward to your participation in this significant event and to experiencing the warmth and hospitality of Baku together. Your presence will undoubtedly contribute to the success of our Convention, fostering valuable discussions and strengthening our professional bonds.

Experience the Magic of Baku at ACAII's 48th annual Convention.

See you in Baku!

With Best Regards,
C. K. Govil
President

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MESSAGE FROM CONVENTION CHAIRMAN



Dear Members,

Greetings!!!

Let us all congregate in the Eastern Transcaucasian country of Azerbaijan for our 48th annual ACAAI Convention.

This year the Convention will be held at ***Baku Marriott Hotel Boulevard, Azerbaijan*** from 5th – 8th December 2024.

The Theme of the Convention is “*WINGS OF INNOVATION : Charting New Paths in Logistics*”.

Request all members to register for this exciting Convention and make it a resounding success along with fostering friendships and bondings.

Coming soon the details for Registration - please keep a look out on www.acaai.in

With Best Regards,
Manoj Kumar Jain
Chairman, Convention 2024



MESSAGE FROM CO - CHAIRMAN



Dear Delegates,

Welcome to Baku, the vibrant capital of Azerbaijan.

Baku offers a unique blend of ancient history and modern marvels. Situated along the Caspian Sea, this city serves as a crossroads where Eastern and Western influences converge, combining the rich cultural legacy of the Caucasus with contemporary architecture and cosmopolitan vibes.

Nested between Russia , Georgia , Armenia & Iran by land and Kazakhstan , Turkmenistan across Caspian the sea, Azerbaijan stands as a pivotal HUB for multimodal transport and cross trade between East and west. We shall try to organise a B2B with freight forwarders from these countries in Baku, if feasible.

Baku is a city of contrasts - where ancient history meets modern luxury, and traditional culture blends seamlessly with contemporary life. Whether you are exploring its historic streets, enjoying the vibrant nightlife, or admiring the breathtaking views of the Caspian Sea, Baku promises to leave a memorable impression.

Looking forward to the pleasure of your company in Baku . Together, let us explore the **"Wings of Innovation : Charting New Paths in Logistics."**

With Best Regards,
Dinesh Krishnan
Co-Chairman, Convention 2024

ABOUT AZERBAIJAN

AZERBAIJAN is often called the “Land of Fire,” a nickname it has known since antiquity. The word Azerbaijan means ‘Protector of Fire’. This natural fire, known as Yanar Dağ, has been blazing in Azerbaijan for at least 65 years. One of Azerbaijan's most famous sites is Yanar Dağ (or “Burning Mountain”), a natural glowing fire burning on a hillside along the Caspian Sea. It is home to some of the world's most enviable gas and oil fields, nearly half of the world's mud volcanoes, Ateshgah Zoroastrian Fire Temple. The country is abundant in oil and natural gas, it was a centre of fire worshipping and fire has always been one of the symbols of its capital Baku, which today is reflected in the amazing Flame Towers.



Azerbaijan, which is a developing country, located at the crossroads of Eastern Europe and Western Asia, is emerging as a compelling destination for global events. It is a part of the South Caucasus region and is bounded by the Caspian Sea to the east, Russia's Republic of Dagestan to the north, Georgia to the northwest, Armenia and Turkey to the west, and Iran to the south.

Azerbaijan was the first Muslim-majority country to become a democracy by declaring its independence from Russia. Fueled by the women's suffrage movement across many European countries, it also became the first Muslim nation and one of the first nations across the world to grant voting rights to women.

Azerbaijan was an independent nation from 1918 to 1920 but was then incorporated into the Soviet Union. It became a constituent (union) republic in 1936. Azerbaijan declared sovereignty on September 23, 1989, and independence on August 30, 1991. The vast majority of the country's population (97%) is nominally Muslim, but the constitution does not declare an official religion, and all major political forces in the country are secular. The

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New Azerbaijan Party has been in charge since 1993, led by President Heydar Aliyev and his son Ilham Aliyev.

India and Azerbaijan have friendly relations and growing bilateral cooperation based on civilizational linkages, cultural affinities, and shared values of understanding and respect for other cultures. Azerbaijan is experiencing rapid economic growth, particularly in the logistics and transport sectors. The government is actively investing in infrastructure development and promoting business opportunities, making it an attractive destination for industry professionals.

Food tourism in Azerbaijan indulges in unique regional specialties, including fresh dairy products and mouthwatering sweets washed down with a delicate glass of tea.

This is where your mind will wander, where your soul will flourish & where your senses come alive. This dynamic country, with its unique blend of rich history and modern infrastructure, presents a range of advantages for hosting our ACAAI Convention. Our delegates will benefit not only from the professional opportunities presented but also from the chance to experience the warmth and vibrancy of Azerbaijan, a nation poised at the heart of global connectivity.

ABOUT BAKU

Baku, the capital and commercial hub of Azerbaijan, is a city rich in history, culture, and modern development. Baku derives its importance from its oil industry and its administrative functions. The first historical reference to Baku dates from 885 CE, although archaeological evidence indicates a settlement there several centuries before Christ.

Baku is situated on the western coast of the Caspian Sea. It has a semi-arid climate with mild, wet winters and hot, dry summers.



Baku has a history that spans several millennia. It has been an important trade and cultural center due to its strategic location along the Silk Road. The city's Old Town, known as Icherisheher, is a UNESCO World Heritage site and features historic architecture like the Maiden Tower and the Palace of the Shirvanshahs. Contemporary landmarks include the Zaha Hadid–designed Heydar Aliyev Center, and the Flame Towers, 3 pointed skyscrapers covered with LED screens. Baku boasts striking modern architecture, including the Flame Towers, which are designed to resemble flames and are illuminated at night.

The Heydar Aliyev Center, designed by Zaha Hadid, is another architectural marvel known for its flowing, futuristic design. Major attractions in Baku include the Baku Boulevard along the Caspian Sea, the futuristic buildings in the city center, and the Flame Towers. The city's mix of modernity and tradition makes it an interesting destination for travelers.

Overall, Baku is a city where ancient traditions coexist with modern advancements, offering a unique experience for residents and visitors alike.



FOOD & CUISINE

In Baku, the cuisine reflects Azerbaijan's rich cultural heritage, blending Middle Eastern, Persian, and Turkish influences with unique local flavors. Traditional dishes like plov (saffron rice pilaf), kebabs, and dolma (stuffed grape leaves) are staples, often accompanied by fresh herbs and vibrant spices. The city's food scene is diverse, featuring savory pastries such as gutab and sweet treats like baklava. Street food, including kebabs and samosas, offers a taste of local flavors, while tea and ayran (yogurt drink) are integral to the dining experience. Whether indulging in hearty traditional meals or exploring modern culinary innovations, Baku's food scene provides a flavorful journey through Azerbaijani culture.



CULTURE



Baku's culture is a vibrant tapestry woven from its rich history and diverse influences. As Azerbaijan's capital, the city showcases a blend of ancient traditions and contemporary innovations, reflected in its historic architecture, modern landmarks, and lively arts scene. The fusion of Eastern and Western influences is evident in its cuisine, music, and festivals. Cultural expressions are evident in Baku's festivals, music, and cuisine, while public spaces like the Caspian Sea Boulevard and the UNESCO-listed Old Town highlight its historical depth and modern growth. This fusion creates a unique cultural atmosphere that celebrates both its storied past and its progressive spirit.

CLIMATE

Baku experiences a semi-arid climate characterized by mild, wet winters and hot, dry summers. Located on the western shore of the Caspian Sea, the city benefits from a relatively moderate temperature range, though summer



temperatures can soar above 30°C (86°F). Rainfall is infrequent but more common during the winter months, while the summer is largely dry with plenty of sunshine. The city's climate is also influenced by the surrounding Absheron Peninsula, which can lead to occasional strong winds. Overall, Baku's climate provides a pleasant environment for outdoor activities and exploring the city year-round. In early December, Baku experiences cool and relatively mild weather with temperatures typically ranging between 8°C to 15°C (46°F to 59°F). The weather is generally pleasant for exploring the city, though it can be windy due to the city's coastal location. Overall, early December in Baku offers a cool,

crisp climate suitable for sightseeing and outdoor activities.

SHOPPING

Shopping in Baku offers a diverse and vibrant experience, blending traditional bazaars with modern retail spaces. The city features a mix of luxury boutiques, international brands, and local markets. Popular shopping destinations include the upscale Port Baku Mall and the Ganjlik Mall, which host a range of high-end and mainstream retailers. For a more traditional experience, the Taza Bazaar and Yashil Bazaar provide a lively atmosphere where visitors can find fresh produce, spices, and handcrafted goods. The city is also known for its vibrant arts and crafts scene, with opportunities to purchase Azerbaijani carpets, jewelry, and traditional souvenirs. Baku's shopping scene reflects its blend of modern sophistication and rich cultural heritage.



Official language	: Azerbaijani
Area	: 2,140 km ²
Population	: 22.4 lakhs (2016) United Nations
Country Code	: +994 12
Currency	: The currency used in Baku is The Manat (AZN) 1 Manat (AZN) = about 49.24 Indian Rupees (INR)
Time zone	: Baku is 1 hour and 30 Mins behind India / GMT + 4
Airport	: Heydar Aliyev International Airport (GYD)

Heydar Aliyev International Airport is one of the seven international airports serving Azerbaijan. It is the busiest airport both in Azerbaijan and in the South Caucasus as well as one of the busiest in the post-Soviet countries. It is about 24 km from the city centre, and you can easily find airport taxis and rental cars around the airport. The time and distance between GYD airport and Convention Hotel Mariott Boulevard is 30 mins (23.8 kms).

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REGISTRATION

The delegates may register for the Convention online on our website www.acaai.in

Registration begins on 26th August 2024.

Registration will be confirmed/accepted upon receipt of the full applicable fee by cheque/draft / RTGS transfer in favour of "The Air Cargo Agents Association of India." For RTGS transfer the details are as follows:

Bank : HDFC BANK
Express Tower, Nariman Point, Mumbai - 400 021
Account Name : THE AIR CARGO AGENTS ASSOCIATION OF INDIA
Account Number : 50200009770775
IFSC code : HDFC0000291
ACAAI GST Number : 27AAACT1460A1ZX

DELEGATE FEE

Due to the availability of direct flights between Mumbai (BOM) and Delhi (DEL) to Baku, we have prepared package fees for accommodations of 3 nights and 4 nights. **DELEGATES MAY SELECT ANY ONE OF THE PACKAGES BETWEEN THE 3-NIGHT AND 4-NIGHT PACKAGES, ACCORDING TO THEIR PREFERENCE.**

I). DELEGATE PACKAGE FEE FOR 3 NIGHTS:

Check-in : Thursday, 5th December 2024 & Check-out: Sunday, 8th December 2024

- 1) SGL / DBL occupancy with spouse = Rs.58,000/- + 18% (GST-Rs.10,440) = **Rs.68,440/-**
- 2) Delegate Sharing Room = Rs.35,000/- + 18% (GST-Rs.6,300) = **Rs.41,300/- each delegate for 3 nights**
- 3) The above package fees will include the following:
 - 5th Dec – Check-in, room, breakfast, evening hi-tea, inaugural session, entertainment, cocktails & dinner

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- 6th Dec – room, breakfast, all business sessions, morning tea/coffee, lunch, evening tea/coffee, entertainment, cocktails, and dinner.
- 7th Dec – room, breakfast, all business sessions, morning tea/coffee, lunch, evening tea/coffee, entertainment, cocktails, and dinner.
- 8th Dec – Breakfast & Check-out.

II). DELEGATE PACKAGE FEE FOR 4 NIGHTS:

i) **Check- in: Wednesday, 4th December 2024 & Check-out: Sunday, 8th December 2024**

ii) **Check- in: Thursday, 5th December 2024 & Check-out: Monday, 9th December 2024**

- 1). SGL / DBL occupancy with spouse = Rs.68,000/- + 18% (GST-Rs.12,240) = **Rs.80,240/-**
- 2). Delegate Sharing Room = Rs.40,000/- + 18% (GST-Rs.7,200) = **Rs.47,200/- each delegate for 4 nights.**
- 3). The above package fees will include the following for those delegates arriving on 4th December 2024:
 - 4th Dec - Check-in, room & breakfast.
 - 5th Dec - Room, breakfast, evening hi-tea, inaugural session, entertainment, cocktails & dinner.
 - 6th Dec - Room, breakfast, all business sessions, morning tea/coffee, lunch, evening tea/coffee, entertainment, cocktails, and dinner.
 - 7th Dec - Room, breakfast, all business sessions, morning tea/coffee, lunch, evening tea/coffee, entertainment, cocktails, and dinner.
 - 8th Dec - Breakfast & Check-out
- 4). Similarly, for those delegates arriving on 5th December 2024, the package fee will include :
 - 5th Dec - Check-in, room, breakfast, evening hi-tea, inaugural session, entertainment, cocktails & dinner
 - 6th Dec - Room, breakfast, all business sessions, morning tea/coffee, lunch, evening tea/coffee, entertainment, cocktails, and dinner

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- 7th Dec – Room, breakfast, all business sessions, morning tea/coffee, lunch, evening tea/coffee, entertainment, cocktails, and dinner
- 8th Dec – Room & breakfast
- 9th Dec – Breakfast & Check-out

All the above package fees include attendance at all Business Sessions and hosted events / functions listed in the programme.

All other charges on account of early Check-ins, late Check-outs, Laundry, Mini Bar, Telephone, Room Service, Internet, etc. shall be settled by the delegate directly with the Hotel.

iii). Hotel Check-in time is 3 PM and Check-out time is 12 Noon

Please note in case of any early Check-ins or late Check-outs required by the delegates, then the same need to be settled by the respective delegates directly with the hotel.

LOCAL DELEGATE FEE

The registration fee for delegates from Baku, not requiring hotel accommodation, shall be **USD 400/-** (US Dollar Four Hundred).

CLOSING DATE OF REGISTRATION

Registration to the Convention will be accepted immediately, and the closing date will be **30th September 2024**.

CANCELLATIONS

Cancellations done on or before 10th October 2024 shall be subject to a deduction of 25% of the delegate fee, and cancellations from 11th October to 31st October 2024 shall be subject to a deduction of 50% of the delegate fee. No refund on cancellation done after 31st October 2024. Cancellation of Hotel room booking is subject to heavy penalties on ACAAI.

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AIRPORT TRANSFERS

The time of travel taken from Heydar Aliyev International Airport (GYD) to Hotel Marriott Baku Boulevard is approximately 45 mins to 1 hour.

- Transport from Airport to Convention hotel shall be provided by ACAAI to the registered delegates on **4th & 5th December 2024 as per their ARRIVAL** details available with ACAAI.
- Similarly, transport from Convention hotel to Airport shall be provided by ACAAI to the registered delegates on **8th & 9th December 2024, as per their DEPARTURE** details available with ACAAI.
- Transfers will be provided only for convenient flights. No individual transfers will be arranged.

ATTIRE

Inaugural Function : 5th December 2024 : 6 pm onwards
(Lounge Suit / National Dress)

Business Sessions : 9:30 am onwards (Lounge Suit / Formals)

Cocktails / Dinners : Smart Casuals

All delegates to carry warm clothes as the temperature during early December in Baku will be about 4–10°C.

PARTICIPATION

Please be advised that participation in the Convention will be restricted to ACAAI members who have settled all their membership subscription dues and to those invited by the Managing Committee of ACAAI. Local Registered delegates shall be allowed to participate.

All Business Sessions and all other official functions including hosted events are for registered delegates and their spouses and for those invited by the ACAAI Managing Committee.

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ACAAI does not encourage participation of children below 18 years of age and they will not be allowed to attend any official function including lunches, cocktails, and dinners. Kindly note this to avoid any last-minute embarrassment.

SPOUSES PROGRAMME (only for spouses of the registered delegates)

Spouses of the registered delegates staying at the Convention hotel shall register for spouse tour which will be on 6th December 2024. However, the registration for this spouse tour should be done at the ACAAI Registration Desk on 5th December 2024.

CONVENTION PROGRAMME

The Convention Programme of the 48th annual ACAAI Convention will be informed to all delegates subsequently.

ABOUT THE CONVENTION HOTEL – The Marriott Boulevard, Baku

Baku Marriott Hotel Boulevard, is a premier family-friendly seaside retreat and is located in the heart of Baku's White City district. Off a roundabout, this upscale hotel is a 2-minute walk from the shores of the Caspian Sea, 7 km from the Museum of Miniature Books and 25 km from Heydar Aliyev International Airport. Discover the perfect blend of leisure, business, and excitement in Baku, where every moment crafted to perfection.

Address:

Baku Marriott Hotel Boulevard

Khagani Rustamov Street 4C, Khatai District,

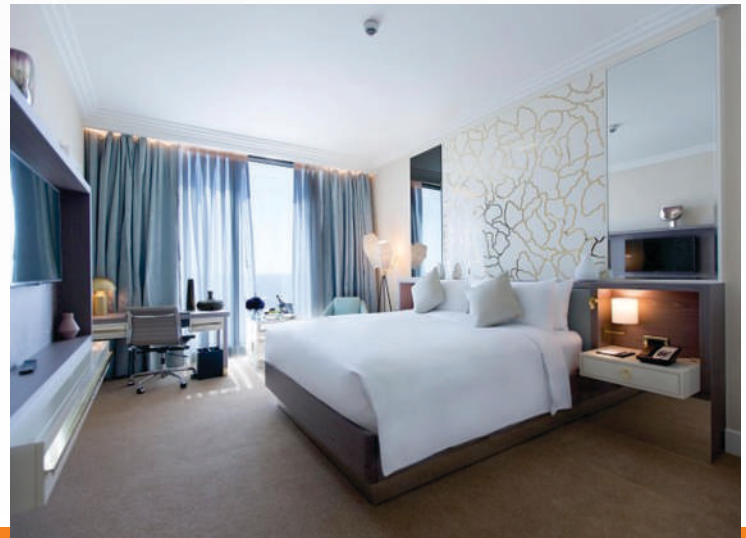
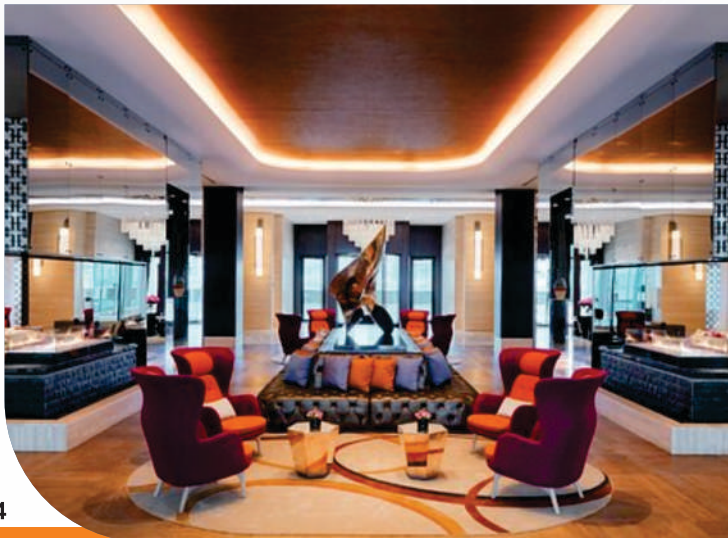
Baku, Azerbaijan, 1010

Phone: +994 12 310 00 10

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*Last date of registration **30th September 2024**

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