



3RD CIS GAMES
AZERBAIJAN
2025

**Victory
in every heart!**

**Latest
information**



For more information on the 3rd CIS Games 2025, go to the official website:

www.azerbaijan2025.com

**Competition
schedule**



Official name

3rd CIS Games

Period of the Games

Sept 28 - Oct 8, 2025

Opening & Closing Ceremony

Opening Ceremony • Sept 28, 2025 - 19:00

Closing Ceremony • Oct 8, 2025 - 19:00

Venue: Ganja City Stadium

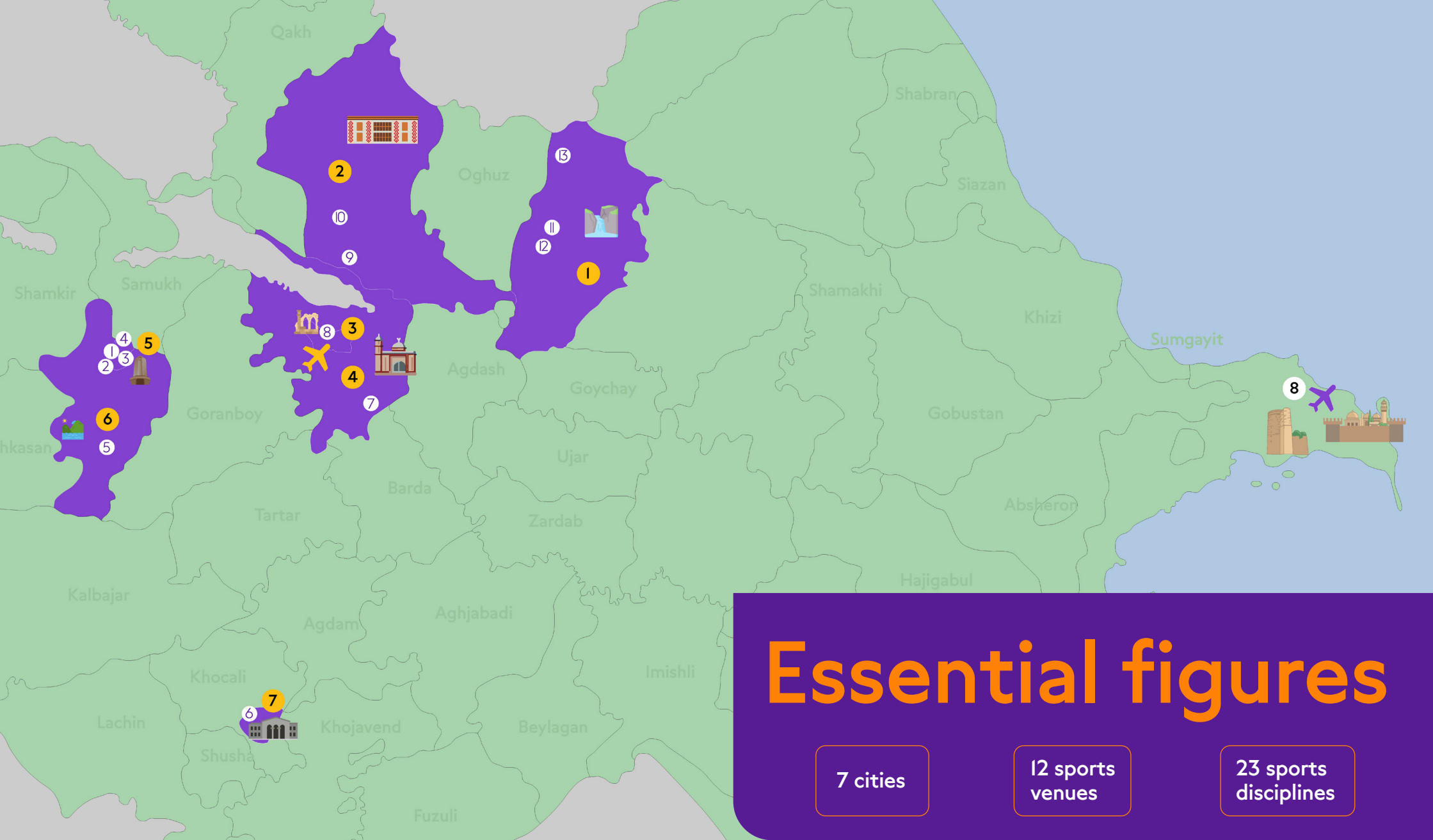


**Attention and care for
sports should be a state
policy of every country.**





Ilham Aliyev

President of the Republic
of Azerbaijan



- | | | | | | |
|--------------------------------|----------------------------------|----------------------------------|-------------------------|---------------|-------------|
| 1 Ganja Sports Palace | 5 Goygol Olympic Sports Complex | 9 Shaki Olympic Sports Complex | 13 Gabala Shooting Club | 1 Gabala | 5 Ganja |
| 2 Ganja Olympic Sports Complex | 6 Khankendi City Stadium | 10 Shaki City Stadium | ✈ GYD | 2 Shaki | 6 Goygol |
| 3 Ganja Basketball Court | 7 Yevlakh Olympic Sports Complex | 11 Gabala Olympic Sports Complex | ✈ GNJ | 3 Mingachevir | 7 Khankendi |
| 4 Ganja Central Stadium | 8 "Kur" Olympic Center | 12 Gabala City Stadium | | 4 Yevlakh | 8 Baku |

SPORT DISCIPLINES

 Archery	 Badminton	 3×3 basketball	 Boxing	 Canoe	 Chovgan
 Fencing	 Football U-16	 Greco-Roman wrestling	 Judo	 Karate	 Rhythmic gymnastics
 Rowing	 Sambo	 Shooting	 Shotgun	 Swimming	 Table tennis
 Taekwondo	 Trampoline gymnastics	 Volleyball	 Women's wrestling	 Wrestling	

UPDATES

Number of
registered countries

12

including
Azerbaijan

Total number of
members of CIS delegations

2313

Number
of athletes

1619



NEWS LINE

Accreditation Centers at the 3rd CIS Games

The following accreditation centers will issue accreditations for the respective sports venues prior to the start of the Games:

- Gabala Shooting Center
- Goygol Olympic Sports Complex
- "Kur" Olympic Training and Sports Center (Mingachevir)
- Sheki Olympic Sports Complex
- Yevlakh Olympic Sports Complex
- Congress Center, Khankendi
- Ganja Sports Palace

During the Games, accreditation support points will operate at all venues.



Media accreditation

At present, 391 representatives of both local and international media have been accredited. It should be noted that the accreditation process was completed on August 8, 2025.

<https://azerbaijan2025.com/media-accreditation/>



"BEFORE THE START"

From September 28 to October 8, Azerbaijan will host the 3rd CIS Games — an international multi-sport event that will bring together the strongest young athletes of the region.

One of the most anticipated disciplines will be sambo. Eight Azerbaijani athletes born between 2007 and 2009 will take to the mat, setting the most ambitious goals for themselves.

Head coach of Azerbaijan's junior national sambo team, Yagub Abdullayev, spoke about the team's preparations:

"In August, we will hold a training camp at the Absheron Olympic Sports Complex.

The main focus will be on improving physical condition. In September, we'll begin the second stage of preparation, concentrating on technical and tactical training. We'll spend more time on the mat, refining key elements."

According to the coach, the team lineup has already been finalized and preparations are going according to plan:

"The training conditions are excellent. These include the strongest sambo schools — Russia, Belarus, and Central Asian nations. Their teams include European and world champions and medalists. But our squad is no less competitive: we have athletes who've already earned medals on the international stage. We're aiming for the highest results."

The Azerbaijani sambo team already has a history of success at the CIS Games. At the inaugural event in Kazan in 2021, the team claimed three gold medals, one silver medal, and one bronze medal, making them one of the most successful delegations in the competition.

"Our sambo athletes delivered the best results among all sports at that time. Now, with the Games taking place at home, we aim to at least repeat that success. Our goal is clear — to win as many medals as possible," he said.

AWARDING

We are proud to present the medals of the 3rd CIS Games. These medals are not only awards but also symbols of victory, strength, and the fighting spirit of athletes. Each medal bears the official logo of the Games, representing unity and sporting excellence.

The distribution of medals is as follows:

Gold	Silver	Bronze
505	505	684



In addition, a special prize will be awarded to the athlete who makes the greatest contribution to the success of the winning team.

The sports included are:



VENUE GUIDE



Archery

CITY STADIUM, KHANKENDI

Construction of Khankendi City Stadium began in 1955, and it was inaugurated in 1956. For many years, the stadium served as one of the main sports venues in the region. After the restoration of the city's historical name in 1991, the stadium was also renamed "Khankendi City Stadium."



During the Soviet period, Qarabağ Khankendi FC played its home matches here. In 2023, the stadium returned under Azerbaijan's control, marking the beginning of a new chapter in the country's sporting life. In October of the same year, reports appeared in the Azerbaijani press suggesting that Qarabağ could host its Premier League matches at the Khankendi Stadium starting from the next season. To make this possible, restoration and renovation work was planned..

A new chapter in the stadium's history will begin with international events. As part of the 3rd CIS Games in 2025, archery competitions are scheduled to be held here. This demonstrates that the stadium is set to become an important venue not only for football but also for other sports.

Today, Khankendi City Stadium is more than just a sports facility — it stands as a symbol of Karabakh's revival and its reintegration into the sporting life of Azerbaijan.



PERSONA

ZEMFIRA MEFTAHADDINOVA

Zemfira Meftahaddinova is an outstanding trap shooter who holds a special place in the history of Azerbaijani sports. In 2000, at the Summer Olympic Games in Sydney, she won a gold medal, becoming the first athlete to claim Olympic victory under the flag of independent Azerbaijan. In 2004, at the XXVIII Summer Olympic Games in Athens, she earned a bronze medal.

From 1986 to 1991, she competed as part of the USSR national team, and from 1991 to 2014, she represented the Azerbaijani national team. Her career is rich with achievements at World and European Championships. She became European Champion in 1993, 1997, and 2003. In team competitions, she won gold medals in 1987 and 1990. Overall, Zemfira Meftahaddinova is a five-time European Champion and a World Champion in 1995 and 2001.

In addition to her sporting career, she has distinguished herself in organizational roles. From 2015 to 2023, she headed the Sports Society of the Ministry of Internal Affairs. Since 2021, she has served as Vice President of both the Azerbaijan Shooting Federation and the National Olympic Committee of Azerbaijan.

For her great contribution to the development of Azerbaijani sports, she has repeatedly been awarded state honors. In 1991, she received the Honorary Diploma of the Azerbaijan SSR; in 1995 and 2004, the "Progress" Medal; in 2000, the "Glory" Order; in 2022, the Honorary Diploma of the President. Additionally, for her service in the internal affairs bodies, she was awarded the "For the Motherland" Medal in 2018.

Zemfira Meftahaddinova is one of the prominent figures who has made invaluable contributions to the development of Azerbaijani sports, both as an athlete and as an organizer.



SPORTS UNITE!

FC Qarabağ is a professional football club representing the city of Aghdam, Azerbaijan. The club was founded in 1951 with the establishment of the "Mehsul" team in Aghdam. In later years, it competed under the names "Shafaq" and "Kooperator" before officially adopting the name "Qarabağ" in 1987.

Since 1992, Qarabağ has competed in the Azerbaijani championship and is the most decorated club in the country. The team has won the national championship 12 times and claimed the Azerbaijan Cup 8 times. Following the occupation of Aghdam in 1993, the club was forced to play its home matches in Baku and other cities. Despite this, Qarabağ has become a true symbol of Azerbaijani football, both nationally and internationally.

The club has made history by qualifying for the main stages (group or league) of UEFA competitions 12 times: 9 appearances in the Europa League, 2 in the Champions League, and 1 in the Europa Conference League. In the 2021/22 season, Qarabağ advanced beyond the Conference League group stage, marking another first in Azerbaijani football history, and repeated the achievement the following year. In the 2023/24 season, Qarabağ finished second in their Europa League group, becoming the first Azerbaijani club ever to reach the play-offs of the tournament. The team then advanced past the play-off round to the Round of 16, opening a new chapter in its history. In the current season, Qarabağ has once again made history by qualifying for the Champions League league stage for the second time.

The architect of these achievements is Gurban Gurbanov, the most successful head coach in Azerbaijani football history. His leadership at Qarabağ has earned recognition not only locally but also across the international football community.

Today, Qarabağ is known not only for its sporting success but also as a symbol of freedom and resilience for Karabakh.

GOLDEN MOMENT

Ilham Zakiyev is an outstanding Azerbaijani para-judoka. He made history in Azerbaijani sports as the country's first Paralympic champion. The Athens 2004 winner repeated his success four years later, becoming a two-time Paralympic champion. He is also a three-time World Champion (2007, 2010, and 2022 in team competitions), an eight-time European Champion, and the winner of the 1st European Games. He holds the titles of Honored Master of Sports of Azerbaijan, Honored Coach, and is a 7th dan black belt holder.

In 1999, during his military service in Karabakh, he lost his sight after being shot by a sniper. Despite this, through perseverance and determination, he achieved great success in judo, writing his name in the history of Azerbaijani sports in golden letters.

Ilham Zakiyev is also one of the symbols of Azerbaijani sports — he served as the country's flag bearer at the 2008, 2012, and 2016 Paralympic Games. He won bronze medals at London 2012, Tokyo 2020, and Paris 2024. He was also the athlete who lit the flame at the 1st European Games in Baku in 2015.

For his achievements, he has been awarded the Order of "Glory," the "Progress" Medal, full Cavalier of the Order "For Service to the Fatherland," and the "For the Motherland" Medal.

His life journey is regarded as a symbol of perseverance, willpower, and devotion to his country.



VOLUNTEER POWER

3,000 volunteers will become part of one of the largest sporting events of the year — the 3rd CIS Games.

The largest number of volunteers — 1,250 people — will be involved in the city of Ganja, 600 in Gabala, 350 in Sheki, 255 in Mingachevir, 190 in Yevlakh, 185 in Khankendi, and 175 in Goygol.

The Volunteer Program of the 3rd CIS Games has generated great interest. More than 9,700 applications were submitted through the registration portal. At the interview stage, which began on June 24, 7,200 candidates took part, and the selection process was successfully completed.

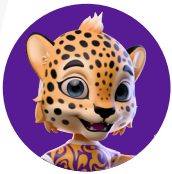
At present, training sessions aimed at preparing volunteers for the Games are ongoing.

During the Games, volunteers will work in areas such as sports operations, human resources and workforce management, venue management, event and ceremonies organization, and media operations. They will play an active role in welcoming and assisting athletes, guests, and media representatives, as well as providing them with the necessary information.

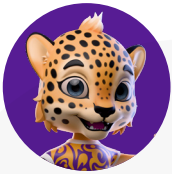
Volunteers will become an integral part of the 3rd CIS Games, making an important contribution to the successful hosting of the competitions. They will play an irreplaceable role in the organization of this major sporting celebration.



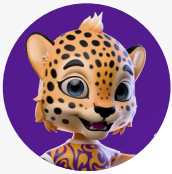
Chatting with Babir & Leyla



Hi Leyla! Are you excited for the 3rd CIS Games?



Great! Let's go there together!



And have you seen the medals? They're so beautiful — gold, silver, bronze, plus a special award for the best player of the winning team.

Absolutely! I heard there will be archery competitions in Khankendi.

Let's go! I have never been there. I want to walk in Khankendi.

That's inspiring! Especially to watch the games live!



ORGANIZERS



Azerbaijan2025.com