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MAY 2026
ALMATY

Powering Central Asia & the Caucasus' **Intelligence Economy** **TRAVEL GUIDE**

HOSTED BY



AI & DIGITAL
MINISTRY

IN PARTNERSHIP

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Akimat of the
City of Almaty

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GITEX
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GITEX AI KAZAKHSTAN

Bringing the World's Largest
& Most Influential Tech
Network to Central Asia &
the Caucasus

GITEX AI KAZAKHSTAN is the region's largest inaugural tech and AI event, shaping the future of AI, cloud, cybersecurity and digital infrastructure across the region.

It marks a pivotal moment for the region — a week when Almaty becomes the epicenter of global tech, innovation, and opportunity.

Plan your trip to the region's largest tech and AI event, where government summits, high-growth startup showcases, and boundary-pushing tech exhibitions all converge on one globally connected platform.



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EVENT INFORMATION & LOCATION

DATES:

Monday 04 May – Tuesday 05 May 2026

TIMINGS:

10am – 6pm daily

LOCATION:



Atakent International Expo Centre
Timiryazev Str., 42, 050057 Almaty, Kazakhstan

ACCESS POLICY:

This event is open to trade and business professionals only. Individuals under the age of 18 are not permitted to attend, except for registered and confirmed students aged 16 and above who are accompanied by a faculty member and may attend on Day 2 of the show only.



www.gitexcac.com



HOW TO APPLY FOR THE VISA TO KAZAKHSTAN

Visa-Free Entry: Citizens of many countries can enter Kazakhstan without a visa for tourism or short stays (30–90 days, depending on nationality).

E-Visa: Eligible citizens can apply online via: https://new.wpk.kz/evisa_eng

If eligible, please apply after you have obtained the Visa Invitation Letter from us.

Consular Visa: Citizens not eligible for visa-free entry or e-Visa must apply through a Kazakh embassy/consulate. The process involves two key steps:

1. Visa Support Letter (Invitation)
2. Embassy / Consulate Application & Appointment

Note: For more detailed information regarding visa requirements and application procedures, please refer to the GITEX AI Kazakhstan Visa Guide provided separately.

FLIGHTS TO ALMATY



Almaty International Airport

www.alaport.com



30 minutes' drive to Atakent International Exhibition Center

AIRLINES THAT FLY TO ALMATY INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT:

Kazakh Airlines

Air Astana (KC)
FlyArystan (FS)
Qazaq Air (IQ)
SCAT Airlines (DV)

International Airlines

Air Arabia Abu Dhabi (3L)	Flydubai (FZ)
Air China (CA)	LOT Polish Airlines (LO)
Aeroflot (SU)	Lufthansa (LH)
Azerbaijan Airlines (J2)	Pegasus Airlines (PC)
Belavia (B2)	Red Wings Airlines (WZ)
China Southern Airlines (CZ)	Turkish Airlines (TK)
Emirates (EK)	Uzbekistan Airways (HY)

GETTING FROM ALMATY INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT TO GITEX AI KAZAKHSTAN

	Airport Bus	Taxi	Private Chauffeur
Location	Bus stop outside the Arrivals Terminal	Outside the International Arrivals Terminal	Book Online: <u>Welcome Pickups</u> <u>AirportTransfer.com</u>
Distance from airport to Atakent International Expo Centre	1 hour	25-35 minutes	25-35 minutes
Schedule	From 6 AM to 11 PM Frequency is every 10-15 minutes	Taxi ranks are available 24/7 at Almaty International Airport	Online Booking
Fare	Bus fee – 180 tenge	Approximately \$10–15 USD	Approximately \$25 USD

GETTING FROM ALMATY INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT TO GITEX AI KAZAKHSTAN

TAXIS

LOCATION AT AIRPORT

Taxi ranks are available outside the International Arrivals Terminal

TAXI COMPANIES

- **Yandex Go:** Dynamic pricing based on distance, time, and demand (not meter-based), accessible via a user-friendly app.
- **InDrive** - App-based fixed fares; supports cash and card.

FARES

\$10–15 USD.

PRIVATE TRANSFERS

Services like **AirportTransfer.com** and **Welcome Pickups** offer private transfers from Almaty International Airport to the Atakent International Exhibition Center, with prices starting at approximately \$25 USD.

BUS

Take Bus 92 from Almaty Airport and get off at the “Atakent” stop, then walk 5–7 minutes to the Atakent Expo Center.

Travel Time: Around 45–50 minutes, depending on traffic.

CAR HIRE

Rental Agencies: Companies like Hertz, Europcar, Avis operate directly inside the Arrivals Terminal.

Requirements:

- Valid driver's license
- Valid Passport
- Credit Card
- Booking Confirmation: If booked online, bring your voucher or confirmation email

GETTING AROUND ALMATY

Almaty offers a variety of transportation options including metro, buses, taxis, and ride-hailing apps, making it easy for visitors to get around the city efficiently:

- Metro: Fast, clean, runs 1 line under city center from 6:30 AM–11:30 PM.
- Buses: Affordable and cover most city districts
- Taxis & Ride-Hailing: Widely available - apps like Yandex Go and InDrive offer convenient booking, with cash or card payment and dynamic or fixed fares.



FLIGHTS TO ASTANA



**Nursultan Nazarbayev
International Airport**

www.nn-airport.kz

Airlines that flight to Nursultan Nazarbayev International Airport:

Air Astana

Air China

Azerbaijan Airlines

Belavia

China Southern Airlines

Flydubai

LOT Polish Airlines

Lufthansa

Pegasus Airlines

Qatar Airways

Red Wings Airlines

SCAT Airlines

Turkish Airlines

Uzbekistan Airways

TRAVEL CONNECTIONS: NURSULTAN NAZARBAYEV INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT TO ALMATY INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT



FLY

Domestic flights - Air Astana, FlyArystan, Qazaq Air and SCAT Airlines

Departures Information Frequency

Daily flights from Nursultan Nazarbayev International Airport (NQZ) to Almaty International Airport (ALA)

Flight time to Astana

Approximately 1 h 45 min



RAIL

Kazakhstan Temir Zholy (KTZ) operates the train services between **Astana** and **Almaty**

Schedules

bilet.railways.kz

Frequency

Multiple daily departures

Travel time

Approximately 16h 25m

Approximate Ticket price

Between \$11 – \$ 50 for a ticket



CAR HIRE

Astana (Nursultan) and Almaty International Airports have the following car rental services:

Hertz www.hertz.com

Avis www.avis.com

Budget www.budget.com

Europcar www.europcar.com

Sixt www.sixt.com

TRAVEL CONNECTIONS: NURSULTAN NAZARBAYEV INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT TO ALMATY INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT

	Flight	Train	Private Chauffeur
Location	Within Almaty International Airport	Kazakhstan Temir Zholy (KTZ) operates multiple daily direct trains from Astana-Nurly Zhol station to Almaty, arriving at either Almaty-1 or Almaty-2 stations.	Book Online through providers: • <u>Transfer Astana</u> • <u>1CARES</u> • <u>Airssist</u> • <u>Taxiyo</u>
Distance from Astana to Almaty	Appr. 1 hours 40 mins	High-speed Talgo trains: Appr. 15 hours and 45 minutes, while other services: range between 16 to 22 hours depending on the route and stops.	Appr. 12 to 15 hours
Schedule	9 to 11 direct flights per day by Air Astana, FlyArystan, SCAT Airlines, Qazaq Air & Lufthansa	Trains operate daily, with 3 to 5 hours direct departures per day, depending on the day of the week and season.	Online Booking
Fare	Online Booking	Tickets can be purchased at the station or online. Tickets can be purchased via: <u>Official KTZ Website</u>; <u>Bilet Railways</u>; <u>12Go Asia</u> Ticket prices range from \$19 to \$ 55, depending on the class and specific train.	Appr. from \$40/hour for standard sedan vehicle

OVERVIEW HOTELS IN ALMATY & DISTANCE FROM GITEX AI KAZAKHSTAN

Hotel Name	Star Rating	Distance to Atakent International Exhibition Centre
Swissôtel Wellness Resort Alatau Almaty	Luxury	30 mins drive
The Ritz-Carlton, Almaty	Luxury	12 mins drive
The Dostyk Hotel	5*	26 mins drive
InterContinental Almaty	5*	21 mins drive
Rahat Palace Hotel	5*	13 mins drive
Rixos Almaty Hotel	5*	23 mins drive
Ala Boutique Hotel	4*	22 mins drive
Best Western Plus Atakent Park Hotel	4*	9 mins drive
Dami Almaty Hotel	4*	27 mins drive
Doubletree by Hilton Almaty	4*	19 mins drive

Hotel Name	Star Rating	Distance to Atakent International Exhibition Centre
Holiday Inn Almaty	4*	19 mins drive
Kazakhstan Hotel	4*	27 mins drive
Ozen Palace Hotel	4*	19 mins drive
Park Hotel Almaty	4*	25 mins drive
Resident Hotel Abay	4*	25 mins drive
Astana International Hotel	3*	16 mins drive
Grand Opera Hotel	3*	23 mins drive
Hi Hotel Almaty	3*	26 mins drive
Park Dedeman Almaty	3*	10 mins drive
Renion Park Hotel	3*	33 mins drive

WHERE TO STAY

LUXURY HOTEL ACCOMMODATION IN ALMATY

We are expecting a high volume of exhibitors and visitors at the very first GITEX AI KAZAKHSTAN outside the UAE. Therefore, we strongly encourage all exhibitors and visitors to book accommodation early to guarantee your reservation.

These are the hotels in proximity to the exhibition site:



Swissôtel Wellness Resort Alatau Almaty

LOCATION

30-minute drive from the exhibition site

 www.swissotel.com/hotels/alatau-almaty/



The Ritz-Carlton, Almaty

LOCATION

15-minute drive from the exhibition site

 www.ritzcarlton.com/en/hotels/alarz-the-ritz-carlton-almaty/overview/

WHERE TO STAY

5* HOTEL ACCOMMODATION IN ALMATY



The Dostyk Hotel



LOCATION

23-minute drive from the exhibition site



dostyk.kz/en



InterContinental Almaty



LOCATION

20-minute drive from the exhibition site



ihg.com/intercontinental/hotels/gb/en/almaty/alaha/hoteldetail?

WHERE TO STAY

5* HOTEL ACCOMMODATION IN ALMATY



Rahat Palace Hotel



LOCATION

15-minute drive from the exhibition site

 www.rahatpalace.com/



Rixos Almaty Hotel



LOCATION

20-minute drive from the exhibition site

 www.rixos.com/hotel-resort/rixos-almaty

WHERE TO STAY

4* HOTEL ACCOMMODATION IN ALMATY



Ala Boutique Hotel

LOCATION

20-minute drive from the exhibition site

 www.booking.com/hotel/kz/ala-boutique.html?aid

Best Western Plus Atakent Park Hotel

LOCATION

12-minute drive from the exhibition site

 www.bestwestern.com/en_US.html

Dami Almaty Hotel

LOCATION

25-minute drive from the exhibition site

 www.dami.almaty-hotel.com/en/

WHERE TO STAY

4* HOTEL ACCOMMODATION IN ALMATY



Doubletree by Hilton Almaty



LOCATION

18-minute drive from the exhibition site

 www.hilton.com/en/hotels/aladtdi-doubletree-almaty/



Holiday Inn Almaty



LOCATION

20-minute drive from the exhibition site

 www.holidayalmaty.com/en/



Kazakhstan Hotel



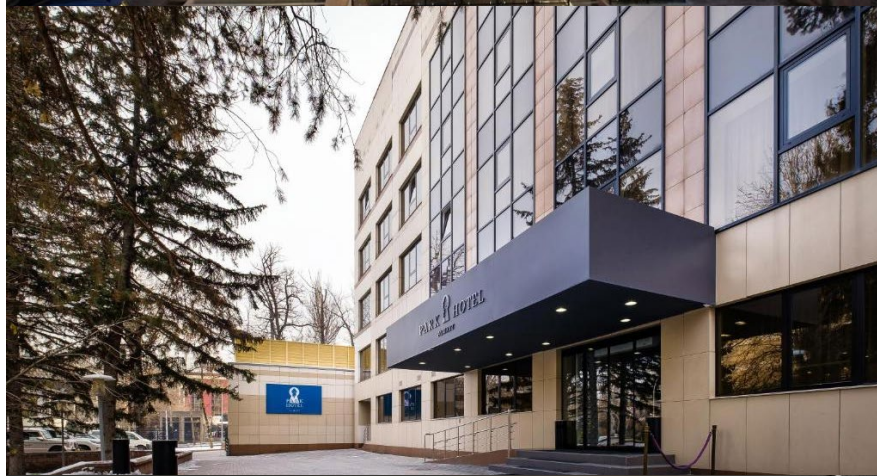
LOCATION

25-minute drive from the exhibition site

 www.kazakhstanhotel.kz

WHERE TO STAY

4* HOTEL ACCOMMODATION IN ALMATY



Ozen Palace Hotel



LOCATION

18-minute drive from the exhibition site



www.ozenpalacehotel.com/en-gb/

Park Hotel Almaty



LOCATION

23-minute drive from the exhibition site



www.parkhotel-almaty.com/en/

Resident Hotel Abay



LOCATION

20-minute drive from the exhibition site



www.resident-abay.almaty-hotel.com/en/

WHERE TO STAY

3* HOTEL ACCOMMODATION IN ALMATY



Astana International Hotel



LOCATION

18-minute drive from the exhibition site

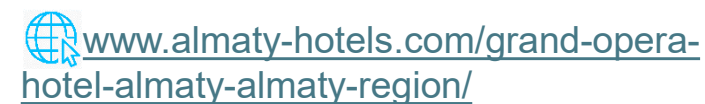


Grand Opera Hotel



LOCATION

22-minute drive from the exhibition site



Hi Hotel Almaty



LOCATION

25-minute drive from the exhibition site



WHERE TO STAY

3* HOTEL ACCOMMODATION IN ALMATY



Park Dedeman Almaty

LOCATION

12-minute drive from the exhibition site

 www.dedeman.com/en/hotels/park-dedeman-almaty



Renion Park Hotel

LOCATION

30-minute drive from the exhibition site

 www.renion-park.almaty-hotel.com/en/

OTHER USEFUL INFORMATION

CLIMATE

Kazakhstan mainly has a continental climate, characterized by hot summers and cold winters.

Summer (June-August):
Daytime temperatures typically range from 25°C to 35°C (77°F to 95°F) but can occasionally exceed 40°C (104°F) in southern regions like Almaty.

HEALTH & WELL-BEING

No mandatory vaccinations are required for general travelers to visit Kazakhstan.

Yellow fever vaccination certificate required only if arriving from countries with yellow fever risk.

It is recommended to be up-to-date on routine vaccines: measles, mumps, rubella (MMR); diphtheria, tetanus, pertussis (DTP); polio; varicella (chickenpox; influenza).

OTHER USEFUL INFORMATION



CURRENCY IN KAZAKHSTAN

The official currency unit of Kazakhstan is the 'Tenge' abbreviated as KZT.



HOW TO PAY IN KAZAKHSTAN?

In Kazakhstan, you can pay by cash or credit card, but it's advisable to carry some cash for small purchases or places where cards may not be accepted. Foreign transaction fees on credit card payments depend on your card issuer's policies and typically range from 1% to 3%. To avoid extra charges, always choose to pay in the local currency, Kazakhstani Tenge (KZT), and avoid Dynamic Currency Conversion.



CURRENCY EXCHANGE

In establishments where credit card payments are not accepted, it is preferable to pay in cash using the local currency, Kazakhstani Tenge (KZT). The best places to exchange currency are official exchange offices located in city centers, major shopping malls, and banks. Currency exchange is also available at airports and some hotels.



VAT ON Revenue APPLICABILITY

As a general rule, goods and services performed and used within Kazakhstan are subject to VAT, regardless of whether the service provider or the customer is a non-resident. Services rendered in Kazakhstan are subject to VAT, with a standard rate of 16% from 2026

OTHER USEFUL INFORMATION



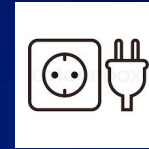
Dress Appropriately

In early June, Kazakhstan experiences warm to hot weather, so visitors are advised to pack light and breathable clothing. While casual summer wear is suitable for most activities, a light jacket may be useful for cooler evenings or indoor venues with air conditioning.



Telephone Communication

Kazakhstan's country code is +7. You can purchase a local SIM card from Beeline, Kcell, and Tele2 upon arrival at the airport or in cities (passport required). Wi-Fi is widely available in hotels, cafes, and public spaces, but mobile data helps with navigation. Make sure your phone is unlocked to use a local SIM.



Electrical Outlets

Kazakhstan uses Type C (Europlug) and Type F (Schuko plug) electrical outlets with a standard voltage of 220V and frequency of 50Hz. Visitors from countries with different plug types or voltages should bring a suitable adapter and voltage converter to safely charge their devices.



Internet & Wifi

Free Wi-Fi is widely available in hotels, cafes, restaurants, and shopping centers across Kazakhstan's cities. Speeds are generally good for browsing and messaging. For reliable internet on the go, consider purchasing a local SIM card with a data plan.

USEFUL MOBILE APPLICATIONS

- **Gismeteo** — Popular weather app offering detailed forecasts for cities across Kazakhstan.
- **Yandex Go and Yandex Maps**— Provides detailed maps, turn-by-turn navigation, and real-time traffic updates in Kazakhstan. Includes information on accidents, road construction, and congestion levels to help plan your route efficiently.
- **Google maps and 2GIS** — Offer comprehensive city maps, live traffic updates, and public transport routes across Kazakhstan. Also provide alerts on road incidents, including accidents and closures, for smoother trip planning.