



Baku 2015
1st EUROPEAN GAMES

BEGOC **September 2014**

PRESS GUIDE TO THE BAKU 2015 EUROPEAN GAMES





Azad Rahimov

Minister of Youth and Sports of
The Republic of Azerbaijan

CEO of Baku 2015

A handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of a stylized 'A' followed by a series of loops and a long horizontal stroke.

Azerbaijan is honoured to be hosting the first ever European Games and I am delighted to welcome the international press to what will be the biggest sporting event in our country's history.

Coverage generated by the international press during the Games will be crucial in sharing this inaugural event with a worldwide audience, and it is our duty and desire to provide members of the press with everything they need to tell the story of the Games through words and pictures.

A great deal of planning is being undertaken by our experienced and dedicated team to ensure the Baku 2015 European Games will be organised at the highest level. I am fully confident that we will provide the athletes, spectators, fans and media with the best possible facilities to enjoy this historic sporting spectacle. We are determined to be innovative and sustainable, to try new concepts, and to deliver a first-class event of which the whole of Europe will be proud.

With more than 6,000 athletes from the National Olympic Committees of Europe competing across 19 sports, the Baku 2015 European Games will be a catalyst for economic, sporting and social development across Azerbaijan. The Games will be of great benefit to Azerbaijanis of all ages across the country, but particularly to the young people of our nation. It will create positive memories and an excellent legacy of sporting venues to inspire this generation and future generations to take-up and continue to play sport throughout their lives.

Hosting the Games is a wonderful opportunity for Baku and Azerbaijan to showcase itself and its hospitality to the world, and I look forward to welcoming you all to our wonderful city in June 2015.



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Introduction

In the run-up to the inaugural European Games we at the Baku 2015 European Games Operation Committee (BEGOC) are finalising the services and facilities that will await your arrival in Baku.

The Press Guide to the Baku 2015 European Games provides an overview of the services and facilities that will be available to the accredited written and photographic press and non-rights holding broadcasters during the Games.

One of the key objectives of BEGOC is to incorporate innovation in all of our planning, and as a member of the press you can expect the following:

- Enhanced interview opportunities in the I-Zone (see page 33)
- Free wired and wireless internet access in press areas (see page 24)
- Free wireless internet access on shuttle buses (see page 24)
- One-stop shop for all information during the Games via the website (see page 103)
- One access control zone for press and broadcasters in the venues (see page 17)

If you have any questions after reading this guide, do not hesitate to contact the Press Operations team. Also, be sure to register for our Press Extranet to get the most current information about the European Games.

The following publications, as well as other useful guides, will be available for download via the Press Extranet in the coming months to help press organisations plan for Baku 2015:

- Rate Card
- News Access Rules (for non-rights holding broadcasters only)
- Customs and Freight Forwarding Guide
- City Filming and Photography Guide (for photographers and non-rights holding broadcasters only)
- Social Media, Blogging and Internet Guidelines
- Games-time Press and Photo Guide

We look forward to welcoming you to Baku in 2015!

Hörmətlə,
The Press Operations Team

Welcome to Azerbaijan

Azerbaijan is a land of plentiful natural resources, centuries-old culture and deeply-engrained hospitality, and has always played a vital role in the Caucasus regions. The country unites Eastern Europe and Western Asia, sharing its borders with neighbours Iran and Turkey to the south, Russia to the north, Armenia to the west, and Georgia to the north-west.

Azerbaijan is the largest and most populated region in the South Caucasus. Azerbaijani is the official state language but many locals speak Russian, Turkish and English, particularly in the cities. In January 2014, the population totalled 9.5 million, with around 50% under 30 years of age.

Azerbaijan enjoys a booming economy that achieved the second highest GDP growth in the world between 2000 and 2010. The boom is mainly driven by the rich oil and gas resources but a strong maritime tradition also exists thanks to its 456 kilometre-long coastal border along the Caspian Sea. The economy is additionally supported by growing agriculture and tourism sectors.

While Azerbaijan is a young country, it has one of the world's oldest civilizations in terms of human history. South of Baku are rock carvings that date to at least 6,000 BCE. Throughout its history, Azerbaijan has been visited by Alexander the Great, the Romans, Genghis Khan and Marco Polo. In fact, Marco Polo was one of the first persons to describe the vast oil reserves in the area.

The first deep oil well was drilled in Baku in 1848 and the first refinery was built a decade later. This was the start of the oil boom in Azerbaijan and the city of Baku grew from a few thousand people to more than 200,000 in about 20 years. At the turn of the 20th Century, Baku was exporting half of the world's oil.

Following World War I, Azerbaijan became the world's first Muslim democratic republic when it declared independence in 1918. That independence was short-lived and Azerbaijan then became part of the Soviet Union in 1920.

Azerbaijan declared independence from the Soviet Union in 1991 and since then has existed as an independent country.

The Baku 2015 European Games will be the biggest multi-sport event that Azerbaijan has hosted to date. Its past experience of hosting international events include the FIFA U-17 Women's World Cup in 2012, the annual Tour of Azerbaijan, and the 2012 Eurovision Song Contest in Baku.





Azerbaijan

Main Road Network

Airport

Competition Venue

Other Cities

Khachmaz

Agsu

Sumqayıt

Heydar Aliyev
International Airport
(GYD)

BAKU

Caspian Sea

Shirvan

Lankaran

European Games Overview

The European Games will be a multi-sport event for athletes from all of the National Olympic Committees in Europe. The Games are owned, co-organised, and regulated by the European Olympic Committees (EOC).

The European Games were created at the General Assembly of the European Olympic Committees on 8 December 2012 in Rome, Italy, when an overwhelming majority of the National Olympic Committees of Europe voted for the creation of the competition. At this General Assembly the right to host the inaugural edition was awarded to the city of Baku, Azerbaijan.

The 2015 European Games will be held in Baku from 12 to 28 June 2015.

Baku 2015 European Games Operation Committee

The Baku 2015 European Games Operation Committee (BEGOC) was established in 2012 and is chaired by the First Lady of Azerbaijan Mehriban Aliyeva. The CEO is Minister of Youth and Sports Azad Rahimov and the COO is Simon Clegg.

About the Baku 2015 European Games venues

The location of the competition venues is extremely compact, with all sports except canoe sprint taking place within the Baku city centre. There will be four clusters in Baku: Village Cluster, Flag Square Cluster, City Cluster and Western Venues. Mingachevir, which lies 275km west of Baku, will host the Canoe Sprint events.

About Baku 2015 Press Operations

Press Operations is responsible for the planning, preparation and provision of services and facilities for the accredited written and photographic press, and non-rights holding broadcasters so that they can operate efficiently during the Baku 2015 European Games.

Detailed information about press services and facilities is available on the Press Extranet. To request login details, please email: pressoperations@baku2015.com.

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Have a question?



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www.baku2015.com/en/press-extranet

Accreditation

Accredited persons will receive a European Games Identity and Accreditation Card (EGIAC), commonly referred to as accreditation, which will:

- Establish the identity of the holder
- Permit access to the Baku 2015 European Games
- Authorise entrance into Azerbaijan to participate in the European Games (when used with a valid ID document)

Accreditation categories

Press accreditation will be available for members of the written press, photographers, and non-rights holding broadcasters in three categories:

- | | |
|-----|--|
| E | Journalist, editor, photographic editor, employed or contracted by an international or national news agency, a general daily newspaper, a sports newspaper, magazine or internet site; a digital journalist; or a freelance journalist under contract. |
| EP | Photographer or technician meeting the same criteria as described for category “E”. |
| ENR | Non-rights holding radio or television broadcaster. |

Press professionals who meet the above criteria must be affiliated to one or several news organisations and their applications must be validated by their news organisation.

Press accreditation timeline

12 December 2014	Press accreditation process begins
6 March 2015	Press accreditation process ends
January-April 2015	Applications validated and approved
May 2015	Pre-valid cards distributed to press
29 May 2015	Media Village opens
1 July 2015	Media Village closes

Quotas

There will be no quotas for press to cover the Games.

Application process

1. Submit accreditation application via the Press Extranet (www.baku2015.com/en/press-extranet) no later than 6 March 2015. Applicants will receive an email confirmation that the application has been received.
2. After processing, applicants will receive an email confirming whether their request for accreditation was approved or rejected.
3. Press Operations will mail pre-valid cards to all approved applicants in May 2015. The pre-valid card will serve as a visa to enter Azerbaijan.
4. Pre-valid cards must be validated upon arrival in Baku before they can be used as an accreditation during the Games. The card plus the same identification document that was used to apply for accreditation must be presented at a validation centre. Validation counters will be available at the Heydar Aliyev International Airport and at the Media Village and will begin operations on 29 May 2015.

Note for press based in Azerbaijan: Press based in Azerbaijan will not receive a pre-valid card. Instead, they can visit the Media Accreditation Centre at the Media Village any time after 29 May 2015 to get their accreditation card. The same identification document that was used to apply for accreditation must be presented to get accredited.

Note for press based in the Mingachevir area: Press in the Mingachevir area can collect their accreditation at the canoe sprint venue. The same identification document that was used to apply for accreditation must be presented to get accredited. Further details will be available at a later date.

Visa

International accredited press will be able to enter Azerbaijan without a visa if carrying a pre-valid card and a valid passport or official travel document.

The pre-valid card may not be used as a transit visa and will only facilitate entry into Azerbaijan. Accredited members of the press coming to Azerbaijan via another country that might require a visa are responsible for obtaining everything necessary for entry into or transit through that country.

General guidelines

- All press applications should be submitted before 6 March 2015 to ensure a pre-valid card can be received and used as a visa to enter Azerbaijan. Press applying for accreditation after the deadline may have to apply for a visa following the normal visa process.
- All applications must be signed.
- All applications must include a recent high-quality photo, pre-valid cards cannot be produced without a photo.

Photo requirements

- Digital image file (JPEG, GIF or BMP)
- 100-400 KB size
- Passport-style photograph (width-to-height ratio of 4:5)
- Face forward, looking straight into the camera with eyes open and nothing covering the face
- Looking natural with no facial expressions (smiling grinning etc)
- Nothing covering the eyes (hair or the frames of glasses)
- No sunglasses or tinted glasses
- No hat or anything covering the head unless for medical or religious reasons
- No other people in the photo
- In colour, not black-and-white
- Taken against a white background

Media Accreditation Centre (MAC)

The Media Accreditation Centre will be located at the Media Village. It will be operational from 29 May to 1 July 2015.

Services available at the MAC are accreditation card production, accreditation card validation, accreditation photos, and issue resolution.

Press zones in venues

An innovation for the Baku European Games is the consolidation of the traditional zone 4 (press) and zone 5 (broadcast) in the competition venues.

During the Games, there will be one media zone (zone 5) which allows access to the following areas: Venue Media Centre, media workroom, press and broadcast tribunes, I-Zone, photo positions (with photo bib only), photo file area, and media lounge.

Accommodation

Press accommodation will be available in the Media Village or in the official media hotel in Baku, and in the official media hotel in Mingachevir (for Canoe Sprint).

Key dates

12 December 2014	Accommodation online booking system opens
12 February 2015	Deadline for hotel bookings (100% payment due)
6 March 2015	Deadline for Media Village bookings (100% payment due)
29 May 2015	Media Village opens
1 July 2015	Media Village closes

Media Village

The Media Village, located next to the Athletes Village, will accommodate about 1,400 press and broadcasters in four buildings. Common services such as a dining hall, bar, laundry facilities and support area will be available on the ground floor.

The hub for the Games-time shuttle transport system (T-All) will be located at the Media Village.

In addition, transport will be provided to and from the Heydar Aliyev International Airport which is about 17 kilometres from the Media Village.

Media Village rooms

Most bedrooms are singles and include a bed and a lockable drawer. Each room will have a television with entertainment and news channels plus the Games channels from the competition venues. Free Wi-Fi will also be available.

While most rooms have dedicated bathrooms, some rooms will share a bathroom between two rooms. Twin bedrooms will be available at a special discounted price.

Media Village rates

All Media Village room rates include breakfast and applicable taxes. A minimum of four nights stay is required when staying in the Media Village.

Single €50 per night

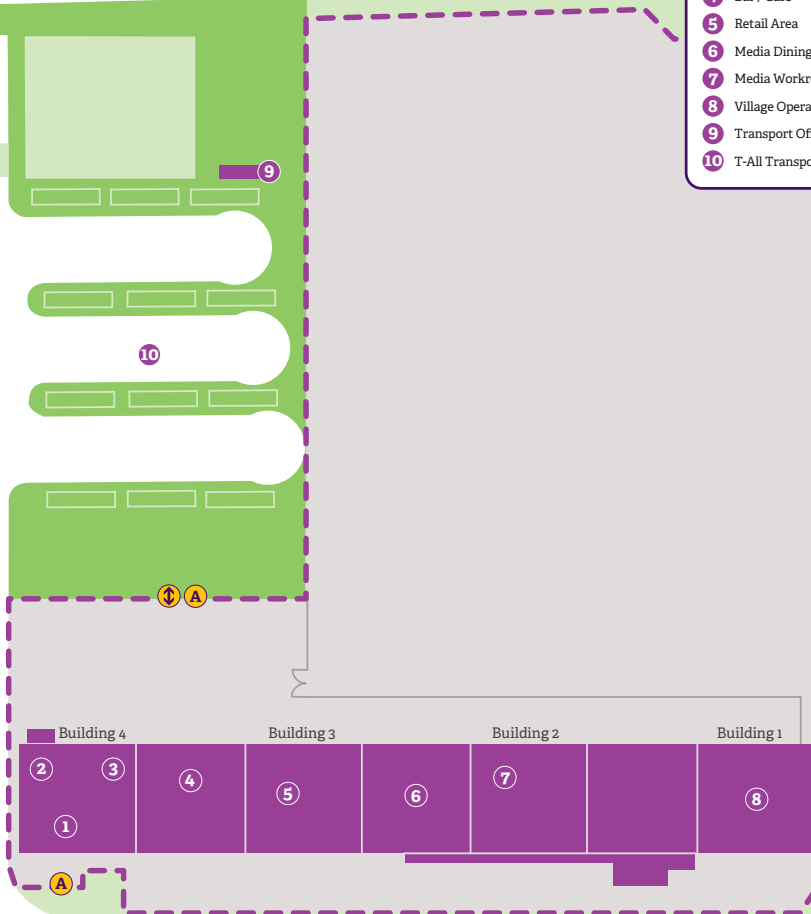
Twin €65 per night

Note: Due to the high demand for accommodation in the Media Village, we recommend you book as early as possible. The deadline to book rooms in the Media Village is 6 March 2015.



Media Village

- Secure Perimeter
- Media Entrance/Exit
- Pedestrian Screening Area
- 1 Media Accreditation Centre
- 2 Medical Centre
- 3 Resident Centre
- 4 Bar / Café
- 5 Retail Area
- 6 Media Dining Hall
- 7 Media Workroom
- 8 Village Operations Centre
- 9 Transport Office
- 10 T-All Transport Mall



Heydər Əliyev prospekti

Heydər Əliyev prospekti

Media Village amenities

Media Dining Hall	Serving breakfast and dinner. (Breakfast included in room rate).	Open 0500-1100 and 1700-2400.
Café/Bar	Serving a selection of coffees, soft drinks, and hot and cold snacks.	Open 24 hours. Alcohol served between 1800-0200.
Press Information Desk	Transport information, photo bib distribution, press welcome bag distribution, and general press information	Open 0900-2100.
Medical Centre	General first aid.	Open 0700-2300. Medic on-call after hours.
Retail Area	General store, BEGOC merchandise, dry-cleaning and laundry, and ATM.	Hours TBC.
Media Accreditation Centre	Full-service accreditation centre for media.	Hours TBC.
Media Workroom	Free wired and wireless internet access.	Open 24 hours.
Rate Card/Spectrum Desk	Rate Card items and wireless equipment testing.	Hours TBC.
Guest Pass Office	For guest access to the Media Village.	Hours TBC.

Media hotel

The Qafqaz Baku City Hotel & Residence (www.qafqazcityhotel.com/) is the official media hotel for the Games. This four-star hotel is conveniently located in the Yasamal area, which is the heart of the business and commercial district and near the Heydar Aliyev Arena, the Games venue for Judo and Wrestling. Amenities include a restaurant, bar/lounge, spa and fitness area. All rooms have televisions and free Wi-Fi is available.

Transport will be provided to the competition venues and the Media Village via the T-All system from the Heydar Aliyev Arena, the nearest stop on the system and a short walk from the hotel. Transport will also be provided to and from the Heydar Aliyev International Airport.

Media hotel rates

All hotel room rates include breakfast and applicable taxes. There is no minimum number of nights required.

Single/Twin €148 per night

Note: Rooms at the Qafqaz Hotel are limited and early booking is recommended. The deadline for booking rooms in the Qafqaz Hotel is 12 February 2015.



Accommodation in Mingachevir



Press accommodation will be available in Mingachevir at the River Side Hotel (<http://riverside.az/>).

This four-star hotel is located on the banks of the River Kur across from the canoe sprint venue. Amenities include a restaurant, bar, swimming pool, spa and fitness centre. All rooms have televisions and free Wi-Fi is available.

Transport will be provided to the competition venue as well as to and from the Ganja International Airport.

Mingachevir media hotel rates

All hotel room rates include breakfast and applicable taxes. There is no minimum number of nights required.

Single/Twin €68 per night

Note: Rooms at the River Side Hotel are limited and early booking is recommended. The deadline to book rooms in the River Side Hotel is 12 February 2015.

Booking process

Press will be able to book accommodation from 12 December 2014. The deadline to book a room in a media hotel (either in Baku or Mingachevir) is 12 February 2015 and the deadline to book a room in the Media Village is 6 March 2015.

Rate Card

A selection of rate card items will be available for press during the Games. Orders can be placed through the Press Extranet from 20 December 2014 to 15 March 2015. Orders placed after 15 March will be subject to a 10% late fee.

Note: Certain items such as internet ports and T-X upgrade passes should be ordered as early as possible to ensure availability.

The rental period is from 29 May to 30 June 2015. There is no discount for shorter-term rentals.

All prices are in Euro and include any VAT or local taxes. Payment will be in Euro and full payment is due upon invoice (once the order has been confirmed). Payment instructions will be included with the invoice. BEGOC reserves the right to adjust prices if there is a significant fluctuation in exchange rates.

All items are subject to availability and no deposits are required.

Rental items can be picked up from the Rate Card Office in the Media Village.

Item	Description	Price	Games-time Price (after 15 March)	Available During Games	Note
10M Internet Port *	Dedicated access point with RJ-45 connection. Up to 10M bandwidth but throughput is dependent on the internet and general network use.	€ 260	€ 285	No	Available in Press Tribunes (Tableted), select Photo Positions and Media Workrooms only.
Mobile Phone, Basic Smartphone	Handset Only. Basic touchscreen with 2G and 3G capability.	€ 90	€ 100	✓	Available for purchase only. Does not include SIM card.
Mobile Phone, Smart Phone	Handset Only. Large touchscreen with 2G and 3G capability.	€ 260	€ 290	✓	Available for purchase only. Does not include SIM card.
SIM Card	Multi SIM allows standard, micro and nano sizes. Includes start-up fee, 1GB data and 16 AZN credit.	€ 20	€ 20	✓	Available for purchase only. Access to outgoing voice national and international calls, SMS and data. Free incoming local, national and international calls and SMS.
T-X Upgrade Card	Provides T-X system transport privilege, an on-demand taxi-style service available at Games venues.	€ 2,893	€ 3,168	Limited	Available from 3 June to 1 July 2015.

*Free 10 Mb wired and wireless internet connections will be available in media workrooms, tableted press tribunes, photo file areas, and select photo positions.

Technology

For the first time at a major multi-sport event, technology will be provided almost exclusively using cloud-based services. This is another innovation that has been introduced for the European Games and provides an effective and repeatable model that will provide a more robust and secure service during the Games.

Working in close cooperation with the Ministry of Communications and High Technologies and local mobile providers, the Technology team has enhanced the Baku mobile network and created a high-speed internet backbone that connects all of the competition venues and key non-competition venues.

Internet

Free 10 Mb wired connections will be provided in all media workrooms, tabled press tribunes, photo file areas, and select photo positions.

Free Wi-Fi will also be provided in all media workrooms, media lounges, tabled and non-tabled press tribunes and I-Zones.

In the Media Village, free Wi-Fi will be provided in every bedroom and in a selection of “hot spots” including the café/bar and media workroom. No Wi-Fi will be available in the media dining hall.

Wi-Fi will also be available in the Media Conference Room for the Games, located within the Athletes Village.

Wi-Fi on buses

BEGOC will provide free Wi-Fi on all T-All shuttle system buses. This service will be reserved exclusively for press and broadcasters and will allow up to 10 simultaneous users to do basic browsing and email.

Mobile services

Mobile coverage is extensive throughout Baku and major cities in Azerbaijan including Mingachevir. Press who wish to use their own mobile telephones and

SIMs while in Azerbaijan should ensure that their roaming service has been activated by their home mobile service supplier. Relevant roaming charges will apply. BEGOC will not provide any technical support for personal handsets.

Most mobile phone retail outlets sell pay-as-you-go SIM cards for a range of mobile network providers. In addition, BEGOC will offer SIM cards and mobile telephones for purchase via the Rate Card (see page 23).

Television services

BEGOC will provide television services in all competition venues and the Media Village.

Televisions will be available in media workrooms and media lounges. The competition venue service will display all live sports feeds produced within that venue only.

In the Media Village, televisions will be provided in every bedroom. In addition to the live sports feeds produced in the competition venues, the Media Village television service will include a selection of international entertainment, news and sports channels.

Copying and printing

Press will have access to a multi-function device in every media workroom. These machines will offer copy, fax and print services via cloud printing.

Technology support

Support for BEGOC technology, including internet access and Wi-Fi, will be provided with both venue-based help desks and a centralised help desk service from 0600-0100 from 1-29 June 2015.

Transport

The Baku 2015 Transport mission is to deliver a reliable and efficient transportation system during the Games. One of the innovations that will be implemented is the creation of a T-All system which will be a shared shuttle for press and broadcasters, technical officials, European Games family members, and selected workforce.

All Games vehicles will travel around the city using dedicated Games lanes within the Games Route Network. More than 47 kilometres of road comprise the Games Route Network to ensure consistent and guaranteed access of official vehicles to all competition venues and select non-competition venues.

The Games Route Network will have special signage and traffic cameras, and will be monitored by the police to ensure there is a continuous flow of traffic and that pedestrians do not cross the roads.

Airport arrivals

The official port of entry to Azerbaijan is Heydar Aliyev International Airport (GYD). It is the only port of entry with accreditation validation facilities.

Transport will be available between the airport, the Media Village, and official media hotel from 29 May until 1 July 2015. No press transport services will be available from any other port of entry.

Press should notify BEGOC of their arrival and departure information to ensure adequate transport is available. Arrival and departure information can be captured on the Arrivals and Departures Portal available on the Press Extranet.

Press representatives who do not book their accommodation through BEGOC will need to make their own travel plans to and from the airport by public transport or taxi.

Games-time transport system (T-All)

Press will be able to access the competition venues and select non-competition venues using the T-All system, which will operate a “loop” shuttle service to/from the competition venues and the Media Village. Press will have to pass through security screening upon arrival at the venue.

The T-All system will operate with 50-seat modern air-conditioned coaches. It should be noted that the T-All system is not a dedicated media transport system.

The T-All system will operate 0500-0100 from 29 May to 1 July.

T-All Shuttle Routes (subject to change)

Route 1 Media Village Tofiq Bahramov Stadium Heydar Aliyev Arena Baku Shooting Centre/Mountain Bike Velopark Heydar Aliyev Arena Tofiq Bahramov Stadium Media Village	Route 4 Baku Sports Hall Crystal Hall European Games Park BMX Arena Media Village
Route 2 Media Village Baku Shooting Centre/Mountain Bike Velopark BMX Velopark European Games Park Crystal Hall Baku Sports Hall	Route 5 Baku Sports Hall Baku Shooting Centre/Mountain Bike Velopark Heydar Aliyev Arena Tofiq Bahramov Stadium Baku Sports Hall

Travel to Mingachevir

Ganja International Airport (KVD) is about 80km from Mingachevir, where the Canoe Sprint event will take place. Press arriving at Ganja International Airport will be transported to and from the airport and the River Side Hotel, the official media hotel.

Transport will also be provided to and from the River Side Hotel and the venue.

In addition, a transport service between the Media Village in Baku and Mingachevir will be provided during training and competition. Press will need to book this transport 48 hours in advance. The estimated driving journey time to Mingachevir is five hours.

Public transport system

Press will be able to use local public transport for free from 29 May to 1 July. Local transport includes the Baku Metro and the bus network.

Baku Metro, a rapid-transit system notable for its art, murals, mosaics and ornate chandeliers, was opened in November 1967 and includes 23 stations at present. The fare for a single journey is 20 qepik (equivalent to €0.20), or free with media accreditation.

The bus system is extensive but traffic can make this an unwise option during working hours and weekend days. The fare for a single journey within Baku is 20 qepik, or free with media accreditation.

The current hours of operation for public transport are 0500-2400 but extended hours are being considered during the Games.

Boulevard Train and Harbour Boat Service

Press will also have free access to the “hop-on, hop-off” coastal train that runs on the promenade along the Park Boulevard, as well as the Caspian Harbour Boat Service that connects the White City in downtown Baku to the Flag Square Cluster (location for Crystal Hall and the European Games Park).

Parking

No press parking will be available at any venue, including the Media Village, during the Games. All press should use the T-All transport system or public transport to access the venues.

Driving in Baku

Driving in Baku can be challenging as traffic can often be congested at peak hours. Road awareness is essential if trying to manoeuvre through the city by car, or indeed on foot.

Taxi prices are very reasonable so this is often a more advisable method of transport than driving.

Customs and Freight Forwarding

Some press organisations may choose to ship equipment or other items to Azerbaijan for the Baku 2015 European Games. To help these organisations, the Customs and Freight Forwarding Guide will be available in October 2014.

The guide will contain detailed information regarding BEGOC logistics, its partners, freight forwarding policies and procedures, customs formalities, deliveries to venues, and re-export procedures.

Baku 2015 customs procedure

Press organisations will be able to clear eligible items into Azerbaijan temporarily without any duties payable.

Goods imported under the Baku 2015 customs procedure can remain temporarily in Azerbaijan and should subsequently be re-exported after the Games.

Goods imported under the Baku 2015 customs procedure must be used for the Baku 2015 European Games. They may not be used for commercial activities, including being disposed of in any way, sold, rented and/or used for the purposes of providing income-generating services.

Types of goods that can be temporarily imported for use at the Baku 2015 European Games under the Baku 2015 customs procedure include:

- Personal effects, new or used
- Professional equipment, such as computer equipment and photography equipment
- Sportswear and uniforms, sports gear, food products, medicines
- Consumables given away as gifts and awards or for advertising, marketing or other non-financial purposes during the Baku 2015 European Games

Excisable goods (e.g., alcoholic beverages and tobacco products) and certain restricted goods are not eligible.

Sports and Competition

Nineteen sports will be competed in 18 competition venues during the European Games. Each competition venue as well as the Athletes Village will have a Venue Media Centre.

All of the competitions except one – Canoe Sprint – are located in greater Baku.

The venues have been grouped into four clusters around the city: Village Cluster, City Cluster, Flag Square Cluster and Western Venues.

	Sport	Discipline	Venue	Cluster
1	Aquatics	Diving, Swimming, Synchronised Swimming	Baku Aquatics Centre	Village Cluster
		Water Polo	Water Polo Arena	Flag Square Cluster
2	Archery		Tofiq Bahramov Stadium	City Cluster
3	Athletics		National Stadium	Village Cluster
4	Badminton		Baku Sports Hall	City Cluster
5	Basketball	3x3	Basketball Arena	Flag Square Cluster
6	Beach Soccer		Beach Arena	Flag Square Cluster
7	Boxing		Crystal Hall (CH2)	Flag Square Cluster
8	Canoe	Sprint	Mingachevir	Mingachevir
9	Cycling	BMX	BMX Velopark	Western Venues
		Mountain Bike	Mountain Bike Velopark	Western Venues
		Road	Freedom Square	Western Venues
10	Fencing		Crystal Hall (CH3)	Flag Square Cluster
11	Gymnastics	Artistic, Rhythmic, Trampoline, Aerobic, Acrobatic	National Gymnastics Arena	Village Cluster
12	Judo		Heydar Aliyev Arena	City Cluster
13	Karate		Crystal Hall (CH3)	Flag Square Cluster
14	Shooting		Baku Shooting Centre	Western Venues
15	Table Tennis		Baku Sports Hall	City Cluster
16	Taekwondo		Crystal Hall (CH3)	Flag Square Cluster
17	Triathlon		(tbc)	Western Venues
18	Volleyball		Crystal Hall (CH1)	Flag Square Cluster
		Beach	Beach Arena	Flag Square Cluster
19	Wrestling	Freestyle, Greco-Roman	Heydar Aliyev Arena	City Cluster
Opening Ceremony, Closing Ceremony			National Stadium	Village Cluster
Athletes Village			Athletes Village	Village Cluster

Competition schedule

Please see the appendix for the latest versions of the competition and training schedules.

Road to Rio

Nine sports are part of the Road to Rio Qualification:

Archery	Ranking points available
Athletics	Qualification standards
Cycling	Ranking points available in all three disciplines
Shooting	The winner in each of the 15 Olympic events will automatically receive a quota place
Swimming	Qualification standards
Table Tennis	The winner of the men's and women's singles olympic events will receive automatic qualification
Taekwondo	Ranking points available
Triathlon	The winner of the men's and women's events will receive automatic qualification
Volleyball, Beach	Ranking points available

Training venues

While no dedicated working facilities for press will be available at training venues, press and broadcasters will have an opportunity to watch training and conduct interviews. Training opportunities will be available for all sports at either the competition venue or at a separate training site.

Press are advised to contact the team press attache before approaching any athlete for an interview at a training venue.

Venue Press Operations

Venue Media Centres (VMCs)

Every competition venue and the Athletes Village will have a Venue Media Centre that offers a help desk, workroom, I-Zone, and lounge area.

VMC opening hours

VMCs will open two hours before competition and close up to three hours after competition ends. For competitions with sessions that finish after 2300 the VMC will close 90 minutes after competition.

Media workroom

The VMC workrooms in competition venues will be combined for press and photographers. Each workroom will be equipped with televisions, broadcasting the official host broadcaster channel for that venue. There will also be printing facilities available.

Each workroom position will have a cabled Internet port and European standard power sockets (220v). Work positions will be available on a first-come, first-served basis.

Other services available at each VMC include:

- Help desk for general information including competition details and transportation schedules
- Free tea and coffee refreshment area
- Lockers for temporary storage
- Language services support

I-Zone

One of the innovations introduced at the Baku 2015 European Games will be the interview zone or I-Zone. The I-Zone will replace the Press Mixed Zone and Media Conference Room at a venue. There will be no change to the Broadcast Mixed Zone and athletes will still be required to pass through the Broadcast Mixed Zone. The I-Zone will be a comfortable area in or near the Venue Media Centre where media can interview athletes and coaches in a more relaxed atmosphere. Interviews can be one-on-one or in a group. After passing through the Broadcast Mixed Zone, athletes will be free to return to the changing room or go to Medical/Doping unless they are requested for the I-Zone.

Our dedicated Press Operations team will ensure that key athletes from each event, including all medallists, are asked to come to the I-Zone for interviews, to create a truly news-driven, interactive interview environment. Press wanting to interview a specific athlete in the I-Zone would make a request to Press Operations staff at least 15 minutes before the end of competition. Press Operations will liaise with Sport to escort the athlete from the Broadcast Mixed Zone to the I-Zone.

There will be no time limit on the length of interviews in the I-Zone and there will be no guarantee that it would be exclusive, meaning one or two journalists might want to interview the same athlete.

Media lounge

Near each Venue Media Centre there will be a media lounge where food and other refreshments will be available on a user-pay basis.

The selection of food and drink items available includes sandwiches, salads, soup, paninis, cakes and pastries, confectionary and snacks.

The media lounge will be available from two hours before competition until one hour post-competition.

Free tea and coffee will be available in each VMC workroom.

Press tribunes

Each competition venue will provide a dedicated seating area for the press with unobstructed views of the field of play.

Both tabled and non-tabled press tribunes will be available.

Tabled positions in the press tribunes will be fitted-out with cabled internet ports and one European standard power socket (220v) at every seat.

Wi-Fi internet access will be available both in the tabled and non-tabled tribunes.

Athletes Village VMC

In addition to a media workroom and I-Zone, the VMC at the Athletes Village, located next to the Media Village, will offer the following:

Athlete interview room

A replica of an athlete bedroom in the VMC for press wanting to interview an athlete in a “bedroom” setting.

Media guest passes

Access for press to the Athletes Village will require a media guest pass.

One hundred media guest passes will be available at any given time for access to the Village Square only (formerly known as the international zone).

No access will be available to the Residential Zone except during scheduled Village media tours (see below). Guest passes will be distributed on a first-come, first-served basis by Press Operations at the Athletes Village VMC. No media guest passes will be available on 12 June or 28 June.

Media conference room

One of the innovations for Baku 2015 is the elimination of media conference rooms in the competition venues and the offer of enhanced opportunities to interview athletes in the I-Zone. Nonetheless, BEGOC will have one media conference room, located in the Athletes Village, available during the Games for official media conferences. Only accredited media will be allowed access.

Village media tours

While press will not be allowed into the Residential Zone, they will be able to tour the Residential Zone during one of three Village media tours scheduled for 4 June, 6 June and 10 June 2015.

Only 100 media (both press and broadcast) will be allowed on each tour. Press will be able to register for these tours at pressoperations@baku2015.com.

Team Welcome Ceremony

A Team Welcome Ceremony for all teams participating in the European Games will be held 11 June 2015. Press will be welcome to cover this ceremony.

VILLAGE CLUSTER

- 1 National Stadium**
Athletics
Opening & Closing ceremonies
- 2 National Gymnastics Arena**
Acrobatic
Aerobic
Artistic
Rhythmic
Trampoline

AVL Athletes Village

MVL Media Village

FLAG SQUARE CLUSTER

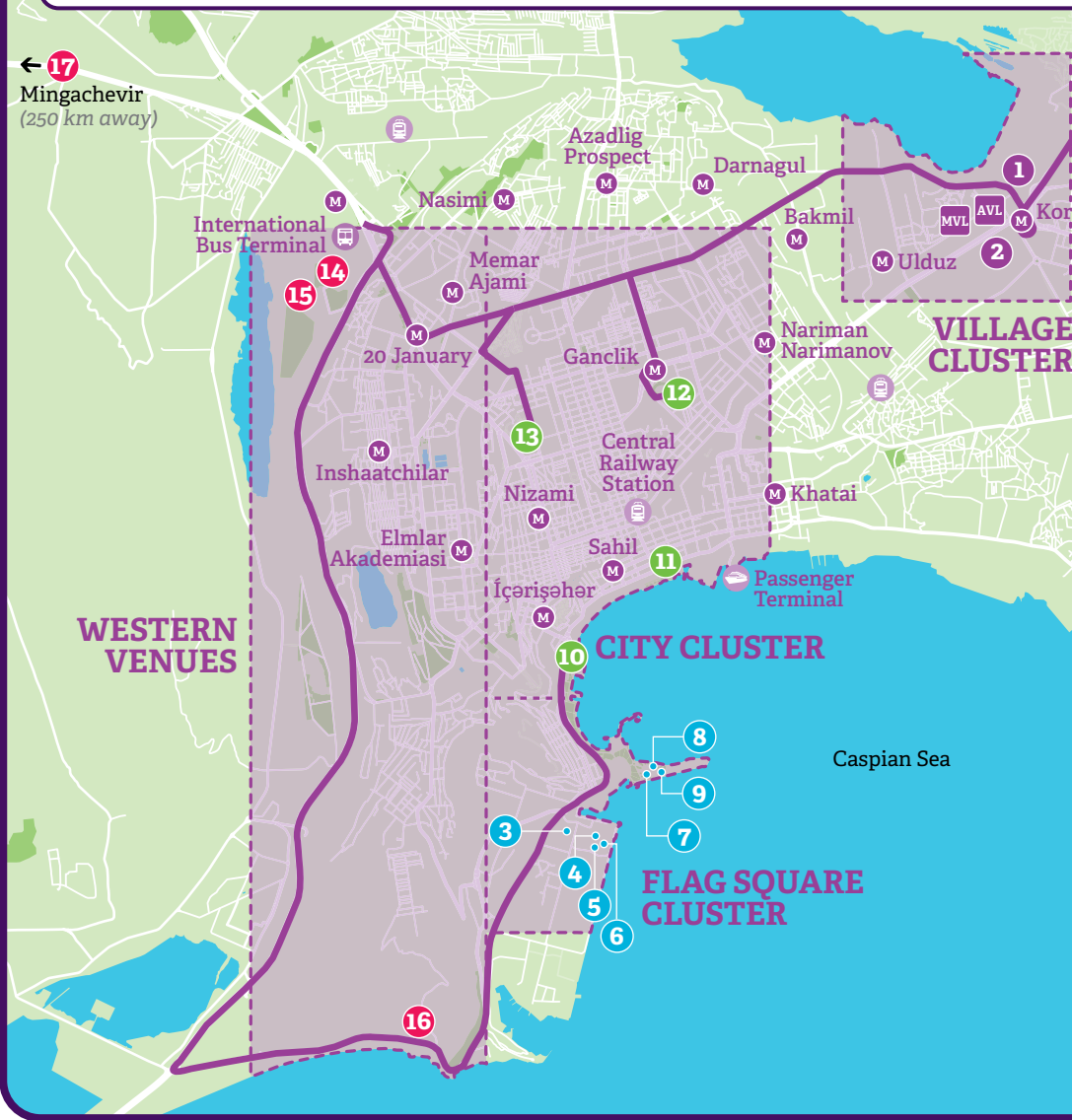
- 3 Baku Aquatics Centre**
Diving
Swimming
Synchronised Swimming
- 4 Water Polo Arena**
Water Polo
- 5 Beach Arena**
Beach Volleyball
Beach Soccer

- 6 Basketball Arena**
Basketball
- 7 Crystal Hall 1**
Volleyball
- 8 Crystal Hall 2**
Boxing
- 9 Crystal Hall 3**
Fencing
Karate
Taekwondo

CITY CLUSTER

- 10 Baku Sports Hall**
Badminton
Table Tennis
- 11 Freedom Square**
Road Cycling
Cycling Time Trial (tbc)
- 12 Tofiq Bahramov Stadium**
Archery
- 13 Heydar Aliyev Arena**
Judo
Wrestling

← **17**
Mingachevir
(250 km away)



WESTERN VENUES

VILLAGE CLUSTER

CITY CLUSTER

FLAG SQUARE CLUSTER

Caspian Sea

WESTERN VENUES

- 14 Baku Shooting Centre**
Shooting
- 15 Mountain Bike Velopark**
Cycling - Mountain Bike
- 16 BMX Velopark**
Cycling - BMX
- 17 Mingachevir**
Canoe Sprint

Baku 2015 Venues Masterplan

adium
na



SPORT	VENUE	MEDIA WORKROOM
Aquatics – Diving/ Swimming/Synchronised Swimming	Baku Aquatics Centre	150
Aquatics – Water Polo	Water Polo Arena	55 (located at Beach Arena)
Archery	Tofiq Bahramov Stadium	40
Athletics	National Stadium	125
Badminton	Baku Sports Hall	55
Basketball	Basketball Arena	110 (located at Beach Arena)
Beach Soccer	Beach Arena	110
Boxing	Crystal Hall 2	130
Canoe -- Sprint	Mingachevir	30
Cycling – BMX	BMX Velopark	55
Cycling – Mountain Bike	Mountain Bike Velopark	55 (located at Baku Shooting Centre)
Cycling – Road Race	Freedom Square	55
Fencing	Crystal Hall 3	180
Gymnastics	National Gymnastics Arena	70
Judo	Heydar Aliyev Arena	110
Karate	Crystal Hall 3	180
Shooting	Baku Shooting Centre	55
Table Tennis	Baku Sports Hall	55
Taekwondo	Crystal Hall 3	180
Triathlon	(tbc)	70
Volleyball	Crystal Hall 1	180
Volleyball – Beach	Beach Arena	110
Wrestling	Heydar Aliyev Arena	110
	Athletes Village	25

PRESS TRIBUNE (TABLED)	PRESS TRIBUNE (NON-TABLED)	PHOTO FILE AREA	MEDIA LOUNGE
50	50	no	30
40	10	no	45 (located at Beach Arena)
20	10	no	12
75	no	no	28
30	10	no	14
30	10	5	45 (located at Beach Arena)
30	10	no	45
40	10	no	52
20	10	no	13
20	20	no	15
20	20	5	15 (located at Baku Shooting Centre)
0	25	no	27
30	10	5	52
50	20	no	19
50	20	no	23
30	10	5	52
20	20	5	15
26	10	no	14
30	10	5	52
20	20	no	17
30	10	5	52
30	10	no	45
50	20	no	23
no	no	no	no

Venues overview

Aquatics – Diving

As one of the most exciting sports in the world, Europe's divers are guaranteed to create a great atmosphere at the Baku Aquatics Centre over the four days of competition. The 160 athletes will demonstrate their fearless skills as they take to the boards in search of medals. The competition will feature eight medal events across the 1m Springboard, 3m Springboard, Synchronised 3m Springboard and Platform.

Days of competition: 4

Competition dates: 18-21 June 2015

Medal events: 8

Total athlete quota: 160

Qualification method: Qualification places for Diving will be determined based on the average team size from the last three European Junior Diving Championships, host NOC allocation and universality.

BAKU AQUATICS CENTRE

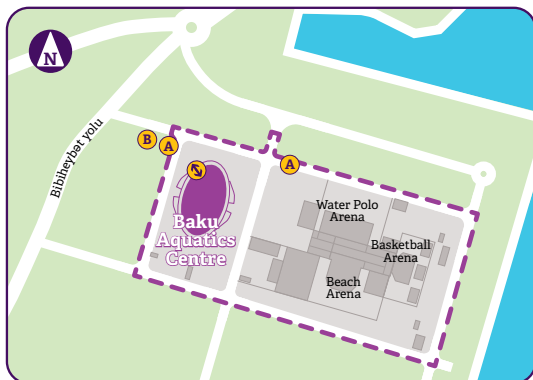
Sports: Diving, Swimming and Synchronised Swimming

Capacity: 6,000

Construction status: Permanent – under construction

The Baku Aquatics Centre is being constructed for the Games and is set to be an iconic sporting venue for Azerbaijan. Located in the Flag Square Cluster, the venue will host three Aquatics disciplines at Games time - Swimming, Diving, and Synchronised Swimming. The venue is due to be completed in January 2015 and will have a seating capacity of 6,000.





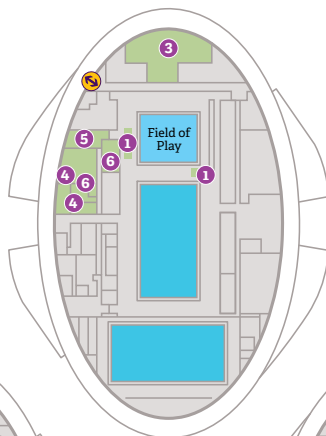
Diving Baku Aquatics Centre

- Competition Venue
- Venue Perimeter
- Media Entrance/Exit
- Pedestrian Screening Area
- T-All Load Zone
- 1 Photo Positions
- 2 Press Tribune
- 3 I-Zone
- 4 Media Workroom
- 5 Media Lounge
- 6 Venue Media Centre

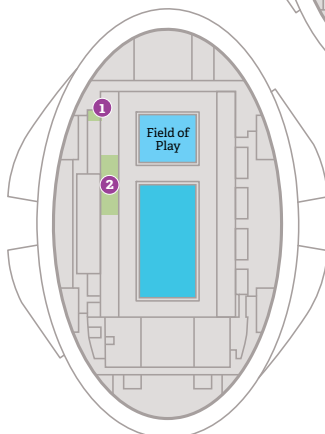


Level 1

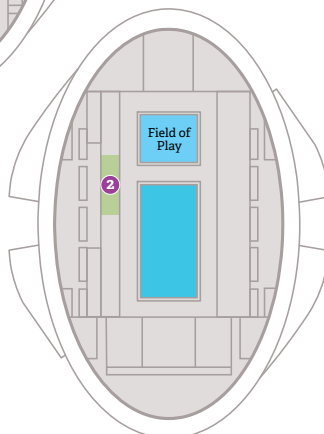
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Level 3



Level 4



Aquatics – Swimming

Always one of the most popular disciplines in any multi-sports programme, Swimming is expected to be no different at the European Games. It is one of three sports that will be making a splash at the new Baku Aquatics Centre, located in the Flag Square Cluster. At Baku 2015, Swimming will feature 526 athletes competing across a total of 42 medal events with Olympic qualification standards for the Rio 2016 Olympic Games available.

Days of competition: 5

Competition dates: 23-27 June 2015

Medal events: 42

Total athlete quota: 526

Qualification method: Qualification places for Swimming will be determined based on the average team size from the last three European Junior Swimming Championships, host NOC allocation and universality.

Road to Rio 2016 qualification: Qualification standards

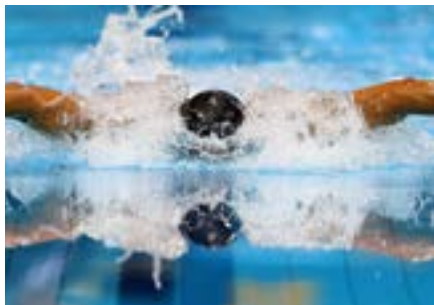
BAKU AQUATICS CENTRE

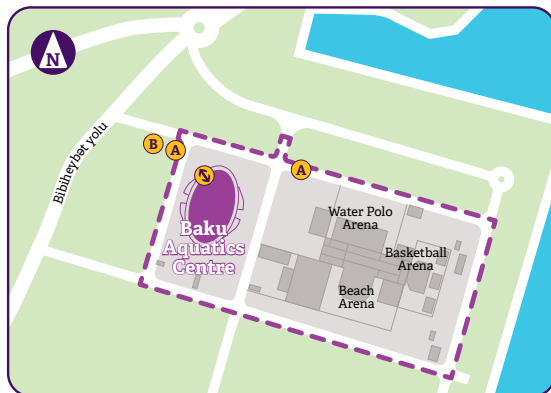
Sports: Diving, Swimming and Synchronised Swimming

Capacity: 6,000

Construction status: Permanent – under construction

The Baku Aquatics Centre is being constructed for the Games and is set to be an iconic sporting venue for Azerbaijan. Located in the Flag Square Cluster, the venue will host three Aquatics disciplines at Games time - Swimming, Diving, and Synchronised Swimming. The venue is due to be completed in January 2015 and will have a seating capacity of 6,000.





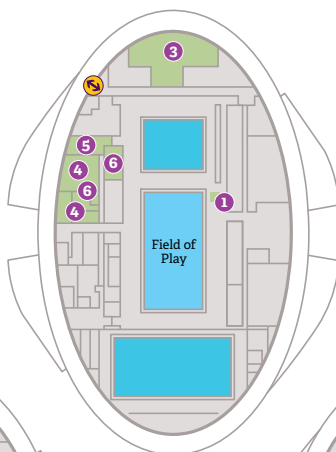
Swimming Baku Aquatics Centre

- Competition Venue
- Venue Perimeter
- Media Entrance/Exit
- Pedestrian Screening Area
- T-All Load Zone
- 1 Photo Positions
- 2 Press Tribune
- 3 I-Zone
- 4 Media Workroom
- 5 Media Lounge
- 6 Venue Media Centre

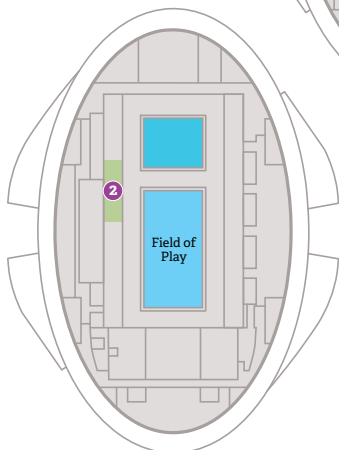


Level 1

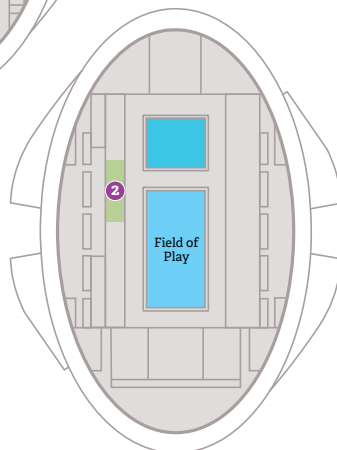
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Level 3



Level 4



Aquatics – Synchronised Swimming

The new Baku Aquatics Centre will play host to the discipline of Synchronised Swimming, which features four medal events. The five days of competition will see 150 athletes gather in Baku to showcase their talent and attempt to win gold. Medals will be available across Solo, Duet, Team and Free Combination events in Synchronised Swimming.

Days of competition: 5

Competition dates: 12-16 June 2015

Medal events: 4

Total athlete quota: 150

Qualification method: Qualification places for Synchronised Swimming will be determined based on the average team size from the last two European Junior Synchro Championships, host NOC allocation and universality.

BAKU AQUATICS CENTRE

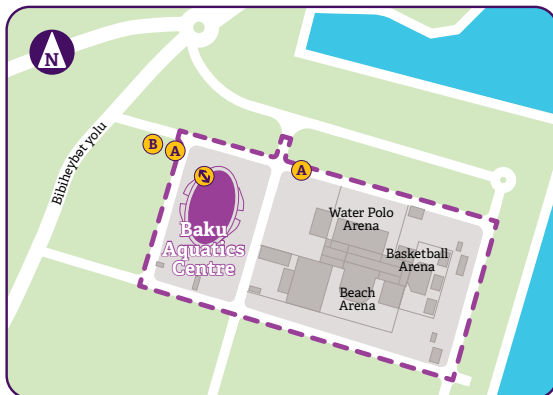
Sports: Diving, Swimming and Synchronised Swimming

Capacity: 6,000

Construction status: Permanent – under construction

The Baku Aquatics Centre is being constructed for the Games and is set to be an iconic sporting venue for Azerbaijan. Located in the Flag Square Cluster, the venue will host three Aquatics disciplines at Games time - Swimming, Diving and Synchronised Swimming. The venue is due to be completed in January 2015 and will have a seating capacity of 6,000.





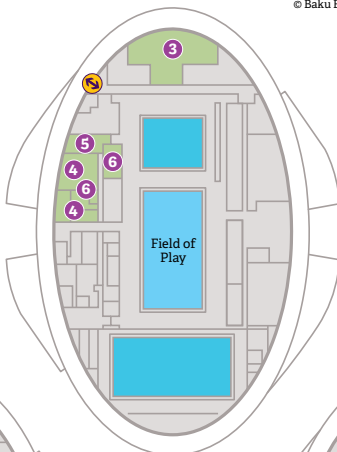
Synchronised Swimming Baku Aquatics Centre

- Competition Venue
- Venue Perimeter
- ↻ Media Entrance/Exit
- A Pedestrian Screening Area
- B T-All Load Zone
- 1 Photo Positions
- 2 Press Tribune
- 3 I-Zone
- 4 Media Workroom
- 5 Media Lounge
- 6 Venue Media Centre

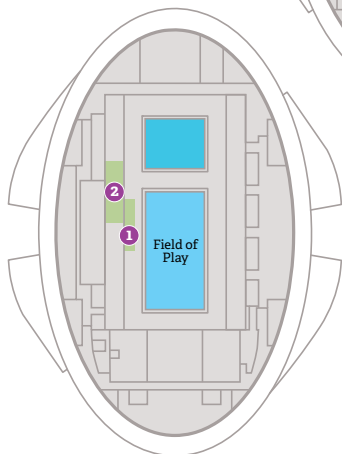


Level 1

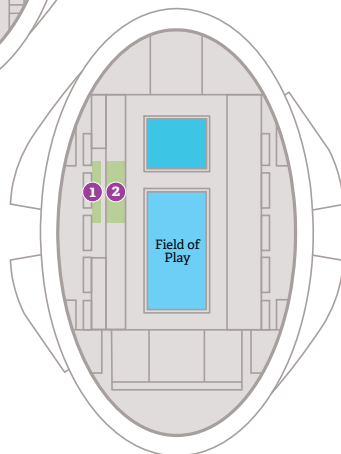
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Level 3



Level 4



Aquatics – Water Polo

The physically demanding discipline of Water Polo will excite spectators over the 10 days of competition at the European Games. More than 360 competitors will battle it out for gold as they go head-to-head at the Water Polo Arena, new venue located in the European Games Park. The competition will feature increased team numbers from the traditional Olympic programme with 16 men's teams and 12 women's teams competing.

Days of competition: 10

Competition dates: 12-21 June 2015

Medal events: 2

Total athlete quota: 364

Number of teams: 16 - men's tournament, 12 - women's tournament

Qualification method: Qualification places for Water Polo will consist of direct qualification from the last two European Junior Water Polo Championships and host NOC allocation.

WATER POLO ARENA

Sports: Water Polo

Capacity: 2,500

Construction status: Temporary – under construction

The Water Polo Arena is one of five temporary venues constructed for the Games. The outdoor arena will be located in the Flag Square Cluster, close to the Baku Aquatics Centre, and will be completed in March 2015. Two pools will be constructed for competition and will have capacity for 2,500 spectators to watch the action on the edge of the Caspian Sea.





Water Polo Water Polo Arena

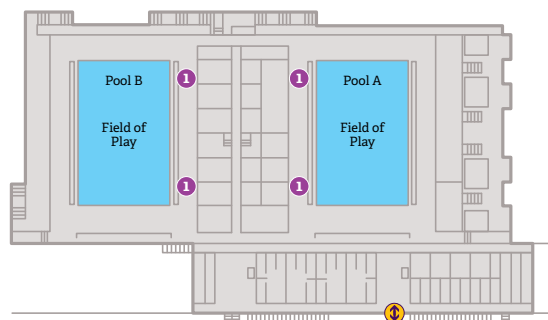
- Competition Venue
- Venue Perimeter
- Media Entrance/Exit
- Pedestrian Screening Area
- T-All Load Zone
- Photo Positions
- Press Tribune



Level 3



Level 1



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Archery

Europe's most accurate archers will shoot for gold at the iconic Tofiq Bahramov Stadium over seven days of competition. The European Games format will follow that of the Olympic Games with 64 men and 64 women competing in the recurve division, in Individual and Team events as well as in a mixed team event. There will be a total of five medal events. Archery will also offer the opportunity to win ranking points for the Rio 2016 Olympic Games qualification.

Days of competition: 7

Competition dates: 16-22 June 2015

Medal events: 5

Total athlete quota: 128

Qualification method: Qualification places for Archery will be determined based on rankings from qualification events, host NOC allocation and universality.

Road to Rio 2016 qualification: Ranking points available

TOFIQ BAHRAMOV STADIUM

Sports: Archery

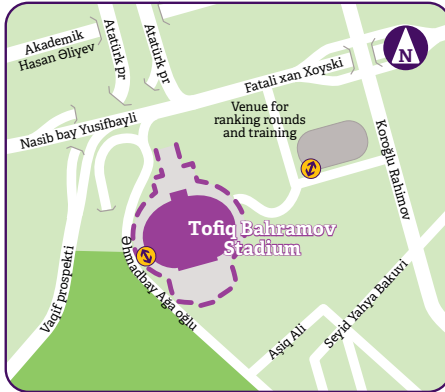
Capacity: 3,000

Construction status: Permanent – complete

The Tofiq Bahramov Stadium is home to the Azerbaijani national football team and will host 3,000 spectators for Archery at the European Games. It is part of the City Cluster and was first built in 1951, before being extensively renovated and reopened in 2012.

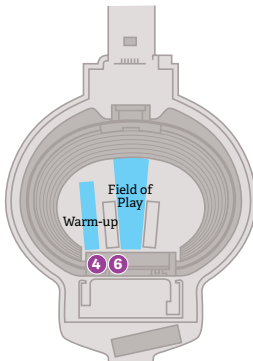


Archery Tofiq Bahramov Stadium

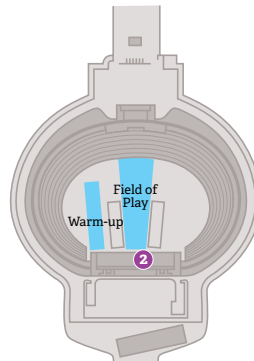


- Competition Venue
- Venue Perimeter
- ➔ Media Entrance/Exit
- A Pedestrian Screening Area
- B T-All Load Zone
- 1 Photo Positions
- 2 Press Tribune
- 3 I-Zone
- 4 Media Workroom
- 5 Media Lounge
- 6 Venue Media Centre

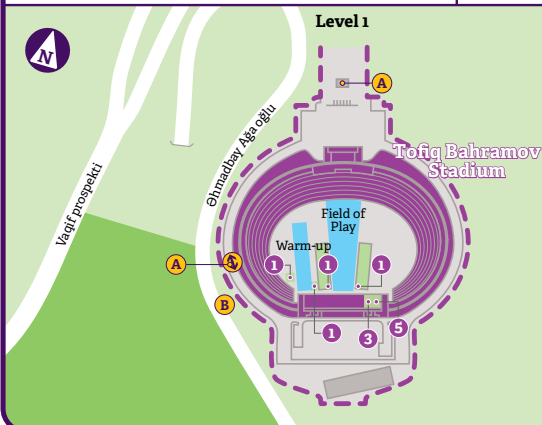
Level 2



Level 3



Level 1



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Athletics

The spectacular National Stadium will be the setting for the 40 men's and women's Athletics events that will also be the European Athletics Team Championships Third League. Athletes will compete over two days for points in each event, which will then be combined for a final team score as they chase gold, silver and bronze. Athletics at the European Games offers possible qualification standards for the Rio 2016 Olympic Games.

Days of competition: 2

Competition dates: 21-22 June 2015

Medal events: 1

Total athlete quota: 500

Qualification method: Qualification places for Athletics will be determined based on qualification event rankings and host NOC allocation.

Road to Rio 2016 qualification: Qualification standards

NATIONAL STADIUM

Sports: Athletics

Capacity: 65,000

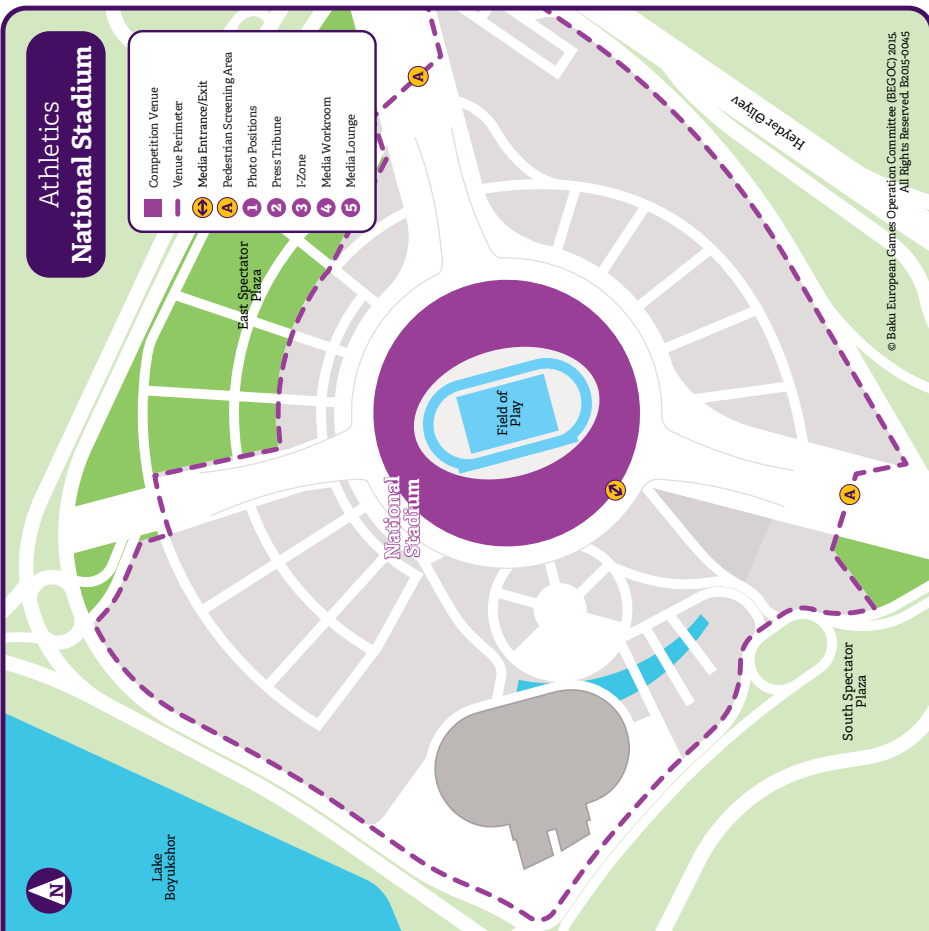
Construction status: Permanent – under construction

Situated close to the Athletes Village, the spectacular National Stadium will host two days of Athletics events as well as the Opening and Closing ceremonies. The multi-function venue has capacity for 65,000 spectators and construction is scheduled to be completed in February 2015.



Athletics National Stadium

- Competition Venue
- Venue Perimeter
- Media Entrance/Exit
- Pedestrian Screening Area
- Photo Positions
- Press Tribune
- I-Zone
- Media Workroom
- Media Lounge

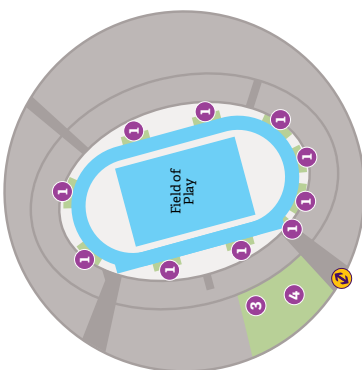


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Level 2



Level 1



Badminton

High-energy action will thrill the crowds in the Baku Sports Hall when the Badminton events begin on 22 June. The competition will be held over a seven-day period and include five medal events in men's and women's singles, men's and women's doubles, and mixed doubles. Approximately 160 athletes will be going for gold in front of 1,700 spectators.

Days of competition: 7

Competition dates: 22-28 June 2015

Medal events: 5

Total athlete quota: 160

Qualification method: Qualification places for Badminton will be determined based on the Badminton World Federation (BWF) ranking list, host NOC allocation and universality.

BAKU SPORTS HALL

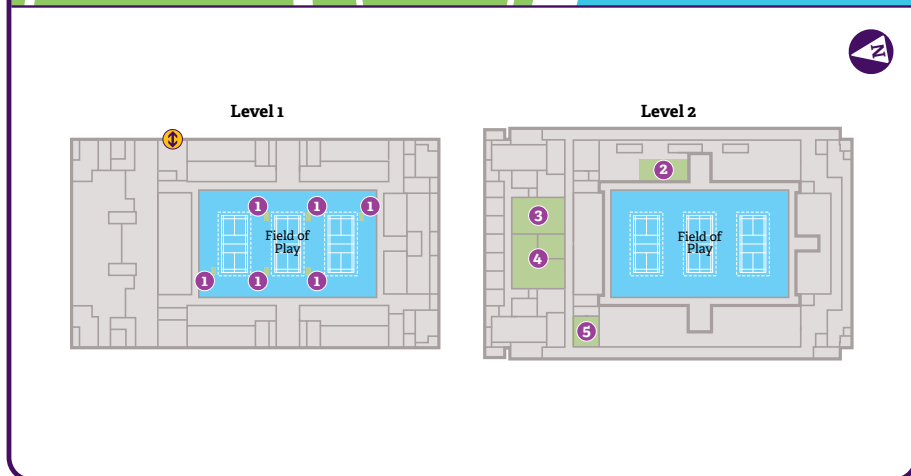
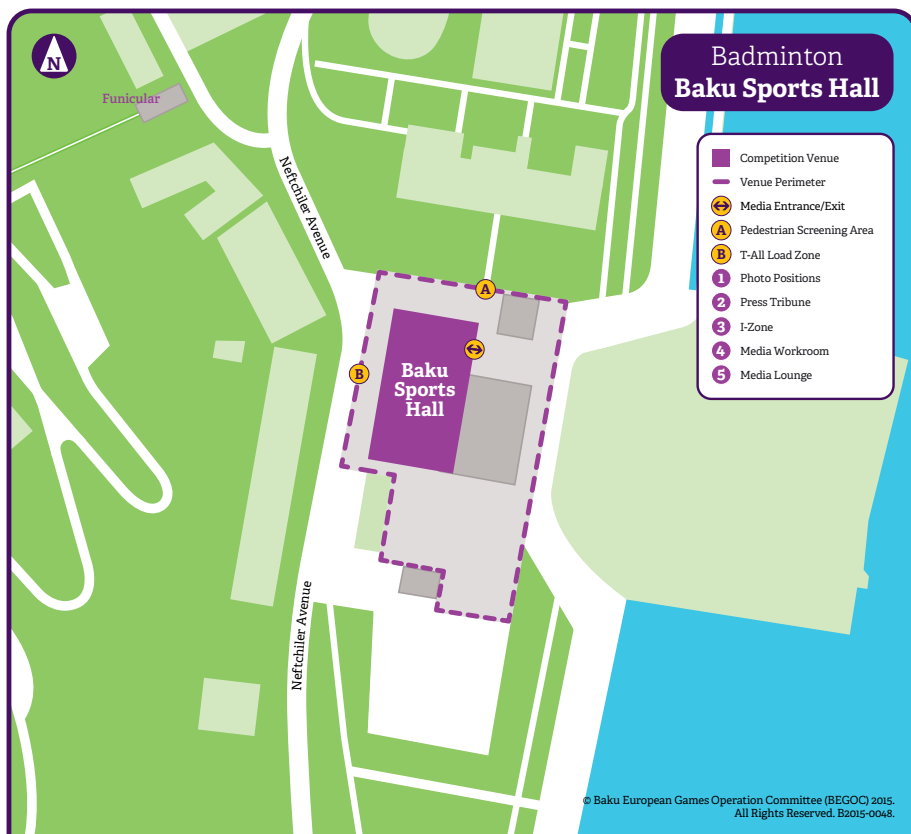
Sports: Badminton and Table Tennis

Capacity: 1,700

Construction status: Permanent – under construction

The Baku Sports Hall is an existing venue that will receive a permanent upgrade for the Baku 2015 European Games. Located close to the Baku Boulevard, this City Cluster venue will have a capacity of 1,700 at Games time for spectators to enjoy the Table Tennis and Badminton competitions.





Basketball 3x3

The innovative Basketball 3x3 competition will be one of the most popular sports at the Games, thanks to high scores, high drama and high tempo. A total of 32 teams comprising of 128 athletes will compete over four days, finishing with one medal event each in the men's and women's tournaments. The game is played on a half-court between two teams of three players and is estimated to be enjoyed by more than 250 million players worldwide. The temporary Basketball Arena will have spectators cheering on every slam dunk.

Days of competition: 4

Competition dates: 23-26 June 2015

Medal events: 2

Total athlete quota: 128

Number of teams: 16 -men's tournament, 16 - women's tournament

Qualification method: Qualification places for Basketball 3x3 will be determined based on qualification event rankings and host NOC allocation.

BASKETBALL ARENA

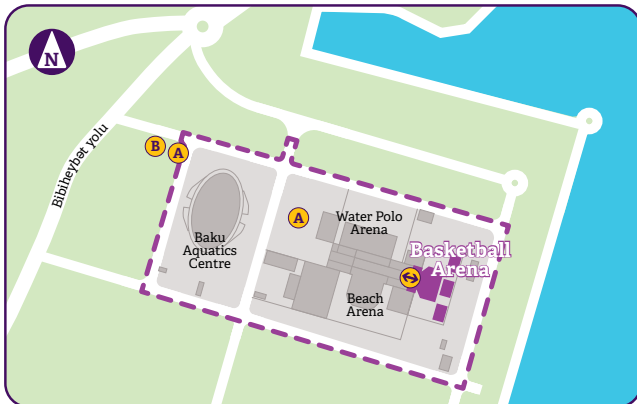
Sports: Basketball 3x3

Capacity: 2,500

Construction status: Temporary – under construction

The Basketball Arena will be located in the European Games Park as part of the Flag Square Cluster. The temporary venue will have capacity for 2,500 spectators to watch every slam dunk that takes place throughout the European Games. Construction is set to be completed on the outdoor venue in March 2015.



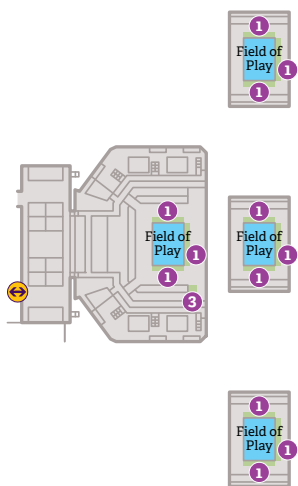


Basketball Basketball Arena

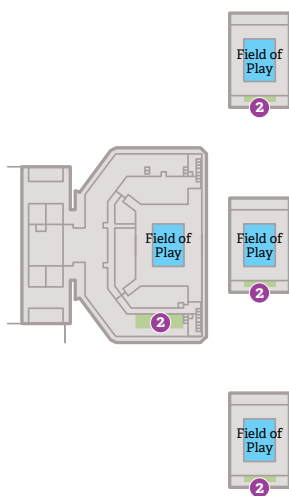
- Competition Venue
- Venue Perimeter
- ↔ Media Entrance/Exit
- A Pedestrian Screening Area
- B T-All Load Zone
- 1 Photo Positions
- 2 Press Tribune
- 3 Photo File Area



Level 1



Level 3



Beach Soccer

One of the most popular variations of football, Beach Soccer is played on a sand pitch roughly a quarter of the size of a traditional football pitch but with larger goals. The result is a fast-paced clash with an emphasis on attack, which means a shot on goal every 30 seconds and an average of nine goals per game. Eight men's teams, comprising of 96 athletes, will go head-to-head over five days of competition. The Beach Arena is in the European Games Park and will host 2,900 supporters for the Games.

Days of competition: 5

Competition dates: 24-28 June 2015

Medal events: 1

Total athlete quota: 96

Number of teams: 8 – men's tournament

Qualification method: Qualification places for Beach Soccer will be determined based on qualification event rankings and host NOC allocation.

BEACH ARENA

Sports: Beach Soccer and Beach Volleyball

Capacity - Beach Soccer: 2,900

Construction status: Temporary – under construction

The Beach Arena is a temporary venue being constructed for the Games and will be part of the Flag Square Cluster. Located on the edge of the Caspian Sea, the outdoor venue will have capacity for 2,900 spectators during the Beach Soccer competition, and 3,900 for Beach Volleyball, to enjoy two of the world's most popular beach sports. Construction will be completed in March 2015.





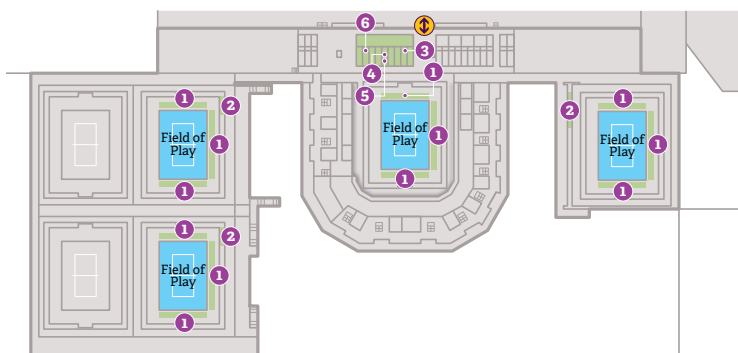
Beach Soccer Beach Arena

- Competition Venue
- Venue Perimeter
- ↕ Media Entrance/Exit
- A Pedestrian Screening Area
- B T-All Load Zone
- 1 Photo Positions
- 2 Press Tribune
- 3 I-Zone
- 4 Media Workroom
- 5 Media Lounge
- 6 Venue Media Centre

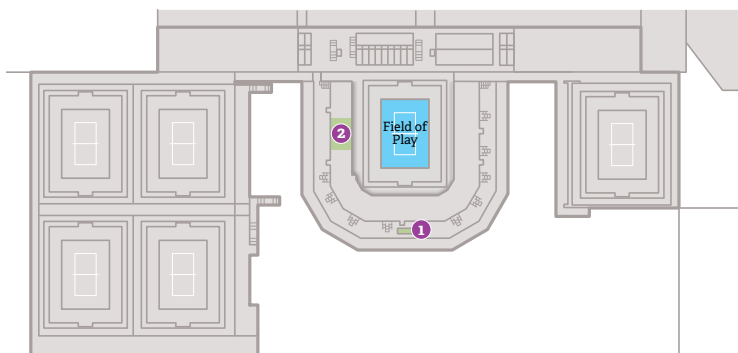
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Level 1



Level 3



Beach Volleyball

Beach Volleyball will be played at the Beach Arena, with 64 teams competing for medals in the men's and women's tournaments. Athletes will dive to keep the play alive and score points against their opponents as they aim for gold. The competition will begin on 16 June and provide an opportunity to gain valuable ranking points for the Rio 2016 Olympic Games.

Days of competition: 6

Competition dates: 16-21 June 2015

Medal events: 2

Total athlete quota: 128

Number of teams: 32 – men's tournament, 32 – women's tournament

Qualification method: Qualification places for Beach Volleyball will be determined based on the CEV entry system and host NOC allocation.

Road to Rio 2016 qualification: Ranking points available

BEACH ARENA

Sports: Beach Soccer and Beach Volleyball

Capacity - Beach Volleyball: 3,900

Construction status: Temporary – under construction

The Beach Arena is a temporary venue being constructed for the Games and will be part of the Flag Square Cluster. Located on the edge of the Caspian Sea, the outdoor venue will have capacity for 2,900 spectators during the Beach Soccer competition, and 3,900 for Beach Volleyball, to enjoy two of the world's most popular beach sports. Construction will be completed in March 2015.





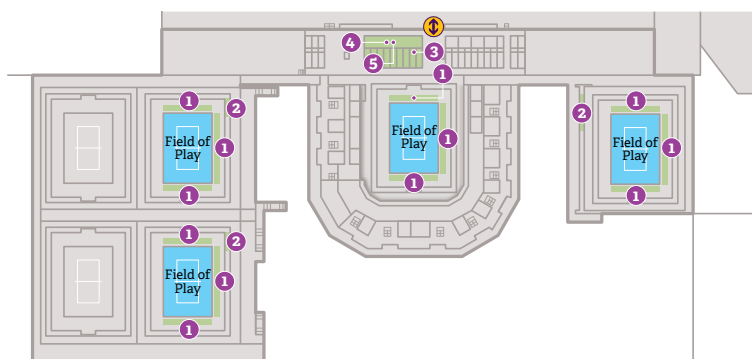
Volleyball, Beach Beach Arena

- Competition Venue
- Venue Perimeter
- Media Entrance/Exit
- Pedestrian Screening Area
- T-All Load Zone
- 1 Photo Positions
- 2 Press Tribune
- 3 I-Zone
- 4 Media Workroom
- 5 Media Lounge

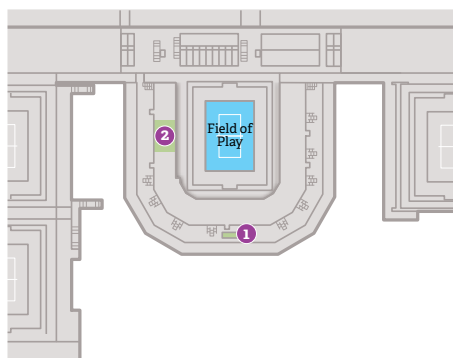
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Level 1



Level 3



Boxing

Hugely popular in Azerbaijan, Boxing will be held over a 12-day period and feature 296 athletes and 15 medal events. There will be 10 weight categories for men and five weight categories for women, which for the first time at a major Boxing tournament is an increase from the usual three weight categories for women. Crowds will be cheering on their boxing heroes – both local and international – in the setting of the Crystal Hall.

Days of competition: 12

Competition dates: 16-27 June 2015

Medal events: 15

Total athlete quota: 296

Qualification method: Qualification places for Boxing will be determined based on qualification event rankings, host NOC allocation and universality.

CRYSTAL HALL

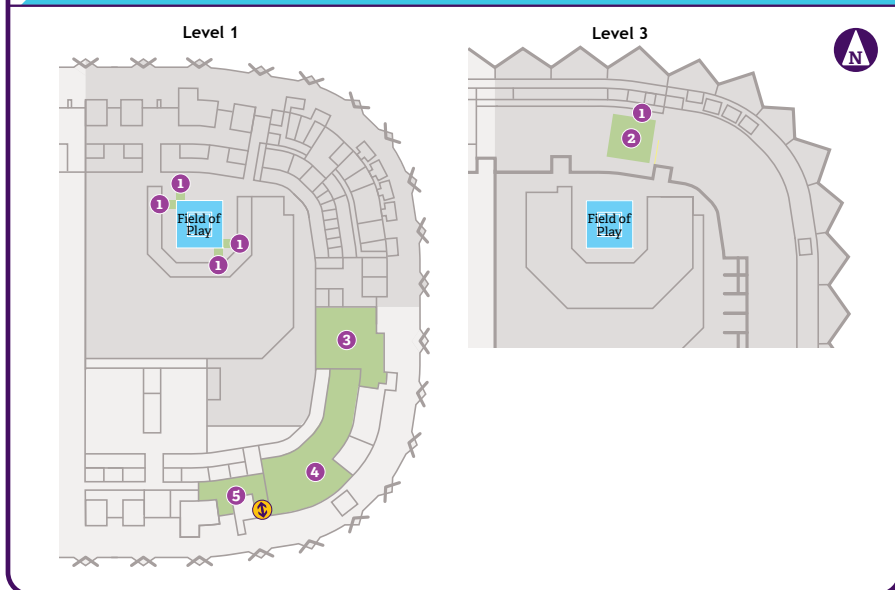
Sports: Volleyball, Boxing, Fencing, Karate and Taekwondo

Capacity - Boxing (CH2): 3,400

Construction status: Permanent – complete

The Crystal Hall is located in the centre of the Flag Square Cluster on a dramatic peninsula jutting out into the Bay of Baku in the Caspian Sea. This multipurpose venue was originally built for the Eurovision Song Contest in 2012 and will receive an additional upgrade ahead of Baku 2015. The Crystal Hall will host five sports during the Games.





Canoe Sprint

The historic city of Mingachevir will host the Canoe Sprint competition, with more than 350 athletes taking to the water over three exciting days of competition. In total, there will be 12 kayak events (men's and women's) and three canoe events (men's only). Mingachevir – known as the City of Lights – is around 250 kilometres from Baku and the existing facilities are undergoing extensive upgrades in preparation for the Games.

Days of competition: 3

Competition dates: 14-16 June 2015

Medal events: 15

Total athlete quota: 350

Qualification method: Qualification places for Canoe Sprint will be determined based on qualification event rankings, host NOC allocation and universality.

MINGACHEVIR

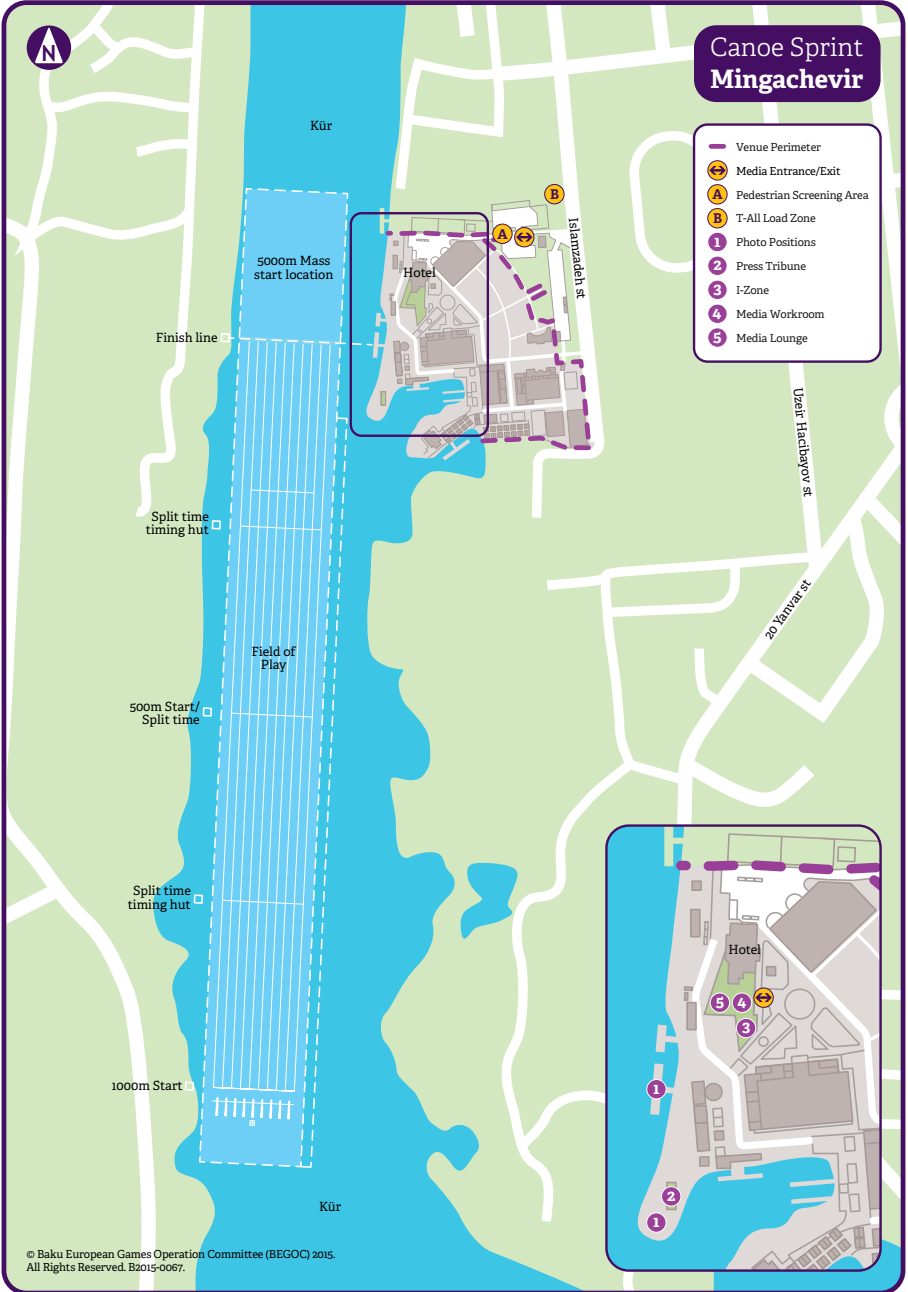
Sports: Canoe Sprint

Capacity: 1,350

Construction status: Permanent – complete

Home to the Azerbaijan Canoe Sprint and Rowing teams, the Kur Sport and Rowing Centre is the national Olympic training centre. Located on the picturesque banks of the Kur River, approximately 250 kilometres from Baku, the venue has capacity for 1,350 spectators to watch the Canoe Sprint events. The existing venue will receive extensive upgrades before the Baku 2015 European Games.





Cycling – BMX

The adrenaline-fuelled sport of BMX Cycling will likely provide some of the most nail-biting moments of the European Games. Riders will race around a track built up of jumps, bumps and tightly banked corners as they aim to be the first across the finish line. The BMX Cycling competition at Baku 2015 will see 32 men and 16 women take to the outdoor track at the new BMX Velopark venue. The men's and women's final runs will both take place on 28 June, offering important ranking points for the Rio 2016 Olympic Games.

Days of competition: 3

Competition dates: 26-28 June 2015

Medal events: 2

Total athlete quota: 48

Qualification method: Qualification places for BMX Cycling will be determined based on the International Cycling Union (UCI) Nations Rankings.

Road to Rio 2016 qualification: Ranking points available

BMX VELOPARK

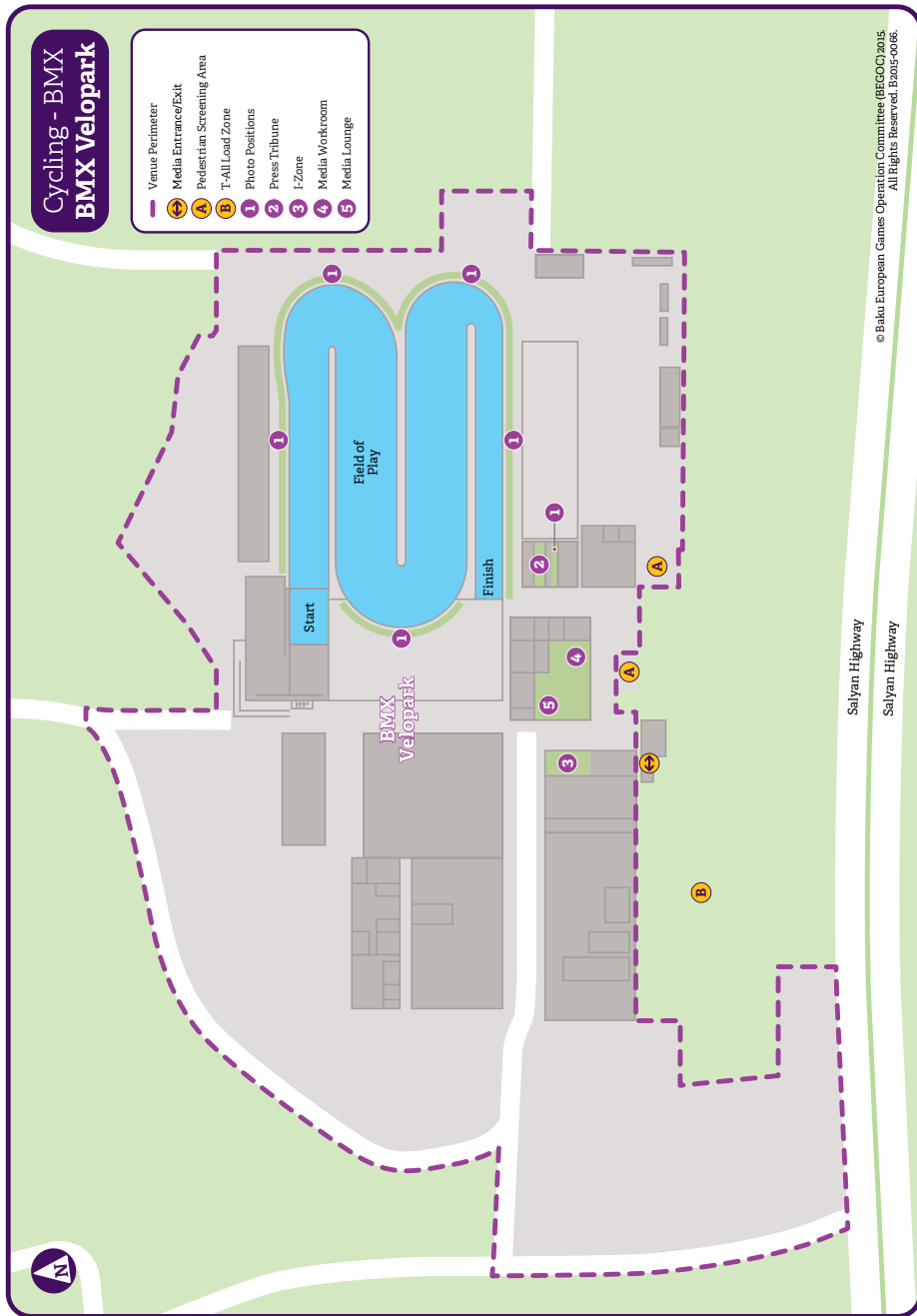
Sports: BMX Cycling

Capacity: 1,600

Construction status: Permanent – under construction

The BMX Velopark is a temporary venue built for the Baku 2015 European Games, although the BMX track will remain as part of the Games legacy. Located close to the Baku city centre, the venue will form part of the Western Venues. Construction is expected to be completed in early 2015 and will have capacity for 1,600 spectators.





Cycling – Mountain Bike

There will be no shortage of riveting moments during the cross-country Mountain Bike competition. The competition will see 46 men and 31 women take on the challenging course at the Mountain Bike Velopark. At Baku 2015, both the men's and women's medal events will take place on 13 June. Ranking points will be available for the Rio 2016 Olympic Games.

Days of competition: 1

Competition dates: 13 June 2015

Medal events: 2

Total athlete quota: 77

Qualification method: Qualification places for Mountain Bike Cycling will be determined based on the International Cycling Union (UCI) Nations Rankings and host NOC allocation.

Road to Rio 2016 qualification: Ranking points available

MOUNTAIN BIKE VELOPARK

Sports: Mountain Bike Cycling

Capacity: 1,670

Construction status: Temporary – under construction

The Mountain Bike Velopark will be a temporary venue built for the Games, located in the hills immediately south of the Baku Shooting Centre. It will be the first purposed built Mountain Bike course in Azerbaijan. It is currently under construction and is due to be completed by October 2014. The venue will have capacity for 1,670 spectators.



Cycling - Mountain Bike

Mountain Bike Velopark



Competition Venue

Venue Perimeter

Cycle Route & Direction

Media Entrance/Exit

Pedestrian Screening Area

T-All Load Zone

Photo Positions

Press Tribune

Izzone

Media Workroom

Media Lounge

Photo File Area

Field of Play

Field of Play

Field of Play

Mountain Bike Velopark

Baku Shooting Centre

Field of Play

Field of Play

Field of Play

Field of Play



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Cycling – Road

The classic Road Cycling events at the European Games will undoubtedly draw large crowds as more than 220 of Europe's finest cyclists take to the roads of Baku. Four medals are available between the Road Race and the Time Trial over the three days of competition which begin on 18 June. Important ranking points will be available to competitors for the Rio 2016 Olympic Games.

Days of competition: 3

Competition dates: 18-21 June 2015

Medal events: 4

Total athlete quota: 221

Qualification method: Qualification places for Road Cycling will be determined based on International Cycling Union (UCI) rankings, host NOC allocation and universality.

Road to Rio 2016 qualification: Ranking points available

FREEDOM SQUARE

Sports: Road Cycling

Capacity: 1,000

Construction status: Temporary – under construction

The Cycling Road Race will start in the forecourt of the Government House at Freedom Square. The race route itself consists of a 13.5km circuit throughout the city of Baku and will comprise of 16 laps of the course for the men and nine laps for the women. A temporary purpose built venue will have capacity for 1,000 spectators on competition days, as well as spectating opportunities at various points along the race route.





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Fencing

The finest fencers in Europe will feint, flick and fight for glory in the Crystal Hall. Over the five days of competition, more than 200 fencers will take part in men's and women's individual and team bouts in epee, foil and sabre events. There will be a total of 12 medal events.

Days of competition: 5

Competition dates: 23-27 June 2015

Medal events: 12

Total athlete quota: 216

Qualification method: Qualification places for Fencing will be determined based on qualification event rankings, host NOC allocation and universality.

CRYSTAL HALL

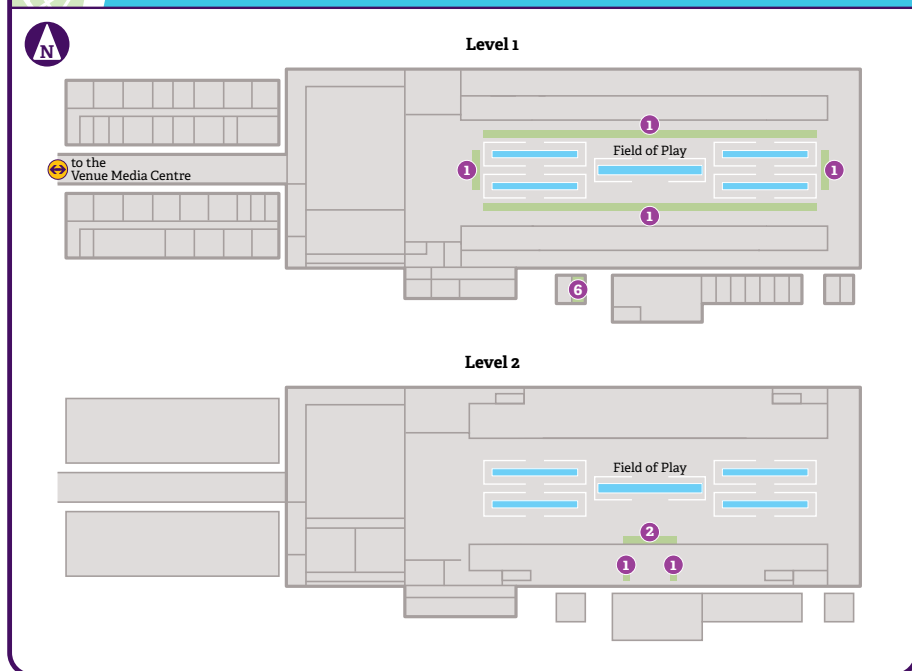
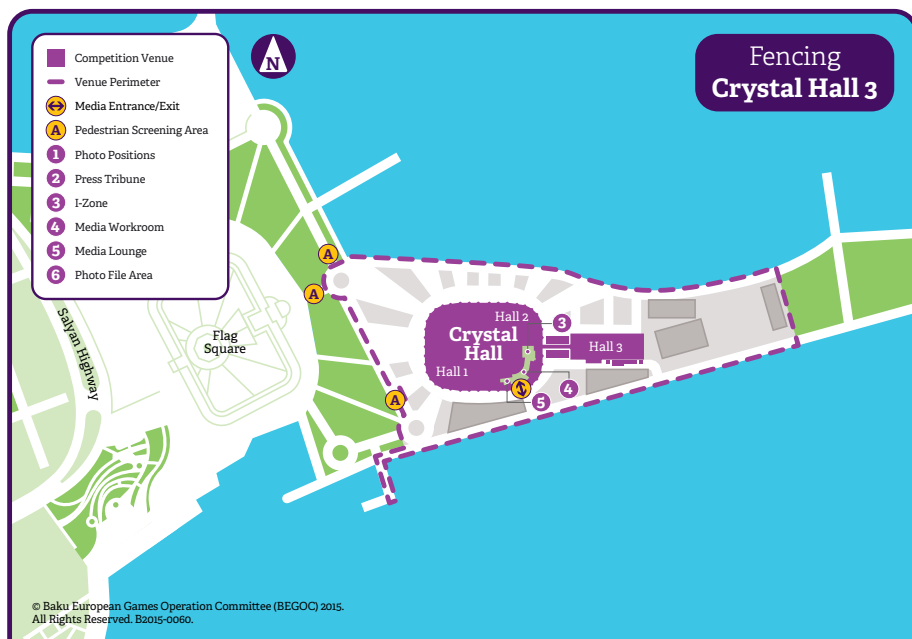
Sports: Volleyball, Boxing, Fencing, Karate and Taekwondo

Capacity - Fencing (CH3) 2,100

Construction status: Permanent – complete

The Crystal Hall is located in the centre of the Flag Square Cluster on a dramatic peninsula jutting out into the Bay of Baku in the Caspian Sea. This multipurpose venue was originally built for the Eurovision Song Contest in 2012 and will receive an additional upgrade ahead of Baku 2015. The Crystal Hall will host five sports during the European Games.





Gymnastics – Acrobatic

Dynamic and spirited in nature, Acrobatic Gymnastics is guaranteed to wow crowds with its breath-taking balances and throws throughout the European Games. It is one of two non-Olympic Gymnastics disciplines included in the Baku 2015 programme and will feature a total of six medal events. More than 50 athletes will be competing for gold in mixed pairs and women's group events.

Days of competition: 3

Competition dates: 17-21 June 2015

Medal events: 6

Total athlete quota: 55

Qualification method: Qualification places for Acrobatic Gymnastics will be determined based on qualification event rankings and host NOC allocation.

NATIONAL GYMNASTICS ARENA

Sports: Gymnastics - Acrobatic, Aerobic, Artistic, Rhythmic and Trampoline

Capacity: 7,000

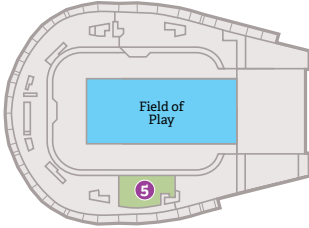
Construction status: Permanent – complete

The National Gymnastics Arena is located directly south of the Athletes and Media Villages. Construction of the arena was completed in February 2014 and opened by the President of Azerbaijan, Ilham Aliyev, in April 2014. A purpose-built facility with a capacity of 7,000, the venue is home to the Azerbaijan Gymnastic Federation and hosted the 30th European Rhythmic Gymnastics Championships in June 2014.

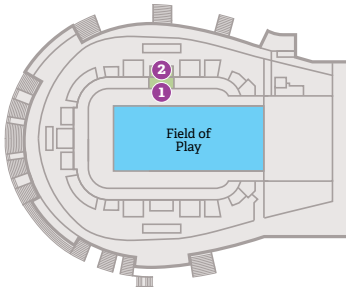




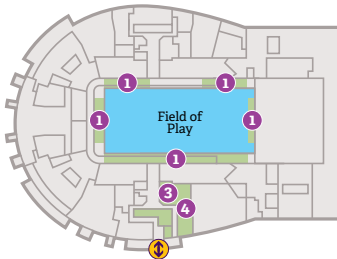
Level 1



Level 0



Level -2



Gymnastics - Acrobatic, Aerobic, Artistic, Rhythmic & Trampoline National Gymnastics Arena



- Competition Venue
- Venue Perimeter
- ➡ Media Entrance/Exit
- A Pedestrian Screening Area
- B T-All Load Zone
- 1 Photo Positions
- 2 Press Tribune
- 3 I-Zone
- 4 Media Workroom
- 5 Media Lounge

Athletes Village

Heydər Əliyev prospekti

Koroglu

Ziya Bünyadov

Railway Station

National Gymnastics Arena

Miladlı Əliyev küçəsi

Böyük Şor

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Gymnastics – Aerobic

Combining aerobic choreography and gymnastics elements, the sport of Aerobic Gymnastics is another competition in a series of newly introduced non-Olympic disciplines on the Baku 2015 programme. The three day competition will take place at the National Gymnastics Arena and feature 67 athletes competing in two medal events.

Days of competition: 3

Competition dates: 17-21 June 2015

Medal events: 2

Total athlete quota: 67

Qualification method: Qualification places for Aerobic Gymnastics will be determined based on qualification event rankings and host NOC allocation.

NATIONAL GYMNASTICS ARENA

Sports: Gymnastics - Acrobatic, Aerobic, Artistic, Rhythmic and Trampoline

Capacity: 7,000

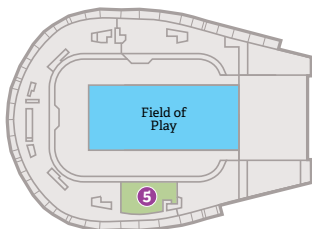
Construction status: Permanent – complete

The National Gymnastics Arena is located directly south of the Athletes and Media Villages. Construction of the arena was completed in February 2014 and opened by the President of Azerbaijan, Ilham Aliyev, in April 2014. A purpose-built facility with a capacity of 7,000, the venue is home to the Azerbaijan Gymnastic Federation and hosted the 30th European Rhythmic Gymnastics Championships in June 2014.

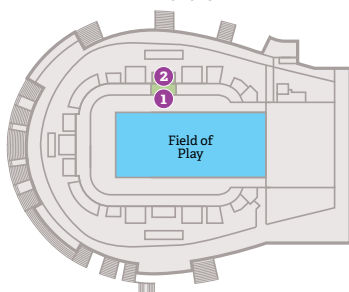




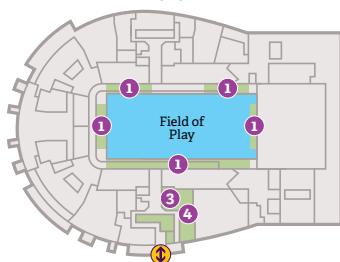
Level 1



Level 0



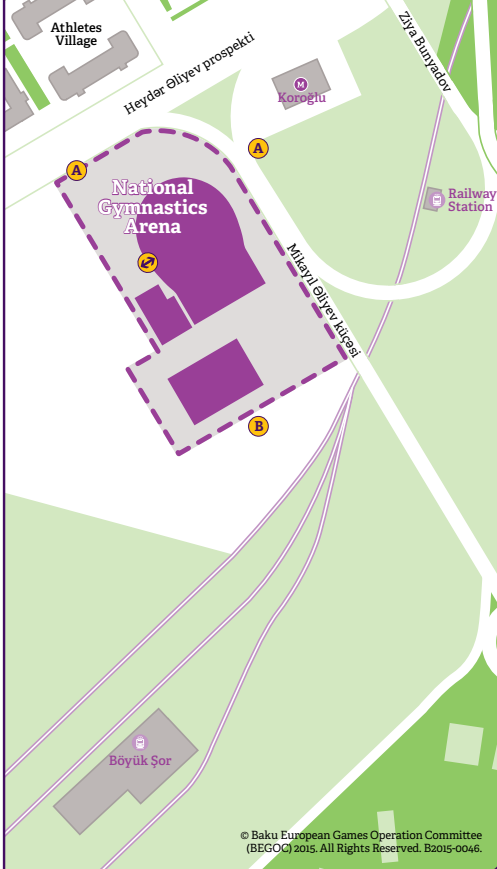
Level -2



Gymnastics - Acrobatic, Aerobic, Artistic, Rhythmic & Trampoline National Gymnastics Arena



- Competition Venue
- Venue Perimeter
- Media Entrance/Exit
- Pedestrian Screening Area
- T-All Load Zone
- Photo Positions
- Press Tribune
- I-Zone
- Media Workroom
- Media Lounge



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Gymnastics – Artistic

Artistic Gymnastics - often the most closely-followed of all the Gymnastic disciplines - will be held at the National Gymnastics Arena. The four-day competition will feature 14 medal events and play host to 180 gymnasts from around Europe.

Days of competition: 4

Competition dates: 15-20 June 2015

Medal events: 14

Total athlete quota: 180

Qualification method: Qualification places for Artistic Gymnastics will be determined based on qualification event rankings and host NOC allocation.

NATIONAL GYMNASTICS ARENA

Sports: Gymnastics - Acrobatic, Aerobic, Artistic, Rhythmic and Trampoline

Capacity: 7,000

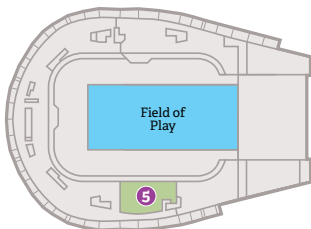
Construction status: Permanent – complete

The National Gymnastics Arena is located directly south of the Athletes and Media Villages. Construction of the arena was completed in February 2014 and opened by the President of Azerbaijan, Ilham Aliyev, in April 2014. A purpose-built facility with a capacity of 7,000, the venue is home to the Azerbaijan Gymnastic Federation and hosted the 30th European Rhythmic Gymnastics Championships in June 2014.

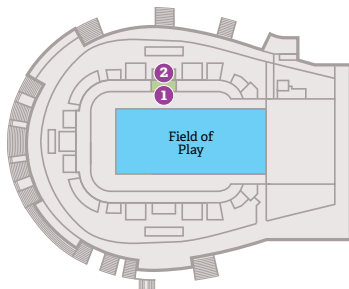




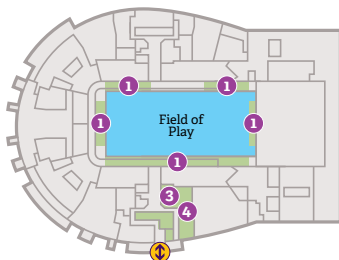
Level 1



Level 0



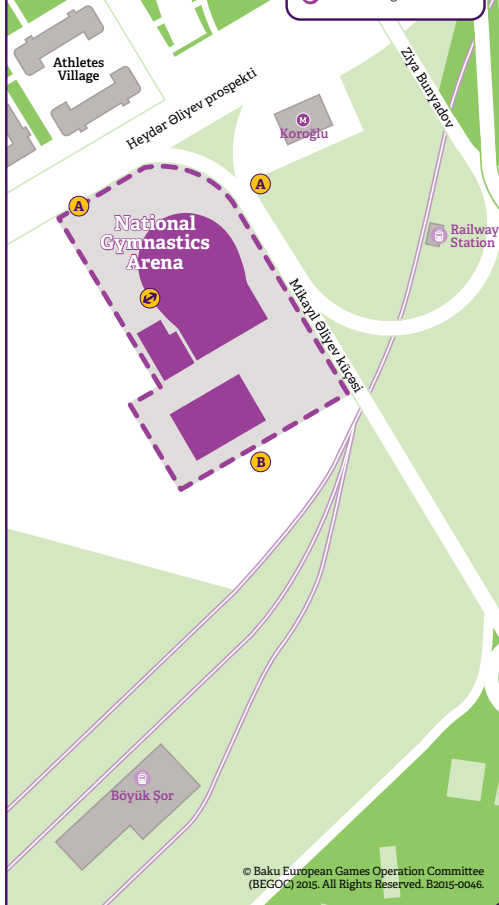
Level -2



Gymnastics - Acrobatic, Aerobic, Artistic, Rhythmic & Trampoline National Gymnastics Arena



- Competition Venue
- Venue Perimeter
- ➡ Media Entrance/Exit
- A Pedestrian Screening Area
- B T-All Load Zone
- 1 Photo Positions
- 2 Press Tribune
- 3 I-Zone
- 4 Media Workroom
- 5 Media Lounge



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Gymnastics – Rhythmic

Rhythmic gymnasts will blend sport and art at the European Games with their highly technical and skillful routines. Athletes will have the opportunity to compete in both team and individual events throughout the three-day competition as they work with the ribbon, clubs, ball and hoop at Baku's National Gymnastics Arena. The competition will see 92 women compete in eight medal events from 17 June 2015.

Days of competition: 3

Competition dates: 17-21 June 2015

Medal events: 8

Total athlete quota: 92

Qualification method: Qualification places for Rhythmic Gymnastics will be determined based on qualification event rankings and host NOC allocation.

NATIONAL GYMNASTICS ARENA

Sports: Gymnastics - Acrobatic, Aerobic, Artistic, Rhythmic and Trampoline

Capacity: 7,000

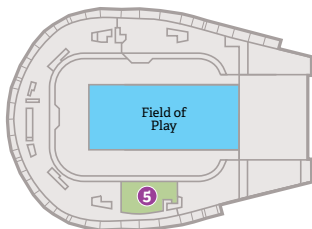
Construction status: Permanent – complete

The National Gymnastics Arena is located directly south of the Athletes and Media Villages. Construction of the arena was completed in February 2014 and opened by the President of Azerbaijan, Ilham Aliyev, in April 2014. A purpose-built facility with a capacity of 7,000, the venue is home to the Azerbaijan Gymnastic Federation and hosted the 30th European Rhythmic Gymnastics Championships in June 2014.

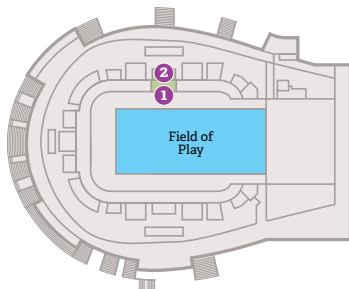




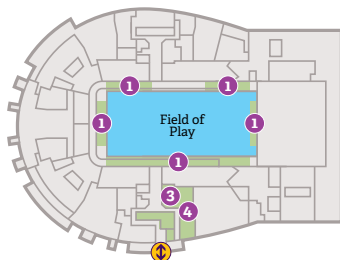
Level 1



Level 0



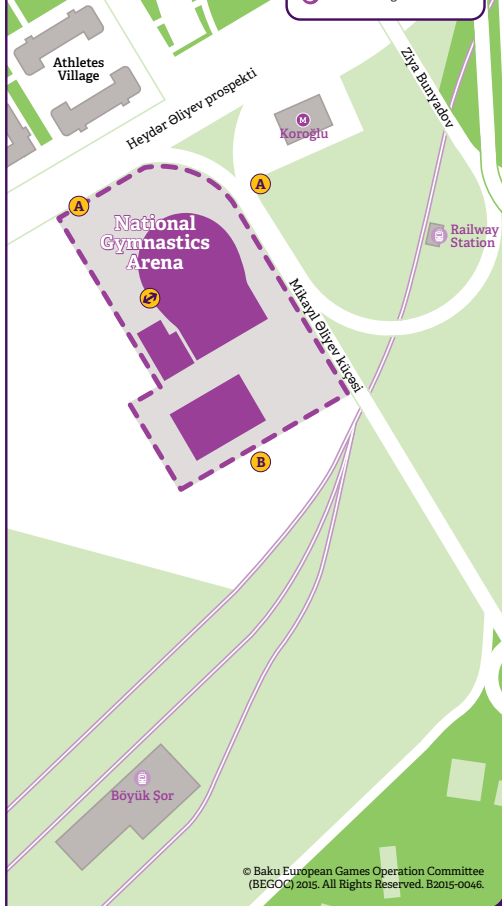
Level -2



Gymnastics - Acrobatic, Aerobic, Artistic, Rhythmic & Trampoline National Gymnastics Arena



- Competition Venue
- Venue Perimeter
- Media Entrance/Exit
- Pedestrian Screening Area
- T-All Load Zone
- 1 Photo Positions
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- 5 Media Lounge



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Gymnastics – Trampoline

Trampoline gymnasts will be set to impress with their aerial skills over the three days of competition at the National Gymnastics Arena. The high-energy discipline will feature 53 athletes from around Europe competing for medals in the men's and women's individual and synchronised events.

Days of competition: 3

Competition dates: 17-21 June 2015

Medal events: 4

Total athlete quota: 53

Qualification method: Qualification places for Trampoline Gymnastics will be determined based on qualification event rankings and host NOC allocation.

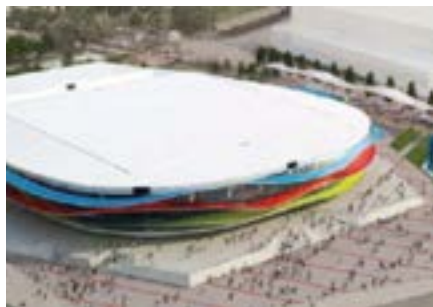
NATIONAL GYMNASTICS ARENA

Sports: Gymnastics - Acrobatic, Aerobic, Artistic, Rhythmic and Trampoline

Capacity: 7,000

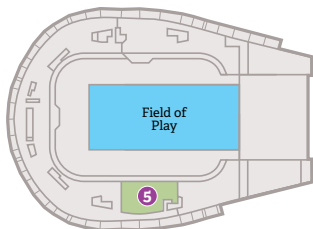
Construction status: Permanent – complete

The National Gymnastics Arena is located directly south of the Athletes and Media Villages. Construction of the arena was completed in February 2014 and opened by the President of Azerbaijan, Ilham Aliyev, in April 2014. A purpose-built facility with a capacity of 7,000, the venue is home to the Azerbaijan Gymnastic Federation and hosted the 30th European Rhythmic Gymnastics Championships in June 2014.

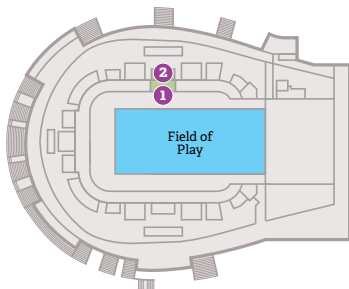




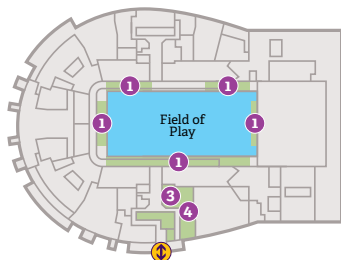
Level 1



Level 0













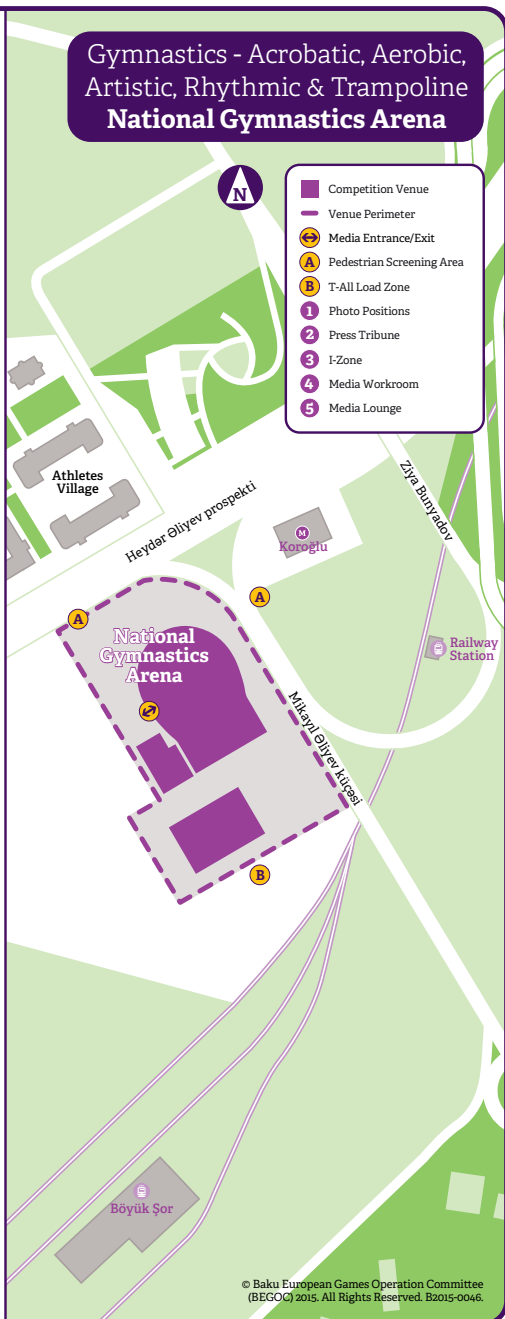
Level -2



Gymnastics - Acrobatic, Aerobic, Artistic, Rhythmic & Trampoline National Gymnastics Arena



-  Competition Venue
-  Venue Perimeter
-  Media Entrance/Exit
-  Pedestrian Screening Area
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-  I-Zone
-  Media Workroom
-  Media Lounge



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Judo

An explosive full-contact form of combat, Judo is one of the most widely practiced sports in Azerbaijan. Competitors – known as judokas – will be aiming to take down their opponents in front of a passionate 7,800-capacity crowd at the impressive Heydar Aliyev Arena. More than 350 judokas will compete over four days of individual and team bouts in men's and women's competition. In a first for a major multi-sport continental event, Blind Judo will also be contested with medals in the men's over 90-kilogramme category and in the women's under 57-kilogramme category. That means a total of 18 medals will be on offer at the European Games. .

Days of competition: 4

Competition dates: 25-28 June 2015

Medal events: 18

Total athlete quota: 366

Qualification method: Qualification places for Judo will be determined based on the International Judo Federation (IJF) World Ranking List, host NOC allocation and universality.

HEYDAR ALIYEV ARENA

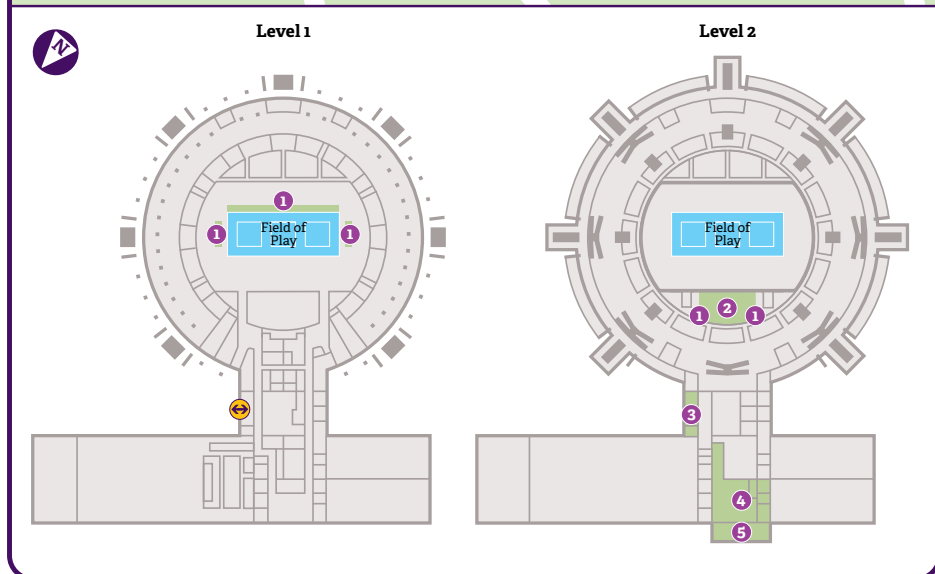
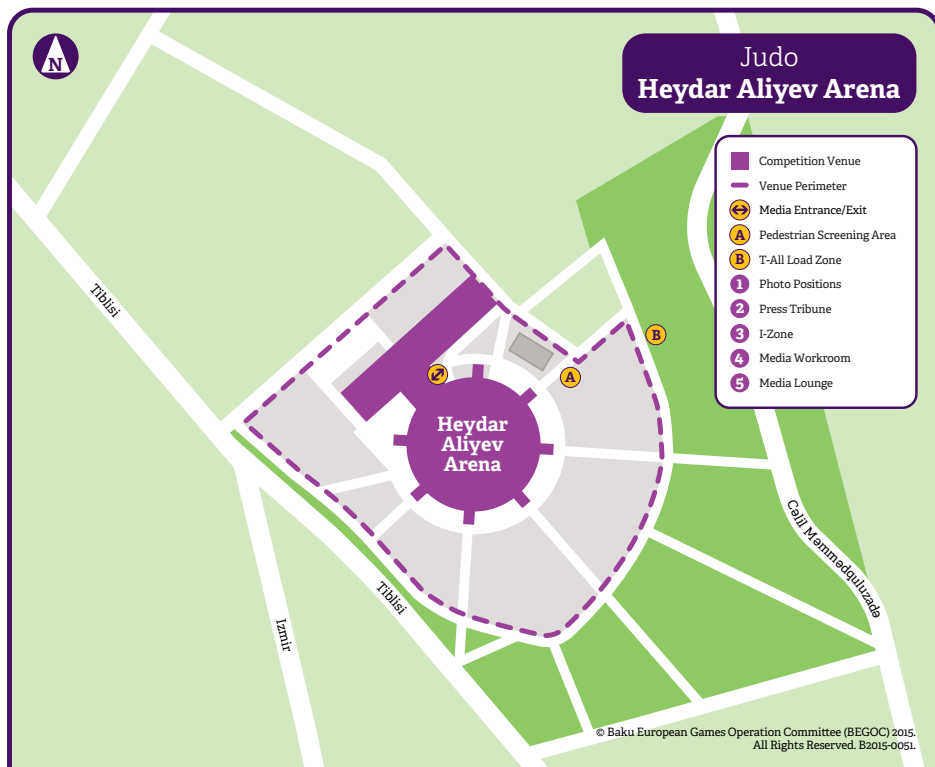
Sports: Judo and Wrestling

Capacity: 7,800

Construction status: Permanent – upgrade under construction

The Heydar Aliyev Arena is part of the City Cluster venues and is located on Tbilisi Avenue in the centre of Baku. Named after the former President of Azerbaijan, the venue was opened in 1990 and has held over 30 sporting events in that time. The venue will receive extensive upgrades before the European Games and will host 7,800 spectators for the Wrestling and Judo competitions.





Karate

One of the fastest-growing combat sports in Europe, Karate is one of the non-Olympic sports that will be involved at Baku 2015. The Karate competition will take place over two days on 13–14 June and feature a total of 12 medal events; 10 in individual kumite and two in individual kata. Europe's best performing athletes - 48 men and 48 women - will showcase their talents on the strikingly beautiful tatami of Crystal Hall. Expect a strong competition as the three top-ranked countries in the world hail from Europe.

Days of competition: 2

Competition dates: 13–14 June 2015

Medal events: 12

Total athlete quota: 96

Qualification method: Qualification places for Karate will be determined based on qualification event rankings, host NOC allocation and universality.

CRYSTAL HALL

Sports: Volleyball, Boxing, Fencing, Karate and Taekwondo

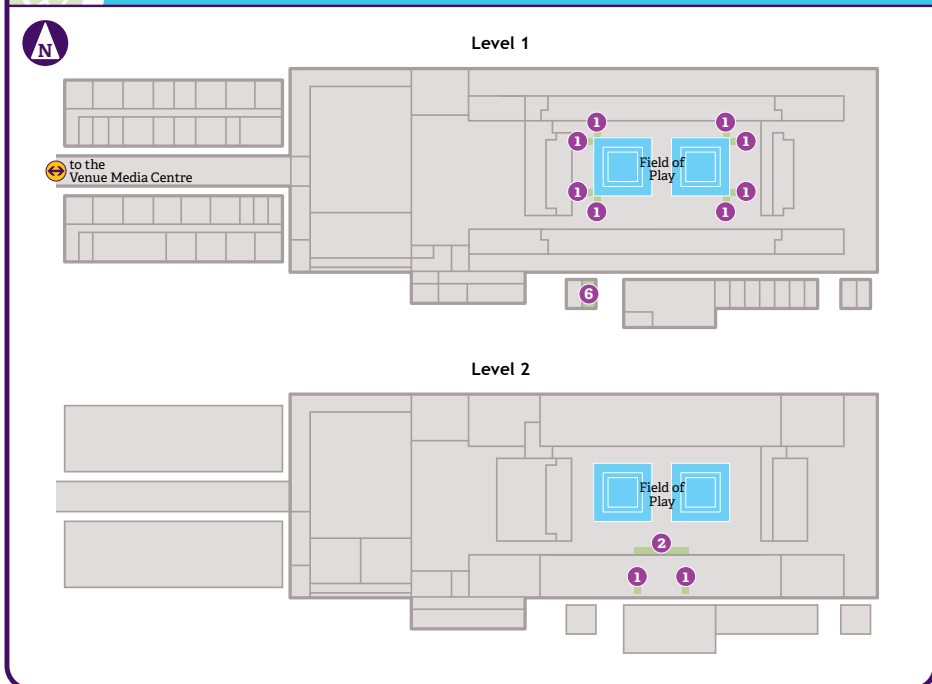
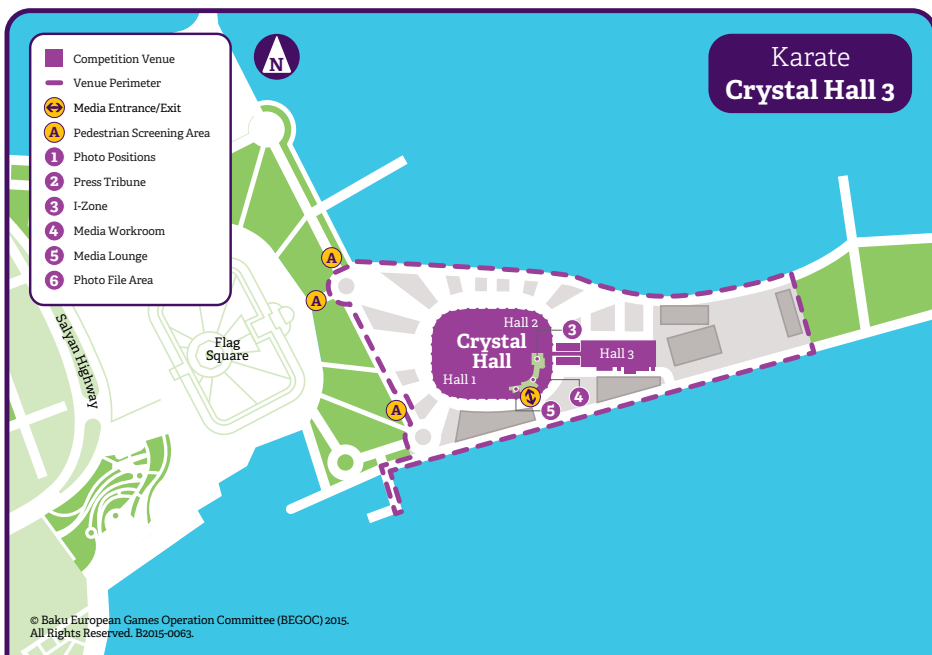
Capacity

Karate CH3): 2,000

Construction status: Permanent - complete

The Crystal Hall is located in the centre of the Flag Square Cluster on a dramatic peninsula jutting out into the Bay of Baku in the Caspian Sea. This multipurpose venue was originally built for the Eurovision Song Contest in 2012 and will receive an additional upgrade ahead of Baku 2015. The Crystal Hall will host five sports during the European Games.





Shooting

Shooters from across Europe will be aiming to hold their nerve in the brand new and purpose-built Baku Shooting Centre. There will be seven days of competition for the estimated 330 male and female athletes. Medal hopefuls will have opportunities at 19 individual and team events covering pistol, rifle and shotgun firearms. Expect high tension when competition begins as a grand total of 15 Olympic places for the Rio 2016 Olympic Games will be awarded to the winners of the individual events.

Days of competition: 7

Competition dates: 16-22 June 2015

Medal events: 19

Total athlete quota: 330

Qualification method: Qualification places for Shooting will be determined based on the European Ranking List, host NOC allocation and universality.

Road to Rio 2016 qualification: The winner in each of the 15 individual events will automatically receive a quota place.

BAKU SHOOTING CENTRE

Sports: Shooting

Capacity: 500

Construction status: Permanent – under construction

The Baku Shooting Centre is a brand-new, purpose-built shooting facility for the Baku 2015 European Games and will form part of the lasting legacy left by Baku 2015. This new facility, located 30 minutes west of Baku, is due for completion in December 2014 and will have capacity for 500 spectators.



Shooting Baku Shooting Centre



- Competition Venue
- Venue Perimeter
- ↔ Media Entrance/Exit
- A Pedestrian Screening Area
- B T-All Load Zone
- 1 Photo Positions
- 2 Press Tribune
- 3 I-Zone
- 4 Media Workroom
- 5 Media Lounge
- 6 Photo File Area

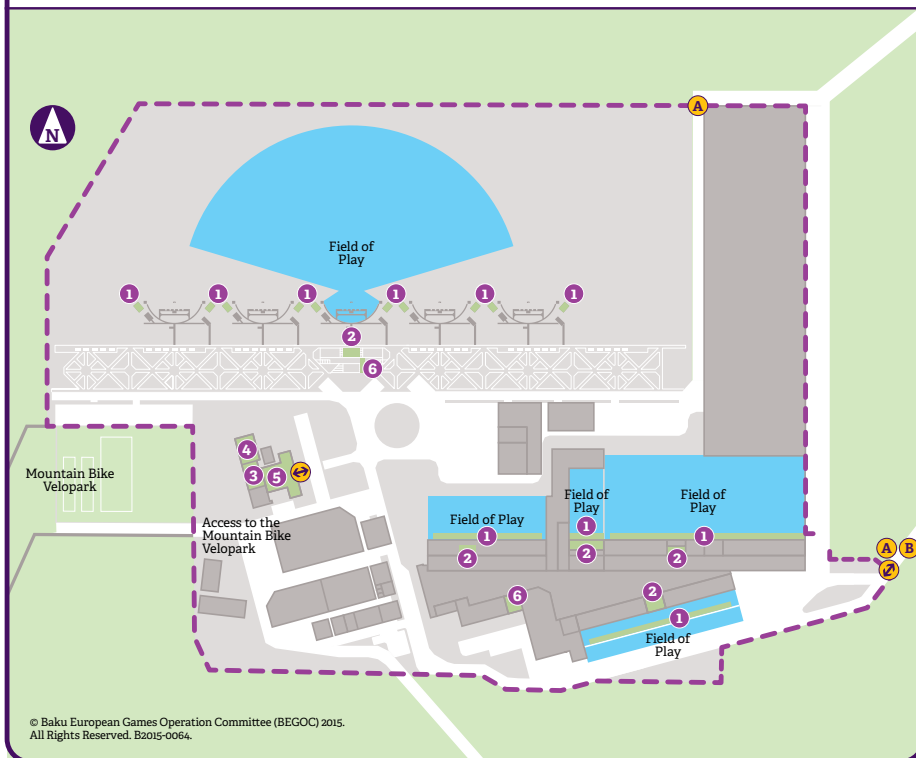


Table Tennis

In one of the fastest and most thrilling sports in the world, Table Tennis players will delight spectators in the Baku Sports Hall with their quick-fire reactions and precision. The seven days of action will see a total of 128 athletes competing. Men's and women's singles and team matches will culminate in four exciting medal events. The gold medal winners in the individual events will secure a place at the Rio 2016 Olympic Games, so expect fierce competition in the pursuit of first place.

Days of competition: 7

Competition dates: 13-19 June 2015

Medal events: 4

Total athlete quota: 128

Qualification method: Qualification places for Table Tennis will be determined based on qualification event rankings, host NOC allocation and universality.

Road to Rio 2016 qualification: The winner of the men's and women's events will receive automatic qualification

BAKU SPORTS HALL

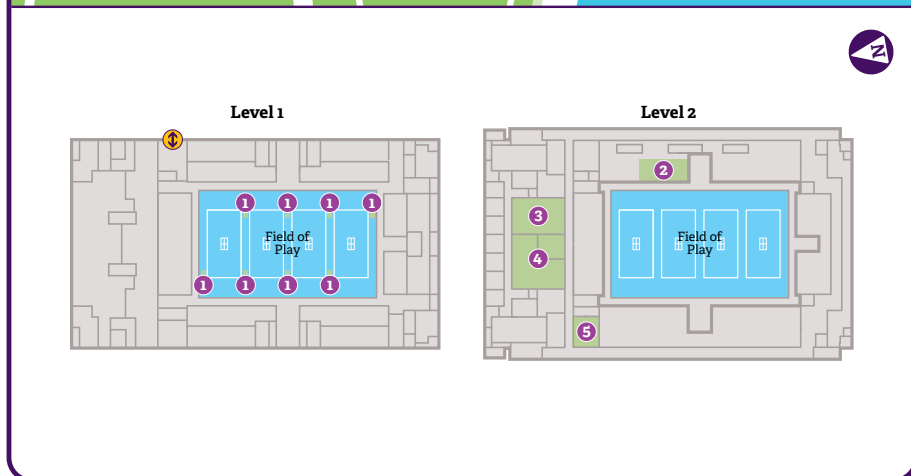
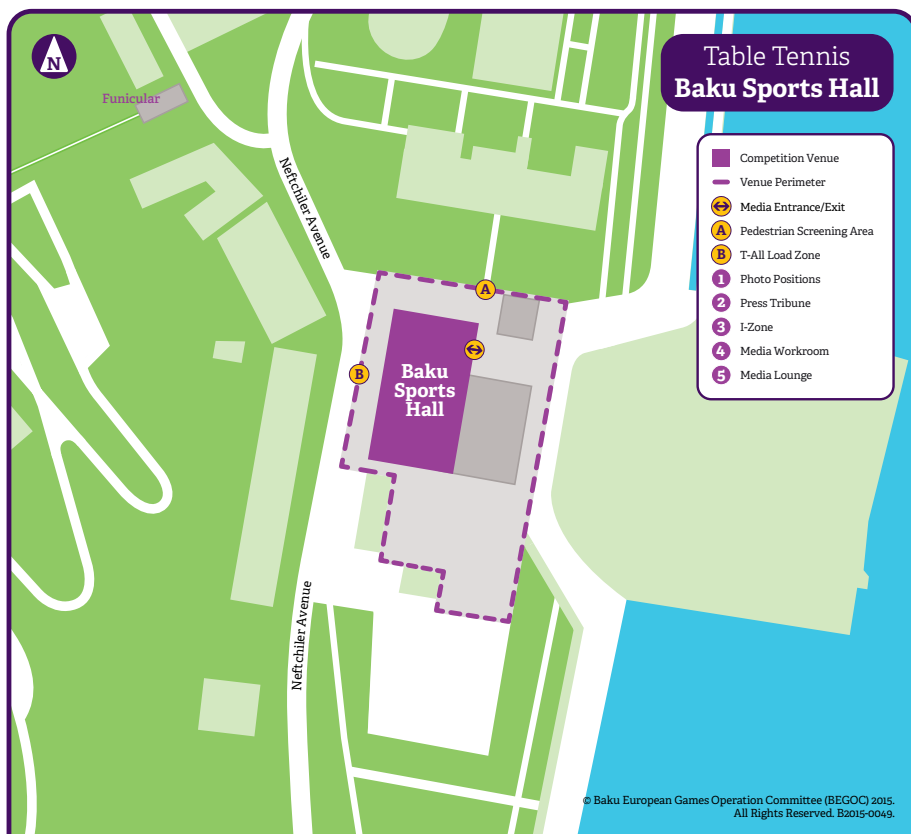
Sports: Badminton and Table Tennis

Capacity: 1,700

Construction status: Permanent – upgrade under construction

The Baku Sports Hall is an existing venue that will receive a permanent upgrade for the Baku 2015 European Games. Located close to Baku Boulevard, this City Cluster venue will have a capacity of 1,700 at Games time for spectators to enjoy the Table Tennis and Badminton competitions.





Taekwondo

A technical and tough combat sport, Taekwondo requires a combination of speed and strength to succeed. Competition in the Crystal Hall will be held over four days and will include four weight categories for both men and women, resulting in a total of eight medal events. Approximately 128 athletes will compete, and there will be vital ranking points available as fighters seek qualification for the Rio 2016 Olympic Games.

Days of competition: 4

Competition dates: 16-19 June 2015

Medal events: 8

Total athlete quota: 128

Qualification method: Qualification places for Taekwondo will be determined based on the World Taekwondo Federation (WTF) Olympic Ranking System, host NOC allocation and universality.

Road to Rio 2016 qualification: Ranking points available

CRYSTAL HALL

Sports: Volleyball, Boxing, Fencing, Karate and Taekwondo

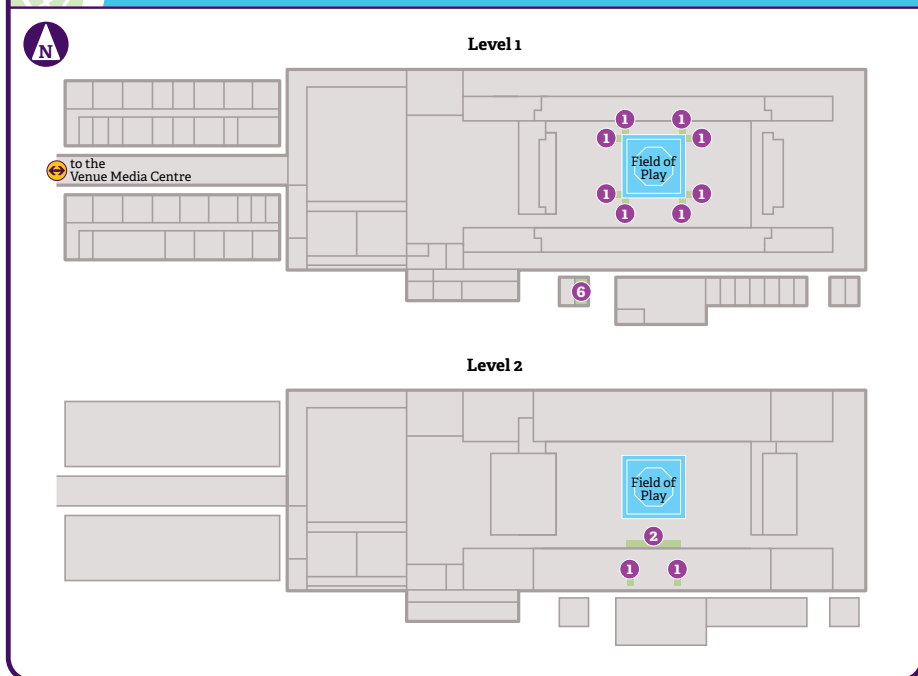
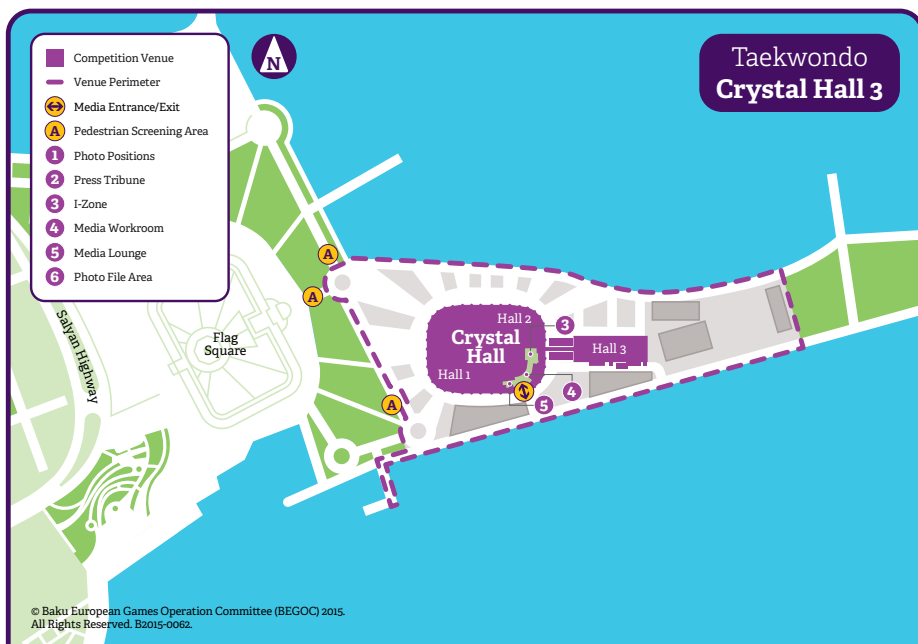
Capacity

Taekwondo (CH3): 2,000

Construction status: Permanent - complete

The Crystal Hall is located in the centre of the Flag Square Cluster on a dramatic peninsula jutting out into the Bay of Baku in the Caspian Sea. This multipurpose venue was originally built for the Eurovision Song Contest in 2012 and will receive an additional upgrade ahead of Baku 2015. The Crystal Hall will host five sports during the European Games.





Triathlon

The ultimate test of determination and desire, Triathlon will see competitors swim, cycle and run their way through Baku to glory. Thousands of spectators will line the streets to watch Europe's finest athletes battle for first place in one of the world's toughest endurance sports. With 130 participants in the men's and women's events, the competition will be fierce, especially as the gold medal winners will gain their NOC direct qualification for the Rio 2016 Olympic Games.

Days of competition: 2

Competition dates: 13-14 June 2015

Medal events: 2

Total athlete quota: 130

Qualification method: Qualification places for Triathlon will be determined based on qualification event rankings, host NOC allocation and universality.

Road to Rio 2016 qualification: The winner of the men's and women's events will gain direct qualification for their NOCs

VENUE TBC





Volleyball

More than 330 athletes will be bumping, setting and spiking over the 16 days of the Volleyball competition. The discipline consists of two medal events, with 12 teams competing in both the men's and women's tournaments, and will take place at the seafront Crystal Hall. Crucial ranking points will be available for the Rio 2016 Olympic Games.

Days of competition: 16

Competition dates: 13-28 June 2015

Medal events: 2

Total athlete quota: 336

Number of teams: 12 – men's tournament, 12 – women's tournament

Qualification method: Qualification places for Volleyball will be determined based on CEV entry ranking system/Euro league participation and host NOC allocation.

Road to Rio 2016 qualification: Ranking points available

CRYSTAL HALL

Sports: Volleyball , Boxing, Fencing, Karate and Taekwondo

Capacity

Volleyball (CH1): 6,000

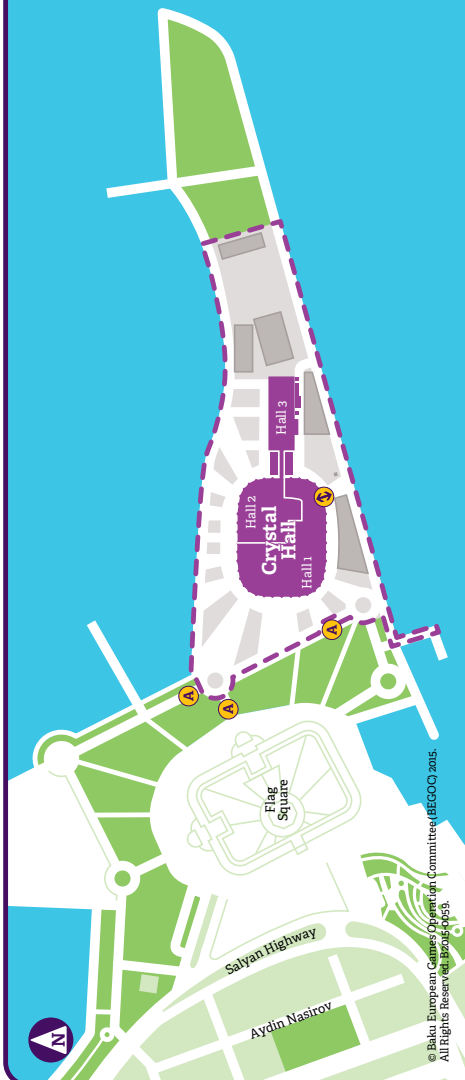
Construction status: Permanent – complete

The Crystal Hall is located in the centre of the Flag Square Cluster on a dramatic peninsula jutting out into the Bay of Baku in the Caspian Sea. This multipurpose venue was originally built for the Eurovision Song Contest in 2012 and will receive an additional upgrade ahead of Baku 2015. The Crystal Hall will host five sports during the European Games.



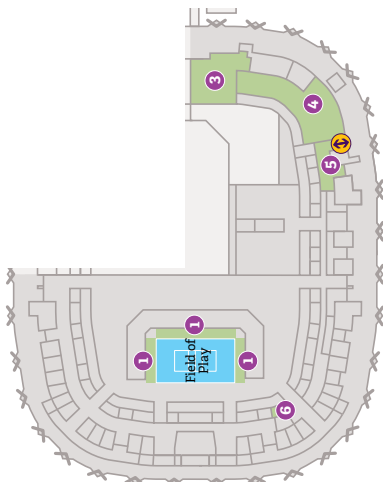
Volleyball Crystal Hall 1

- Competition Venue
- Venue Perimeter
- Media Entrance/Exit
- Pedestrian Screening Area
- Photo Positions
- Press Tribune
- I-Zone
- Media Workroom
- Media Lounge
- Photo File Area

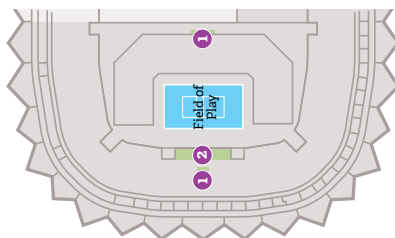


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Level 1



Level 3



Wrestling

The most popular combat sport in Azerbaijan, Wrestling will be a highlight of the European Games and will be fought in front of a capacity crowd of 7,800 spectators in the Heydar Aliyev Arena. A grand total of 18 weight categories ensures a busy competition agenda, with several medal events being held on each of the six days of wrestling action. Competition in both freestyle and Greco-Roman events will give 400 athletes the chance to claim the title of European champion in front of a passionate crowd.

Days of competition: 6

Competition dates: 13-18 June 2015

Medal events: 18

Total athlete quota: 400

Qualification method: Qualification places for Wrestling will be determined based on qualification event rankings, host NOC allocation and universality.

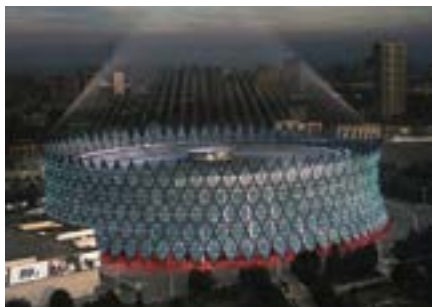
HEYDAR ALIYEV ARENA

Sports: Judo and Wrestling

Capacity: 7,800

Construction status: Permanent – upgrade under construction

The Heydar Aliyev Arena is part of the City Cluster venues and is located on Tbilisi Avenue in the centre of Baku. Named after the former President of Azerbaijan, the venue was opened in 1990 and has held over 30 sporting events in that time. The venue will receive extensive upgrades before the European Games and will host 7,800 spectators for the Wrestling and Judo competitions.



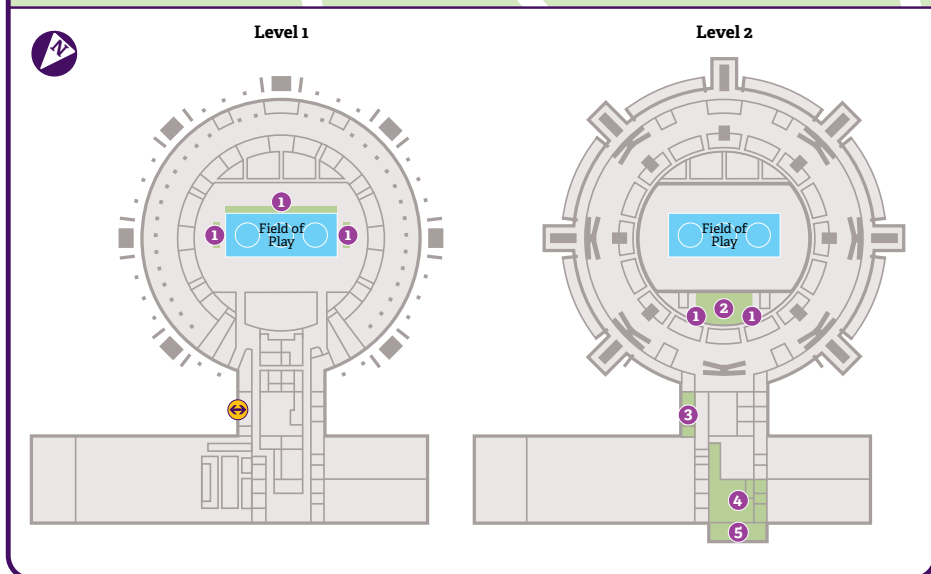


Photo Operations

The Press Operations team is responsible for planning all photo services that will be delivered during the Baku 2015 European Games.

At Games time, the Photo Operations team will include a dedicated photo supervisor responsible for each competition venue, supported by deputy photo supervisors and a team of photo assistants.

Photographers' undertaking

All photographers will be required to sign a Photographers' Undertaking in which they agree to abide by the Baku 2015 European Games Operations Committee's rules for use of photographic images. Signing the undertaking is mandatory and no photo bib will be issued if the photographer has not signed it.

Photo bibs

Every photographer accredited for the Games will receive an official photo bib from the Press Information Desk at the Media Village.

These bibs will allow access to the photo positions and photo file areas. They must be worn at all times while in a venue. Bibs will be numbered and are not transferable.

In some venues, prime or restricted photo positions will be reserved for a "pool" of photographers. Photographers granted access to a "pool" position will need to exchange their photo bib for a special "pool" photo bib. When photographers leave the "pool" positions, they must return the bib for their original one. "Pool" photo bibs will be managed by the photo supervisors at each venue.

Photo positions

Every effort has been made to secure the best possible photo positions in each venue. Details of each photo position will be available during the Games from the venue photo supervisors and from the Press and Photo Guide.

Photo positions will be available on a first-come, first-served basis.

Photo file areas

Photo file areas will be available in select venues where the Media Workroom is not close to the field of play. Each photo file area will offer tables, chairs, power and standard internet connections. A list of venues with photo file areas can be found on page 39-40.

Spectator seats

Photographers will be permitted to photograph from empty spectator seats but they must not disturb any nearby spectators while working in these areas. Photographers must immediately vacate these seats if and when ticket holders arrive.

Medal ceremonies

There will be a restricted number of photographers allowed into photo positions for medal ceremonies. Where possible, photographers from the international agencies and the countries of the medallists will be allocated positions to these photo positions.

Access to these photo positions will be determined by each venue's photo supervisor.

Venue lighting

While the venue lighting levels in indoor venues have yet to be confirmed, they are expected to be no less than 1,500 vertical lux at 5,200f average (daylight white balance.)

Wireless camera triggers

All wireless devices including wireless camera triggers, wireless microphones, walkie-talkies or Wi-Fi service points will require a spectrum license before they can be used inside a Games venue.

Photographers can apply for a spectrum license after 15 September from the Spectrum Team website (www.rdlas-Baku2015.az). A link to the website is available on the Press Extranet.

Photographers are strongly encouraged to apply for a spectrum license as soon as possible. Applications will be processed on a first-come, first-served basis and there is no guarantee of approval if submitted after 31 October 2014.

The use of any wireless camera trigger in a venue is subject to Press Operations' approval. Please contact pressoperations@baku2015.com if you want to use a wireless camera trigger in a venue.

Upon arrival in Baku, photographers will need to bring their licensed equipment to the Spectrum and Rate Card Office in the Media Village for testing to ensure each device operates according to its license.

Tools of the Trade

BEGOC will develop a list of prohibited and restricted items for the Games and exceptions will be made for press and photographers to ensure they can enter with equipment necessary to do their jobs in the venues. These exceptions, commonly referred to as the Tools of the Trade, will be clearly outlined and available at a later date on the Press Extranet.

Photography in the city of Baku

Baku offers a wealth of stunning backdrops for those wishing to enhance their coverage of the Games.

Special arrangements have been made for media who wish to film and photograph in Baku without the fees and restrictions typically associated with permits.

Photographers wishing to shoot in the city of Baku before the Games must abide by the City Filming and Photography Guide, a copy of which will be available on the Press Extranet.

Accreditation will grant photographers the right to shoot at the following locations:

- Ateshgah (the Fire Temple)
- Azerbaijan Carpet Museum
- Baku Boulevard
- Daghustu Park
- Fountain Square
- Gobustan National Park
- Heydar Aliyev Cultural Centre
- International Mugham Centre of Azerbaijan
- National Museum of History of Azerbaijan
- Old City
- Philharmonic Garden
- Yanardag (the Burning Mountain)

Games News Service

The Baku 2015 European Games News Service is responsible for the collection, production and distribution of a wide range of news and information to the press and wider Games Family.

The News Service at Baku 2015 will be available to everyone and not only accredited media on the Games-time website.

The News Service is a valuable tool for the press, allowing journalists and media organisations to follow events and developments they may have missed during the day.

During the Games, the News Service will swiftly generate and distribute reports such as news articles, interviews and quotes.

To further assist the press, the News Service will also provide a range of background information such as athlete biographies, and facts and figures.

The News Service is in large part made up of experienced, professional journalists to ensure accuracy, thoroughness, consistency and speed.



Non-rights Holding Broadcasters and Digital Media

Non-rights holding broadcasters (ENRs)

The Press Operations team is responsible for the accreditation of non-rights holding broadcasters for the Games. A limited number of international and domestic ENRs will be allowed for the Games and organisations can apply for accreditation via the Press Extranet.

During the Games, ENRs will be issued a special ENR bib that must be worn at all times while in the competition venues. ENRs will only be allowed to bring equipment into the competition venues to film in the I-Zone or into the Athletes Village to cover official media conferences.

Details for ENR access will be available on the Press Extranet.

News Access Rules

All ENRs must abide by the News Access Rules which are designed to protect the exclusivity of broadcasters who have paid for broadcasting rights while permitting fair access for ENRs to broadcast highlights for news purposes. The News Access Rules outline the specific conditions under which ENRs can access the competition venues and use the footage they record.

The News Access Rules apply to television broadcasting, radio broadcasting, Internet (including newspaper websites), mobile platforms, social media, and other digital media news products and services.

If an organisation is granted ENR accreditation, it is obliged to sign an undertaking on behalf of its members and all persons accredited are obligated to abide by the News Access Rules.

A complete copy of the News Access Rules is available on the Press Extranet.

Social media, blogging and internet guidelines

BEGOC actively encourages accredited persons at the Games to take part in social media and share their experiences, provided they are not for commercial purposes and do not imply an unauthorised association with BEGOC or the EOC.

A full copy of the Social Media Guidelines will be available on the Press Extranet.

Television filming in the city of Baku

Baku offers a wealth of stunning backdrops for those wishing to enhance their coverage of the Games.

Special arrangements have been made for media who wish to film and photograph in Baku without the fees and restrictions typically associated with permits.

Media wishing to film in the city of Baku before the Games must abide by the City Filming and Photography Guide, a copy of which will be available on the Press Extranet.

Accreditation will grant film crews the right to shoot at the following locations:

- Ateshgah (the Fire Temple)
- Azerbaijan Carpet Museum
- Baku Boulevard
- Daghustu Park
- Fountain Square
- Gobustan National Park
- Heydar Aliyev Cultural Centre
- International Mugham Centre of Azerbaijan
- National Museum of History of Azerbaijan
- Old City
- Philharmonic Garden
- Yanardag (the Burning Mountain)



Useful Information

Airports

The official port of entry to Azerbaijan is Heydar Aliyev International Airport (GYD), located about 20 kilometres northeast of the Baku city centre. Accreditation validation will be available for international press arriving at the airport, and transport services will be provided to the Media Village and official media hotel. Ganja International Airport (KVD) is about 80km from Mingachevir, where the Canoe Sprint event will take place.

Banks and credit cards

There are a multitude of ATM machines around the city in Baku, most of which accept international debit and credit cards. Depending on your account-holding bank, there may be limits on the amount of currency you are able to withdraw in one day. The withdrawal limit from most machines in the city is 500 New Manat (AZN) in one transaction.

Larger bank branches are open Mondays to Saturdays, but closed on Sundays. Smaller branches are closed on Saturdays and Sundays.

International credit and debit cards are accepted in most restaurants and larger shops.

Currency

The currency in Azerbaijan is the Azerbaijan New Manat (AZN) which is equivalent in value to the Euro. One hundred qepik equals one manat, and manat notes come in 1, 5, 10, 20, 50 and 100 denominations.

It is not possible to exchange currency into Manat in countries other than Azerbaijan so visitors will need to use the foreign exchange desk at the arrivals hall at the airport or withdraw from ATMs around the city. An ATM will be available at the Media Village.

Electricity

Standard electrical power in Azerbaijan is 220v.

Electrical equipment and appliances use the standard European 220-240v two-pin plug.

Press wishing to bring electrical equipment to Azerbaijan may need plug adaptors or step-down converters to conform to the standard power supply.



Emergencies

When calling from an Azerbaijani telephone:

Fire 101 | Police 102 | Ambulance 103

Gratuities and tipping

Tipping is not expected across Azerbaijan but is commonplace in Baku. Occasionally a service charge is included on the bill, particularly in more established hotels and restaurants. Like any other place in the world, tipping for above-average service will be appreciated.

Language

The official language is Azerbaijani but many people also speak Russian, English and Turkish.

The official language of the European Games will be English.

Medical/pharmacies

Press with existing medical conditions should bring enough prescription medicine – plus the valid prescription and related medical records – with them to cover the duration of their visit to Azerbaijan.

In case of emergency, press can purchase medicine from local pharmacies. It is strongly recommended to get advice from the BEGOC doctor, available in the Media Village medical centre, who can prescribe a corresponding product available in Azerbaijan. The BEGOC doctor can also provide information about nearby pharmacies.

Opening hours

Office hours are officially 0900 to 1700 Mondays through Fridays. Banking hours are officially 0930 to 1730, Mondays through Fridays.

Shops generally open around 0930 or 1000 and close around 1900. Shops are open seven days a week. Bars and restaurants are open until at least 2300.

Smoking

Smoking is permitted in public areas across Azerbaijan, including most restaurants and bars. Smoking will not be permitted in any Baku 2015 European Games venue including the Media Village except for designated smoking areas.

Taxes (VAT)

VAT in Azerbaijan is similar to that in most European VAT systems, with tax levied on the supply of most goods and services and on the import of goods. VAT payers are entitled to recover the amount of VAT paid on purchases (input VAT) that exceeds the VAT received from their taxable supplies (output VAT).

Telephones

The country code for Azerbaijan is 994 and the city code for Baku is 012. The city code for Mingachevir is 2427.

The international exit code for calling out of Azerbaijan is 00 and must be dialled before the relevant country code and telephone number.

Azerbaijani mobile phone numbers have 10 digits and most mobile numbers start with 050 or 051. All 10 digits must be dialled for calls within Azerbaijan. For example: 050-123-XXXX.

When calling from outside Azerbaijan, the country code then number minus the zero should be dialled. For example: +994-50-123-XXXX.

Time Zone

Azerbaijan is UTC+4 hours. Daylight savings time is used in Azerbaijan so clocks go forward on the last Sunday in March and go back on the last Sunday in October.

Tourist information

Baku tourism information can be found at www.tourism.az.

Weather

Baku has a subtropical, semi-arid climate. Summers are hot and dry, winters are cool and occasionally wet, though precipitation levels in a year rarely exceed 200mm. There are medium to strong winds most of the year round.

Month	Average High (Celsius)	Average Low (Celsius)	Average Rainfall (mm)
May	20	12	18
June	25	15	8
July	28	17	2

Pre-Games Checklist

ITEM	DEADLINE
<input type="checkbox"/> Register for Press Extranet (www.baku2015.com/en/press-registration)	As soon as possible
<input type="checkbox"/> Apply for spectrum license	31 October 2014
<input type="checkbox"/> Book hotel room at Qafqaz Baku City Hotel or River Side Hotel in Mingachevir (international press only)	12 February 2015
<input type="checkbox"/> Apply for press accreditation	6 March 2015
<input type="checkbox"/> Book room in Media Village (international press only)	6 March 2015
<input type="checkbox"/> Place Rate Card order	15 March 2015
<input type="checkbox"/> Receive pre-valid accreditation card (international press only)	End of May 2015
<input type="checkbox"/> Notify BEGOC of your arrival in Baku (international press only)	End of May 2015



Competition Schedule

Sport	Venue	Medals	12-Jun	13-Jun	14-Jun	15-Jun
			Fri	Sat	Sun	Mon
Ceremonies	National Stadium					
Aquatics - Diving	Baku Aquatics Centre	8				
- Swimming	Baku Aquatics Centre	42				
- Synchronised	Baku Aquatics Centre	4				2
- Water Polo	Water Polo Arena	2				
Archery	Tofiq Bahramov Stadium	5				
Athletics	National Stadium	1				
Badminton	Baku Sports Hall	5				
Basketball 3x3	Basketball Arena	2				
Beach Soccer	Beach Arena	1				
Boxing	Crystal Hall 2	15				
Canoe Sprint	Mingachevir	15				5
Cycling - BMX	BMX Velopark	2				
- Mountain Bike	Mountain Bike Velopark	2		2		
- Road	Freedom Square	4				
Fencing	Crystal Hall 3	12				
Gymnastics - Acrobatic	National Gymnastics Arena	6				
- Aerobic	National Gymnastics Arena	2				
- Artistic	National Gymnastics Arena	14				
- Rhythmic	National Gymnastics Arena	8				
- Trampoline	National Gymnastics Arena	4				
Judo	Heydar Aliyev Arena	18				
Karate	Crystal Hall 3	12		6	6	
Shooting	Baku Shooting Centre	19				
Table Tennis	Baku Sports Hall	4				2
Taekwondo	Crystal Hall 3	8				
Triathlon	(tbc)	2		1	1	
Volleyball	Crystal Hall 1	2				
Beach Volleyball	Beach Arena	2				
Wrestling - Freestyle	Heydar Aliyev Arena	12				3
- Greco-Roman	Heydar Aliyev Arena	6		3	3	
Total Medals		239		12	10	12

As of September 2014

16-Jun	17-Jun	18-Jun	19-Jun	20-Jun	21-Jun	22-Jun	23-Jun	24-Jun	25-Jun	26-Jun	27-Jun	28-Jun
Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun
		2	2	2	2							
							7	8	9	7	11	
2												
				1	1							
	1	2			1	1						
						1						
											2	3
										2		
												1
									5	5	5	
10												
												2
		2		1	1							
							2	2	2	3	3	
			2		4							
					2							
2		2		10	Gala							
	1		1		6							
					4							
									5	5	6	2
3	3	1	3	3	2	4						
			2									
2	2	2	2									
											1	1
				1	1							
3	3	3										
22	10	14	12	18	24	6	9	10	21	22	28	9

Competition Medals

Training Schedule

Sport	Venue	9-Jun	10-Jun	11-Jun	12-Jun	13-Jun	14-Jun	15-Jun
Aquatics - Diving	Baku Aquatics Centre							
- Swimming	Baku Aquatics Centre							
- Synchronised	Baku Aquatics Centre				C	C	C	C
- Water Polo	Water Polo Arena				C	C	C	C
Archery	Tofiq Bahramov Stadium							
Athletics	National Stadium							
Badminton	Baku Sports Hall							
Basketball 3x3	Basketball Arena							
Beach Soccer	Beach Arena							
Boxing	Crystal Hall 2							
Canoe Sprint	Mingachevir						C	C
Cycling - BMX	BMX Velopark							
- Mountain Bike	Mountain Bike Velopark					C		
- Road	Freedom Square							
Fencing	Crystal Hall 3							
Gymnastics - Acrobatic	National Gymnastics Arena							C
- Aerobic	National Gymnastics Arena							
- Artistic	National Gymnastics Arena							
- Rhythmic	National Gymnastics Arena							
- Trampoline	National Gymnastics Arena							
Judo	Heydar Aliyev Arena							
Karate	Crystal Hall 3					C	C	
Shooting	Baku Shooting Centre							
Table Tennis	Baku Sports Hall					C	C	C
Taekwondo	Crystal Hall 3							
Triathlon	(tbc)					C	C	
Volleyball	Crystal Hall 1					C	C	C
Beach Volleyball	Beach Arena							
Wrestling	Heydar Aliyev Arena					C	C	C

un	16-Jun	17-Jun	18-Jun	19-Jun	20-Jun	21-Jun	22-Jun	23-Jun	24-Jun	25-Jun	26-Jun	27-Jun	28-Jun
			C	C	C	C							
								C	C	C	C	C	
C													
C	C	C	C	C	C	C							
C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C						
						C	C						
							C	C	C	C	C	C	C
								C	C	C	C		
									C	C	C	C	C
C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	
C													
											C	C	C
			C		C	C							
							C	C	C	C	C	C	
C			C		C	Gala							
		C		C		C							
		C		C		C							
		C		C		C							
		C		C		C							
										C	C	C	C
C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C						
C	C	C	C	C									
C	C	C	C	C									
C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C
C	C	C	C	C	C	C							
C	C	C	C										

C Competition
 Training



Baku 2015

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