



ZAGATALA, AZERBAIJAN

Zakatala district was founded on 08 August 1930. Zakatala district is located within 430 km of Baku, at the southern foot of the Upper Caucasus mountain range and in Ganikh-Ayrichay valley. Its total area is 1.35 thousand km². It has a population of 120.300. Along with Azerbaijanis, the district is also home to over twenty minorities including Russians, Ukrainians, Georgians, Laks, Avars, Sakhurs, Udins, Ingiloyts, Lezghins, Tatars, Jews, Turks, Greeks, Osetins and others.

Zakatala has a very rich nature. There are 850 types of plants, 105 types of sedentary and semi-migrating birds, and 40 types of various animals in the area. 11 types of the plants are rare plants and they have been included in the Red Book of Azerbaijan due to their limited number. Zakatala State Natural Preserve was created in 1930 to protect this rich natural setting.

There are 29 territorial administrations, 1 city municipality and 28 village municipalities in the district. Zakatala district is located at the foot of the Upper Caucasus mountain range in the north-west of the Republic of Azerbaijan. The district shares borders with Dagestan Republic of the Russian Federation in the north-east, Balaken district in the west, and Gakh district in the east.

Zagatala forests have many sorts of truffle which is collected by locals for domestic consumption and export.



TRUFFLE

A **truffle** is the fruiting body of a subterranean ascomycete fungus, predominantly one of the many species of the genus *Tuber*.

In addition to *Tuber*, many other genera of fungi are classified as truffles including *Geopora*, *Peziza*, *Choiromyces*, *Leucangium*, and over a hundred others. These genera belong to the class Pezizomycetes and the Pezizales order.

Several truffle-like basidiomycetes are excluded from Pezizales, including *Rhizopogon* and *Glomus*. Truffles are ectomycorrhizal fungi, so are usually found in close association with tree roots. Spore dispersal is accomplished through fungivores, animals that eat fungi. These fungi have significant ecological roles in nutrient cycling and drought tolerance.



ZAGATALA'S 3 SEASONS TRUFFLE

May-September Season: *Tuber Aestivum* (Summer Truffle)



September-December Season: *Tuber Uncinatum* (Burgundy Truffle)

September-December Season: *Tuber Brumale* (Black Winter Truffle)

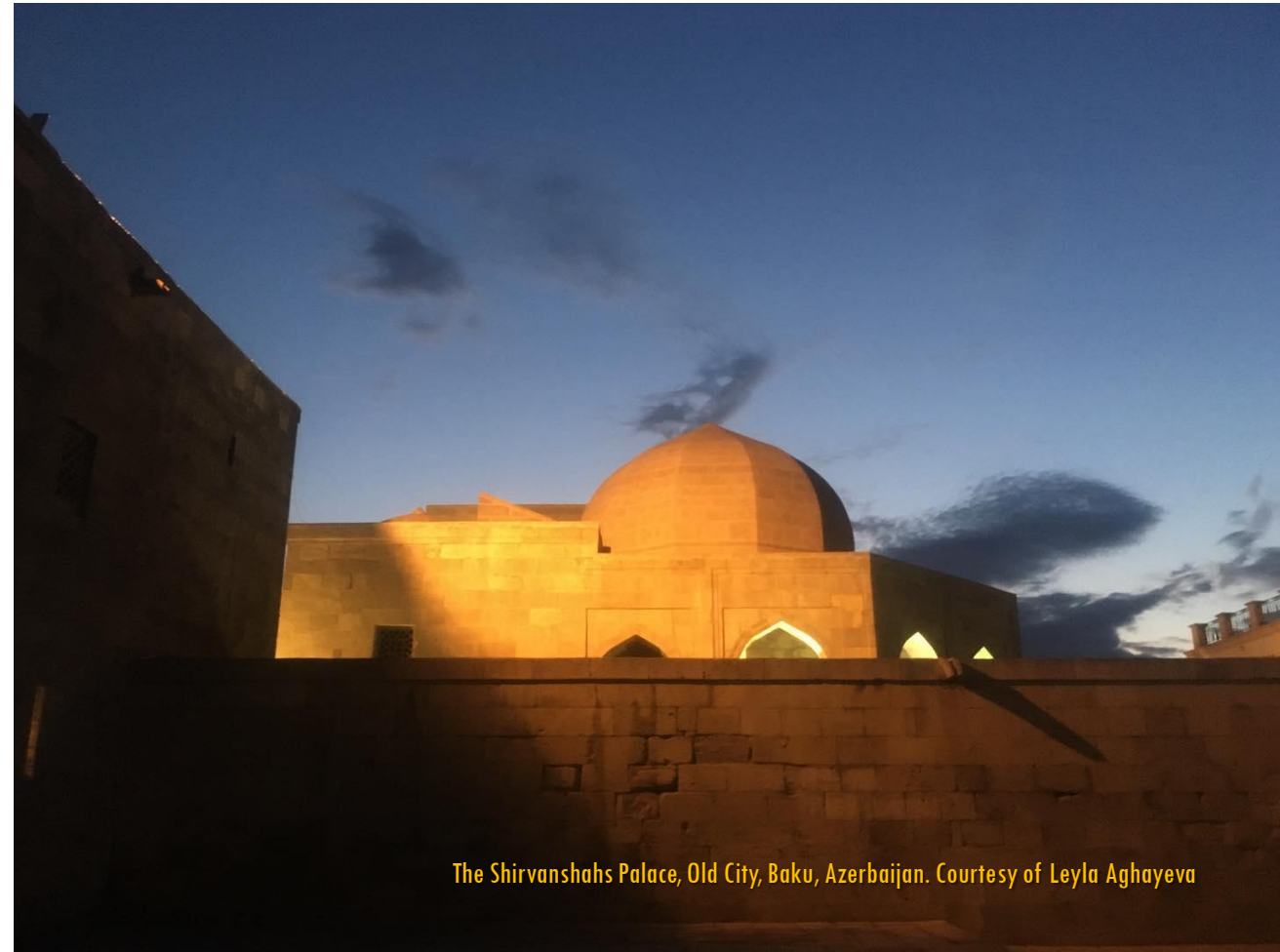


TRUFFLE EXPORT & PRIVATE-LABELING

Truffle,
canned truffle paste,
truffle oil,
truffle butter,
truffle mustard,
truffle salt,
truffle honey

are exported by iCsquared GmbH Azerbaijan/Azeri Truffle LLC to Canada/USA, EU, MENA/GCC, CIS, China and Japan from Azerbaijan.

Private-Labelled projects are acceptable with the AGTA Regulations.



The Shirvanshahs Palace, Old City, Baku, Azerbaijan. Courtesy of Leyla Aghayeva

Faig Ahmed (born 1982 in Sumqayit, Azerbaijan) is an Azerbaijani contemporary visual artist who is best known for his surrealist weavings which integrate visual distortions into traditional oriental rugs.

He has exhibited his works worldwide including group and solo exhibitions in New York, Paris, London, Berlin, Moscow, Dubai, Sharjah, Mumbai, Rome, Venice, Washington D.C., Hong Kong, Mumbai, Moscow, Azerbaijan, Sweden, Norway, Honolulu, Melbourne, and Sydney.



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