



BSEC MONTH OF CULTURE 2018

PRESS RELEASE

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Armenia

Geghard Monastery in #Armenia was inscribed into the UNESCO World Heritage List in 2000.

The monastery contains a number of churches and tombs, unique for the fact that many are cut directly into the mountain rock face. Gerhard represents the peak of medieval Armenian architectural achievement and comprises a walled complex set in stunning mountain scenery in the upper Azat Valley in Kotayk Province.

Source: Armenian Tourism Developed Foundation, <https://armenia.travel>

#MoC2018 #ICBSS20 #CultureBSEC #blacksea # monuments #Armenia



Azerbaijan

It's time for lunch! Today we continue introducing you the cuisines of the Black Sea countries, with Azerbaijani qutab.

Qutab is basically thin, flat bread folded around a meat or herb filling, serving either as a fast food or as a main course of a seated meal. The dough for herb qutabs may be prepared both with and without yeast.

Once in #Azerbaijan, there is a great variety to chose from, qutabs with meat, with wild herbs, herbs with cottage cheese, pumpkin and beans, to name but a few!

#MoC2018 #ICBSS20 #CultureBSEC #blacksea #gastronomy #Azerbaijan



Albania

Have you ever heard the sounds of Çifteli ('Qifteli'), a traditional Albanian musical instrument?

The name of the instrument means 'doubled' or 'double stringed' in Albanian. The folk music of çifteli frequently accompanies weddings, as well as Albanian epics and ballads.

Video:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wS6aIJ5WPpk>



#MoC2018 #ICBSS20 #CultureBSEC #blacksea # music #Albania

Interested in learning more about the fascinating culture of the BSEC Member States?

Join the BSEC Month of Culture, organised by the ICBSS from 1-30 November 2018 and learn about the remarkable and rich cultural heritage of the BSEC region.

Follow us on [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#) and visit our [Website](#)!

About the BSEC Month of Culture:

On the occasion of the 20th Anniversary of the International Centre for Black Sea Studies, the ICBSS is launching the 2nd “**BSEC Month of Culture**”, a **month long programme of cultural highlights from the 12 BSEC Member States** (Albania, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Bulgaria, Georgia, Greece, Moldova, Romania, Russia, Serbia, Turkey, Ukraine).

Being aware of the rich, diverse cultural heritage of the BSEC region, **the ICBSS launches the 2nd “BSEC Month of Culture”**, from **1st to 30th November 2018**, with the aim to promote the cultural identity of the region and enhance its visibility to the wider public.

The programme will feature online tributes on *literature, music, theatre & performance art, painting/sculpting, monuments* and *gastronomy*, including short videos and photos.

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About the ICBSS: The International Centre for Black Sea Studies (ICBSS) was founded in 1998 as a non-profit organisation. It has since fulfilled a dual function. On the one hand, it is an independent research and training institution focusing on the wider Black Sea region. On the other hand, it is a related body of the Organisation of the Black Sea Economic Cooperation (BSEC) and serves as its acknowledged think-tank. Thus, the ICBSS pursues applied, policy-oriented research, promotes knowledge on the Black Sea region both within and outside its boundaries, and offers policy advice with the aim to foster multilateral cooperation among the BSEC member states as well as with their international partners.

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