



Azerbaijan is known as a country of oil, history, traditions, beaches. Baku is a modern metropolis that combines Muslim roots and European development. But besides Baku, Azerbaijan has a huge number of less known and unique places where a tourist should go.

Most recently, the first farm for breeding alpacas - animals from the family of camels, appeared in the Shamakhi region of Azerbaijan.

These charming creatures attract attention due to their cute appearance and resemblance to plush toys, so when you see them, you involuntarily smile.

It is important to note that alpaca is a South American camel family pet. They live in the Andes at a high of 3,500-5,000 meters, in Ecuador, southern Peru, northern Chile and western Bolivia. These creatures were domesticated about 6,000 years ago by the Indians of Peru. Previously, alpacas were mistakenly attributed to the llama species, but recent studies have revealed that the ancestors of these animals were vicunas.



Alpaca growth does not exceed one meter and weight is about 70 kilograms. The color scheme of wool is quite diverse - from boiling white to brown and even black. As for character - alpaca is a very shy and intelligent animal that does not like to be aggressive, they are friendly and easily come into contact with people. This is one of their main differences from llamas, who are not averse to spitting at the offender and even kick him.

Until two years old alpacas graze peacefully, eating grass and hay, then start the process of cutting them. This procedure, during which 3-4 kilograms of wool is removed, takes place once a year. The hair of an animal that has not reached 10 years of age is the silkiest, therefore it has the greatest value and is quite expensive. The coat of the older alpaca is coarser and thicker - it is usually used



in the manufacture of carpets and rugs. On average, these animals live 25 years. Wool has all the properties of sheep, but it is very resistant and does not have fat, as a result of which products made of it do not become dirty for a long time. It is seven times warmer than sheep's hair, is practically waterproof and does not cause allergies.

The climate of the Shamakhi region is perfect for alpaca, so it was decided to create a farm for their breeding here. The main purpose of alpaca farm is the development of ecological tourism in Azerbaijan.

On June 10, on the farm's official page, was published a video of the just-born little alpaca, who was named Kishmish. Note that this is the second alpaca born in Azerbaijan. The first cub was born two weeks ago - it was a female named Laman.



According to the farm's page, for a long time the alpacas were in quarantine, but in the near future it is planned to open doors for visitors who can not only see these amazing animals with their own eyes, but also touch them.

Erkin Aliev
Chief Concierge
Renaissance Palace Baku