

History of Almaty city

Almaty city was the capital of the Republic of Kazakhstan until 1997. It has a long history. It is considered that in the Bronze Age nomadic people came and established here their first settlements. Later it was the place of residence of Saka and Wusun tribes. Archeologist discovered here a lot of appropriate evidences such as burial mounds and ancient settlements. The most famous artefacts, including “Golden man”, Zhalauly treasure, Kargaly diadem and many others were found here.

In the Middle Ages this territory became one of the trade, craft and agricultural centers on the Great Silk Road. During the 15th-18th centuries, the city was in decline as trade activities were decreasing on this part of the Silk Road.

The modern history of the city started on 4 February 1854 when Russian fort Verniy was founded between the Bolshaya and Malenkaya Almatinka rivers.

In 1867 it was transformed into the city of Almatinsk but later the name of Verniy was given back.

In 1887 earthquake almost destroyed the city. Because of it the Governor ordered to build wooden houses only.

In 1921 the city was renamed Alma-Ata (“alma” means “apple” and “ata” means “grandfather”). Six years later, in 1927, the capital of the KazSSR was moved from Kzyl-Orda to Alma-Ata.

In 1993 the city was renamed Almaty. And In 1997 the President of the Republic of Kazakhstan made a decision to move the capital from Almaty to Astana.

Nowadays Almaty is the modern city of the Republic of Kazakhstan and one of the most important cities in the central Asia.

The city occupies the territory of 16,2 thousand hectares. The population of Almaty of Almaty is over 1,5 million people.

It is a cultural center of Kazakhstan. It has many theatres, cinemas, parks, museums and other places of culture. The most famous theatres are Abai Opera and Ballet Theatre, Mukhtar Auezov Drama Theatre, Russian, Uigur and Korean theatres.

The well-known museums are the Central State Museum of the Republic of Kazakhstan, the Museum of Kazakh Folk Instruments, the State Art Museum and others.

Almaty is considered to be the city of youth as many kinds of schools, gymnasiums, colleges and Institutions of Higher Educational are situated here.

Every year many tourists come to the Republic of Kazakhstan to enjoy a marvelous view of mountains landmarks of Almaty city. They can visit many famous places of interest such as: the Kazakh Aul in Koktyube, Sbimbulack, Medeo, and so on. Visitors can spend their leisure time in different places of entertainment, including Circus, parks, night clubs and restaurants.