IRAN



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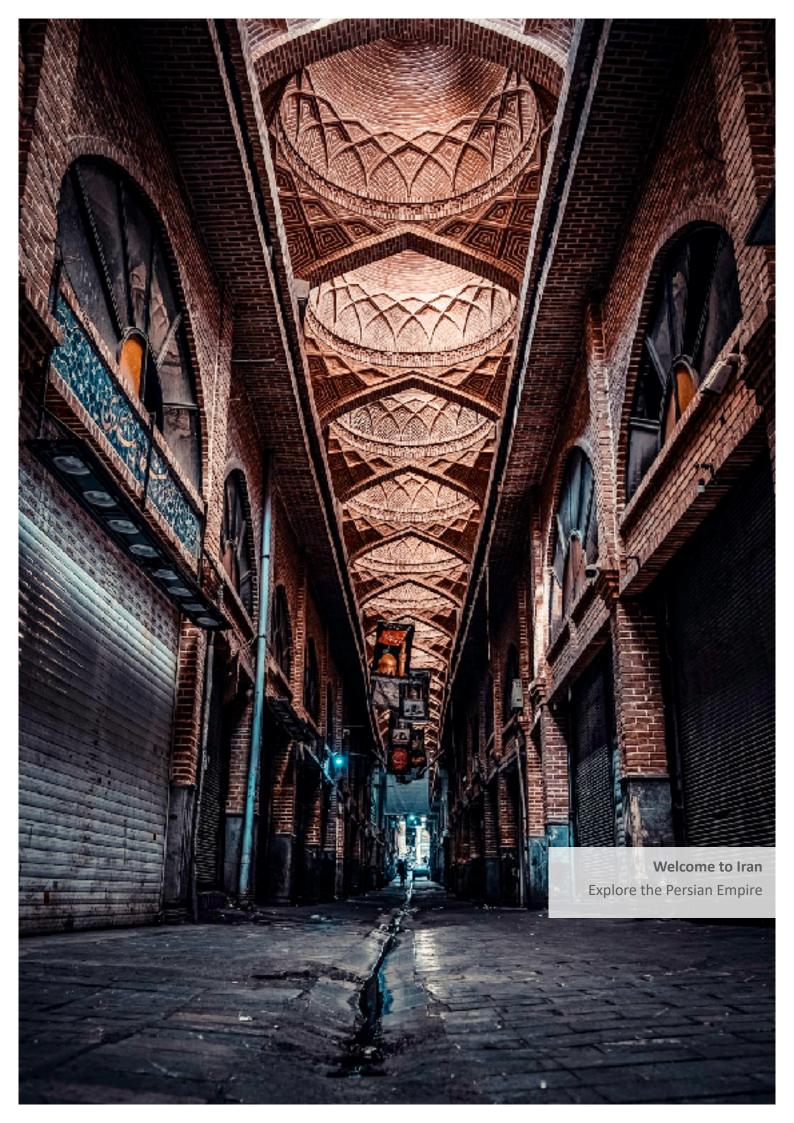


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Luxury Destination Management Company

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Our company owned by a family, but run professionally. We have hierarchical systems which are driven by our core family values. We have come to understand we do not want to be the largest company globally. We have never tried to be the richest or the most influential. I say, we just want to be the bestest in what we do.

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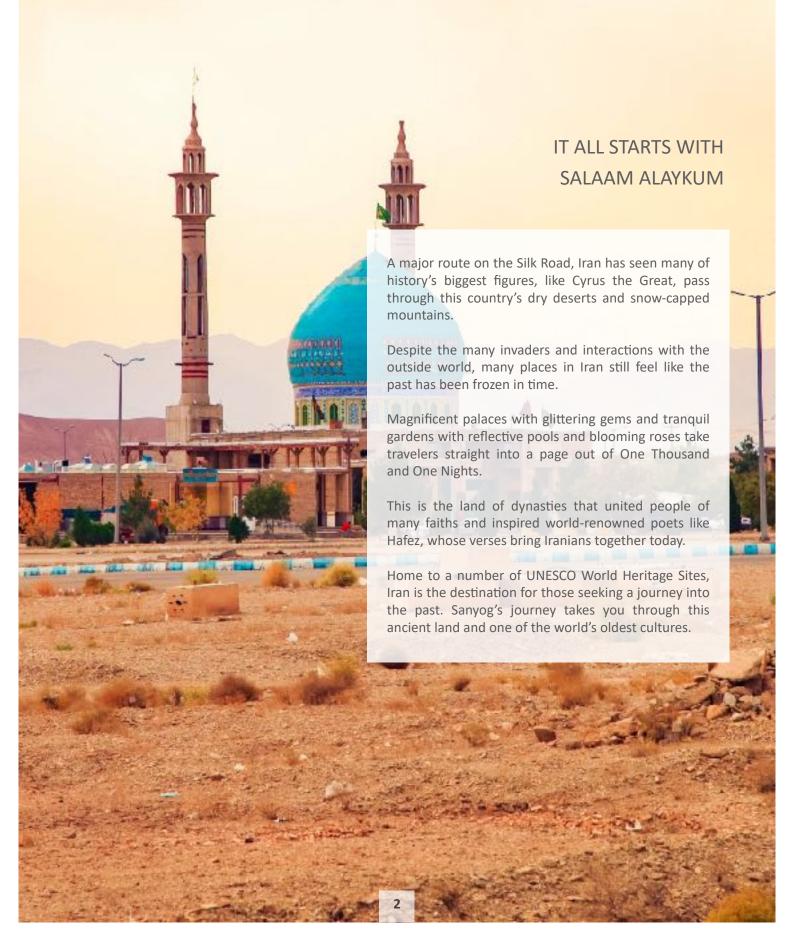
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THIS IS THE TIME THIS IS THE PLACE THIS IS IRAN

IRAN



TEHRAN THE CAPITAL

Tehran, the Capital of Iran, is located on the south hillside of the Alborz mountain range with the height of 900 to 1800 m above the sea level.

Tehran climate is greatly defined by its geographical location surrounded by the mountains in the north and by desert in the south. Accordingly, the north of Tehran enjoys a cold and arid weather but the south is largely warm and arid.

Tehran consists of three parts as "Kan", "Markazi", and "Aftab"; three cities named "Tehran", "Bomehen", "Pardis"; and four rural districts. Demonstrating the traditional and modern architecture, Azadi square symbolized Tehran in the past and Milad tower plays this role, at present. As the capital of Iran, Tehran is a populous city and one of the most significant urban centers in the world experienced the modernity before the other cities of Iran.

Placed in a large area, Tehran is one of the biggest, most significant metropolitans in the world. In other word, it is the center of all affairs, government, politics, economy, culture, work, commerce, history, science, industry and production and it is why people are mostly inclined to immigrate to here and the population is continuously increased.

Locating on the hillside of Alborz mountain chain and near Damavand, the highest volcanic peak of Iran, Tehran embraces the unique attraction and landscapes where one of the most important historical attractions is placed. Tehran residents speak in Persian standard language. Different religious groups live together in Tehran.



Espinas Persian Gulf Hotel Tehran

Espinas Persian Gulf Hotel is situated in the heart of the historic part of Tehran, Iran. Espinas Hotel in Tehran is a place to Experience one of the most refined hotels in downtown Tehran that exquisitely captures the spirit of this unique cosmopolitan city. Blending modern design elements with rich natural materials.

The serenity of Espinas Persian Gulf creates a sense of calm where relaxation at every turn.

Espinas Palace Hotel Tehran

The 5-Star Espinas Palace Hotel located in the best residential and commercial part of Tehran, Iran. The Hotel features modern architecture with a beautiful environment.

Espinas Palace Hotel combined beauty and spiritual atmosphere with almost every modern atmosphere with almost every modern amenity of you think. You can always enjoy unlimited WI-Fi during your stay at



Laleh International

Laleh International Hotel is a beautiful hotel that has 380 comfortable rooms and suites with exclusive furnishings and air conditioning. Among the services offered by the hotel we find room service 24hr, fancy restaurants, cafeteria, swimming pool and laundry service.

The hotel lobby is a nice place to relax with a musical atmosphere while the cafeteria is opened 24 hours with live music at night.



Wisteria Hotel Tehran

Wisteria hotel, established in 2016, is a luxury 5-star hotel located in the Tehran province, and privately founded by a group of Iranian and Canadian hospitality professionals.

The hotel is in one of Tehran north's prime spots, located within the Alborz mountain range and at the highest peak of the city, with access to many scenic tourist attractions, major commercial and recreational



Tehran Homa Hotel

High-rise Hotel Homa Tehran is located in the northern part of Iran's capital, Tehran. Conveniently, it's only an eight-minute walk from Vanak Square where shops, eateries and transport links can be found. The rooms and suites provide plenty of amenities, such as air conditioning, fridge and a safe.

Satellite television and Wi-Fi access are also available and guests can enjoy great views of the city and Alborz Mountains on the higher floors



Esteghlal Hotel, Tehran

Since 1962, the five-star Parsian Esteghlal International Hotel which was first named as the Tehran Royal Hilton Hotel has been hosting countless guests, events, and seminars.

Esteghlal International Hotel situated on the vicinity of Alborz Mountain Ranges, the twin West & East Towers guests have access to some of Tehran frequently-visited spots as well as an unobstructed



Persian Plaza Hotel Tehran

Persian Plaza is a five-star hotel located in the heart of the Middle East's administrative & trade center in Tehran's Abbas-Abad neighborhood, covering an area of 13,000 square meters.

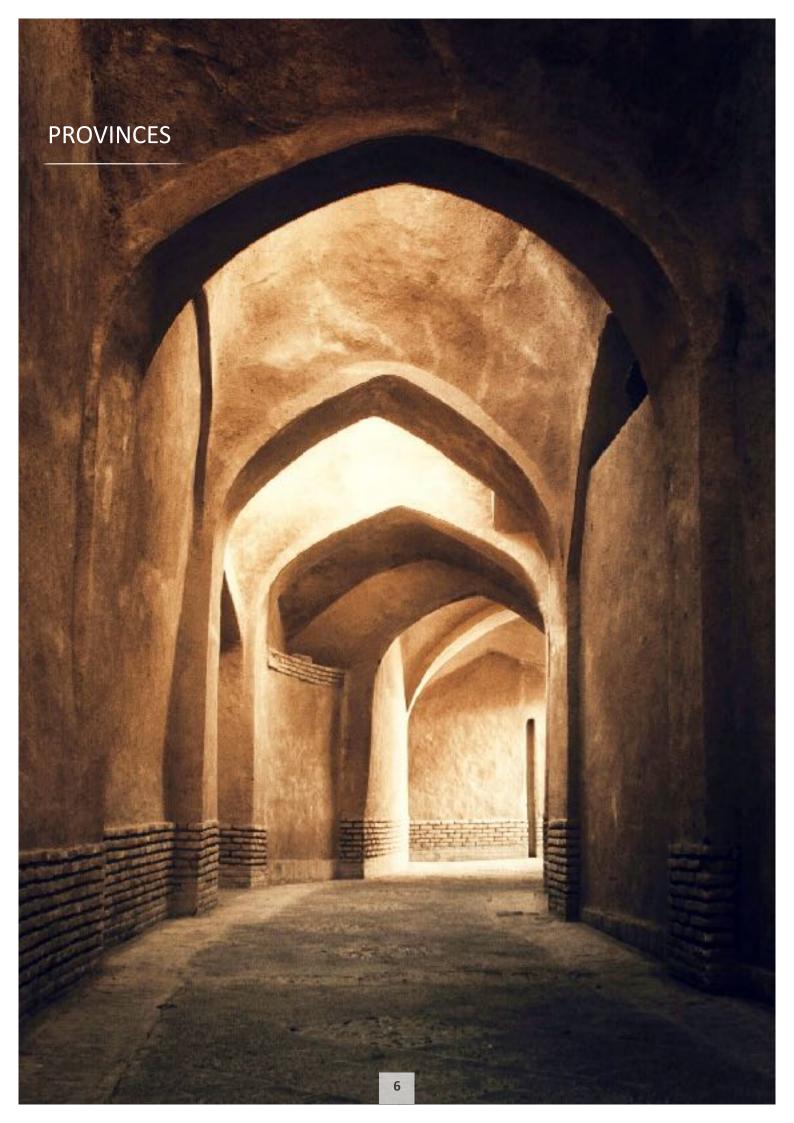
The project has been carried out by our colleagues in Ofogh Sepid Pasargad Co. (LLC) in two separate phases during 5 years.



Novotel Tehran Hotel

Let Novotel welcome you to Tehran with 5-star hospitality. Opposite to the main terminal of Imam Khomeini International Airport, just a 45-minute drive from central Tehran, our elegant hotel is ideally appointed for the convenience and enjoyment of both business travelers and families. Refuel and refresh with our 24-hour room service, all-day dining in the lobby restaurant, fitness centres and swimming pools, and stay connected from your air-conditioned room with complimentary WiFi.





Sistan and Baluchestan Province

Sistan and Baluchestan Province is located in the southeast of Iran, and its capital is Zahedan. It borders South Khorasan Province in the north, Kerman Province and Hormozgan Province in the west, the Gulf of Oman in the south, and Afghanistan and Pakistan in the east.,The province consists of two distinct parts of Sistan and Baluchestan which are different in terms of natural features. Sistan to the north of the province is a flat plain, and Baluchestan to the south is a mountainous area.



Lorestan Province

Lorestan province is a mountainous land in the west of Iran. The Zagros Mountains stretch from northwest to southeast of the province. The highest crest is Oshtorān Kūh with a height of 4100 meters above sea level. The weather is cold to the north as there are lots of mountains. High altitude & geographical conditions have caused many rivers and springs to flow through the province. The paintings discovered in the caves of Dūsheh and Mīrmelās caves show that the Kasī tribe lived in Lorestān in 1600 BC.



Qazvin Province

Qazvin province is located in the northern part of Iran. The northern part of the province is a mountainous area and to the south the climate is hot and dry with cold winters and hot summers.

Based on evidence found during the excavations of the Zāgheh ancient tape, the civilization in this province dates back to 4000- 5000 BC. The land was once part of the Median Kingdom. The people of this province are from different ethnic origins.



Hormozgan Province

Hormozgan province is located in the south of Iran, bordering the waters of the Persian Gulf and the Gulf of Oman. The Strait of Hormoz, which is one of the most important water passageways in the world, is within the territory of this province. Hormozgān has hot and dry climate and is greatly influenced by the desert weather conditions of central Iran. The economy of the province is based on agriculture, fishing industries and commerce. There are beautiful beaches for swimming, water skiing, boat riding and also oyster and coral hunting.





Markazi Province

Markazi province is located between the Alborz and Zagros Mountains on the edge of the central desert of Iran. The weather conditions differ a lot according to the height of the land.

The pomegranate and the cantaloupe of this province are exported to many countries of the world. Among the natives of this province are some famous scientists and politicians.

Mazandaran Province

Mazandaran province is located in the southern coast of the Caspian Sea and adjacent to Alborz mountain range. There are large forests, green mountains and beautiful seas in many parts of the world, but Mazandarān in Iran is something different. In the mountains, plains and forests of this province, people have still preserved connection with their ancient civilization and culture. This is the land of happiness, a land whose music consists of melodies influenced by forests, seas and harvesting farm products.



Tehran Province

Tehran Province is located on Alborz mountain range to the north and across the central plateau of Iran to the south.

Until 200 years ago on the foothills of the Alborz Mountains, Tehran was a small village with mild weather which only a few people had heard its name, but this small village was selected as the capital city of the Qājār dynasty in 18th and 19th centuries.



Khorasan-e Razavi Province

Khorasan Razavi Province is located in the northeast of the country, bordering Turkmenistan on the north and Afghanistan on the east. The important heights of this province include Mount Kappeh Dāgh, Mount Ālā Dāgh and Mount Bīnālūd. ,Other important cities of the province include Ghūchān, Dargaz, Kalāt, Chenārān, Neyshābūr, Sabzevār, Sarakhs, Farīmān, Torbat-e Heydarieh, Kāshmar, Khalīl Ābād, Torbat-e Jām, Tāybād, Khāf, Rashtkhār, Gonābād, Ferdos, Bardeskān, Meh and Lāt.



Ardabil Province

Ardabil province is in the northwest of Iran neighboring the Republic of Azerbaijan, the provinces of East Azerbaijan, Zanjan, and Gilan. Its administrative center is the city of Ardabil.

Large parts of the province are green and forested. The climate conditions and fertile soil have caused most of its population to be involved in farming and husbandry.



North Khorasan Province

North Khorasan province is located in the north east of Iran, neighboring the Republic of Turkmenistan.

As this province lies in the margin of the central desert in Iran, and it is connected to the high mountains of Kappeh Dāgh, we can observe different climates and vegetation in the province, something which has made this area an ideal habitat for various kinds of animals and plants.



Qom Province

Qom province is located in the central part of Iran. Due to uneven land and different altitudes varying from 600 meters to 3330 meters. It is hot and dry in plains and cold in mountainous areas. The important attractions of this province are the Salt Lake, Hoz-e Soltān Lake, South Desert, Salt Hills, Mountains and Beautiful Gardens of the west and south west.

Nowadays, Qom is a religious city whose economy is based on religious tourism.



South Khorasan Province

South Khorasan is a small province in the east of Iran and on the borders of the Lūt desert, producing more than 60 percent of the world's saffron.

Other products of the province include barberry and jujube. South Khorāsān is the land of people with white clothes. Their music also reflects their simplicity and serenity.





Alborz Province

Alborz province is one of the provinces of Iran. It has not been a long time since the formation of this province. Karaj (the center of this province) and its surrounding were considered part of Tehran province until 2010.

Karaj is the most immigrant city in the country after Tehran and the diversity of ethnic groups is very high. Due to this fact, it is not unreasonable that this is called Little Iran.

Zanjan Province

Zanjan Province is located in the northwest of Iran and is divided into the mountainous and plain parts. The objects which have been found in Cave Galījīk suggest that the civilization of this province dates back to the Stone Age nearly 7000 years BC.

Geographical conditions, an abundance of water and fertile soil have made the province suitable for farming and husbandry. Most villages have ancient origins, and have interesting locations.



Yazd Province

Yazd Province is located in the center of Iran. The mountains of the province, stretching from northwest to southeast, are the continuation of Iran's central mountain range.

Mount Shīrkūh with a height of 4000 meters above the sea level is the province's highest mountain. Since Yazd is far from the sea and the humidity is low, the province has long hot summers and cold winters.



West Azarbaijan Province

West Azarbaijan Province in the northwest of Iran, is a wonderful land with high mountains bordering Armenia, Azerbaijan, Turkey and Iraq. The mountains of the province are connected to Ararat Mountain Range in eastern Turkey. These mountainous areas make some of the best resorts in Iran.

Lake Urumia, one of the saltiest lakes of the world, is located in the province and contains many islands which are the habitats of different kinds of local and migrating birds.



Kurdistan Province

Kurdistan province is located in the west of Iran bordering Iraq. The highest mountain which is located in the southeast of Saghez is called Chahār Cheshmeh with a height of 3173 meters above the sea level. The climate is temperate and mountainous which provides rich lawns for nomads who are mostly involved in husbandry.

The common handicrafts of this province include carpet weaving, drugget weaving, textile and local



Kohgiluyeh and Buyer-Ahmad Province

Kohgiluyeh and Buyer-Ahmad province is located in the southwest of Iran. It is a mountainous region where Zagros Mountains range cover most of the northern and eastern parts of its area.

The highest point is Dena Mountain with a height of 4409 meters above the sea level.

One of the most important protected territories of the wild life in this province is called Dena which is

Khuzestan Province

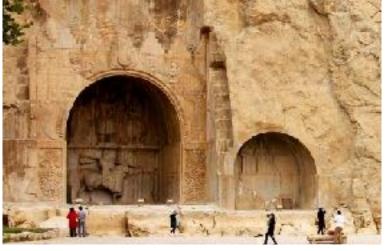
Khuzestan province is located in the southwest of Iran in the north of Persian Gulf. The climate in this province is hot and dry. The largest river of the province—which is also the largest river in Iran-- is called Kārūn. It joins the Arvandrūd River and together they flow to the Persian Gulf. Some parts of the province are suitable for farming due to favorable climate and fertile soil. In recent years, many agricultural complexes have been active in industrial farming, using state-of-the-art machinery and



Kermanshah Province

Located in a mountainous region and Zagros Mountain range. The climate in the eastern part is temperate and in the western areas is hot and semi-dry, since the land is near the plain of Mesopotamia.

It is a perfect location for nomads as it contains rich grassland and there is plentiful rain and snowfall. From the earliest times, there have been two common lifestyles in the area.





Kerman Province

Kerman province is an ancient land with mirages, burning sun and hardworking people. Here you can touch the stars at nighttime. Kermān is located in the southeastern area of Iran. This land is famous for its carpet weavers.

Here silence of desert breaks by the wind blows through pistachio and palm tree gardens. Here we have people who have first extracted copper from the heart of stone and created fascinating works of art

Isfahan Province

Isfahan Province, at the heart of Iran, is a land of beautiful buildings, nicely designed carpets and unique artworks. Isfahan had been the capital city of Iran for centuries. The City of Isfahan is just one of the big cities of Isfahan province.

You should go to Kāshān and visit another part of the province where narrow alleys and clay homes show another aspect of the province's beauty and serenity. The air is filled with the fragrance of Damascus Roses.



Ilam Province

Ilam province is located on the foothills of the Zagros Mountains in the western region of Iran. Unlike The north and northwest part of this province which is mountainous, the west and southwest is flat. It is a suitable place for nomad life since the geographical conditions are favorable for summer and winter relocation.

The common handicrafts of this province include carpet, rug, drugget, felt and coarse blanket weaving.



Hamedan Province

Hamedan Province is located in the western areas of Iran. Mount Alvand with a height of 3574 meters above the sea level is located to the south and southwest of Hamadān City.

The altitude of this province and its location at the foothills of the Zagros and Alvand mountains leads to heavy rain and snowfall. This has caused many water springs to flow through this land.



Golestan Province

Fars Province

The Golestan province is located in the north of Iran, on the southern shores of the Caspian Sea. The climate is subtropical. Many rivers flow through the land permeating dense forests.

Turkmens are a significant minority in this province who speak their own language. The folk music of Turkmens appears in Bakhshi and Baghshi rhythms. A two string lute called Dotār is widely used to create those rhythms. Although dancing is not very common among these tribes, there is a local dance called



Fars province is a vast land located in the southwest of Iran. In all over the province, you can see and feel the glory of Ancient Iranian culture and civilization.

There are many monuments from pre-historical to the Islamic era within this province. The center of Fārs is the city of Shiraz; you may have heard about its beautiful gardens. You have probably also heard of two famous poets of Shiraz: Hafez and Sa'adi.



Gilan Province

To the south of the Caspian Sea, lies the wonderful green Gilan Province. The people of Gīlān are among the most cheerful and noblest groups of Iranian people, who have preserved their beliefs and traditions.

To Iranians, Gīlān is associated with images of the rice fields, tea farms and enchanting forests. The people of Gīlān speak Gīlaki dialect. Their local music is to a large extent influenced by their surrounding





East Azerbaijan Province

East Azerbaijan Province is located in Iranian Azerbaijan, bordering with Armenia, the Republic of Azerbaijan, Ardabil Province, West Azerbaijan Province, and Zanjan Province. The center of this province is Tabriz.

The Nature has graced Eastern Āzarbāijān with thick vegetation, cool and pleasant summers, colorful autumns and white winters.,,Most of the souvenirs of this province are local sweets: Nougat, Qarabiyeh, Carrot Halva, Esco Walnut Halva, Baklava, and Basluq.



Semnan Province

Semnan Province is located in the northern parts of Iran and stretches along the Alborz mountain range and borders to Dasht-e-Kavir desert in its southern parts. The city of Semnan is its capital.

The province is divided into two parts: a mountainous region and the plains at the foothill of the mountains. The southern parts of the province are hot and dry and have favorable climate only for half of the year.

Chaharmahal and Bakhtiari Province

Chahar Mahal and Bakhtiari Province is located in the southwest of Iran among Zāgros Mountain Range. These mountains are the main source of water for rivers, springs and underground water reserves.

Two large rivers of Kārūn and Zāyande-Rūd originate from the mountains of this province. The climate and geographical features have made this land a perfect place for nomad life, especially in its western parts.



Bushehr Province

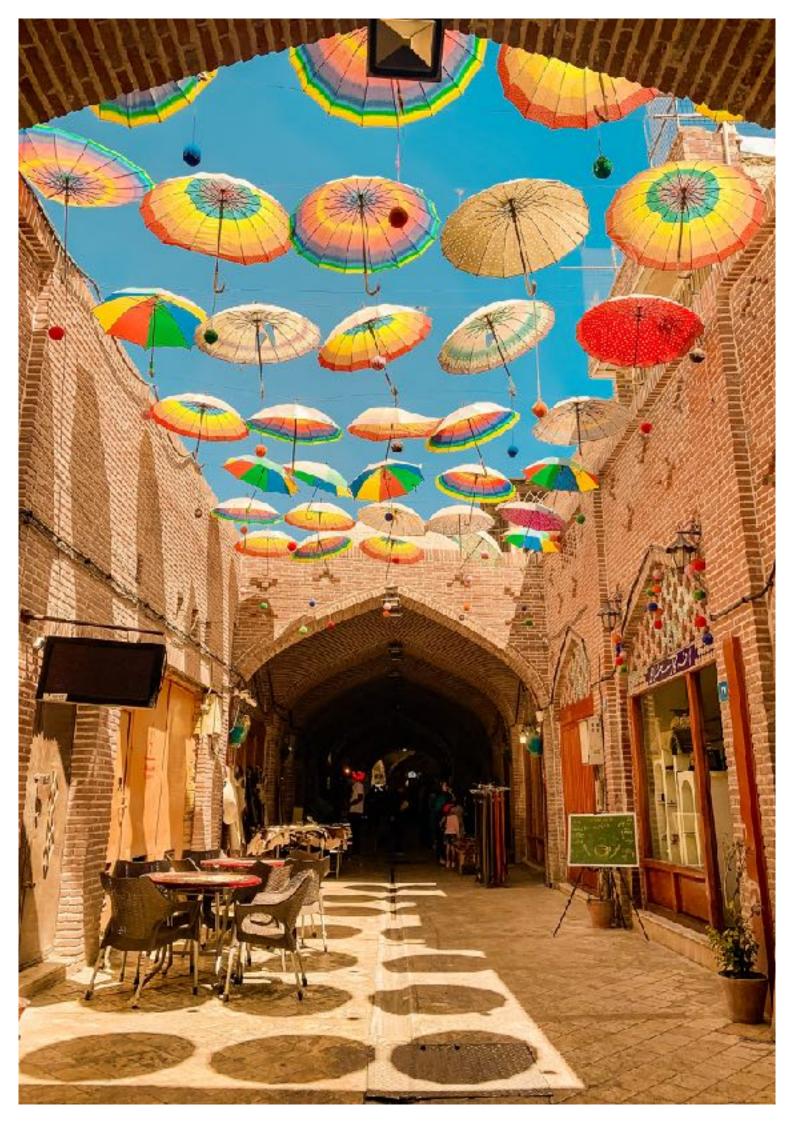
Bushehr province is located in the southwest of Iran on the shores of the Persian Gulf. Its center is Bushehr, the provincial capital. The province has both sandy and rocky beaches.

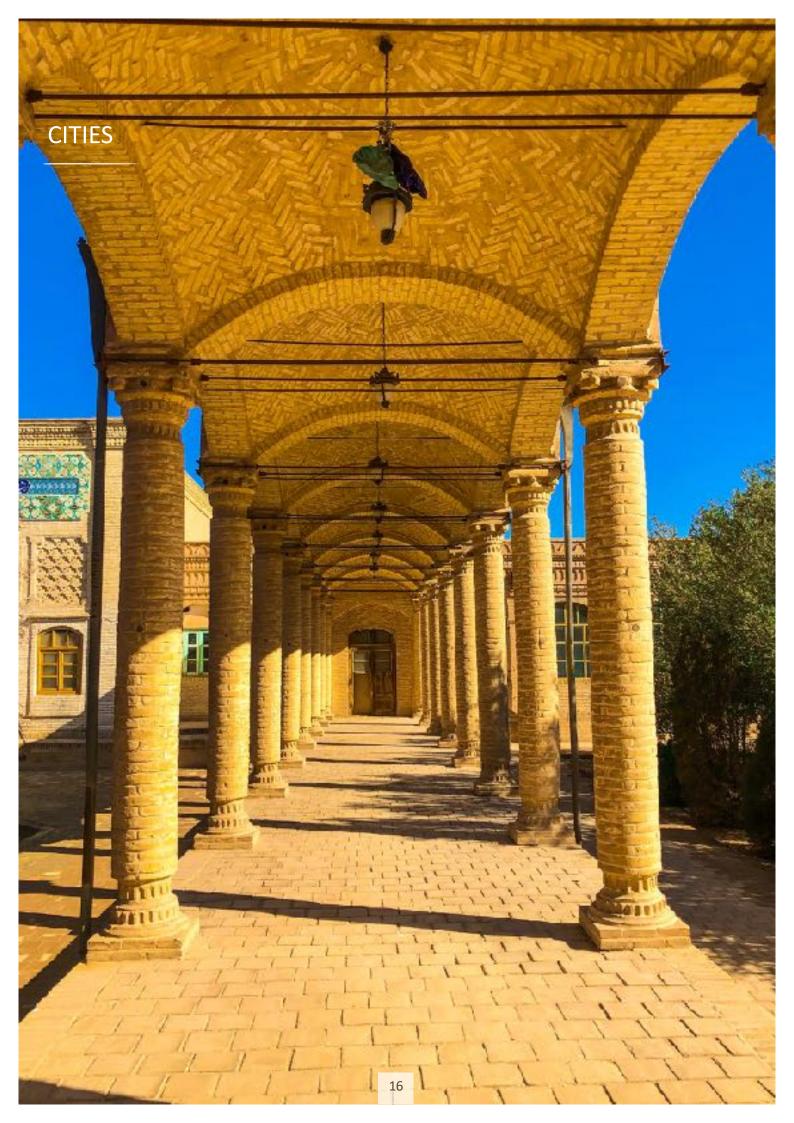
Common water sports like boat riding, swimming and water skiing are very popular. Another entertaining activity is accompanying fishermen hunting oyster and corals.

Ethnic origin of Būshehr province consists of Arabs, Lurs and Behbahānīs. These people, however, have created a specific ethnic identity of their own. Although, almost all people speak a local dialect, Arabic language is also spoken in Kangān harbor and islands of Asalūye and Shiel.

Unique local dances are common in the province, similar in style to African and Arabian dances. These include Zarīf, Kūrayī and Latīfī dances. Local people also hold special ceremonies which are specific to the region.







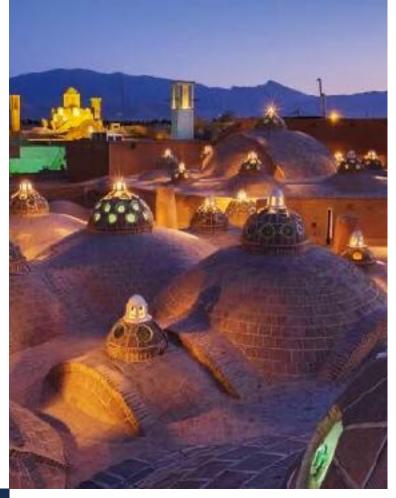
KASHAN

Kashan is located in the north of Isfahan province among the hillsides of Karkas Mountain in Natanz and Kavir desert. The north and west of Kashan are surrounded by Kavir desert and the climate of this city is warm and arid. Kashan consists of 4 districts, "Markazi", "Ghamsar", "Barzak", "Niasar", 7 cities and 9 rural districts.

Kashan is known to be Dar al-momenin, the city of scorpions and the gate of desert. One of the most magnificent and glorious historical places is Fin garden in this city.

Kashan has been an outstanding location in terms of situating on the National Roads Network of Iran and along the main connecting roads of east, north and west provinces in the center, south and southeast of the cities.

Kashan is best known for rosewater, handmade carpet and many tourism attractions so that tourism is one of the Kashan's economic fields. Also, agriculture is



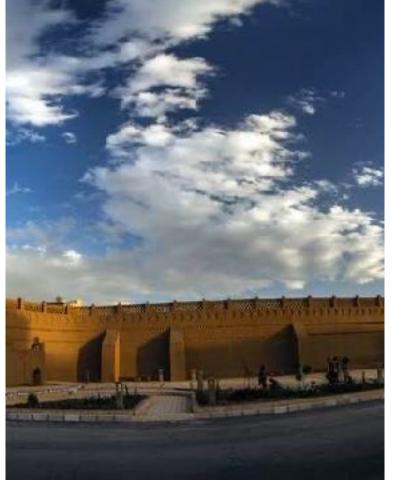


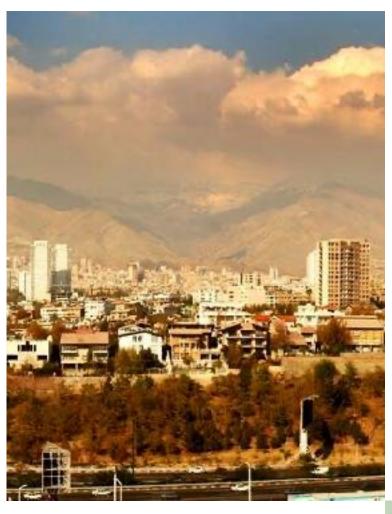
Kerman in the southeastern of the largest province of Iran, Kerman, with the height of 1755 m above the sea level is the second-highest city in Iran. Most of the Kerman areas surrounded by mountains.

The north and northeastern areas of this city are located in the vicinity of the Saheb-Al- Zaman Mountain and enjoys of a moderate climate and south and southwestern of this city enjoys of warmer summer and more air dust due to nearby to desert.

Hazar Mountain is more valuable by the rich resources of medicinal plants growing among this city's mountain.

Kerman county consists of 6 parts "Markazi "," Chatrod","Rain ","Shahdad ","Golbaf","Mahan " ,13 cities and 16 rural districts. Kerman has enjoyed an appropriate economic position by climatic diversity, prepared agricultural poles, factories and significant production centers such as Shahid Bahonar copper, Kerman cement, Momtazan and Barez tire.





TEHRAN

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Accordingly, the north of Tehran enjoys a cold and arid weather but the south is largely warm and arid.

Tehran consists of three parts as "Kan", "Markazi", and "Aftab"; three cities named "Tehran", "Bomehen", "Pardis"; and four rural districts. Demonstrating the traditional and modern architecture, Azadi square symbolized Tehran in the past and Milad tower plays this role, at present.

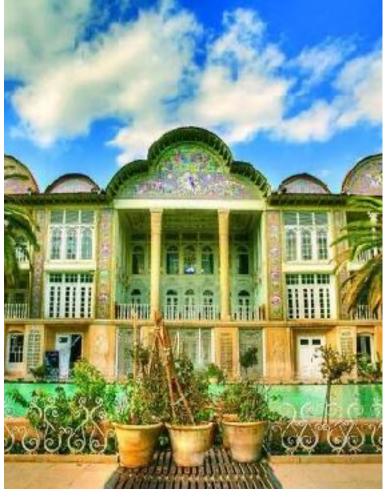
As the capital of Iran, Tehran is a populous city and one of the most significant urban centers in the world experienced the modernity before the other cities of Iran.

SHIRA7

Shiraz is one of the biggest cities in Iran and most significant city at the center of Fars province at the height of 1486 m above the sea level, located in the Zagros mountainous area, a highly important protection for the strategic location of Shiraz. Shiraz consists of 3 districts, "Arzhan", "Zaraghan", "Markazi", six cities and 12 rural districts. Shiraz name has been explored in the Achaemenid inscriptions in Persepolis.

This city has been known as the most significant tourism center, the 6th populous city, the cultural capital of the country, 2nd literary city in the world, the 3rd religious city, the 3rd holy shrine of Iran and the city of poetry, wine and flower. The tombs of several poets such as Hafez and Sa'adi placed in Shiraz where embraces a major part of Iran's ancient history, historical, cultural, religious and natural attractions.

Shiraz is economically dependent on industry, significant factories, agriculture and magnificent handicrafts .Shiraz residents speak in Shirazi accent of Persian language and most of them are Shia.



RAMSAR

Ramsar which is known as the most beautiful city in the north of Iran, is located on the Chalus-Rasht road, in the west of Mazandaran province at an altitude of 20 meters above sea level.

This city is bounded by the Caspian Sea from the north, Alborz mountain range from the south, Tonekabon city from the east and Gilan province (Rudsar city) from the west. The climate of Ramsar is hot and humid in summer and mild in winter.

Ramsar county has a "central" section, two cities "Ramsar" and "Katalam" and four villages "Chehel Shahid", "Sakht Sar", "Janat Rudbar" and "Eshkor".

Ramsar is one of the rainy and old cities of Mazandaran province, which was called Sakht Sar in the past. Ramsar contains unique natural, historical and recreational attractions; so that it is considered as a tourist destination.



RASHT

Rasht is located at center of Gilan plain, in the widest delta part of Sefidrood River with the height of averagely 8 m above the sea level and the end of the main side road of the Caspian Sea and along the first class main road of Qazvin to Anzali port. Rasht enjoys a moderate and humid climate with variable humidity during the year.

Rasht consists of 6 parts "Markazi", "Khomam", "Khoshkebijar, "Lashtnesha", "Kochesfahan", "Sangar", 7 cities and 18 rural districts.

Rasht has some significant features, according to its geographical, economic, social, cultural, political and administrative conditions.

The most residents of this city are active in service, trading and industrial jobs and paddy is the main activities of the villagers in this region. The race of Rasht people is Aryan and they are from Gilak tribe speaking in Gilaki with Bieh Pas and Rashti dialects; they are also mostly Asna Ashari Shia. Some Armenian and Jewish live in this city, as well.



ISFAHAN

Isfahan is a metropolis surrounded by desert and semi-desert districts from east and Zagros Mountains from the west. The distance between the south of the capital of Iran and this city is about 414km and it is located at the height of 1575 m above the sea level and enjoys a moderate climate and partly regular seasons.

Isfahan consists of 6 districts, 14 cities and 19 rural districts with many historical heritages and natural landscapes, which made Isfahan to be the 3rd biggest city in Iran, after Tehran and Mashhad. Isfahan is a district with Iranian civilization and culture which contains many heritages from all historical eras that registered in the list of historical monuments.

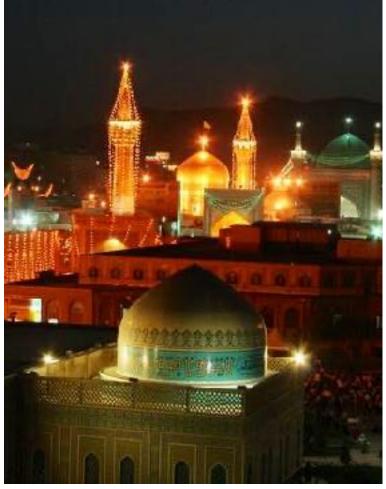
This city is one of the valuable archaeological centers, parallel to world-class areas, and many of its artifacts has been registered in the list of monuments and it has a high universal position for art, economy, science, industry, commerce and tourism.

MASHHAD

Mashhad is located in Kashafrud River catchment basin and at the end of the Mashhad sedimentary plain, between Hezar masjid and Binalood mountains range, at the height of 1050m above the sea level with a mountainous and semi mountainous area which presents a moderate and variable climate.

This city consists of three districts "Markazi", "Ahmad Abad" and "Razavi", three cities and 11 rural districts. Mashhad is considered as the 2nd biggest and the populous city of Iran after Tehran due to it is religious, industry and economic conditions. Mashhad is known as the most important attraction for the passengers who are willing to visit Imam Reza holy shrine (8th Shia Imam), the biggest holy shrine in Iran.

As one of the most magnificent religious places in Iran, Astan Qods Razavi is the symbol of Mashahd where the Islamic art and religion are linked to each other. Located along the Silk Road, it is the economic capital and the intercontinental commercial center in the Central Asia.



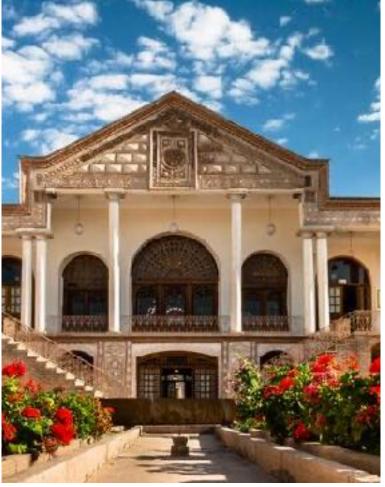
YAZD

Yazd is located in a vast and arid valley surrounded by Shirkuh and Kharanegh mountain range on the margin of the Lut desert plains with the height of 1230m above the sea level.

Yazd enjoys a highly cold and partly humid climate in winter and it has an arid and warm summer due to its geographical location in an arid region of the world. Yazd consists of two parts "Markazi" and "Zarch", four cities and four rural districts. It is one of the Iran metropolises, the fourth vast, the first adobe constructed, and the second historical city in the world which is best-known as "Windward City", "Daral-ebade City (the place of worship)", "City of Bicycles", "City of sweets" and "City of Qanat, Qonut (Worship) and Qena'at".

Yazd is one of the most spectacular places because of its water reservoirs, alleys, mills, architectural and historical symbols as one of the most remarkable architectural examples of the hot and arid area in the world.



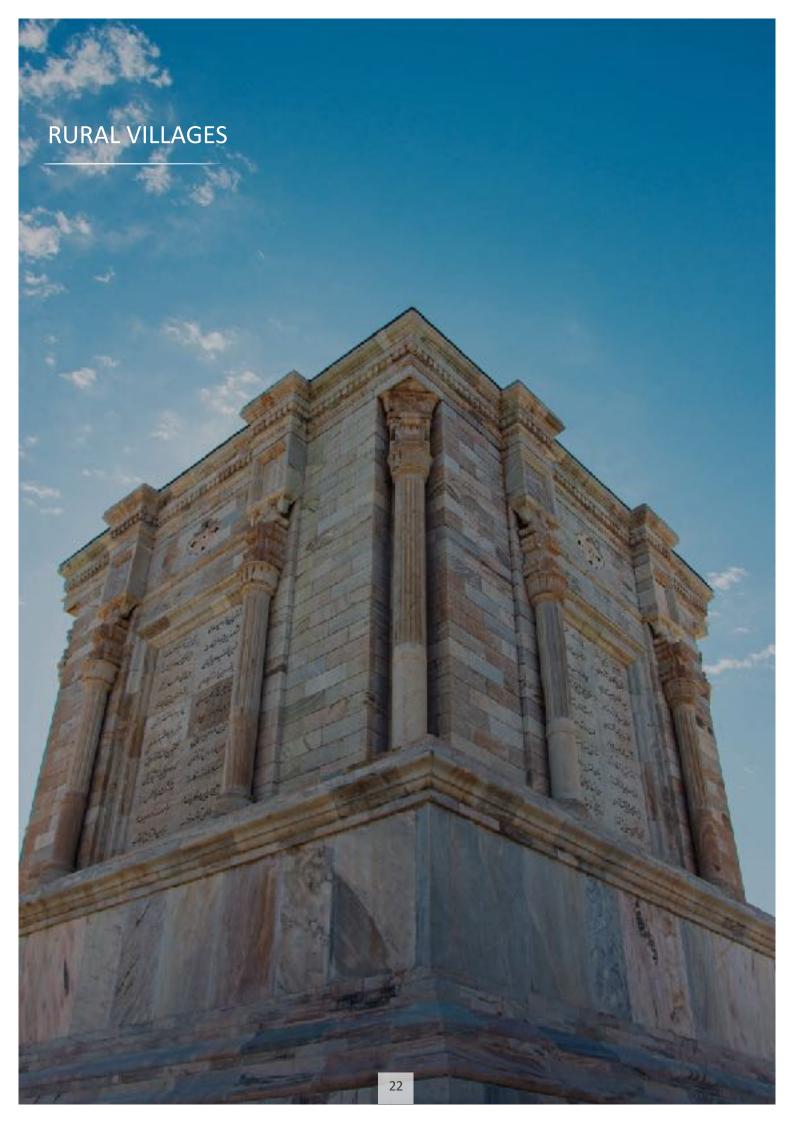


TABRIZ

Tabriz is one of the oldest and biggest cities of Iran on the hillside of the Sahand Mountain (volcano). This city is surrounded by mountains in the north, south and east and flat lands as well as the Talkherud salt marsh in the west, like a partly big hollow or a plain with fantastic view among the mountains, at the height of 1350 to 1550 m above the sea level in different areas.

This city enjoys a highly cold weather in winter and warm and arid in summer. Tabriz consists of two districts,"Markazi" and "Khosro shah", three cities named "Tabriz", "Sar Dorud" and "Khosro Shah" and 75 rural districts. It is the most populous city in the east Azerbaijan and the biggest city in the northwest of Iran.

The number of passengers who travel to Tabriz has been increased after establishment of the Tabriz-Zanjan highway and the city turned into the 2nd destination of passengers after Mashhad. Arg-e Tabriz is the symbol of city. It connects the western cities of Iran to the eastern cities along the Silk Road and has been properly called the "Gate of the Orient".

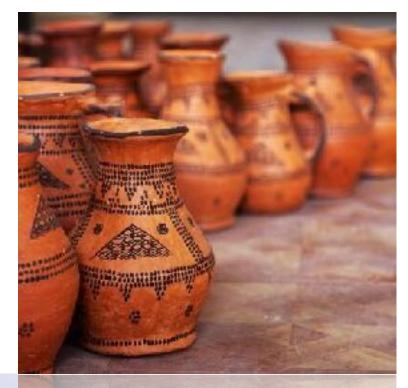


Kalporagan

Kalporagan is a small village at the south east of Iran, Sistan & Baluchestan Province. This place is known as the only Living Pottery Museum of the World, Originates back to 7000 years ago. The art of pottery without any pottery wheel has been inherited orally from one to another without any changes since then.

While the men carry pottery clay from Maskootan mine near the village and prepare the primary phases, major production process is done by around 30 women living in the village.

Geometric pattern with ancient motifs reflects artisans inspirations. Final product is brown, derived from a special stone called Titook. It is from brown or black Manganese stone, used instead of glazing.



Qasemabad

Qasemabad is a village located in Oshiyan rural district, Roodsar city in the east of Gilan province. The name of Qasemabad always evokes the happiness and color for the Iranians.

Various kinds of handwoven colorful fabrics and the traditional cloths of people in this region with the horizontal colorful strips have made this village as the center of fabric weaving in Iran. The most important fabric that is produced in this village is called Chador Shab. Chador Shab, or locally Chorshab or Lavan, is a kind of cotton, silk or woolen fabric that is woven in Gilan and Mazandaran provinces by the hands of women using a weaving handmade machine namely Pachal.



Khorashad

Khorashad is a small Village at east of Iran, South-Khorasan Province. It is situated in Nasr Abad Valley and the unique name which means "The place of Sunrise" in Pahlavi language, is derived from the unique scenery. Originates back even before Islam, this place is a rare example of a village that people migrate to, instead of leaving it. Khorashad's noticeable features are breeding of many successful and elite individuals in scientific, cultural and economic areas, which are much greater than the capacity of a village with 1000 people. The region has been introduced as an elite village in Iran.





Zonuzagh Village

The Eastern Azerbaijan province including more than 26 tourism attraction villages is on the top of Iranian provinces. From the most famous villages, Kandovan, Oshtubin, Gol Akhur, Khoshkenab, Onsorud, Zonuzag, Chiraghil, Eskanlu, Nuje Mehr, Aga Baba, Kasin and Sefide Khan should be mentioned. Between these villages the historical village of Zonuzag is an exceptional in terms of rural fabric and landscape. Zonuzag is one of the steppe villages of Iran which is the largest one in size.

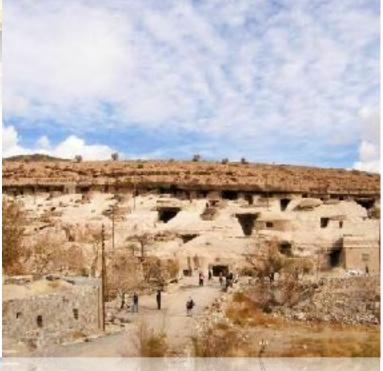
According to the archeological evidence, the main core of this village dates back to Safavid era and even before. The architecture of this village is unique, the combination of red clay and natural made materials have made an incredible scene.

Cultural Landscape of Maymand

Maymand is a rocky and dugout village and one of the primary habitats of man in Iran with approximately 2 - 3 thousand years history.

The close relationship between life and the surrounding nature is the particular values of this historical village in such a way that it continues, even currently and in spite of the new technology developments, to be an original site and keeps its original appearance without any tangible manipulating the nature.

Each dugout house in Maymand which may include one or more rooms and stables is totally called a



Masuleh

Masuleh is located in 55 km of Rasht in the mountainous and sylvan area, on the rocky slopes with the height of 1050 m above the sea level. The climate of Masuleh is moderate and humid in summer and cold and humid in winter.

Pleasant climate and nature in 4 seasons of the year are the most important environmental factors of Masuleh region.

The difference in height from the highest point to the lower one is about 100 m that is reason of creating the unique sight by Masuleh architecture.



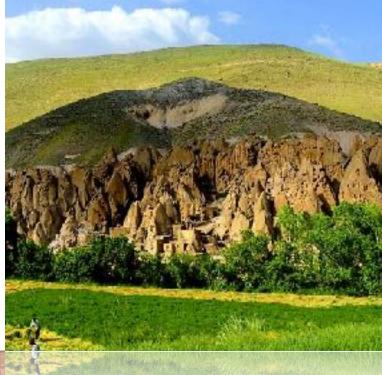
Kandovan Village

Kandovan is an astonishing village located on the mountain flank of Sultan Daghi, Sabalan Mountain, located in East Azerbaijan Province, Iran.

Kandovan Village is famous for its wonderful rocky architecture which is the result of volcanic activities and hand-carved structures.

The inhabitants, basically, carved every room of the cliff houses like kitchens, halls, and even pens out of stone to make windows for the rooms and later, to decorate them with colorful glasses.

There are two other cliff villages with similar structures in Turkey's Cappadocia and US's Manitou Cliff Dwellings in Colorado.



Makhunik Village

Makhunik village is one of the seven amazing world's villages by its remarkable architecture being known to LILIPUT land because of the short residents in there.

This village antiquity estimated about 300 years based on discovering historical documents and petroglyph from this area. Also, on the basis of what the village residents say, the Safavid kings had an important role in the history of this village.

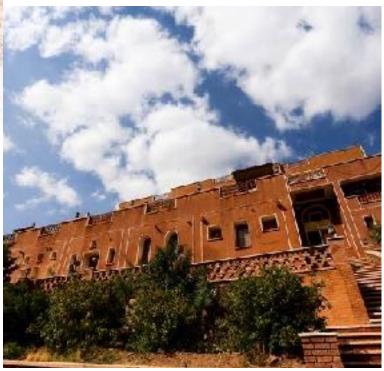
The houses have been built next to each other into the earth hollows on the slopes of the hills due to harsh winter weather and shortage of materials in residential context of village.



Abyaneh Village

Abyaneh village is one of the most specific villages of Iran with a good sight and climate, an appropriate natural situation where all the houses has been constructed on the hillside at the north of the Barzrood River with a beautiful and pleasant architecture.

The form of village houses are limaceous, adobe, brick and stone related to Sassanid, Seljuk, Safavid and Qajar eras and there is no dead end alley in this village. The old houses of village have been built with the coverage of red soil, which are highly protected



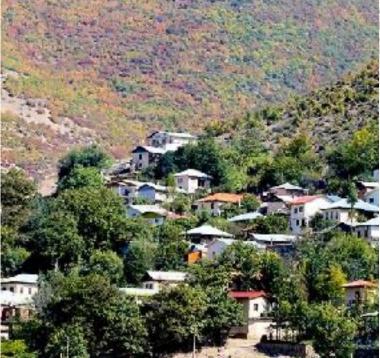


Ziarat Village

Ziarat tourism village with the height of 1000 meters above the sea level, on the slope of a mountain, is located in the Khaserood River valley between two mountainous and forested hillsides.

This village with pleasant climate is considered as a summer region. The climate of this region is cool in summer and cold in winter.

This village with tourist attractions such as Imamzadeh Abdullah, spas with healing properties, waterfall, old villages, soaring and lush mountains and etc., has been introduced as one of the 10 villages with Assyria

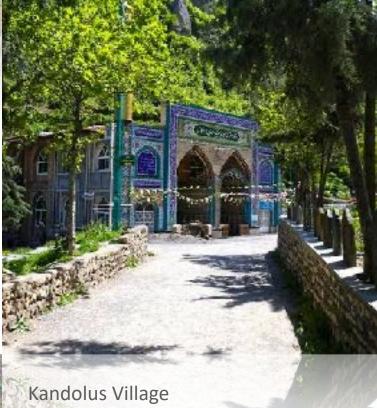


Negel Mosque & Quran

Negel is a village located in 65km to Sanandaj and between Sanandaj and Marivan.

Located in a valley from the south of which the Shoshtar River passes through, Negel village shares a border line with Hasanaali Mountain to the north, with Pol Charmo Mountain to the southeast, with Ghezhakan to the south, with Kani Charmo Valley and Kurah Mianeh to the northwest and with Kachul Valley to the southwest and it is restricted to Rasani Valley to the northeast. All people who live in this village speak in Kurdi language, Sorani dialect.

Negel Quran is a big Quran written by Kufic script on a thick, brown paper which is known as the "deer skin" because of its similarity with the skin.



There are many different tourism attractions in Mazandaran that are the host of many tourists every year. One of these attractions is Kandolus village.

In order to reach Kandolus you must proceed Chalus road and enter Kojur road by passing Marzan Abad, after Doab crossing. From there you can see the sign of Kandolus. It is one hour from Marzan Abad to the historical village of Kandolus.

The village has proper tourism facilities like motels and restaurants. You can also buy handicrafts from the shop.

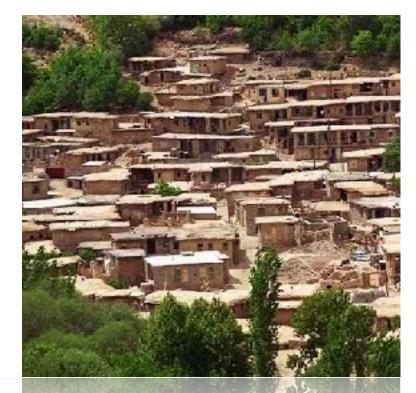
Marin Village

Marin Village is situated in thirty-six kilometers north of Gachsaran and one hundred and ninety-eight kilometers southwest of Yasuj, in Kohgiluyeh and Boyer-Ahmad Province.

The village has Deli Ganj mountain (on the north), Khami (on the east), and Kuh-e-Dil (on the south west) in its neighborhood.

Marin Village is along the Royal Road from Susa to Persepolis and Bishapur and it has a lot of ancient castles.

In the past, the word Marin was Mar (snake) and Ni (no), which means no snake lives there anymore. The



Palangan Village

Palangan is a village within one kilometer of "Tangivar" valley in Kamyaran county, located in Kurdistan province. The population of Palangan, which is enlisted as a national monument of Iran, is about a thousand people who speak Kurdish dialect of Orami.

It is not clear whether the word "Palangan" is derived from the word "palang" (means leopard in Persian) or the word pal in the Kurdish dialect meaning shelter.

Due to the fact that Palangan is situated at the foothills on both sides of the valley, it has houses with terraced structure and is made of stone. The water source of this village is irrigated from Tangivar River flows and 20 springs in the Tangivar.

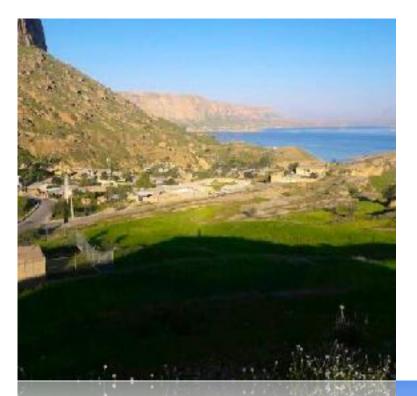


Rooien Village

Rooien Village is a tourism destination located in the northeast of Iran. In addition to natural resources and cultural heritage, the dialect of local people is another reason that it attracts the tourists, who are interested in culture.

Rooien or Rooeen is one of the villages in Esfarayen County in North Khorasan. People of Rooien talk in Tati language, which is closely related to the Talysh. Even though very little is known about the date people inhabited there for the first time, its history is speculated to trace back to Timurid Dynasty. The history of the village can also be sought in a document that belongs to 833 AH.





Pamenar Village

Pamenar village is one of the most pleasant villages of Dezful in Khuzestan province located between two dams of Karkheh and Dez. Pamenar attracts many tourists with its spectacular landscapes, pristine nature and its silence. Here is the paradise of nature lovers and those who are interested in village trekking.

It is less than one hour driving from Dezful to Pamenar. Move to the northeast of Dezful in Shahyoun road and proceed the signposts. The sign of village is seen in the road of Daryacheh (meaning lake).

You can also reach the destination without private car. If there is no taxi you have to take a car in Dezful.

Sar Aga Seyyed Village

Known for their unusual architecture, there can be found many villages in Iran that have been built in Pelekani (literally meaning staircase) style. This means that the roofs of a series of the building serve as the courtyards and streets of the buildings above them. One example of these villages is Sar Aqa Sayed that is also considered as one of the historical regions of Chahar Mahal and Bakhtiari.

Sar Aqa Sayed has very cold weather. During wintertime, there is so much snow that it is almost impossible to access this village. It can be visited during the six months of spring and summer when the snow and ice gradually melt and the roads and paths become accessible.



Nayband Village

Nayband Village in Tabas, one hundred and five kilometers from the rural district of Kavir, two hundred and thirty kilometers southeast of the city of Tabas, is located along the Tabas — Ravar route in the South Khorasan Province.

This village is linked to the villages of Chehel Payeh, Darband, Dihok, Korit and Parvdeh in its neighborhood.

Nayband Village, which according to historical documents traced back to thousand years ago, is located one thousand and one hundred meters higher

Afin Village

South Khorasan province can be considered to be one of the regions of Iran that has been mostly neglected in terms of tourism; although, there are many considerable and significant natural and historical tourism attractions in all around the province.

Afin village near Gayen is one tourism destination village in South Khorasan province in which you can find many interesting historical attractions.

The village has abundant barberry gardens that are one of the main sources of income for local people of Afin village. Visiting these gardens has unique grace in each season.



Ezmeyghan

Tabas is one of the most beautiful cities in South Khorasan Province in Iran. Like many other cities in Iran, there is a diverse group of tourist sites located in Tabas.

You can see both historic villages and deserts, gorges and mountains. One of the sites of Tabas is Ezmeyghan Village, a unique place where rice lands and lands of date trees meet. In fact, people of Ezmeyghan plant all kinds of fruits and vegetables in their village. But it is the cultivation of both rice and date in one place that makes Ezmeyghan interesting. This is a feature that can be seen in no other place. There is a permanent river that runs through the village and has contributed to the better growth of the products.

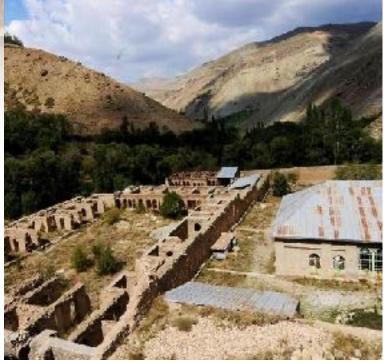


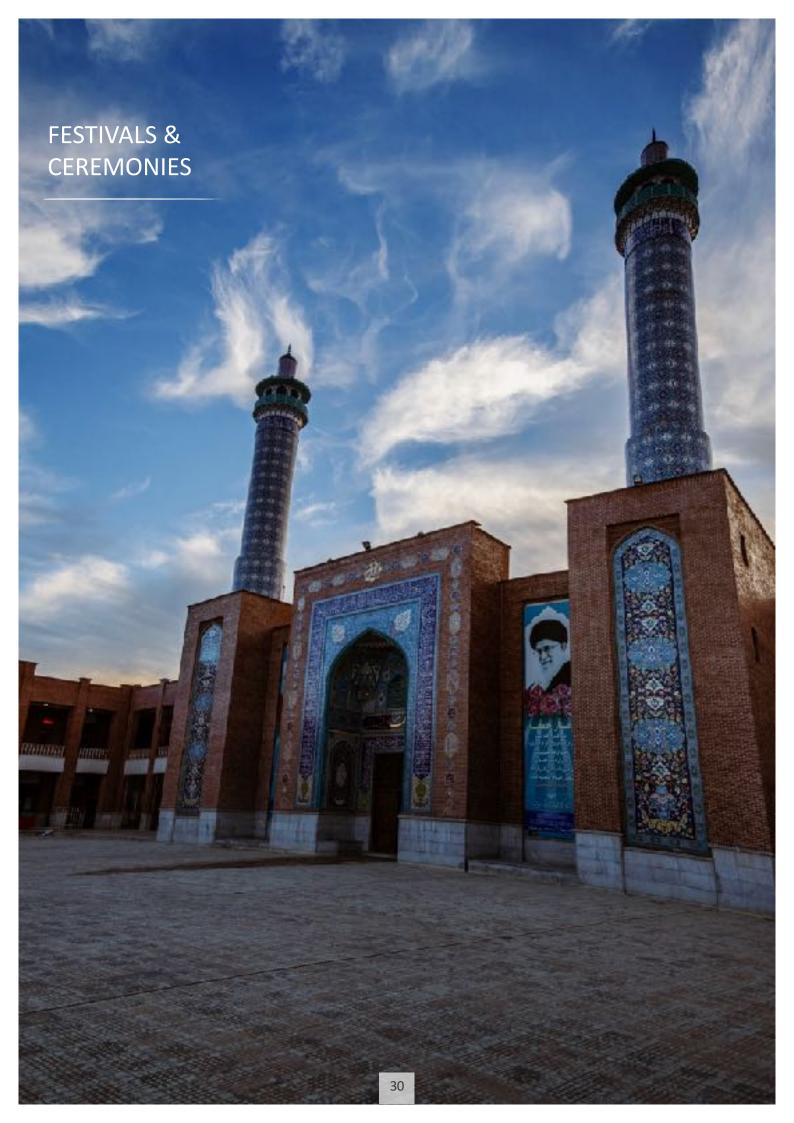
Shahrestanak

The route between Karaj and Chalus is one of the prettiest roads of Iran. There are many attractions around this road. Shahrestanak, a picturesque countryside district, is one of them. The distance between Shahrestanak and Karaj is about 70 kilometers.

As Shahrestanak is located in short distance from Tehran, it becomes an attractive destination for one-day trips, especially for the people of Tehran.

In order to travel to this village, you ought to traverse a by-way, before arriving to Gachesar, some kilometers





Pir-e Shaliyar Celebration

Uraman Takht had been a rural region, in the past, with an extraordinary and astonishing nature along with a particular architectural style in which a house's roof is the other house's courtyard. Holding many various rituals in this region led Uraman Takht to be considered a main part of Ancient Iranian culture which has been inscribed as one of the main tourism poles of Iran. The old ceremony of Pir-e Shaliyar, known also as "Pir-e Shaliyar Wedding" among locals, is a spiritual event of several thousands years history which is held two times in a year during three consecutive days.

The Urami Pir-e Shaliyar (OR Pir-e Shahriar), the saint of Sufis, is a highly respectable character among the Naqshbandy darvishes. According to a native legend, he was a physician with supernatural wonders (keramat) who cured the Bokhara King's daughter, Shah Bahaar Khatoon, and they got married after her healing.



Feast of Gol o Giah

Having the biggest greenhouse complex in the production and cultivation of ornamental plants, Mahalat (city of flower) is known as the Netherland of Iran

This city is one of the main centers for producing natural flowers and plants in Iran and includes a huge part of flower production and its distribution in Iran. As one of the oldest cities in growing flowers which is located in hillsides and it is far from the factories which produce pollution, this city is also known as "the mythical paradise".

Mahalat has a long history in producing flower and ornamental plants in Asia, hence, it owns a special and proper situation in export and it has gained the world markets.

Besides, having a beautiful nature, some hot springs, historical and ancient monuments, this city



Qalishuyan Ritual in Mashhad-e Ardehal

There are some nearby villages in the west of Kashan City which is called Aredhal altogether. The center of these villages is Mashhad-e Ardehal that is also known as Mashhad-e Qali by the locals. Being the martyrdom place of one of the Shia' Imamzadehs is why this place is called Mashhad which literary means the place of Shahadat (martyrdom).

The ceremony of Qalishuyan is one of the ritual ceremonies dating back to approximately one thousand years ago in Mashhad-e Ardehal village. This ritual has been inscribed on the UNESCO Cultural and Spiritual Heritage List.

Being also known as "Jomeh Qali" (literary means a Friday which is devoted to carpet), Qalishuyan ritual is in fact a symbolic show of the martyrdom happening, funeral and burying Imamzadeh Soltan Ali which is held every year by Kashan and Khave Ardehal inhabitants.

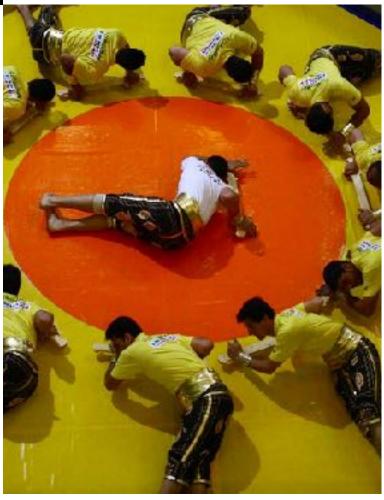
Pahlevani & Zoorkhanei Rituals

Zoorkhaneh or Humorous sport is an epic art indicating the Islamic, mythic and ancient Iranian beliefs. This traditional sport is done by 10 to 20 men and it is considered a kind of dramatic sport like Gymnastics.

The place of performing this sport is traditionally called Zoorkhaneh (the house of power) which is an enclosed club similar to the shrines in ancient Iran, based on some beliefs.

The establishment of the first Zoorkhaneh has been attributed to Pouria Vali, the Iranian best-known athlete, in 722 HJ; it is, however, goes back to the ancient times.

The entrance of Zoorkhaneh is intentionally built smaller and shorter than the other buildings' doors, because an athlete has to bend for entering, as the symbol of his humility. The roof of the club has a high dome shape similar to other religious and historical



Sadeh Festival

The "Sadeh festival" is the largest fire celebration and one of the oldest known traditions in ancient Persia, which is celebrated forty days after the Yalda Night as thanksgiving from God's blessings by Zoroastrians.

This celebration is a sign of the importance of light, fire and energy in life, which begins with setting the fire on the top of mountains and roofs of houses near the sunset of the tenth of Bahman.

The Sadeh festival is one of the great Iranian celebrations with no religious aspect and all the stories related to it are non-religious.

This celebration would has been held by the kings, emirs and ordinary people from the pre-Islamic period, the Islamic era, until the late Khwarazmian era and the Mongol conquest and has continued to this day. There have been various narratives and opinions about the naming of the Sadeh and setting the fire.

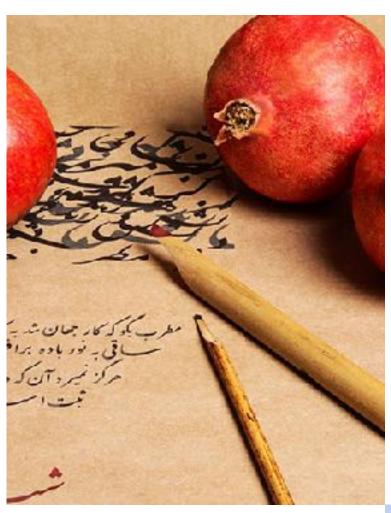


Fair Decade

Iran is an Islamic country owes its Islamic dimensions to the great revolution, known as the Iranian Islamic Revolution of 1977 (1357 SH), which done by huge crowd participation of the public, Islamic characters, clerics, students, merchants, opposing political parties, intellectuals and etc., who expressed their dissatisfaction with the situation of the Imperial regime in many different ways as clashes, general strikes, street demonstrations and protests, from a long time ago.

The main root of Islamic Republic of Iran can be found in the 1953 coup (known in Iran as 28 Mordad coup) and its concurrent events; the cause of developing the Islamic movement can be counted as follows: absolute attachment to the West, specially to US, kings not authorized to make important decisions, corrupt and irreligious kings who tried to deceive the young, ignorance of the people's vote, confrontation with liberalism, pervasiveness of oppression and injustice supported by the government, scientific, industrial undeveloped and the lack of amenities.





Yalda Night

Yalda Night (Chelleh night) is one of the most beautiful and longest nights of the year in Iran where the ceremonies and celebrations are held with different ways based on the special traditions of each region.

The word Yalda means birth, and the Yalda Night is one of the traditional ceremonies in Iran, which is held by Iranian coming together the family members and relatives in different parts of Iran.

The Iranians are celebrated the Yalda Night (the first day of winter), the time between the sunset of the last day of the autumn and the sunrise of the first day of winter which is coincided to the longest and the darkest night of the year in the northern hemisphere of the earth.

Sizdah-Be-Dar

The 13th day of Farvardin has been named as Sizdah-Be-Dar or Nature Day in Iranian culture that is an ancient ritual and also it is one of the most important common and shared customs among Iranian tribes. This day is an official holiday in Iran. Iranians annually celebrate this day by coming the new year and spring season; spending 12 days of Nowruz holidays with picnicking outdoors in nature; Sizdah- Be-Dar ceremony is hold with many various methods and customs in different regions of the country. The 13 days of Nowruz holidays will end after this day and everything will return to routine form.

There are various analysis on the different reasons of Sizdah-Be-Dar genesis. The number of 13 was an unlucky number in mythological culture of ancient Iranian and many other nations; therefore, they believed that an unpleasant thing occurs in this day and because of that, they spend it outdoors, even for a short time and celebrate this day to save themselves from disasters caused by 13.



Nowruz

Nowruz (literally translated New Day) is one of the oldest celebrations in ancient Persia, which is held vigorously in the first day of spring marking the beginning of the Iranian calendar (21 March).

Nowruz festivities celebrate the beginning of rebirth of nature and lasts for 13 consecutive days. Celebrated by millions of people in Afghanistan, Azerbaijan, Tajikstan, India, Kyrgyzstan, Pakistan, Uzbekistan and Turkey, Nowruz is inscribed on UNESCO's Intangible Cultural Heritage List. The first universal festival of Nowruz was held in 2010 (March 27), in Tehran and the city introduced as the "Nowruz Secretariat". Nowruz includes the official holidays in some countries and in Iran the first four days are considered the official holidays but it continues to the 13th day in some organisations.

Nowruz is celebrated practicing certain rituals such as spring cleaning, sprouting wheat or mung beans, buying new clothes, cooking local foods and baking sweets.



Mehregan

According to the ancient Iran calendar, the sixteenth day of each month is called Mehr. The Mehregan festival is a celebration of the Mehr day of the Mehr Month (the seventh month of the year). Also, since a year is divided into two warm and cold parts, Nowruz is the celebration of the beginning of summer, and Mehregan is the celebration of the beginning of the winter. After Nowruz, Mehregan is the most important festival of the year. It is one of the oldest and grandest festivals of ancient times in Iran and is reminiscent of Mithraism religion that worshiped Mehr, Mithra, Mehr Izad, or the god of light, friendship, love. Mithra was the great god of Iran and all the land where Hindu-Aryans lived. This festival goes back to the second millennium B.C., and begins on the first days of autumn, continues for six days and ends on the Ram day, the twenty first day of the month.

The time of the Mehregan festival in the Achaemenid calendar, and most probably before that, was the first day of Mehr. But today it is attributed to the sixteenth day of Mehr.



Chaharshanbe Soori

Chaharshanbe Soori is a particular and important common ritual of spring festival among Iranian tribes, which is held before Nowruz (New Year) in Iranian culture.

Chaharshanbe Soori is one of the Nowruz rituals which it dates back to Iranian ancient rituals in which the fire is the most important element in all regions and also it is common in different forms among Aryan tribes. Chaharshanbe Soori has been constituted from 2 words one of them is Chaharshanbe "The last Wednesday of a year" and Soori "means red".

Chaharshanbe soori is held in different regions by different methods due to their particular customs but fire is the main and shared element of Chaharshanbe Soori in all regions.

Fire is one of the classical elements and the only element which is pure and symbol of lighting, purity, freshness, life, health and at finally it is the most obvious symbol of God on the land.

Tasu'a & Ashura

The month of Muharram is the first Islamic month of the Islamic calender, one of the forbidden months of Muslims, in which the greatest tragedy and oppression in the Prophet's family occurred in the history of the Muslim world.

Ashura is one of the events attracted the most attention of Muslims throughout the history, that in addition to its extensive role and profound social and historical impact, it has become a special cultural event now.

The popularity of this day among Muslims is driven from the event of Ashura in the 61 AH, in view of the fact that the major events of Karbala occurred on the ninth and tenth day of the month of Muharram al-Haram; these two days became more prominent, with the names of Tasu'a ("Ta'sa" in Arabic means "Nine" and "Tasu'a" means "Ninth day"), and Ashura ("Ash" means 10th and Ashura, meaning 10th day).



Kharman Celebration

Agriculture is one of the sacred jobs that people in different regions have been busy with since past times. The celebration of Kharman (harvest) is a traditional, olden and lasting ceremony in northern Iran which is held at the end of the agricultural season after a period of planting and harvesting the products of wheat and rice paddy to eliminate farm workers fatigue in spring and summer in Mazandaran, Gilan and Golestan provinces since Qajar era.

This celebration is a symbol of the gratitude, friendship and cooperation of the people and a way to preserve and revive ancient traditions and native culture. Agricultural products harvesting by basic tools was very hard work so that it was being done in several stages by individuals and by using livestock such as horses and etc., in the past time.

Traditional ceremony of Kharman (Harvesting) is done through symbolic performance of harvesting with traditional agricultural tools and implements.

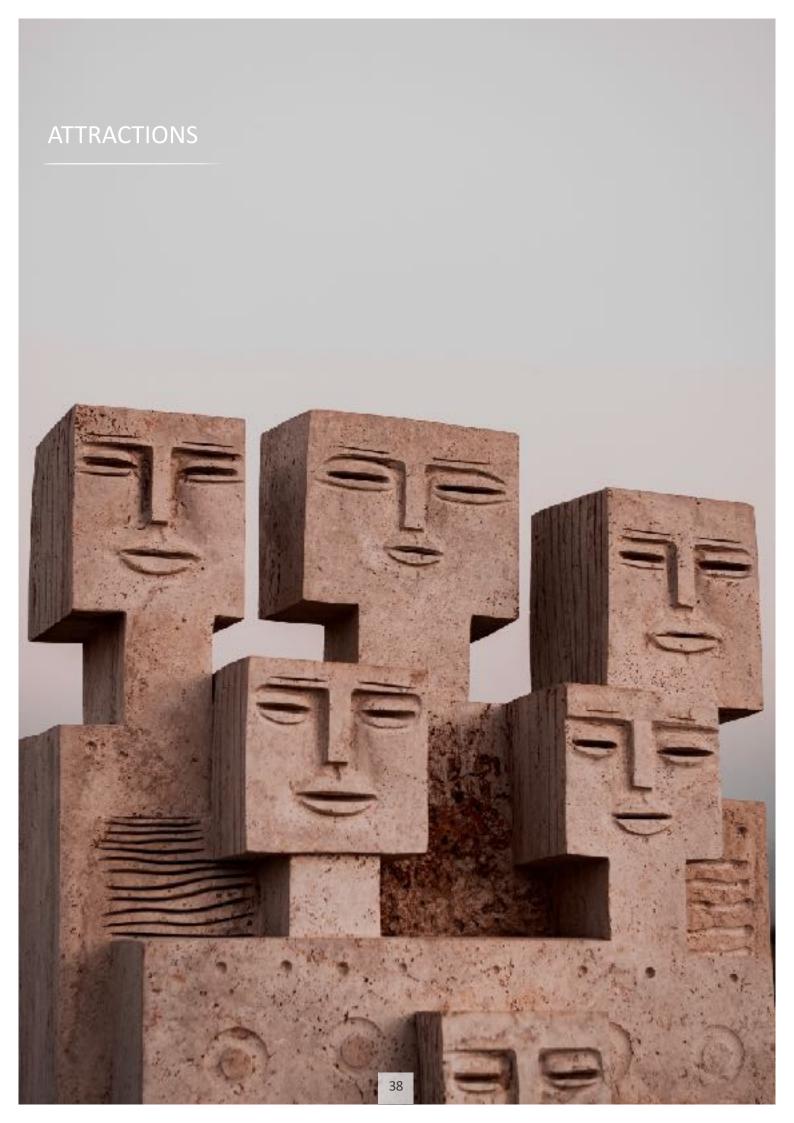


Ritual Dramatic Art of Ta'ziye

Ta'ziye literally means mourning, however, what is evoked for Iranians by hearing the name of Ta'ziye is a special religious and ritual drama in which those who are familiar with the drama techniques perform some theatre for the sake of Moharram and the pains of the third Shia Imam, his family and friends in the region of Karbala and during their battle with Yazid.

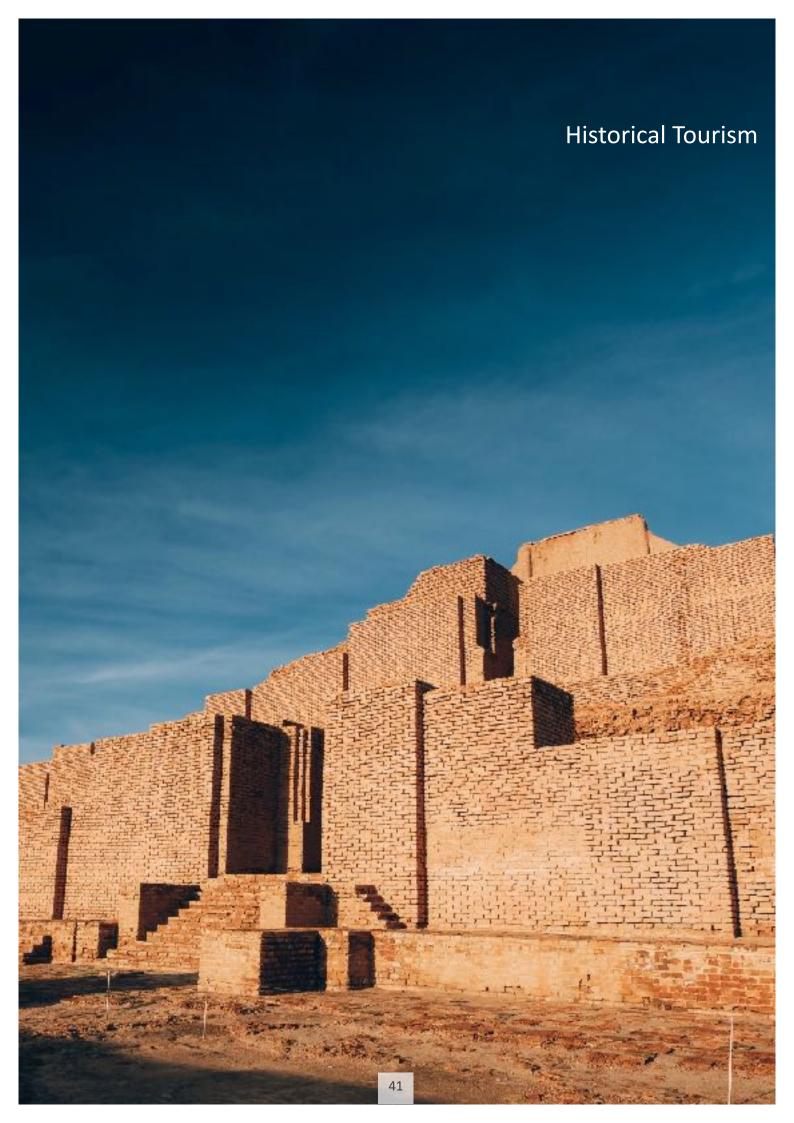
Since reading artistically the poems is more important than the method of performing the events, it has been named "Ta'ziye Khani" in comparison with "Rodha Khani".

It usually begins with performing Pish-khani (reading a kind of introduction) of the main part. The person who establish Ta'ziye is named "Bani" (builder), one who directs it called "Ta'ziye Gardn" (runner) and its acters are "Ta'ziye Khan" (reader) OR "Shabih Khan".

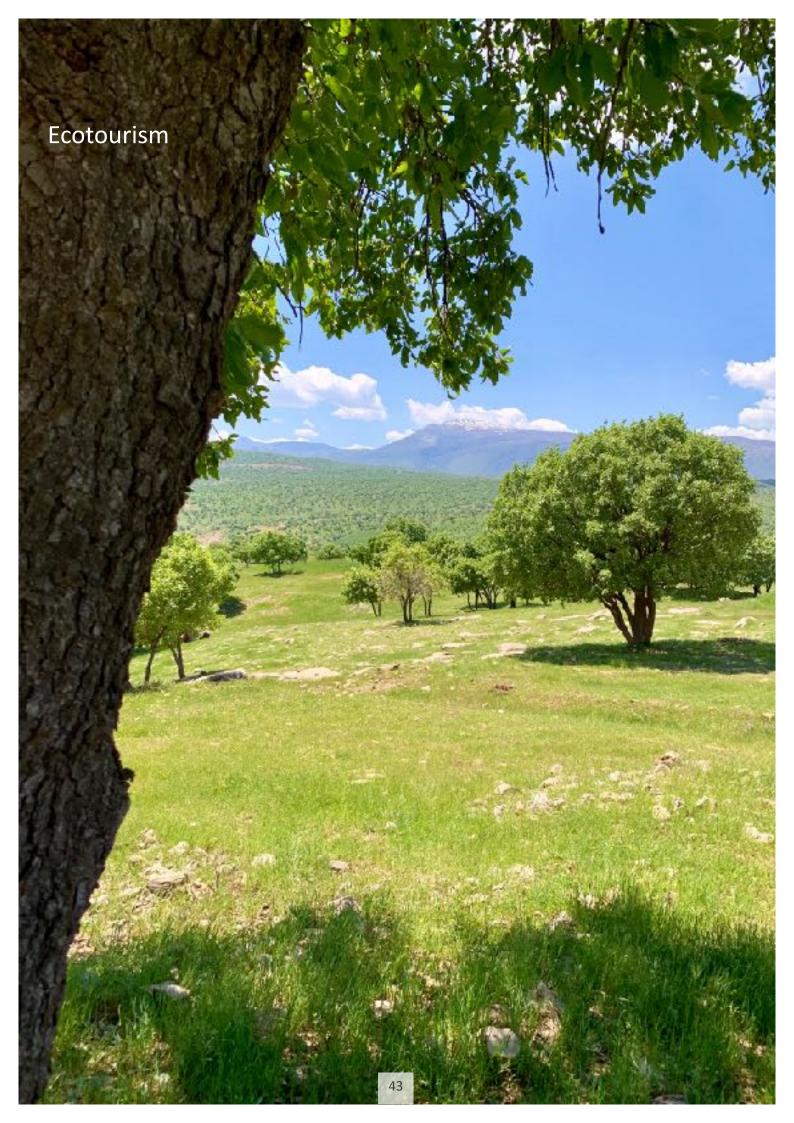




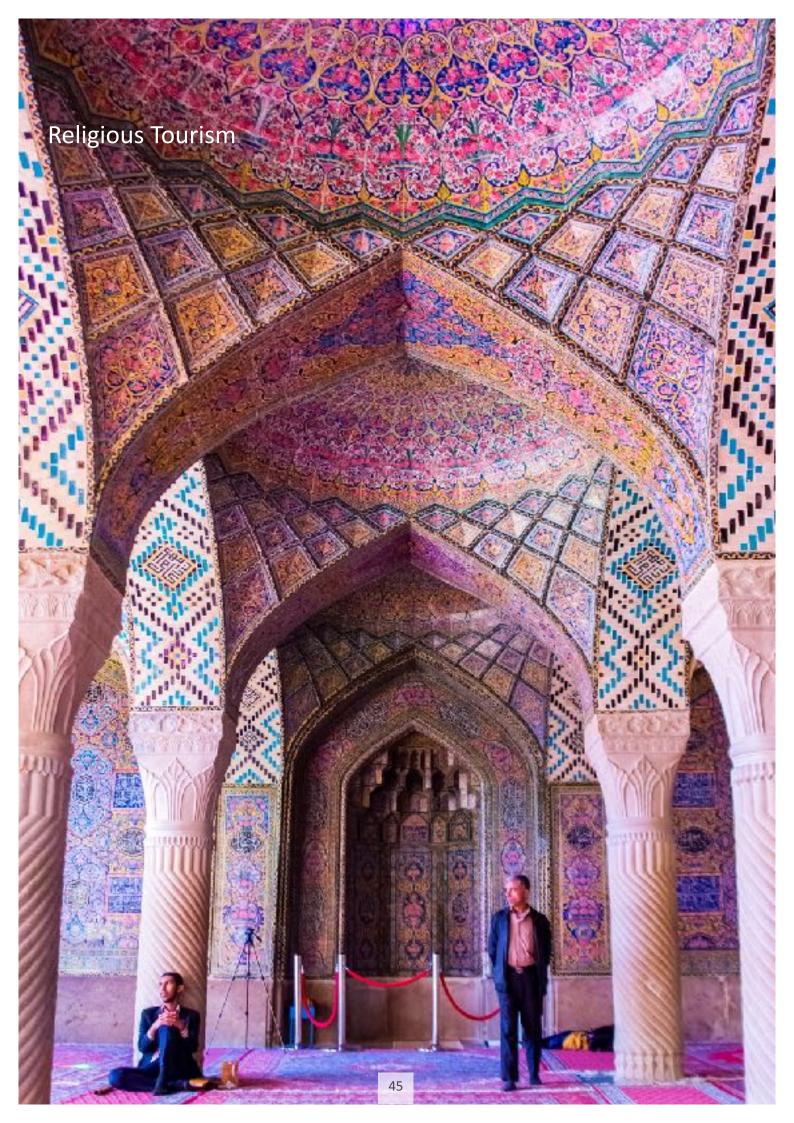




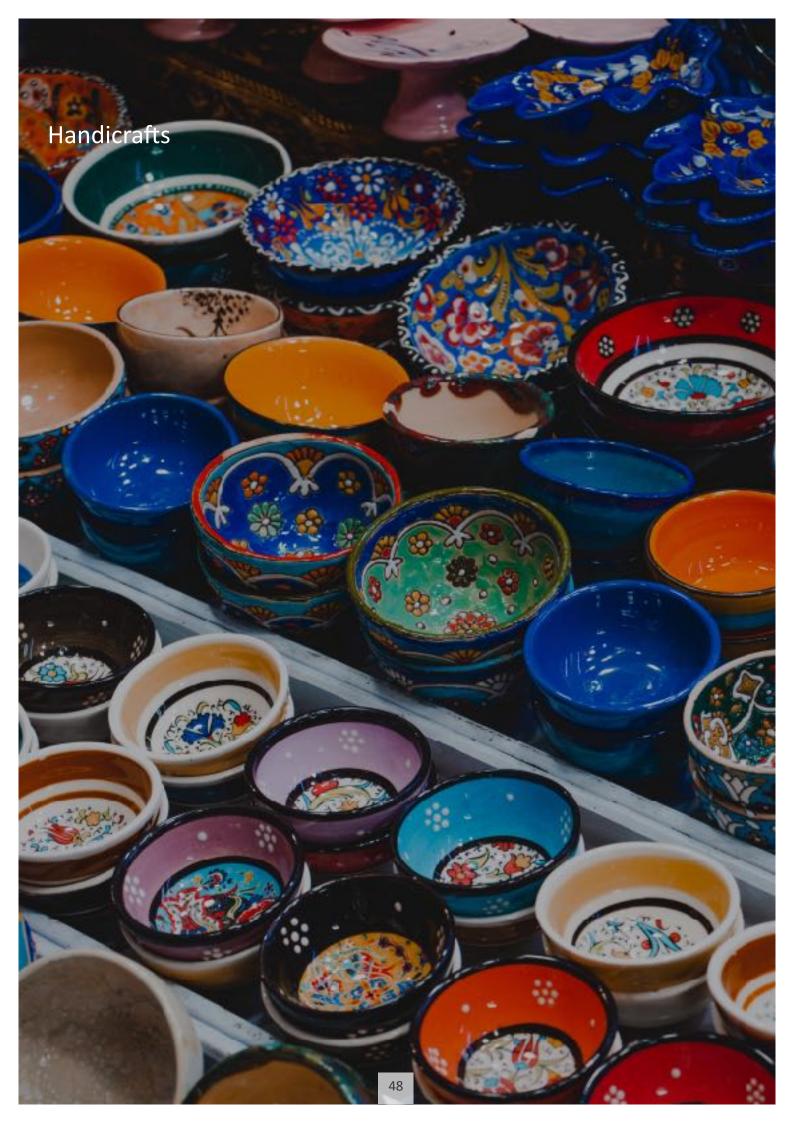


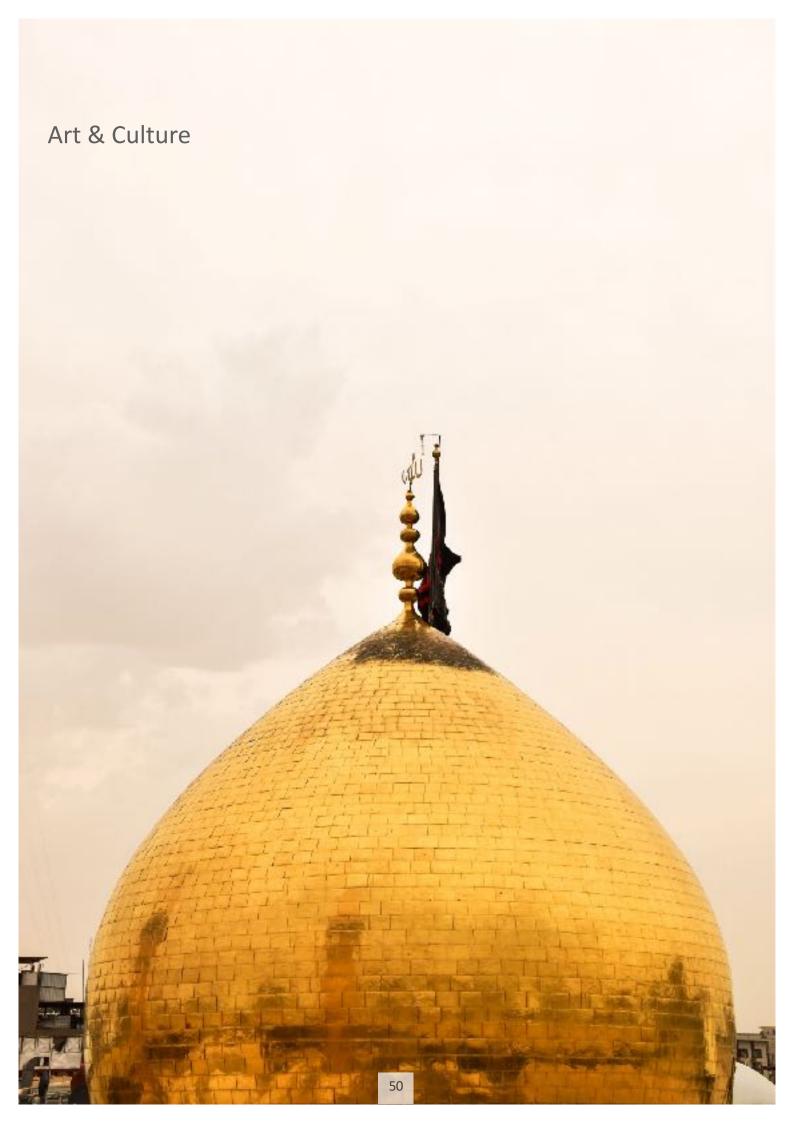


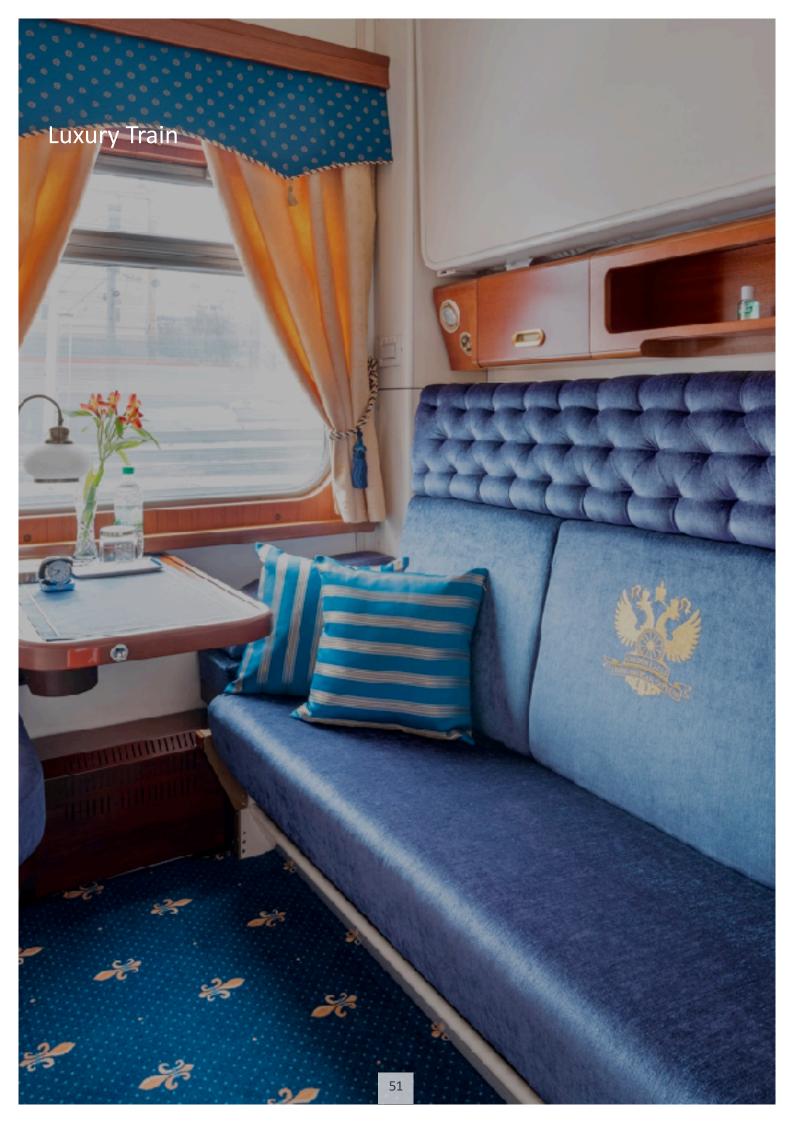












GENERAL INFORMATION

Iran (officially the Islamic Republic of Iran) is a large country located in the Middle East. It is bordered to the north by the Caspian Sea and the south by the Persian Gulf. With an area of 1,648,195 square kilometers, Iran is the 17th largest country in the world. It is a proof you have to spend more than a couple of days in Iran!

Tehran, the capital city of Iran, is the country's largest and most populated city. Isfahan, Shiraz, Tabriz and Mashhad are other major cities of the country.

Persian (Farsi) is the official language of the country and is widely spoken. A large number of people also speak other languages/dialects namely Azeri, Kurdish, Luri, Arabic, Baluchi, Gilaki, Mazandarani/Tabari, and Turkmen.

Climate

Temperature fluctuates widely in different parts of the country all year long. Being located in northern hemisphere makes summer time hot and winter cold.

Up in the north and down in the south, close to the bodies of water (Caspian Sea in the north and Persian Gulf in south) the summer months can be hot and humid.

In other parts though, it will be more moderate and you can always take refuge to shades.

Mountains & Deserts

Iran has two mountain ranges. The high Alborz range in the north rises 5,670 meter at Mount Damavend (the tallest peak in the country) and spreads from the southern part of the Caspian Sea all the way to the east close to the border lines of Khorasan. Zagros Mountain Range is another mountain range exceeding from northwest to southeast.

The eastern part of Iran country is the location of two salt deserts: Dasht-e Kavir and Dasht-e Lut with 1,287 km total long.

Islands

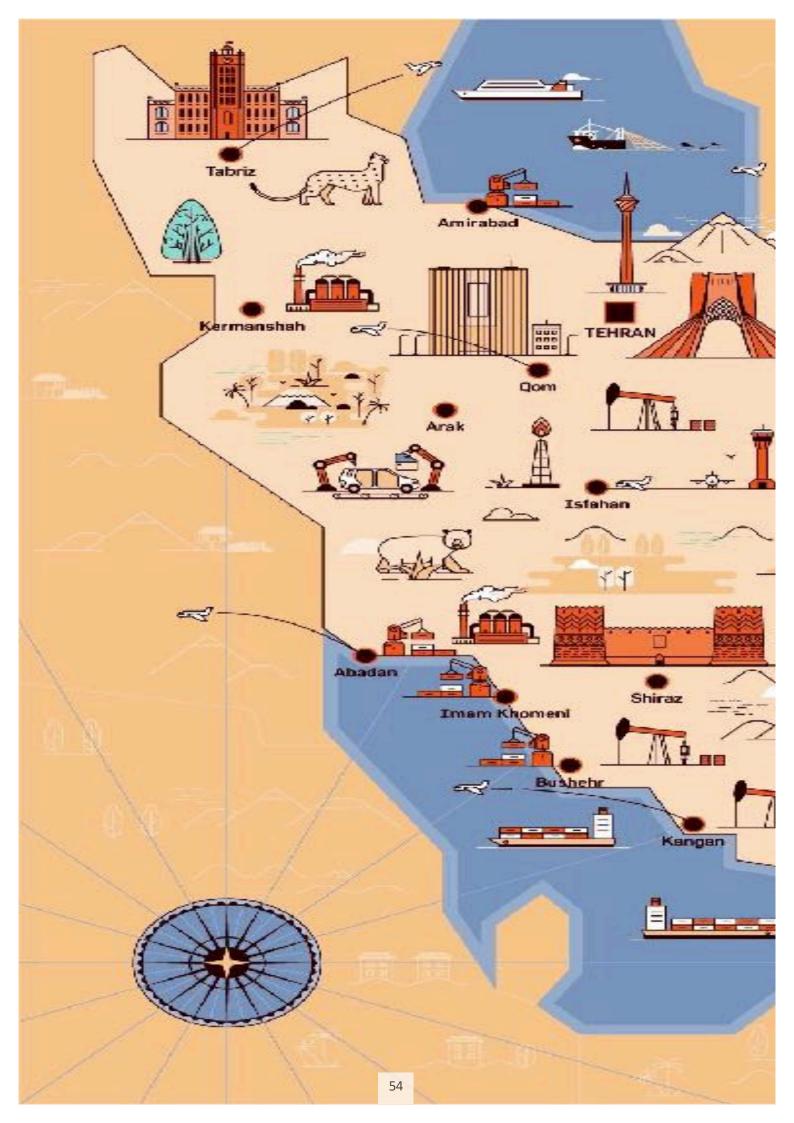
Iran has the largest number of islands in the Persian Gulf, the most important of which are as follows: Minoo, Kharg (Iranian oil terminal, site of one of the world's largest deep-water oil ports), Sheikh Sa'ad, Sheikh Sho'ayb, Hendurabi, Kish (a free zone and the largest island of Iran in the Strait of Hormoz), Farur, Siri, Abu Mussa, the Greater and Lesser Tumbs, Qeshm, Hengam, Larak, Farsi, Hormoz, and Lavan. The southern part has many ports too.

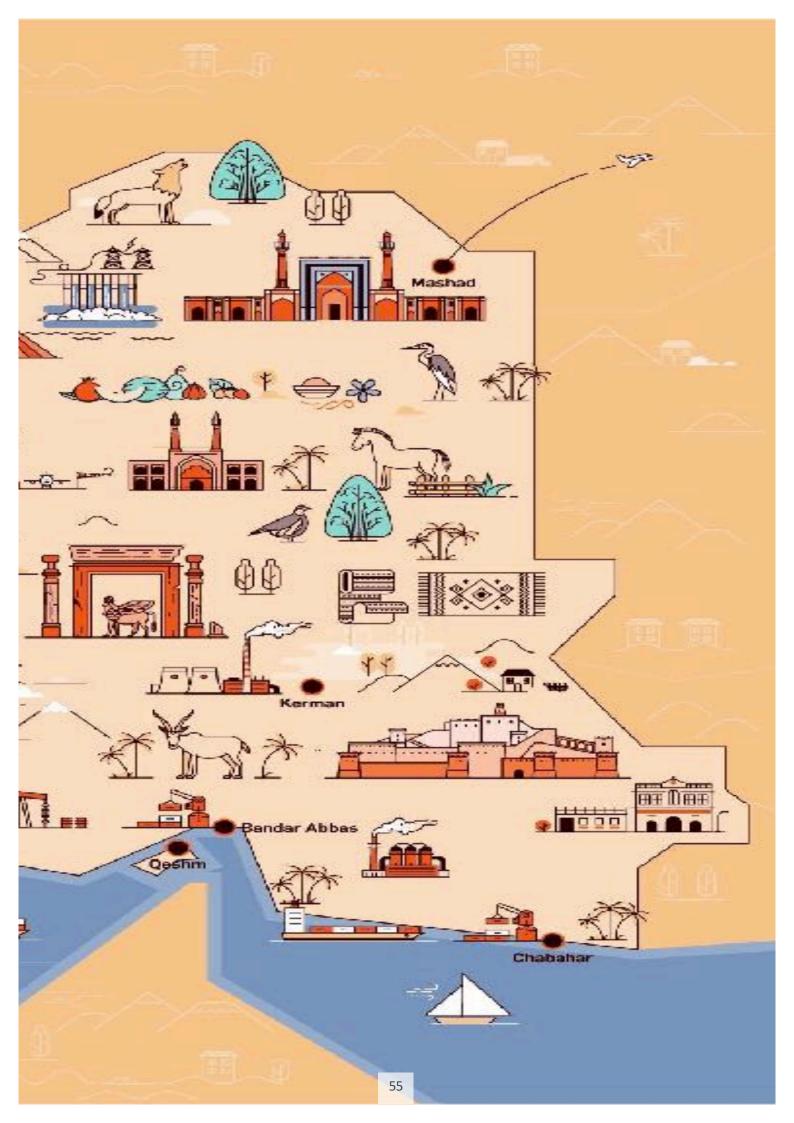
The most significant Iranian ports on the Persian Gulf are Abadan, Khorramshahr, Bandar-e Imam Khomeini (former Shahpur), Mahshahr, Deilam, Genaveh, Rig, Bushehr, Bandar-e Lengeh, and Bandar-e Abbas.

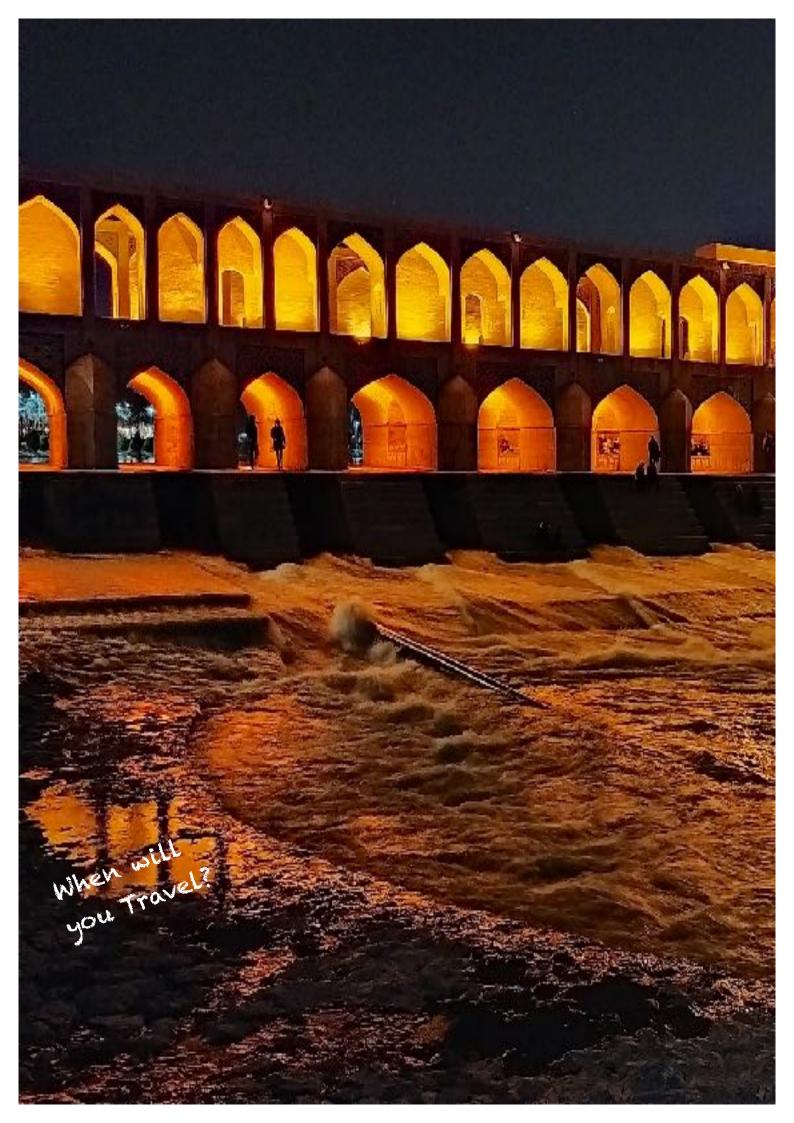
Rivers

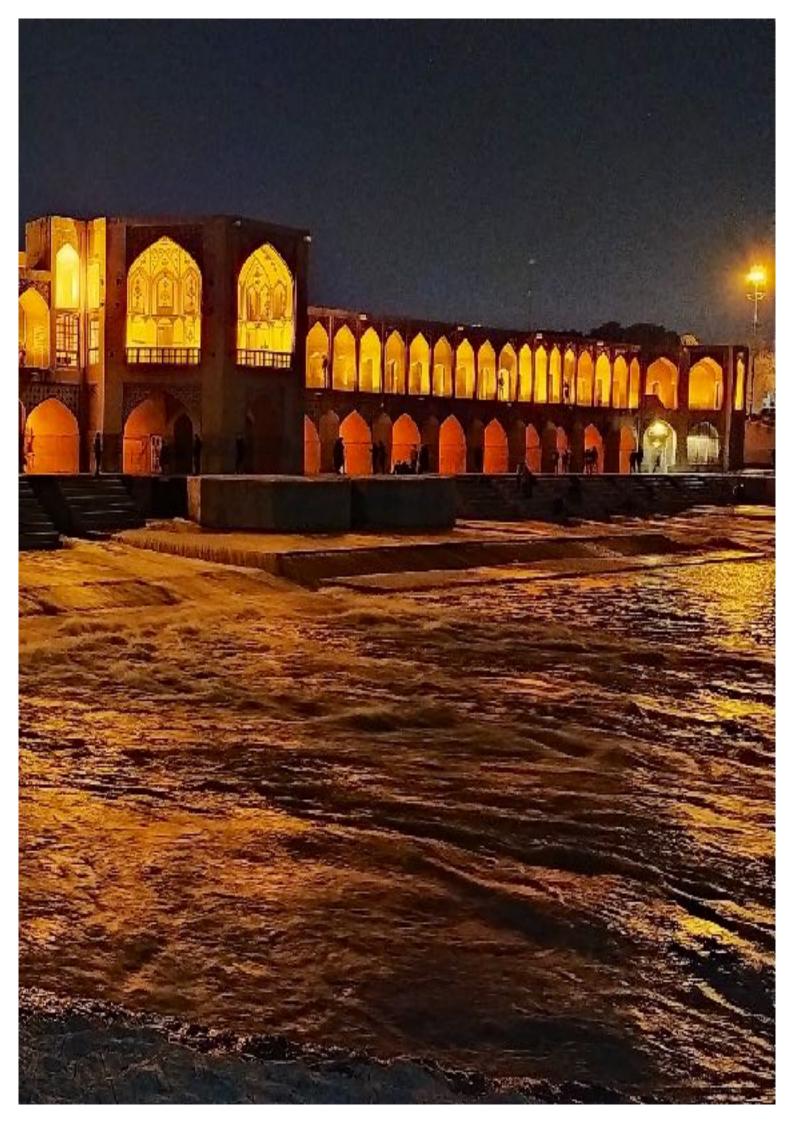
Several rivers are flowing inside Iran mainland, the only navigable of which is the Karun (920-km). Other large rivers are: The Atrak (535 km), Dez (515 km), Hendijan (488 km), Jovein (440 km) Jarahi (438 km), Karkheh (755 km), Mand (685 km), Qara Chai (540 km), Sefid Rud (795 km), and the Zayandeh Rud (405 km). During the summertime, there is little water flowing in the mainland rivers.













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