

# IRAN

Doostan Tours  
Tour and Resort Operator



Explore The  
**Persian**  
Beauty

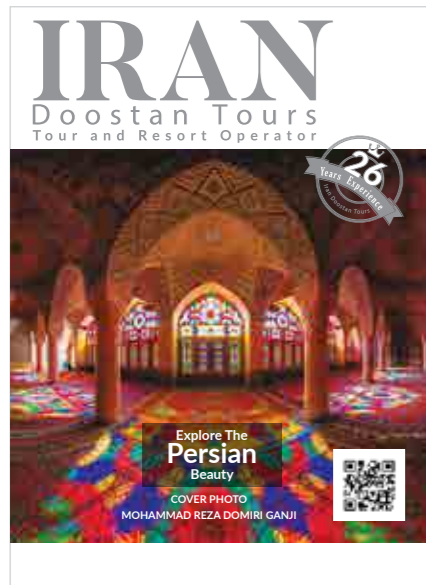






*Travel brings power  
and love back to your life. .Rumi*





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**PROJECT DIRECTOR :**  
M.ALI VAGHEFI

**EXECUTIVE PROJECT MANAGERS:**  
SAEED AZAM  
ABBAS VAGHEFI

**PRODUCTION MANAGER AND CREATIVE DIRECTOR:**  
LIDA SAYAHI

**ART DIRECTOR & GRAPHIC DESIGNER :**  
DENA SHIDFAR

**AUTHOR & EDITOR:**  
MINA BAGHERI

**PHOTO:**  
REINER HARSCHER, PETER KERBER  
SAEED HADIPOUR, KIAN BABAZADEH  
DARIUSH KIANI, MATIN LASHKARI  
RAHBAR KOUHI, KAZIM UZUNOGLU  
KEVEN DILMAGHANI, MOHAMMADALI SADEGHI, IDT ARCHIVE

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# A MESSAGE FROM IRAN DOOSTAN MANAGING DIRECTOR



outstanding architecture that make it one of the top destinations in the world.

From the first day, it was our great mission to offer the best packages and services to our valued customers to create one of their best experiences in life. Over the years, we have hired the most professional staff to design the best packages for four seasons of the year and leave no limits for travelers who want to see Iran at any time of the year.

Establishing the first and only desert eco-resort of Iran in 2010 by following the universal codes of CSR (Corporate Social Responsibility) and SRB (Socially Responsible Business) is one of our developments for this matter. In 2014 Matinabad eco-resort was recognized by UNDP as one of 18 best practices in sustainable (eco) tourism in the world, and in 2015 earned Dr. Taghi Ebtekar's award.

In the years that Iran was highly isolated due to international sanctions and the propaganda against Iran was at its highest, we never gave up on our dreams and tried to continue on working hard based on our principles. IDT participated in important events and shows around the world such as ITB, WTM London and Latin America, FITUR, SITC, MITT, BIT, BTL, COTTM, Dubai ATM, and Adventure Travel Show Washington and LA to present the endless beauties of Iran so the world won't forget our country because of the untrue and negative connotations. And we successfully managed to achieve the "Iran tourism Industry Award of Excellence" in 2008 from Iran's Cultural Heritage, Handicrafts, and Tourism Organization.

We must say we owe all our accomplishments to the trust of our dear customers and it is truly the best achievement of all. Now that the good days for tourism of Iran have come and the international community is starting to see the real Iran, it is our greatest pleasure to be your host and help you discover the beauties of this country and have one of the most fantastic trips of your life. My great team and I are here to help you plan a perfect getaway for you and your family.

### Best Wishes

*M. Ali Vaghefi*

Managing Director  
ali@irandoostan.com

As one of the first tour operator companies in Iran, IRAN DOOSTAN TOURS CO. (IDT) has always tried to represent real Iran to the world. IRAN DOOSTAN literally meaning Iran Lovers was established based on a great love of travel, the legacy from our great ancestors Rumi and Saadi who believed in growth and development of human spirit that is earned with travel only. Iran's rich culture, history, unique nature, and international reputation of its people for adoring their guests became our inspiration to host those who are fascinated by the glory of Iran.

Our passion always guides us to be innovative, so we have a lot of "firsts" on record. IDT is the first tour operator in Iran that had a website, the first who operated a pilgrimage tour to Iran, operated the tour for German soccer team, hired IT employees, established a digital marketing department, and much more.

In today's rapidly changing world, it is our main goal to stand to our values and responsibilities more than ever.

Iran as the birthplace to one of the oldest civilizations on earth has an astonishing collection of historical monuments, unique landscape, holy shrines, artistic museums, and

# BOARD OF DIRECTORS



● **Hadi Ashraf Vaghefi,**  
IDT president, and managing director at  
Matinabad Eco-Resort

● **Saeed Azam**  
IDT product and promotion manager,  
and marketing manager at Iran Mice  
Services.

● **Mohammad Ali Vaghefi**  
Managing director at Iran Doostan Tours Company (IDT) and  
senior vice president and cofounder at Iranian Tour Operators  
Association "ITOA".



# ABOUT

## IRAN DOOSTAN TOURS

With more than two decades experience in travel industry, Iran Doostan Tours (IDT) is one of the pioneers of incoming tours to Iran. By providing the best services and performing a high variety of successful and great quality tours, IDT succeeded to attract the attention of its business partners, who are mainly valid and well-known companies and travel agencies around the globe.

Iran Doostan Tours is specialized in organizing fully escorted academy and study tours, cultural custom made packages, incentive, MICE, adventure, sport, and

health tours to Iran, for individuals and groups. Also, IDT organizes Silk Road Tours, joint tours with CIS countries, and the countries along the Silk Road with the theme of adventure, culture, and nature tours.

In addition to the mentioned activities, we provide services such as Iran visa processing, transfer, and transportation, hotel bookings, domestic and international flight reservations, guides and interpreters for different languages, and hold marketing workshops for the commercial board, trade groups, and exhibition and congress participants.

Prosperously, we established Matinabad desert eco-resort the first eco-resort of Iran, 60km on the south east of Kashan. Matinabad received an award from UNDP in 2014 for being one of 18 best practices in sustainable eco-tourism with potential for replication elsewhere. Also in 2015 Ali Vaghefi, the managing director of IDT received the prestigious award of Dr. Taghi Ebtekar for establishing an eco-resort based on responsible sustainable tourism in Iran.

Our guests at Matinabad can enjoy fun activities in the desert such as visiting natural attractions of the region, wildlife, star observation, camel riding, and desert biking and hiking during their stay at the resort.

IDT is proud to receive the award for being the best tour operator among 3500 Iranian travel agencies and tour operators in 2004, 2008, 2009, 2012, 2013 and 2015. IDT also won the Golden prize of Iran Tourism Industry Awards of Excellence in 2008.

### HIGHLIGHTS OF IDT ACTIVITIES:

- First in receiving Swedish, Colombian, Brazilian, American, Taiwanese and Chinese tourist groups;
- First in receiving overseas VIP guests, such as the Spanish Prime Minister "Jose Maria Aznar" and former professional footballer "Frantz Baekenbauer";
- First in combining cultural tours with adventure, sports and exploration;
- First Iranian travel company to be recognized by German Trade Exhibition Centers as the trustable travel partner abroad;
- First to be involved in Responsible Tourism in Iran which recognizes and promotes the world's leading example of the best practice in responsible tourism development;
- First to establish and operate "Iran's First Eco-Resort"



2004  
The Best Tour Operator  
Trade Promotion Organization  
of Iran



2006  
Awards of Excellence  
Iran Tourism Industry



2008  
Awards of Excellence  
Iran Tourism Industry



2009  
The Best Tour Operator  
Trade Promotion Organization  
of Iran



2012  
The Best Tour Operator  
Trade Promotion Organization  
of Iran



2013  
The Best Tour Operator  
Trade Promotion Organization  
of Iran



2015  
The Best Tour Operator  
Trade Promotion Organization  
of Iran

Member of:





## Iran Doostan Tours

established a new transportation department in 2016 to provide VIP transportation for dear guests traveling in Iran and to offer them a world class experience at every moment during their trip.



# Our Valuable Partner For The Past 16 years



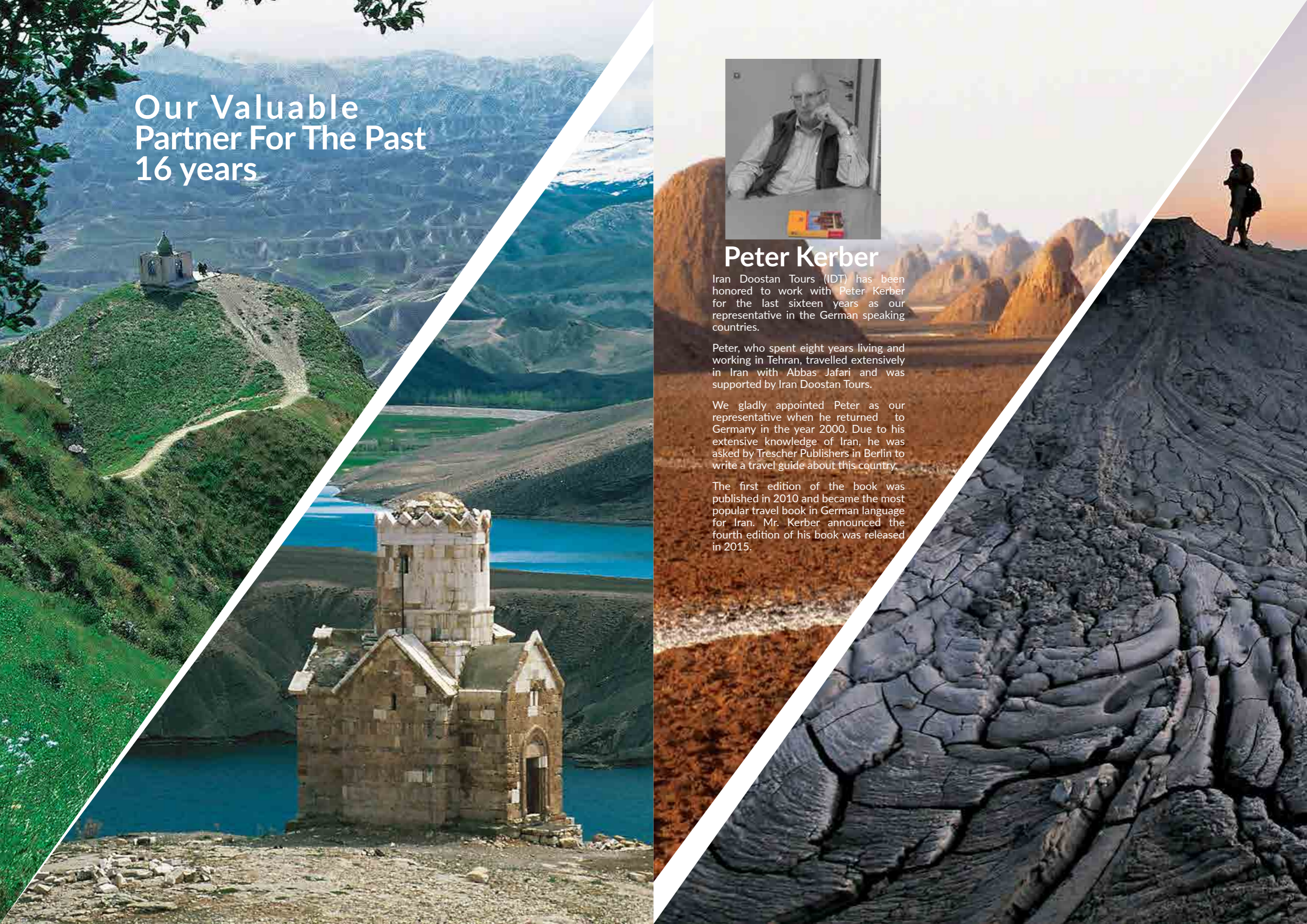
## Peter Kerber

Iran Doostan Tours (IDT) has been honored to work with Peter Kerber for the last sixteen years as our representative in the German speaking countries.

Peter, who spent eight years living and working in Tehran, travelled extensively in Iran with Abbas Jafari and was supported by Iran Doostan Tours.

We gladly appointed Peter as our representative when he returned to Germany in the year 2000. Due to his extensive knowledge of Iran, he was asked by Trescher Publishers in Berlin to write a travel guide about this country.

The first edition of the book was published in 2010 and became the most popular travel book in German language for Iran. Mr. Kerber announced the fourth edition of his book was released in 2015.







## Ludia Grafenstein

A Sincere Interview with our great member who works with us from Germany, Mrs. Ludia Grafenstein.

### Let us know a little about your job background

It's been more than 16 years that I'm working in tourism industry. I gained my experiences through working with Maldives Tourist Board and Tourism Malaysia, where I was in charge of Netherland and German speaking countries.

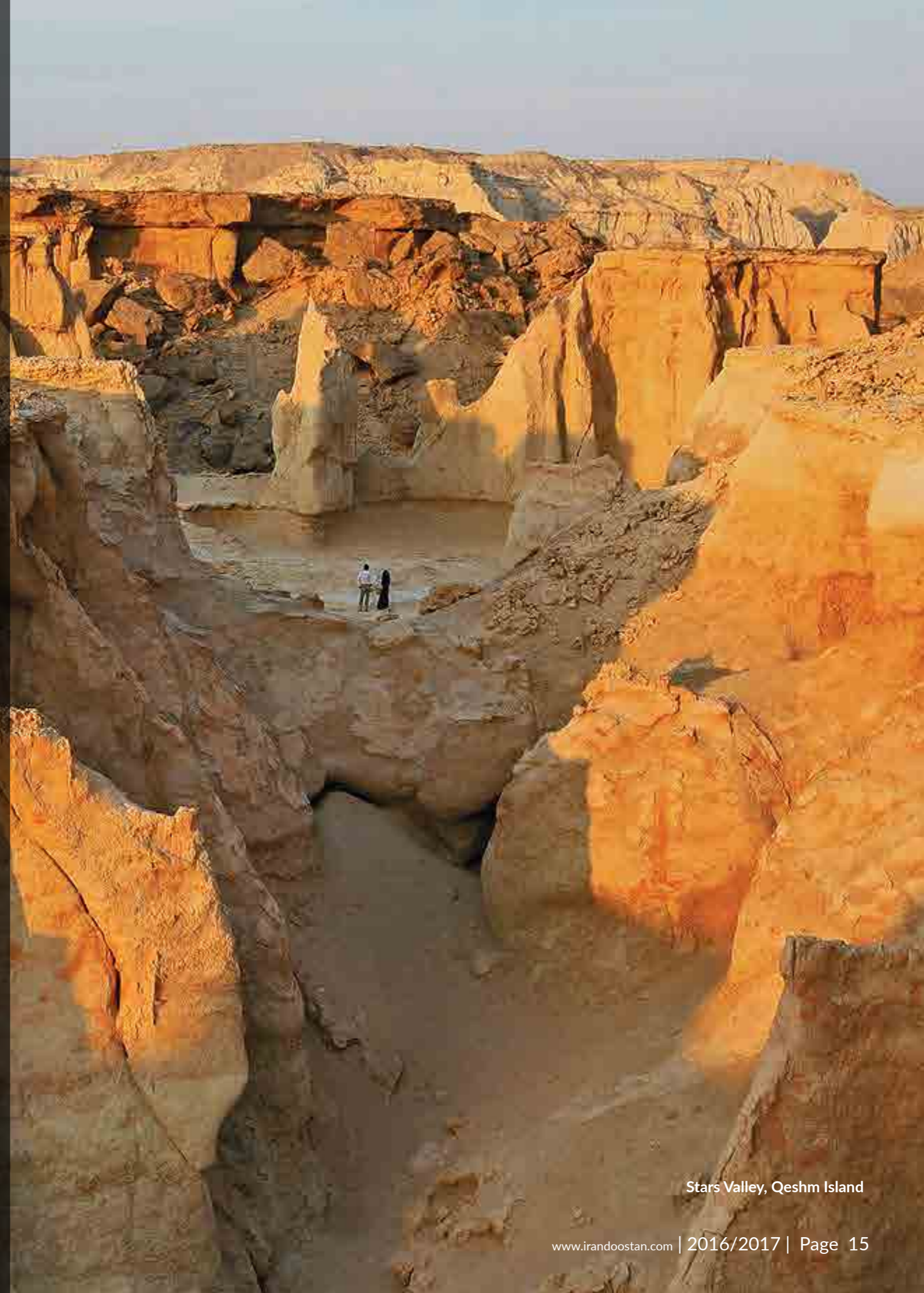
It's been more than eleven years that I'm working with an agency in Berlin, who specialized in tourism marketing. This agency is a part of Team Neusta Company, based in Bremen with more than 800 employees. Some of our clients are TUI, Airtours, TUIfly, VisitBritain, Tourism Spain and Jamaica Tourist Board. I consult tour operators for marketing and organizing events in the German speaking and the Benelux countries.

### How did you start your cooperation with Iran Doostan Tours?

I got in touch with Iran and Iran Doostan Tours when I was traveling for the first time to Iran in 2008. It was a well-organized tour; the places where I traveled and the people that I met left a good impression on me. My favorite way for traveling is by train and Iran Doostan Tours managed to create an itinerary for me to enjoy all the remarkable attractions of the country with railroad only transportation. It was a great experience and also a chance to get to know people. All that experiences gave me the inspiration to travel to Iran again and see more of this amazing country and it inspires me to introduce this country to tour operators to include it in their programs.

In 2014 I had the chance to represent Iran by Iran Doostan Tours. Since I am working with them I have the chance to know and experience new places.

Iran is one of my favorite countries, it is a destination where you can observe and feel different cultures, histories, people, and different amazing landscapes. My favorite places are Isfahan and the south of Iran. All of these chances and opportunities to experience amazing places, foods, people and history were given to me by Iran Doostan Tours.



Stars Valley, Qeshm Island





## René M. Du Terroil

We had a small talk with René M. Du Terroil, our valued representative in North America, to know more about how he became interested in knowing Iran and traveling to this country and asked him about his favorite Iranian dish and city. We must say that we absolutely enjoy working with him since he is so enthusiastic about the Iranian culture and knows the country, people, and the food sometimes even better than us.



### How did you become interested in working with Iran?

My background is in running international educational programs in the Mediterranean. I had a great passion for taking the learning experience out of the classroom and into the field with study tours. Likewise, I have always been a traveller and always been interested in the next place to go. I felt that Iran held enormous potential for educational and professional programs in fields such as cultural heritage, architecture, and history. That was why about ten years ago I took a sabbatical year from work to come to Iran to see for myself.

### How did you start?

Interestingly enough I met my first business contacts through LinkedIn and for several years collaborated with an educational agency that assists Iranian students in going abroad for Masters and Ph.D. programs as well as a small boutique agency that was looking to gain greater exposure in Europe for niche culture tours. These experiences led me to visit more often, give talks to the students in Iran on studying abroad as well as travel to both the iconic and relatively unknown sites of Iran. I was lucky enough to study Farsi for two months in Mashhad at Ferdowsi University; Mashhad is a great city and a very interesting window onto contemporary Iran.

### What is your favorite city in Iran?

Oh, that's easy - it's Tehran! It has its own energy and is the cultural and commercial heart of the country. It is exhilarating and maddening at the same. It possesses all the qualities and defects of a megacity. Nonetheless, there is always something new to discover. I am a great fan of the downtown - the number and types of shops, cafés, and restaurants and constant flow of people. So, after Tehran, I would have to say Yazd as it brings together so many elements of the long history of the country but most notably the elements of the classic desert city such as qanats, badgir, ab anbar, and yak chals that are also iconic Iranian symbols. If you are not a fan of architecture then you can spend the day eating shirini yazdi (confectionary) my favorite being their baqlava.

### What is the greatest misconception about travelling to Iran?

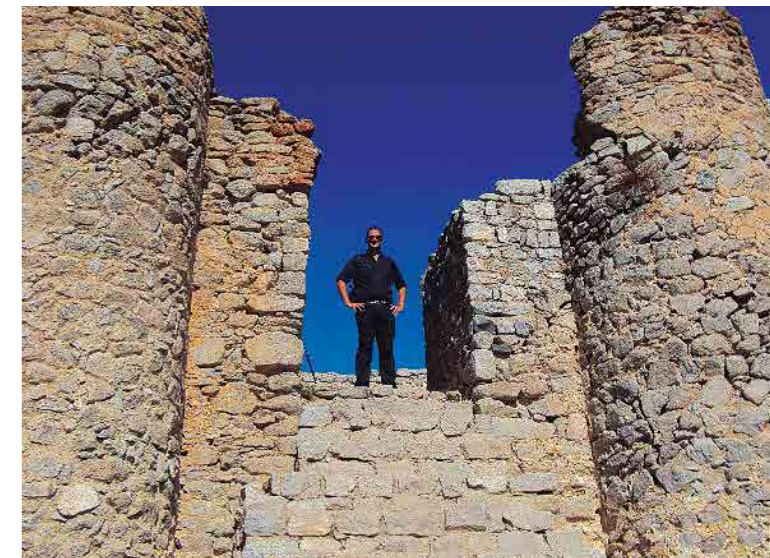
I think there are three main misconceptions, first that you can only visit in the Spring and Fall - Iran is a year-round destination and second that there is so much outside of the traditional Isfahan, Shiraz and Tehran classic tour and third that there is so much to do; it's not just about mosques and museums but also rich cultural festivals, an incredible diverse nature, all kinds of sporting activities and perhaps most importantly an incredibly warm and hospitable people. There is a saying in Iran that "guests are a gift from god" (please check)

### What is your favorite food in Iran?

Oh, that's really difficult - it's not really a fair question - one of my favorite dishes I had for the first time in Lahijan in Gilan. It was Ashpal - which is basically fish roe that you eat on fresh bread with butter and assortment of other things such as cucumbers, raw garlic, walnuts, and a green herb sauce called Delal. I would have to say after that I can't say no to a good Koofteh - and I just learned how to make them at a cooking class last week. I suppose I would have to mention which kebab is my favorite as well, so I will have to go with Bonab from the northwest of Iran, and it is not just because I have the good picture for the article.



Urmia



Babak Castle

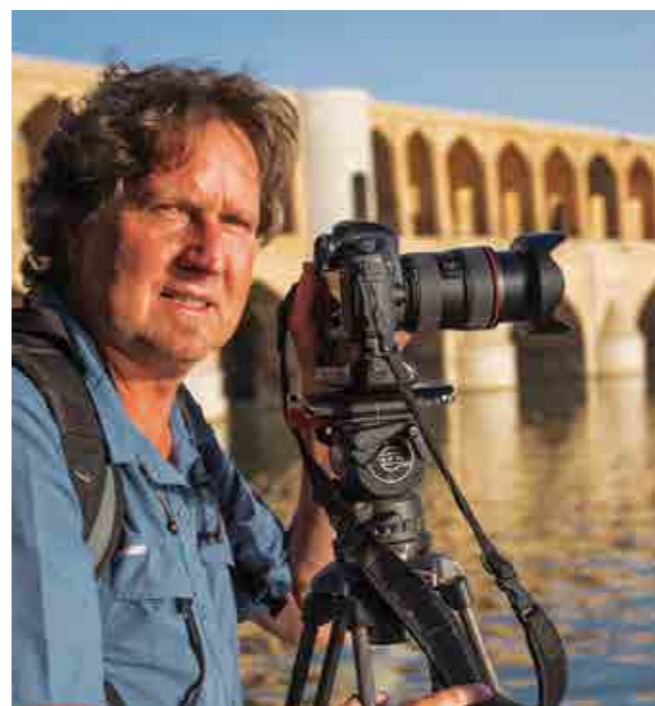


Ashura in Tehran





Reiner Harscher  
HARSCHER FOTOGRAFIE



# ON THE MOVE IN IRAN

AS A TRAVEL PHOTOGRAPHER  
REINER HARSCHER

**D**uring the last ten years, I have visited Iran on several tours and taken pictures of famous cultural sights, beautiful remote places, and breathtaking landscapes, all of which I present in my new Multivision show "Persia". Also, my new book on Persia has appeared with travel and photo tips. The results of my travels with camera in many countries can be seen in my live moderated Multivision shows which leave the audiences deeply fascinated.

Iran is a destination which provides unlimited possibilities for travellers. So, for many years, I have made tours together with Iran Doostan Tours to experience the enchanting, unknown, colourful, and welcoming "old" Persia with my cameras. On my recent travels, I felt that Iran is on the rise and more than ever reveals all facets between modernity and ancient traditions. Courteous people, warm hospitality, and a kaleidoscope of oriental architecture, landscapes, and cultural elements make travelling so exciting and enjoyable in the country. For many years, I led enthusiastic amateur photographers to the beauties of Iran. The tours are designed by me along with Iran Doostan Tours and accompanied by highly motivated and competent tour guides, as Hossein Ziarati or Abbas Piromadian.

## Tabriz

On the way to the northwest of Iran, I also enjoyed the ride on a comfortable public bus which brought me in eight hours from Tehran to Tabriz. Ride comfort and friendliness of the driver was supplemented by the very reasonable ticket price equivalent to 10 Euro.

In Tabriz, Iran Doostan Tours booked me in Gostaresh, a new and modern renovated hotel. From there, I started my tour to the monasteries of St. Taddeus and St. Stephanus. The Thaddeus monastery is an Armenian gem in the wild romantic landscape of West Azerbaijan, near the Turkish border. In May, flowers appear as colourful splashes in the green meadows of the valleys. The fresh restoration has contributed to the preservation of the historic building but needs a little patina to radiate the old charm again.

On the next day, the tucked-away St. Stephanus monastery was reached at the end of a narrow valley, after ascending a short but very steep slope. Again, the architecture is characterized by the typical Armenian domes. Framed by mighty ramparts, the monastery with its church is nestled monumentally in the mountains. The visit of the monasteries is a "must" when travelling through Azerbaijan. Throughout Iran, I encountered a very pleasant and warm hospitality, which I also experienced in Tabriz and Ardebil. Here I explored two of the most beautiful bazaars of Iran: great carpet warehouses, alleys with spices and sweets, fish, fruits, clothing and household items. Nearby, there are modern boutiques and fashionably dressed young men and women who mingle with the black traditionally dressed people.

## Yazd

More than 1200 kilometers to the south, normally the best way to overcome such distances would be by plane, Hossein and I approached the city of Yazd through a great



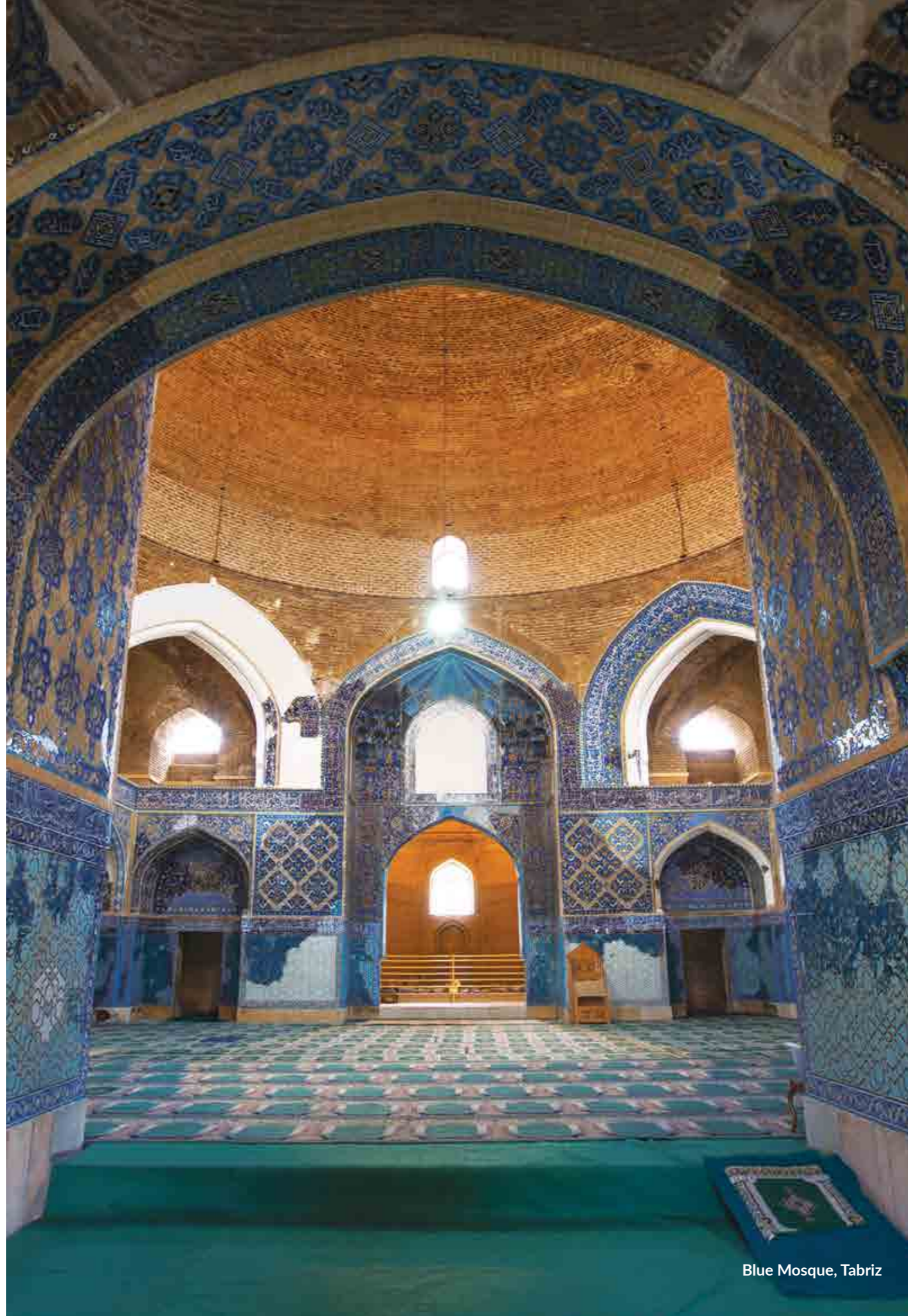


Bazaar, Tabriz

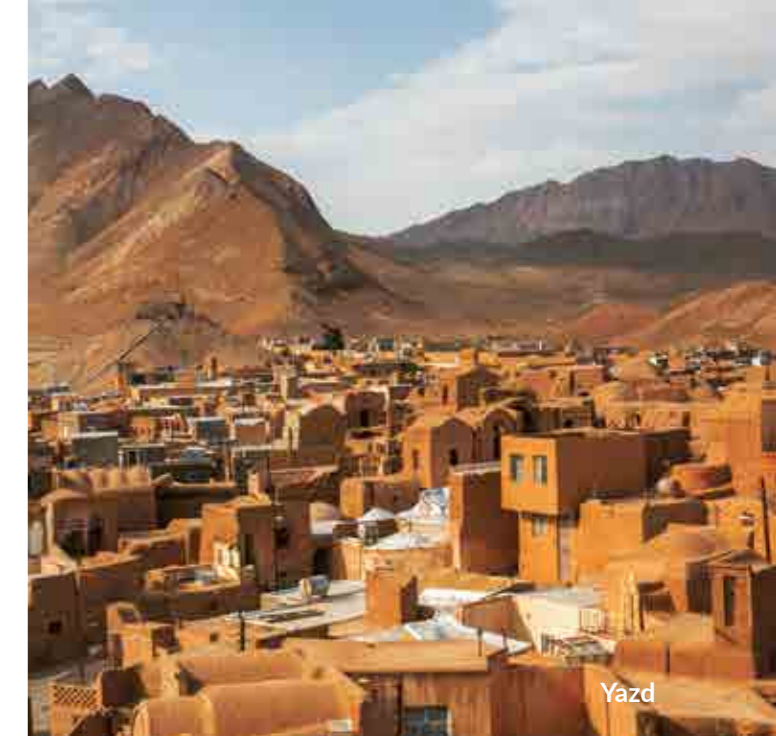
rocky valley which reminded me a bit of the rock scenarios in the American Southwest. For photographers, it is worthwhile to go up a slope only a few hundred meters away from the road to catch the scenery. In Yazd, very impressive sights in the early morning are the famous towers of silence. In a suburb, these towers form platforms on the tops of two foothills, the last elevations before the semi-desert, in which Yazd was probably built in the 5th century. On these Dakhmes (literally, Towers of Silence), up to the mid-20th century, the Zoroastrians exposed their dead to vultures - a custom which is still practiced sporadically by the Parsis in India. In Yazd, there are still some fire temples, because for the Zoroastrian faith fire embodies a cleansing power and symbolizes god.

Zarathustra, the ancient Iranian prophet (628 to 551 BCE) worshiped Ahura Mazda as the only God. Thus Zoroastrianism is one of the oldest monotheistic religions of the world. Zarathustra propagated the principle of good and evil, the equality of all people and the responsibility of individuals. "Good Thoughts, Good Speech, and Good Deeds" have been the guiding principles of his teaching. It was implemented by the Achaemenids as the state religion. Even today, several thousand Zoroastrians who also speak their own language live in their own districts, mainly in the provinces of Yazd and Kerman.

Yazd lies at almost 1200 meters altitude and is surrounded by desert. To provide the city with water an underground channel system (qanats) has been established thousands of years ago. This system is explained in a water museum. In the nearby



Blue Mosque, Tabriz



Yazd

Meydan-e Amir Chaqmaq, a central square in the old town, the Fountain of Water Carriers raises its bubbles and jets. A magnificent backdrop is formed by Tekiyeh Amir Chaqmaq, which is used as grandstand by the spectators of passion plays. Through a maze of narrow streets, we walked past windtowers which Yazd is famous for and finally we reached the Friday Mosque. After removing our shoes, also we as non-Muslims could enter the mosque as in almost all mosques in Iran. Also taking photos is permitted. Thousands of colourful tiles make the huge facade of Jame Mosque a single artwork. Then, in the crowded gold bazaar of Yazd, we could see every type of jewellery.

### Nain

In north-western direction, Nain is located at the western edge of the Dasht-e Kavir. In the city center, the old octagonal minaret of the Friday Mosque rises into the sky. The single minaret testifies Sunni origin of this building from 960, one of the oldest mosques in Iran. The old bazaar is not in use anymore. Nain has long been famous for the so-called Abas, coat-like capes of camel's hair, which are worn primarily by the mullahs. In Mohammadiyeh we looked into the old workshops and could only see a few weavers still operating the looms.

Throughout the region of Nain, carpet manufacturing has a long tradition. It was an unforgettable experience to be a guest in the home of a family where a large TV and the loom play an important role. Although the women take turns in weaving, it sometimes takes a whole year to make a large carpet.









# GUEST EXPERIENCE

The pleasure of serving thousands of guests over the years becomes even more delightful when we hear their satisfaction. Their happiness feeds our passion.

**Emil Kostadinov**

**Germany**

Dear friends,

I just came from this wonderful trip to Iran and want to give you feedback about my (and the group) impressions.

First of all, I want to say my biggest thanks for all of you spending time with us and support me and my group.

It was again a wonderful trip and it all worked perfectly. This opinion is mine and also of the group.

Without a doubt, Iran is my top favorite land, where I will go back again and again in the past and the future. The public holiday was a very special day, and we did something completely new and "on the fly-program", but I'm positive surprised at how well everything worked. Of course thanks to our straightforward teamwork.

We had the opportunities to talk about many things in Iranian lifestyle and share with the group. The restaurants, the small goodies on the streets like the bakery visit etc. It was not only "business as usual" for you and this was great. Thanks for that!

So, I'm happy (since 2012 with the first group in Iran) that all worked very well and I cannot wait to travel to Iran and to meet you all again.

**Lois Alpert**

**USA**

Dear Miss Pariyari,

Thank you so much for your help in arranging our wonderful Iran tour.

I particularly want to thank you for your help in arranging for our visit to Taq-e-Bostan. You should have seen us climbing rocks and crossing streams to get to the iwans.

The special visit to the Treasury at the Golestan Palace to see the books and paintings was surely a trip highlight.

These were only two of the many special arrangements that he made to ensure that we had an experience that was wonderful for a group of museum people.

I have never felt so welcome in any of my trips or kissed so often. We were approached by so many people, curious and caring. We are going to appear in so many family photos. The people of Iran are truly special.

**Family von Kotzebue**

**Germany**

Dear Mr. Saeed Azam

I would like to thank you for the excellent organization and support for our trip to Iran. Everything went very well and professional. Mr. Sajad Ashtiani was a very, very good Driver and Guide.

You can trust any Group or person in his hands. We actually would not have needed the extra Guides, if we had known how good he is. Iran was and is a great country very nice people, fantastic Sites good Climate and good Food.

We enjoyed every Minute. It is a shame that our Media reports only negative from Iran not knowing how it really is. Most of the writers do not even know where Iran is. I also told Nomad Tours and Mr. Kerber how great our trip was. Thank you again and best regards Family von Kotzebue.





## THE BEST HISTORY OF IRAN

### Cyrus Cylinder

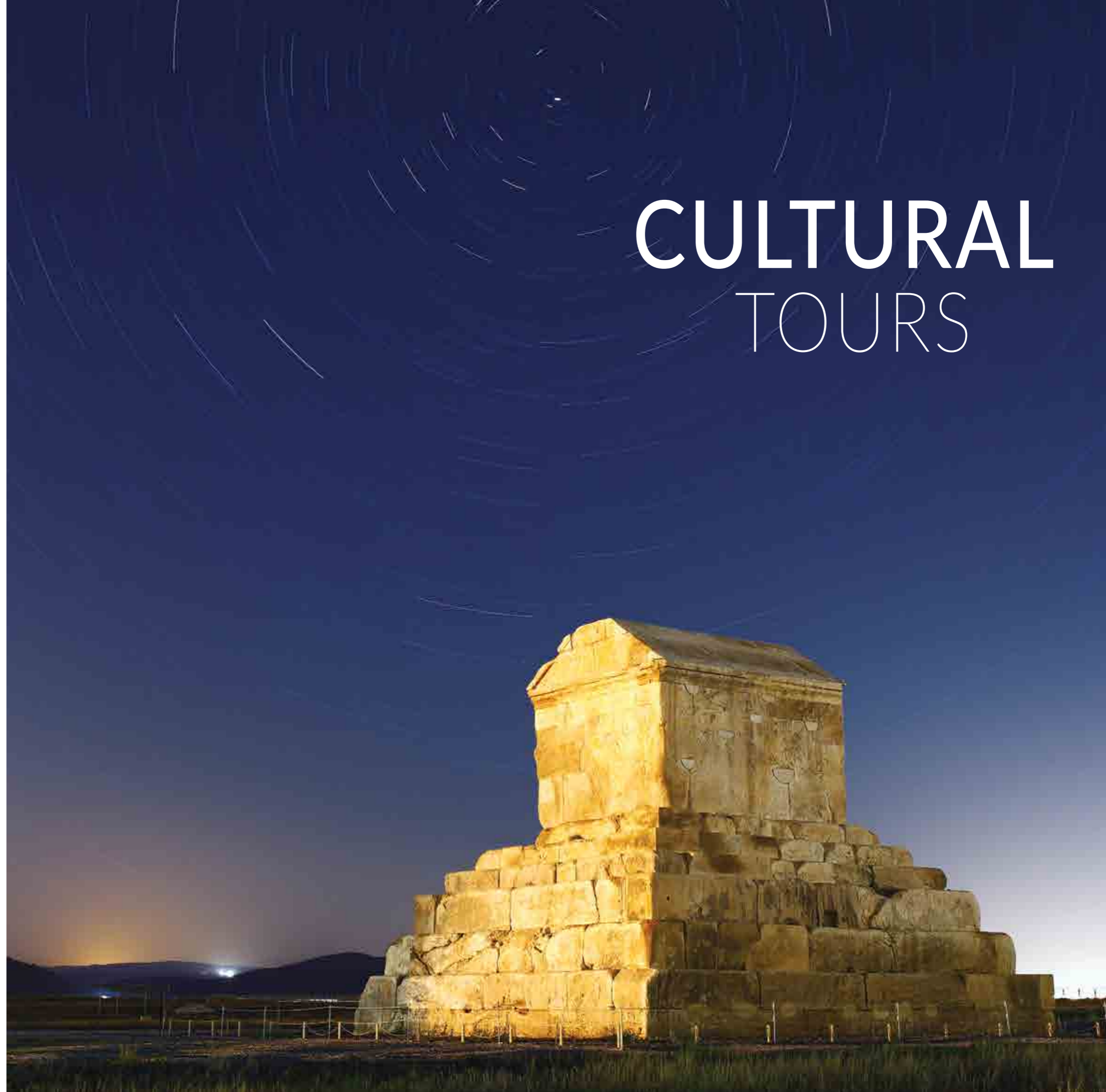
"I am Cyrus, king of the world, great king, mighty king, king of Babylon, king of the lands of Sumer and Akkad, king of the four quarters of the universe,... After entering Babylon in peace, amidst joy and jubilation I made the royal palace the center of my rule. The great lord Marduk, who loves Babylon, with great magnanimity, established (it) as (my) destiny, and I sought to worship him each day. My teeming army paraded about Babylon in peace, and I did not allow any trouble in all of Sumer and Akkad. I took great care to peacefully (protect) the city of Babylon and its cult places. (And) as for the citizens of Babylon ... whom (Nabonidus) had made subservient in a manner (totally) unsuited to them against the will of the gods, I released them from their weariness and loosened their burden."

---

### Cyrus Tomb , Pasargadae

Nothing has remained from all that glory, power, wealth, greatness, dreamy Persian gardens, epic structures, and countless loyal soldiers, but one lonely stony structure in the middle of a wide field under the sapphire blue sky; the tomb of Cyrus the Great in his glorious capital, Pasargadae. The only element making this structure very special is the fact that it embraced the body of one of the greatest souls in human history, the powerful king who used his power to create a multi-culture nation expanding from Egypt to the borders of China with justice, integrity, fairness, and giving them the freedom to choose their religion without 'owning' people. His ethics established the grounds for having a universal Declaration of Human Rights.

# CULTURAL TOURS







# PERSIA

## THE RAYS OF SPLENDOUR

Iran is renowned for its history, architecture, elegant gardens, scrumptious food, and hospitable people. With twenty-one UNESCO world heritage sites, it is one of the countries with the most tourist attractions in the world.

The word Iran originates from Aryan, the Indo-European people who occupied Iranian plateau in second millennia B.C and it has survived ever since. And it has endured a rough history with so many invasions, different empires, loyal, and unfaithful kings.

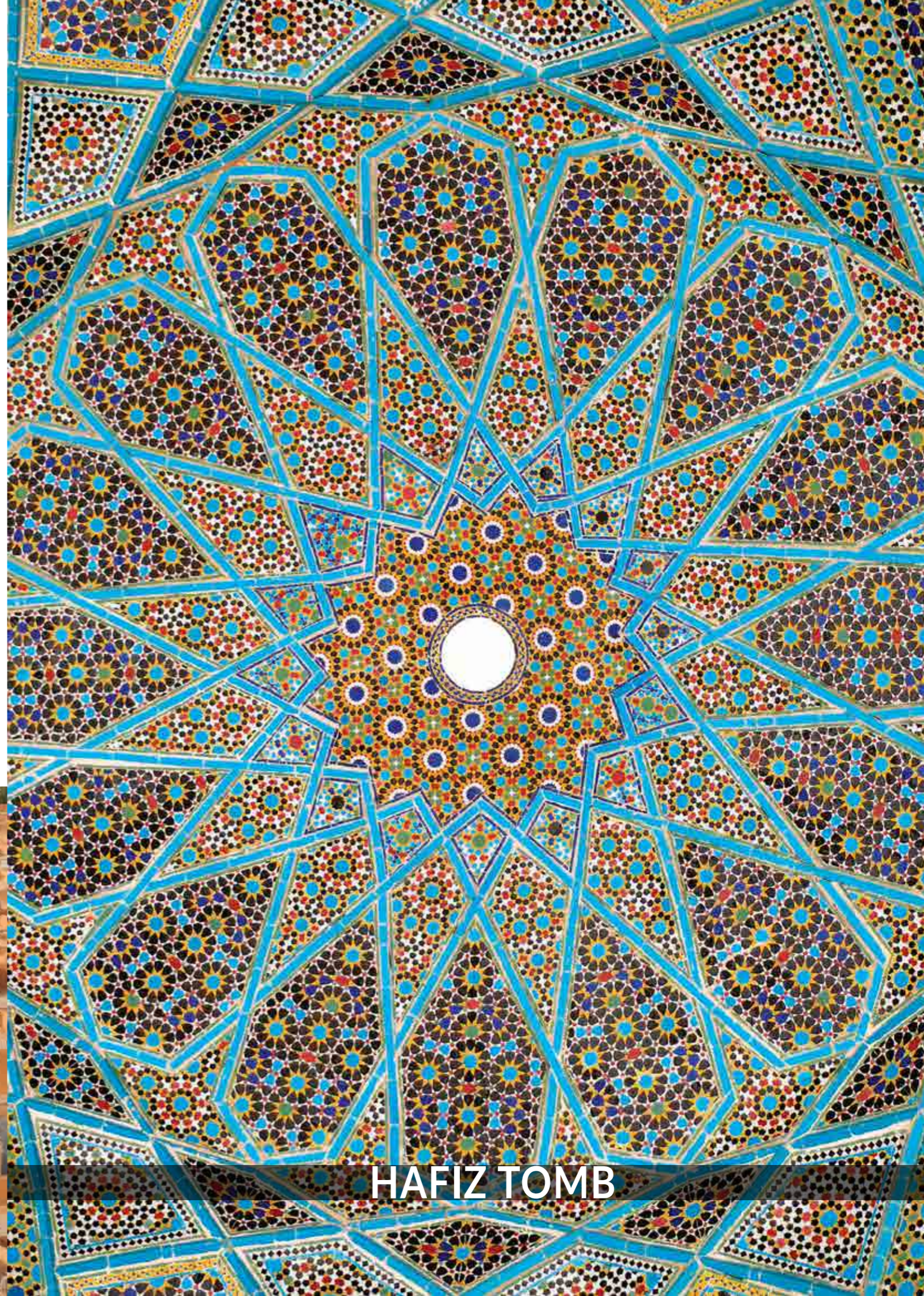
Sitting on a critical spot, connecting west and east, made Iran the center of attention for the neighbors and other kingdoms. But what gives Iran and Iranians their special character is the strength and survival they showed over the invasions of tribes, nations, and religions and staying 'Iran' to this date. "Iranians did not become the invaders; the invaders became Iranian."

This super dynamic history can be seen in gorgeous palaces, monuments, and glorious ruins all over the country. Every city and every region has so many tales for you. This land raised the great figures like Hafez, Rumi, Ferdowsi, Saadi, Khaym, and thousands more who composed such masterpieces that are still teaching to the twenty-first-century-human and life without them is unimaginable.

To see and absorb all the glory of Iran, we have designed comprehensive tour packages and itineraries with professional and well-educated guides, to give you a one in a life time experience in this ancient country.



JAME MOSQUE, YAZD



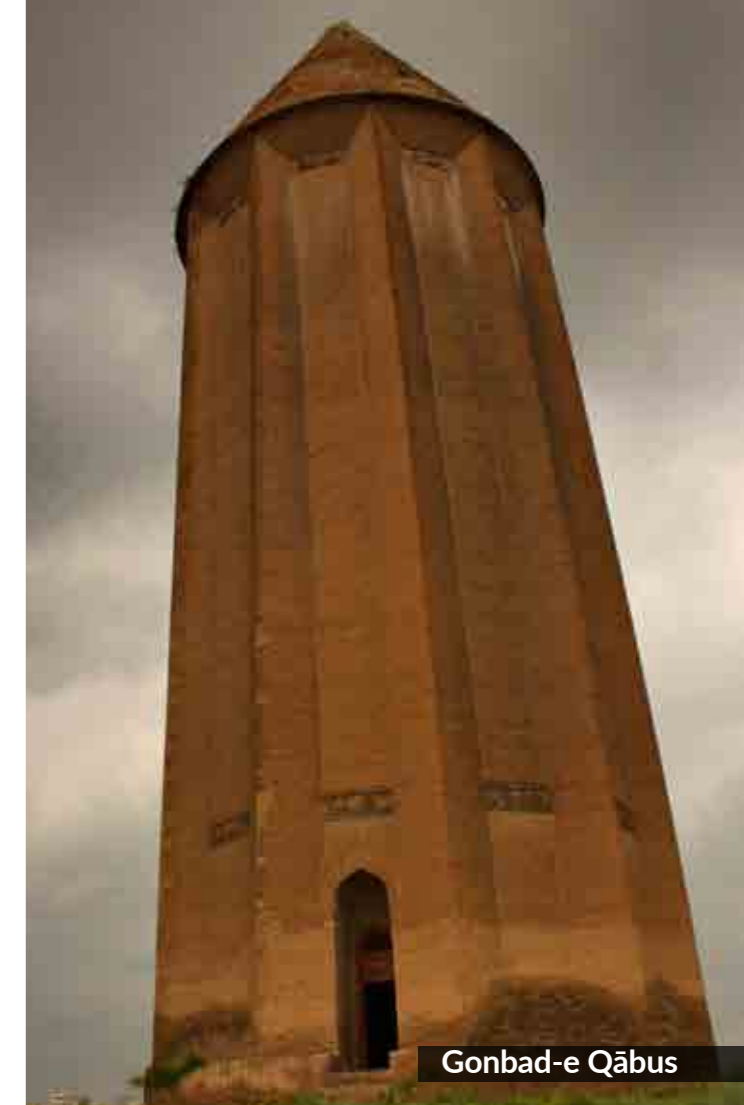
HAFIZ TOMB



## IRAN UNESCO WORLD HERITAGE SITES

IRAN IS ONE OF THE WORLD'S BIGGEST UNTAPPED TOURIST DESTINATIONS HAVING 21 UNESCO WORLD HERITAGE SITES AND FASCINATING NATURAL ATTRACTIONS.

THE LIST IS AS FOLLOVED:



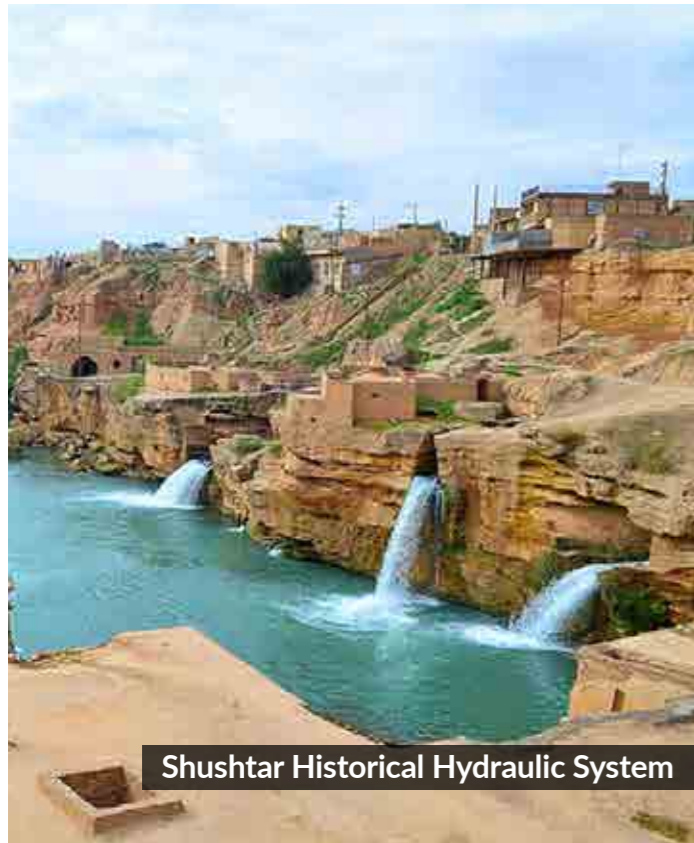




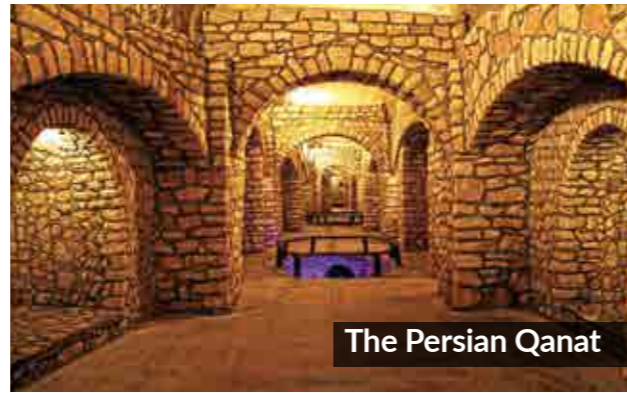
Dome of Soltaniyeh



The Persian Garden



Shushtar Historical Hydraulic System



The Persian Qanat



Susa



Lut Desert



Cultural Landscape of Maymand



Bisotun



Meidan Emam, Esfahan



# A TOUR TO IRAN'S UNESCO WORLD HERITAGE SITES



## DAY 01: TEHRAN

Arrive to Tehran IKA, Welcome and Greetings by our Guide, Transfer to hotel. O/N in Tehran

## DAY 02: TEHRAN

Full day city tour in Tehran, starting with Archaeology Museum, and Golestan Complex (UWH) then National Jewelry Museum or Glass and Ceramics Museum, sightseeing Baghe Mellis Portal. Visit Tabiat Bridge O/N in Tehran

## DAY 03: Tehran , Ahvaz

Morning Stroll through Great Bazaar of Tehran. Then transfer to airport for the flight to Ahvaz. Accommodation in the hotel and take a rest. Visit the bridges across the Karun River P.M. O/N in Ahvaz

## DAY 04: Ahvaz, Shush, Tchogan Zanbil, Shushtar

Ahvaz Drive to Shush (UWH) visit Apadana Mound, Daniel Grave and Haft Tape which is an archaeological site and Chogha Zanbil/Zikkurat (UWH), city of Shushtar (UWH) with Qajar Water Mills, back to Ahvaz. O/N in Ahvaz

## DAY 05: Ahvaz, Shiraz

Drive to Shiraz, en route visit Bishapur with ruins of Sassanid Town and Reliefs in Tange Chowgan, arrive in Shiraz and accommodation in Hotel. O/N in Shiraz.

## DAY 06: Shiraz

After breakfast visiting Eram Garden(UWH), Nasir ol Mulk Mosque, the Tomb of Hafez and Saadi who were great Persian poets. Visiting Qoran Gate. If time permits Vakil Mosque and Bazaar. After that visiting the Shrine of Ali Ebn e Hamzeh and the Holy Shrine of Shah Cheragh from outside. O/N in Shiraz

## DAY 07: Shiraz

Early morning excursion to Persepolis (UWH), the ruins of the ancient Persian capital, the necropolis (Naq-E-Rustam) of the Achaemenid, Pasargadae (UWH) the tomb of Cyrus The Great. Back to Shiraz.O/N in Shiraz

## DAY 08: Kerman

Kerman Full day drive to Kerman via Estahban; visit Sasanid Palace on the way in Sarvestan. O/N in Kerman

## Day 09:Kerman, Mahan, Rayen, Arge Bam, Kerman

Morning excursion in Mahan visiting the Mausoleum of Shah Nematollah Vali and former royal Shazdeh Garden (UWH), after visit of ruined fortress in Rayen, Continue to Bam, Visit Arge Bam (UWH). Return to Kerman. O/N in Kerman

## Day 10: Kerman, Yazd

Morning visit Ganjali Khan Complex in Kerman, drive to Yazd through FAHRAJ vilage, and visit JAME Mosque there. Accommodation in Yazd. O/N in Yazd

## Day 11: Yazd, Isfahan

In Yazd morning drive to Mehriz, visit Pahlanpour Garden(UWH), drive back to Yazd, visit Zoroastrian Fire Temple where the flames have been burning for hundreds of years and the Dowlatabad Garden(UWH), leaving Yazd to Isfahan P.M. En route visiting Naein's Jame Mosque.O/N in Isfahan

## Day 12: Isfahan

Full day city tour in Isfahan, visit Naghshe Jahan Square (UWH), includes Imam & Sheikh Lotfollah Mosques, Ali Qapou Palace and walk through Gheysarieh Bazaar. Also visit Chehel Sotun Palace (UWH). At night Stroll among the significant old bridges across the ZayandehRoud River. O/N in Isfahan

## Day 13: Isfahan, Kashan, Tehran

Start our day visiting Jame Mosque (UWH), drive to Kashan, en route visit Natanz's Jame Mosque and Ceramic Workshop and Archeological museum, Continue to Kashan visit Fin Garden(UWH) and Tabataie's House. Continue to Tehran. O/N in Tehran



## Day 14: Tehran, Qazvin, Zanjan

Morning drive to Qazvin, In Qazvin visit Chehel Sotun Palace and Imam Zadeh Hosein Shrine. Drive to Zanjan. En route visit Soltanieh Dome (UWH). In Zanjan visit Archiological Museum and if time permits visit Seyed Ebrahim Monument. O/N in Zanjan

## Day 15: Zanjan, Ardabil

Drive to Ardabil via Khalkhal Road. In Ardabil visit the Tomb of Sheikh Safi (UWH) and Museum of Anthropology. Free time in the evening. O/N in Ardebil

## Day 16: Ardabil, Tabriz

Drive to Tabriz via Khajeh coloured hills and Meshkin Shahr. Visit Tabriz Bazaar (UWH) and Ali Shah Arg remained from 14th century. Go to El Goli Park P.M. O/N in Tabriz



## Day 17: Tabriz, Jolfa, Qareh Kelisa, Tabriz

Full day excursion. Drive to Jolfa, enjoy the landscapes, in Jolfa visit the St.Stefanos Church (UWH). After that drive to Qareh Kelisa visit Taddaus Church (UWH). Drive back to Tabriz, en route visit Marand. O/N in Tabriz

## Day 18: Tabriz, B. Anzali

In the morning visit Blue Mosque, drive to B. Anzali. O/N in B. Anzali

## Day 19: B. Anzali, Tehran

Visit Fish Market and the lagoon in B. Anzali. Then Drive to Tehran, en route visit Museum of rural House of Gilan. Continue to Tehran. O/N Tehran

## Day 20: Dep

Transfer to airport for the flight back home.



# IRAN NOMADS





As the cool breeze of autumn brings the news that cold days are coming, the nomads start packing up their home to move to the warm areas. Mountains and plains of Iran are their courtyards; they are the sweetheart of this land; they are Iranian nomads. Going to the mountain during a summer tour in Iran will give you a great opportunity to see the nomads on the base of mountains.

Plains, mountains, and river banks have been the homeland of nomads for many centuries now. These ancient people are still living in an antique nomadic way.

From eighth to sixth century BC, the tribes living in central Asia and Iran shifted to live a nomadic life because of the economic growth of cattle-breeding. And for tribes to feed their cattle and keep them healthy and alive they had to move with the moderate climate.

Living in the heart of nature made the nomads true experts of using the most basic material available to them to convert them to the most practical tools and gears for a living. Throughout centuries nomads learned to flawlessly weave their sheep's wool to make tents that protect them from natural elements such as the wind, rain, and sunlight. No one knows the date that weaving was originated or from where the nomads gained the knowledge about the great and unique functionality of sheep's wool as the best material for their tents.

The extremely talented nomadic women are the identity of handicraft works in Iran. They amaze us by making the walls and roof of their home, from the goat wool, by their own hands. These all-time-travellers weave a home for their family that is light and easy to move, also a warm/cool home for all seasons of the year. In the rain, the goat wool sticks together and stops the water and humidity to enter the tent. During the warmer days, the hairs of this fabric are aparted from each other which lets the fresh air get in to the tent.

The hands of Bakhtiari people gained seven UNESCO Seals of Excellence in 2015. These beautiful hands weave cotton, silk, and velvet so gorgeously that can win the award of excellence from UNESCO. Bakhtiari Tribe has passed their stunning knowledge on converting the local raw materials from the most sustainable resources to a spectacular piece of work that not only decorates our home but also becomes a purely ornamental piece of our soul. In your tour in Iran, if you don't get to meet the nomads, you can buy their crafts from the stores in most cities.

## ANCIENT IRANIAN NOMADS



“Kilim” a Turkish word refers to a textile produced by a flat-weaving technique which has been passed through generations by the ancient nomadic people. Kilim is primarily made of sheep wool; goat, camel, or horse hair, cotton, and silk are sometimes used as well. Knife, scissors, beating comb, loom, and shuttle are the tools that nomad women use to weave the Kilims. Leaving a gap between two color blocks in the Kilim creates a slit, which refers to the name slitweaving technique that is used to weave this beautiful handicraft. Kilim is not used for covering floors only. There are mule saddle, hangings, bench or divan coverings, and bags that are made of this textile too. It can be a great souvenir to buy for your loved ones when you go back home after your tour in Iran.

To live under any ceiling other than the sky is suffocating for nomad. No land can bear to hold their strong roots and these people are constantly on the move. Travelling thousands of miles every year is like chasing the life. They have the nature flowing in their veins so they can change by the season changings in the year.



Turkmen Nomad







# PERSIAN CUISINE

A HEALING MEDICINE FOR  
THE BODY AND SOUL

Persian cuisine is not just ancient and cosmopolitan; it is also therapeutic for the body and soul. The legendary Physician and Philosopher, Avicenna, in his great book *The Canon of Medicine* describes the healing and beneficial aspects of different foods, fruits, and vegetables for the body.

He explains every human body has a temperament that must be in balance with the food and drinks' nature. On your travel to Iran you might hear some foods are cold or hot. For instance walnut, pepper, and lamb has hot nature, apple, green tea, and fish have cold nature.

Every city in every province of Iran has hundreds of dishes local to the area for every season of the year so we just picked a few of the most famous one that you must try on your visit to Iran.





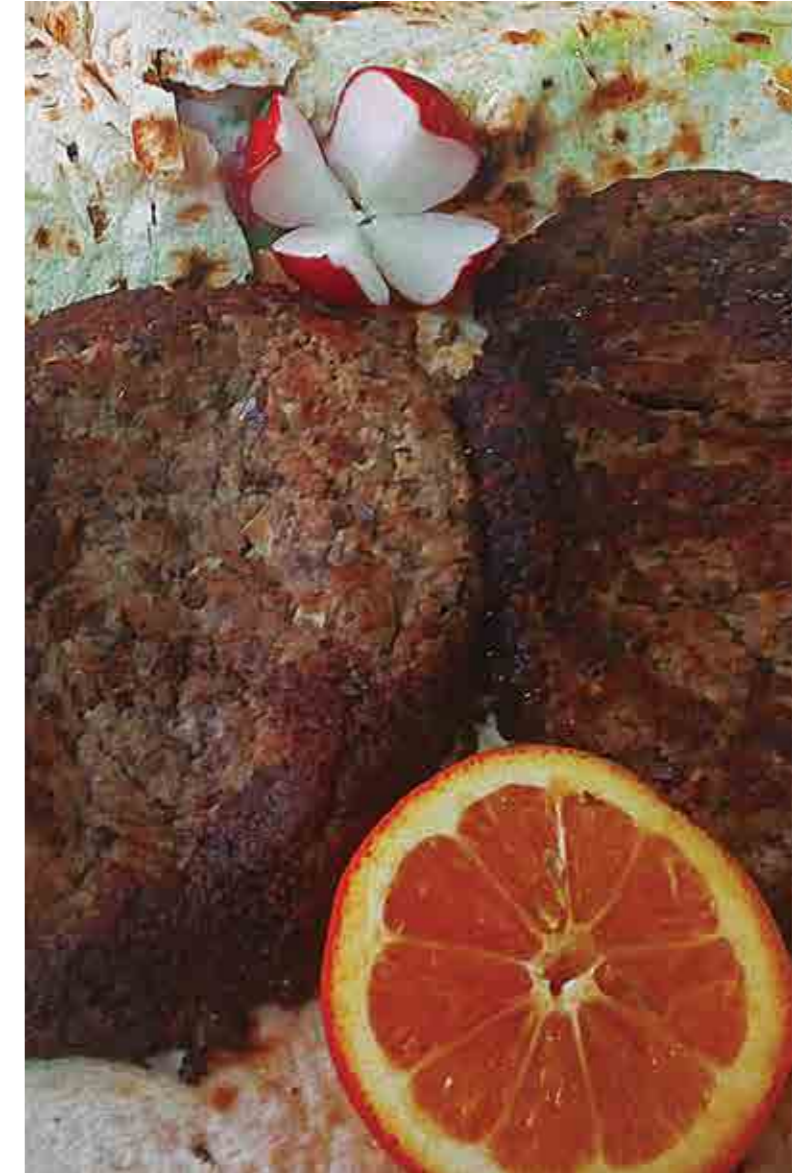


### Goosht-Loobia

This food literally meaning meat and bean, is simple to cook that is in harmony with the life style of the locals in Kashan. Once the ingredients go in the pot there is nothing else that needs to be done, just wait for it to be cooked and ready. This process is very convenient for the lady of the house who has many other domestic jobs such as carpet weaving or taking care of livestock. The ingredients are meat that must be leg of lamb, beans, onion, salt and a generous amount of turmeric and water.

### Beryani

When the Isfahani hands get to work, whether to create an exquisite tile work or to cook a Beryani dish, it creates magic. Beryani the traditional food of Isfahan is made with lamb only. The lamb is boiled in broth of onion, spices, and saffron, and then minced until it is soft and moist. Right before serving, the lamb will be fried and baked. The meat patty is served on a piece of tender bread with walnut, almond, and a splash of cinnamon on top. The taste of Beryani will be more heavenly with fresh basils, raw onion, and a squeeze of Narenj (Persian orange).



### Gheymeh Nesar

The taste of Persian barberries, pistachio, cinnamon, rose water, turmeric, cardamom, and saffron will take you to the magnificent feast of a Persian king in his exotic palace with all the gorgeous decorations on the walls and silk carpets on the floor. Gheymeh Nesar of Ghazvin is one of the best moments of your travel to Iran. It is a food mostly made for special events. The topping of the rice has almond, pistachio, orange pill slices, Persian barberries, and lamb meat.



### Faloodeh

This traditional icy dessert is one of most favorites among Persian people since ancient times. Faloodeh is made with a semi frozen refreshing syrup of rose water, sugar, and lime juice mixed with frozen thin noodles. It is a wonderful experience especially on a hot summer day. In Kerman Faloodeh is served with rose water and peppermint extract and in Shiraz it is served with sour-cherry syrup or lime juice. You can find the finest Faloodeh in Shiraz.

### Kalam Polo

This is one of the traditional foods of Shiraz that will make your trip to this city just perfect. It's a combination of aromatic herbs, rice, and meatballs. Kalam Polo meaning cabbage rice is made with chopped cabbage roasted with dill, tarragon, basil, and parsley. This delicious mixture will be cooked with rice and meatballs and of course the addition of saffron and turmeric. And the final touch to make this delicious dish even more delightful is placing some caramelized onion on top.



# IRAN

## CULINARY TOUR

Every traditional Iranian food has a story behind it that could make your trip more adventurous. If you love cooking and like to learn the recipes of Iranian food, we can give you the opportunity to experience this. You can buy ingredients in local bazaar, then a local chef will show you how to cook these dishes in addition to how they serve the food locally. A touch their life.

### DAY 01: SHIRAZ

Arrive to Shiraz, Transferring to the Hotel. O/N in Shiraz

### DAY 02: SHIRAZ

After breakfast visit Narenjestan Or Eram Garden, the Tomb of Hafez and Saadi who were great Persian poets, visit Nasir ol Mulk Mosque and Vakil Bazaar and also Qoran Gate. On this day you would try a traditional Shirazian Deseret called Faloodeh, and have a traditional Shirazian Food called Kalam polo in a local house. O/N in Shiraz

### DAY 03: SHIRAZ , ISFAHAN

In the morning excursion to Persepolis which was the ceremonial capital of Achaemenian and Naqsh-e-Rostam Achaemenian's Necropolis, continue driving to Isfahan. O/N in Isfahan

### DAY 04: ISFAHAN

After breakfast, going to Naghsh-e-Jahan Square which was built in 16th century and has four monuments at its dimensions, Ali-Qapou Palace, Shah Mosque, Bazaar and Sheikh lotfollah Mosque which is a masterpiece of Iranian and Islamic architectures. Visit Chehel Sotoon Palace. Have a break at the tea house P.M. ( In Bazaar you will have a traditional Isfahanian Food Called: Beryouni) O/N in Isfahan

### DAY 05: ISFAHAN

After breakfast full day sightseeing Isfahan, visit Vank church and its museum, walk through Jolfa district with its beautiful old texture. Visit old Jame mosque. At night Stroll along old bridges across Zayandeh Roud River such as Siosepol and Pole Khajou. O/N in Isfahan.

### DAY 06: ISFAHAN , YAZD

Morning drive to Yazd, en route visit Nayin's Jame Mosque and Pirnia House (closed on Mondays). Continue to Yazd via Meybod, visit Meybod beautiful Narin Castle and old caravanserai. Continue to Yazd. O/N in Yazd

### DAY 07: YAZD

Visit Tower of Silence and Fire Temple of Zoroastrians where the flames have been burning for hundred of years. After that visit Dolatabad Garden and Jame Mosque, and also Fahadan district (old parts of the town). You will have a traditional Yazdian Food called Ash Shooli, and go to a traditional confectionery Shop which sell Baghlava and Halva (two kinds of sweets). O/N in Yazd

### Day 08: YAZD, KASHAN

Drive to Kashan, on the way visit Abyaneh village with its architectural style, entirely in red clay. Continue to Kashan. In Kashan you will try a traditional food called Goosht-Loobia. O/N in Kashan

### Day 09: KASHAN , QAZVIN

In Kashan visit Fin Garden and Tabatabaie House. Then drive to Qazvin visit Chehel Sotoun or Imamzade Shazdeh Hoseyn. In Qazvin you will try a traditional food called Gheymeh Nesa. O/N in Qazvin

### Day 10: Qazvin , Tehran

Drive to Tehran. Visit Iran Bastan/Archaeological Museum which hosts historical monuments dating back through preserved ancient and medieval Iranian antiquities. After that, visit Golestan Palace (two palaces) and Bazaar, in Bazaar you will have one of the most tastiest Persian meals called TAHCHIN . Walk through Tabiat Bridge. O/N in Tehran

### Day 11: DEP

Transfer to the airport for the flight back home

To give you a taste of what is awaiting you in Iran, we have compiled a collection of pictures that take you to different corners of the country and acquaint your eyes with unique images of Iran. So, come along for this unforgettable journey.

Persian cuisine has one of the most complete ingredients. Stews and Kababs are well known Persian dishes that Iranian chefs have cooked for hundreds of years.

Every meal for Iranians is an opportunity for whole family get together and chat. One of the most different and interesting things of Iranian food is different taste of it that can be easily recognized by influence of spices that have remained in the cuisine since the days of past that spicy road has been the second road of business road of Iran after Silk road. Another difference in the Iranian way of cooking is time of the cooking.

Diversity of food is great in different cities of Iran and Iranian traditional food is even more interesting for Iranians and the tourists.

If you love cooking and would like to learn to make Iranian food, we have a very special itinerary for you to see beautiful Iran and experience the famous Persian hospitality next to fun sessions learning how to prepare good quality Persian dishes. You can cook, taste, and eat the best in Persian cuisine while enjoy visiting the amazing highlights of this historic land.





FROM  
NEW YORK MUSEUM  
TO TEHRAN  
FOR IRANIAN ART



Ali Qapu Mural, Isfahan



Fifty years ago when Abby Weed Grey visited Iran on her first trip around the world, she became so interested in contemporary Iranian art that she came back eight more times and collected 200 modern Iranian works. Abby Grey as a patron to the art collected a total of 600 art works from Asia and Middle East in 1960s and early 70s and she found New York University, known as Grey Art Gallery today, an ideal place to exhibit her unique collection of art works.

More than forty years after Abby on March of 2016, the director of Grey Art Gallery Ms. Lynn Gumpert accompanied by six professional artists and art collectors from Grey Art Gallery traveled to Iran by IRAN DOOSTAN TOURS COMPANY (IDT) to visit the art and history of the country. "One reason that I wanted to come was because Iran has a rich history. Pre-Islamic history is amazing. Because your culture is so rich we wanted to come and see for ourselves and because our group was interested in contemporary art we wanted to see and understand the culture from which the artists came and to understand the importance of poetry, literature, and how Shi'a Islam developed." said Frederieke Taylor the founder of Frederieke Taylor Gallery in NYC.

The group spent seven days in Iran and visited Tehran, Shiraz, Isfahan, and Kashan. They attended the opening of the Belgian artist Wim Delvoye at Tehran Contemporary Art Museum, Carpet museum, Iran National Museum, Golestan Palace a world heritage site and many more museums and palaces in Tehran. They also visited the galleries of younger and less known modern artists and bought art works to take back home.

Shiraz was their next stop where they visited Nasir-ol Molk mosque known as the pink mosque, Karim Khan Citadel, Vakil bazaar and mosque, the tomb of the Persian poets Hafez and Sa'adi, Persian lush gardens, Pasargadae the tomb of Cyrus the Great, and Persepolis another world heritage. Then they headed toward Isfahan and enjoyed the ancient mosques and bridges in this city, its atmospheric bazaar and of course the Emam Square another heritage site registered by UNESCO.

The professional art directors believe Iran has a great potential to be a top destination for art lovers. "I think Iran has an enormous amount to offer both for people who are interested in contemporary art and the people who are interested in history."



Tehran Museum of Contemporary Art established in 1977, houses one of the greatest collections of Iranian modern and contemporary art. This museum also holds more than 3000 stunning artworks done by remarkable European and American artists such as Picasso, Matisse, Van Gogh, Miró, Dalí, Bacon, Pollock, Monet, Munch, Moore, and Warhol, among many others.

"This was amazing and I don't want to leave, we had a great time. It was my first time in Iran but not my last. I enjoyed every minute of this trip there was not a moment that I was bored. I collect contemporary Iranian art so I was very thrilled to do that in Tehran but Isfahan and Persepolis were very great too. Iran is magical. When I come back again I would go to the same places I visited at this trip and also other cities especially the Caspian Sea, I've heard so much about it." said Edith one of the group members and a contemporary art collector.

Before traveling to Iran, our guests did not have any perceptions about the country and they did not know what to expect. After spending a week in Iran we asked them about their experience. "It was first time visiting Iran for all of us and it was fantastic. It exceeded our expectations. Everybody would come up to us and wanted to know where do we come from and they would say welcome to Iran, it was just lovely. We understand politics is politics and politicians don't necessarily represent the view of the people. People were so friendly, so welcoming, and so generous."

After visiting Kashan, the delightful oasis in Dasht-e Kavir desert, the group headed toward Tehran's international airport for their flight back home.

The NYU's museum holds the largest collection of modern Iranian art outside of Iran. Currently the museum has a show called Global/Local 1960-2015, Six Artists from Iran that features the work of great modern Iranian artists such as Parviz Tanavoli a sculptor, painter, scholar, and art collector.







# SPRING

## DESTINATIONS FOR YOUR IRAN TOUR

In ancient Persia, you will be as fascinated by the natural beauties and wildlife as much you are by the astonishing array of historic sites of the country. Because Iran covers a huge area it has an abundant number of natural attractions and in spring season it becomes the promise land for those who love fantastic sceneries and love to observe unusual birds or mammals in national parks and protected areas.

From Caspian shores to the coasts of Persian Gulf and Sea of Oman, the entire Iran is at its best in spring but the best of best are Alborz and Zagros Mountains.

The cities on Caspian shore are magnificent destinations in all seasons but the spring season makes them even more mystic. The greens are at their brightest and the weather is absolutely pleasant. Gilan, Mazandaran, and Golestan are the provinces on the Caspian Sea coasts and this location has created their gorgeous sceneries.

To enjoy the fresh greenery of the north of Iran you can travel to this place in May, however, the travel season lasts until the end of summer.

MOUNT DAMAVAND



**A**lborz Mountains sitting on the south of the three provinces blocks all the humidity and clouds on their north side making summer days much cooler than in the central Iran. Siahkal, a little city in Gilan is one of the best destinations for the spring of Iran. The city has both flatlands covered by lush vegetation and mountainous areas. Caves, waterfalls, mausoleums, historic castles, and caravanserais in Siahkal plus its excellent weather are wonderful spectacles.

Dorfak peak (2700m) known as the roof of Gilan is an extinct volcano and is covered by forests from its base to the top. On the way to the top of this mountain, you will enjoy the scenery with the shepherds and flocks grazing on the rich grass of the mountain in thick fog and clouds. A beautiful countryside on the east of Gilan is Deylaman. This region connects to Alborz Mountains on the south and to Dorfak Mountain on the east. Deylaman wilderness is mountainous with many caves, springs, and rivers and also more than 2000 years of human inhibition in the region according to the pottery and copper tools found in the area.

Next we'll take you to the west of Iran to the soaring mountains, curving rivers, and deep valleys of Uraman in Kurdistan province, Iran. Uraman means the land of the sun; Ura or Ahowra meaning sun and Man meaning house or land.

Palangan, Hajj, and Howraman Takht are historic villages in Uraman. All are built on the slopes of Zagros Mountain and have stair-shaped architecture.

Palangan village dates back to the pre-Islamic era and its houses are made of stone. In fact, it is the only stepped terrace village in Iran with stone houses. In winter the mountains are covered by snow and they melt down on spring and summer and create stepped waterfalls and streams which make the weather cool and pleasant on summer days. There is a 400-year-old historic castle in Palangan that you can visit as well.

In Hajj as you go up the stairs in the village, stroll in the alleys with tall trees, colorful wild plants, and the big Sirvan River create one of the most striking sceneries before your eyes to refresh your soul.

And there is the gem of Kurdistan, Hawraman Takht. After a long journey on a hairpin road from Sanandaj, the stepped village will appear on the slopes. The village was the capital of Awraman's kingdom and it is a whole different world. Hawraman is a peaceful quite atmosphere sitting on the steep hillside with houses facing out the valley. Same as other stepped villages in

Iran the roof of each house is the terrace of the house above. This village is a popular destination because of Pir-e Shaliar celebration that happens twice a year; once on February and the second time on May and attracts. This event attracts a lot of tourists to the village every year.

The celebration is one thousand years old and is the wedding anniversary of Pir-e Shaliar with the daughter of Bukhara's king who was not able to hear or speak and was cured by Pir-e Shaliar. The king indicated whoever treated his daughter will marry her and Pir-e Shaliar was the lucky man. Playing Daf Drums, dancing Dervishes, and delivering speeches on Pir-e Shaliar's personality are the traditions of the day. The celebration starts with distributing walnuts in the village and goes on for three days.

Since Iran is a four-season country you will see every season vividly with the most glorious sceneries especial to that season. The magical spring comes with wild plants and flowers growing everywhere and it is the time to see the endemic plants and pick medicinal plants in the mountains.

One of the endemic flowers of Iran is *Fritillaria imperialis* known by the name inverted tulip or the Tear of Maryam among Iranian. It grows in the plains on west of Isfahan province and Chaharmahal Bakhtiari province. According to a myth, these flowers saw the murder of Siavash, one of the brave soldiers in the epic Shahname, by his enemies so the tulip bent out of sorrow and shed tears. The tears are actually the colorless sap that runs down the flower. This imperial flower is fully grown in May and lives for one month only. *Fritillaria imperialis* is a native to Iran and was taken to Europe by European tourists in 1576.

*Lilium ledebourii* that you can see in Gilan province of Iran starts its life in early May to the middle of May. Persian ironwood known as *Parrotia persica* is native to North of Iran in Alborz Mountains. The leaves of this deciduous tree are reddish-purple in spring, dark green in summer and yellow-orange in fall.

Iran at any season has numerous one-of-a-kind destinations from north to the south. The glorious and rich history of the country can be seen in so many jaw-dropping ruins and monuments in the country. Magnificent Persepolis, stunning mosques, and the fabulous natural sceneries make Iran a perfect destination for all seasons.



### Siahkal

Abundant caves, waterfalls, springs, and the most pleasant weather.



### Dorfak peak

Dorfak peak (2700m) known as the roof of Gilan



### Lahijan

Produces the finest black tea in the world.



### Palangan, Hajji and Howraman Takht

Masouleh of Zagros slopes.



### Persian ironwood

An endemic tree of Iran



### Fritillaria imperialis

Tear of Mary.



### Masouleh

A spectacular village with "The yard of the building above is the roof of the building below" architecture on slopes of Alborz.



### Lilium ledebourii

Chandelier flower.



### Caspian shores

Caspian is the largest inland sea in the world.



### Alborz Mountains

One of the two mountain ranges of Iran with the mighty Damvand in its central area.



### Deylaman

Lush lofty heights of Guilan.



### Howraman or Awraman

The land of sun





# ADVENTURE TOURS



# FIND THE SPIRIT OF ADVENTURER IN YOURSELF

Over twenty years of experience, in providing the best adventure tours to Iran and planning the best itineraries, has made Iran Doostan Tours the expert of this field. Whatever you desire is from hiking, trekking, climbing, biking, canyoning, wildlife watching, to meeting nomads we provide it for you.

For an exotic experience present yourself at the wilderness and live inside a moment full of adventure. Just bring your spirit of adventure and our professional guides will take care of the rest.

## Mountain Biking

We provide the most amazing single day and multiple days mountain biking and combinational multi-activity guided tours in Iran both on and off the road. We have a wide range of routes and trails available for any level of ability. The routes will go in forest, desert, on hillsides and mountains. While you pass through the scenic slopes of Alborz and Zagros mountains the nomad people will welcome you and you will enjoy seeing their traditional lifestyle surviving from centuries back. We supply top range bikes and safety equipment for our customers.

Iran's mountains offer a great variety of scenery with rocky gorges, cliffs, valleys covered with orchards and alpine pastures colored with wild flowers, snow-capped summits, and lush forests.

Meeting nomads and hospitable people and exploring their customs and traditions is an inspiration to go after your dreams and expand the horizons of your soul.

In our everyday practice we follow CSR (Corporate Social Responsibility) and SRB (Socially Responsible Business) models to protect our natural environments and be beneficial to the locals based on ecotourism principles.

## Canyoning

From northern forests to central and west mountains of Iran there are great canyons with or without water flowing in their valleys. We provide fully guided canyoning tours on all levels. Whether you are an experienced adventure lover or an amateur starter our guides will support you throughout the entire route. All tours are supplied with canyoning equipment and gears.

## Water Adventures

Persian Gulf on the South, Caspian Sea on the North, and wild rivers running in Alborz and Zagros mountains are great places for all kinds of water activities.

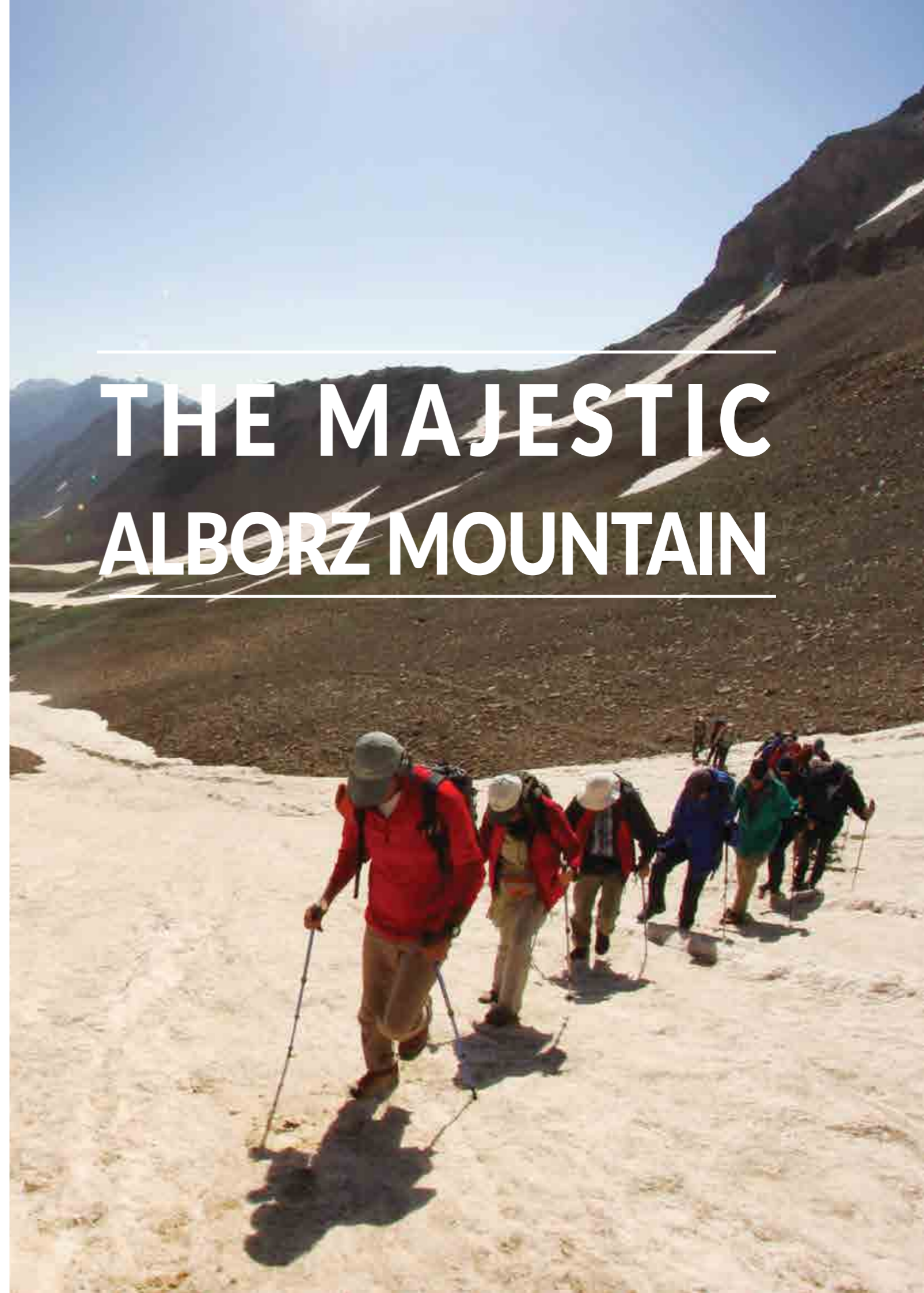
The wide range of the water adventure tours that we operate include whitewater rafting, kayaking, river trekking, scuba diving, snorkeling, and water skiing. Our rafting tours are guided by world class whitewater guides and supported by safety kayaks.

## Caving & Spelunking

There are more than three hundred caves in Iran with some that are fully explored and some that needs to be explored. This big number gives us the privilege of creating one-of-a-kind itineraries for these destinations. Half a day to multiple days tours are available with various levels from easy to an advanced expedition. Also for those who enjoy cave expedition and spelunking, there are many unexplored routes in newly found caves.

We provide safety, protective, and support gears. Our expert trained guides will teach you the techniques if you are eager to see the underground world.

# THE MAJESTIC ALBORZ MOUNTAIN







# WORLD'S LONGEST RIVER CAVE AND SALT CAVE IN IRAN



Dark, humid, and silent; caves are mysterious natural wonders underground. There are more than 300 caves in Iran with different structures. If you enjoy life more when you face challenging adventures we recommend you to add these underground beauties to your itinerary for travel to Iran.

We are introducing three of the most interesting caves of Iran, even though all of them have great stunning features.

Alisadr is a 70 million-year-old cave that holds the title of the longest river cave in the world. It is located in the heart of Zagros Mountains in a village in Hamadan province. Inhabitants of the village knew about the cave and used the water in the cave. This incredible cave is one of the main attractions of Hamadan along with Avicenna tomb and Ganj Nameh inscription.

Alisadr cave is one of the very few river caves in the world that its high ceiling and big chambers make it possible to wonder in the cave with boat. You will see breathtaking sites while cruising on your boat on the crystal clear water surrounded by red, purple, brown, green and blue stalactites and columns. Inside the cave temperature is cool during summer and warm on winter days. Drawings of animals and haunting scenes on the walls of Alisadr cave shows it has been a living space in prehistoric time.

The world's longest cave made of salt is in Qeshm Island, Persian Gulf. Qeshm has breath taking natural attractions and a Geo Park that is the only Geo Park in Iran and Middle East. There is a salt hill in Qeshm that has caves

in it and Namakdan3 with 6400m length is the longest salt cave of this dome and in the world. As you pass the very short entrance of the cave you will see a sublime, untouched, and surreal world in front of your eyes.

Geological research on Namakdan3 cave shows it dates back to Cambrian period (541 to 485.4 million years ago). The salt in Namakda3 has Magnesium and has healing effect for people with asthma. To cross the first 100m there is no need for technical gears and visitors can just walk in and enjoy the beauty of the cave. Inside the hill there is a spring of crystal clear water that reflects all the beautiful scenery and adds to the splendor view. The spring creates a stunning pond when it crawls outside the hill. Even though it is a salt cave but there is a great variety of color tones that you will see inside Namakdan3 cave.

Between the two magnificent archeological sites of Kermanshah, Taqe-e Bostan and Bisotun, there is a mountain named Parau that holds one of the most difficult caves in the world. John Middleton called it the Everest of caves when he and his team discovered Parau in 1971 because it was the deepest vertical cave in the world to that date. After Parau more caves with deeper depths were discovered in the different locations around the world but Parau is still one of the most difficult caves in the world for its low temperature, high elevated entrance (3000m high), extremely narrow and twisted corridors, and very deep wells. Parau is 1454m long and 751m deep with 26 wells. Leila Esfandiari was the first Iranian woman who crossed Parau in 2002.



# BIRD WATCHING

## THREE CONTINENTS BY ONE TICKET

Iran, with an area of one million, 648 thousand and 195 square kilometers located in the intersection of three biogeography zones. 1100 bird species are registered in the Palearctic region which is the greatest parts of this country as well. Half of this amount is visible in Iran. The remarkable birds here are Red headed bunting and Caucasian grouse along with hundred Passerine which attract birders.

Except the Palearctic region, a short flight will lead to Afro-Tropical region in the southwest of Iran by similar birds of Africa such as African sacred ibis and Egyptian vulture that are rare in other areas.

Southeastern part of Iran affected by the Indo-Malay (Oriental) eco-zone. A region with similar climate of Indian subcontinent with magnificent species which certainly be important for bird watchers such as Sind pined woodpecker and Indian pond heron. Beside there are some shore and marine birds like Masked booby that their origin is Indian Ocean and Strait of Hormoz. These Three biogeography zones make Iran rich in the quantity of bird species. 548 bird species include breeding, non-breeding, migrant in 8 habitat zone persuade us to say you can visit "three continent with one ticket".

Those 8 habitat of Iran with its examples are as follow:

- Deserts and semi-deserts areas; Lut and central desert of Iran
- Semi-arid steppes of the foothills of the edge of the desert; this the biggest habitat of Iran that is between 1500 and 2000 meters above sea level.
- High altitude mountains; there are more than 100 mountain at least 4000 meter height.
- Forests and Woodlands; Mangrove forests, Hyrcania forests and Zagros Oak forest
- Southern plain areas; Khuzestan plain
- Wetlands; There are 24 wetland in Iran which registered in Ramsar convention as international wetland
- Persian Gulf and Oman Sea coastal habitats; near 2000 km coastline
- Islands; the biggest island in Persian Gulf

Along with this different kind of habitat there are also 105 IBA with 8,598,207 hectare area which are very suitable for going to bird watching all of the year.



## BIRDING IN 10 DAYS

**Day 05:** After breakfast drive toward Tehran. En route visit Meyqan wetland and bird watching there. O/N in Tehran.

You may see: Common Crane, Bluethroat, Glossy Ibis, Water Rail, Greylag geese, Ruddy shelducks, Eurasian lapwing & some Ducks & Waders.

**Day 06:** Today we will visit the capital of Iran by visiting National museum and Golestan Palace. Then we will fly to Bandar Abbas. O/N in Bandar Abbas. (the visits today are depend on flight time).

**Day 07:** Today we will drive along the shore of Persian Gulf and stop for birding in suitable places. O/N in Bandar Abbas.

You may see: Purple Sunbird, Dalmatian Pelican, House crow, Brown-necked raven, Indian silverbill, hoopoe-lark, Sand lark, Gray Francolin, Saunders's tern, Indian Roller.

**Day 08:** After breakfast go to Qeshm island via ferry. Start exploration of Qeshm by visit Setregan valley, Chah kough valley, Laft village and overnight in city.

**Day 09:** Early in the morning start bird watching in island and after a full day bird watching there we will fly back to Tehran. O/N in Tehran. You may see: Indian pond Heron, Western Reef Heron, Crab Plover, Caspian Tern, Great Stone Plover, Eastern Pied Wheateater, Pied Stonechat, Egyptian Vulture, Peregrine Falcon, Imperial Eagle, Lesser Green Beeeater.

**Day 10:** Transfer to the airport for the return flight.

### Day 01:

Early in the morning arrive to Tehran. After greetings you will be transferred to hotel. O/N in Tehran.

**Day 02:** After an early breakfast leave hotel to Eshghabad wetland OR Jamshidiye park. After bird watching you will transfer to airport and fly to Ahwaz. O/N in Ahwaz.).

**Day 03:** After breakfast drive to Shadegan Int. wetland and do birding there. O/N in Ahwaz. You may see: Black-winged Stilt, Collared Pratincole, Lesser Spotted Eagle, Steppe Eagle, Mesopotamian crow, Short toed Eagle, Black eared Wheateater..

**Day 04:** Early in the morning drive toward Dez protected area. Bird watching there and visit the signs of oldest ancient civilizations there which call Zhoghazanbil ziggurat. Continue to Khoramabad and O/N there.

You may see: Scrub Warbler, Iraq babbler, Graceful prinia, Egyptian nightjar, Black winged kite, Pied kingfisher, Clamorous reed warbler, Red-wattled Plover.







Persian ground jay



# ALBORZ ON WHEEL

EXCITING ROUTS, GENTLE NATURE, ENJOYABLE RIDE

**F**orty nine percent of Iran is covered by mountains but almost nobody knows this fact.

This is an opportunity which makes us so compassionate about natural attractions and we enjoy the breathtaking wild nature of high altitude mountains. This fantastic potential allows us to experience the greatest adventures especially in planning biking tours. Fascinating landscapes, rural routes, warm-blood people and enjoyable riding in different eco systems assures us everybody will like it too.

This is a combination of adventure and culture tour in an ancient country. Enjoy your journey!

## Day1:

Meet and Greet at Tehran's IKA (Imam Khomeini Airport) and transfer to hotel in Tehran.

## Day2:

After breakfast drive toward the ever green central Alborz mountain region and Alamout. We will stay at the foot of Alamout castle belonging to 970 years ago for the night.

## Day3:

Start biking from top of the neck after driving there toward Pichebon (2500 m) and cross Salambar neck (3200 m) to north face of Alborz mountain range. After lunch continue to -20 m from sea level with a mild and gentle slope (of course this is MTB activity then expect a difficult one). Overnight at Tonekabon.

## Day4:

Today before start our delightful ride, we visit the local bazaar then drive to AbbasAbad forest. If you had a good performance on previous days we can add some extra and challenging rides at the foot of the second highest peak of Iran (AlamKuh 4850m) and overnight in the shelter belonging to mountaineering federation of Iran with other climbers or in a private villa.

## Day5:

After breakfast we start riding to Klardasht. Then take one of the most beautiful roads in Iran to Baladeh city. Now you are in the middle of ancient Hyrcanian jungle surviving from Ice Age.

## Day6:

Today will be an easy day. We ride almost 52 km where at the end our vehicle is waiting to take us to hot mineral spring that flows from the heart of the highest mountain in Middle East, the mighty Damavand. It will be a perfect relaxation before rest of your journey in Persia. Overnight will be at hotel in Tehran.

## Day7:

Start city tour after a late breakfast and enjoy Tehran, a metropolitan with more than 12 million habitats. Our orientation will include National Museum of Tehran, Golestan palace a UNESCO world heritage, and Grand Bazaar of Tehran; the traditional business area. At the evening fly to Shiraz and overnight there.

## Day8:

Today we explore the city of Shiraz, one of the best tourism destinations in Iran. Our city tour starts by visiting Eram Garden. Then we continue to visit Nasir ol Molk mosque which is known as pink mosque as well. Our next stop will be Vakil complex and visit mosque and bazaar. Our last site to visit is the tomb of Hafez who his poem inspired millions of Iranian. We will the night at Shiraz.

## Day9:

After breakfast we will have an excursion to the most valuable UNESCO world heritage site of Iran, Persepolis. Almost 60 km out of Shiraz the ruins of ancient capital of the most powerful Persian Empire is sitting proudly. You will enjoy the story of this land while walking through the history. We will go back to Shiraz and stay the night there.

## Day10:

Morning we will leave Shiraz toward Isfahan. En route we will visit Pasargadae the tomb of Cyrus the Great and a UNESCO world heritage site. Next stop is Isfahan, a city famous for its handicrafts and culture. This is the city of the most hospitable people and the most delicious sweets in the world. Enjoy romantic nights of Isfahan and visit beautiful bridges which is still open to use after 350 years of building.

## Day11:

Today we'll have a full day city tour that covers lots of stunning sites of Isfahan including Naghsh-e Jahan square a UNESCO world heritage site, Imam and Sheikh Lotfollah mosques and Ali Qapu palace. Then we will visit Chehel Sotun palace and its beautiful garden. Hasht behesht palace will be the last site to visit today. Overnight in Isfahan.

## Day12:

Before leave Isfahan we go to Jolfa district. There we will visit Vank Cathedral and its Museum and at the end we visit Jame mosque. Then we will drive toward Matinabad eco camp. En route we will stop at Abyane Village which has retained its historical features, traditions, architectural style, and is a living museum of anthropology. Then continue to Matinabad desert eco-camp and enjoy doing fun activities such as camel riding and Ateshouni (gathering around fire) under the full moon nights of desert.

## Day13:

Drive very early to international airport for return flight.

Carbon Free Adventure Tour





# DUNE

## ADVENTURING IN IRAN

**W**hat about adding some adrenaline dose to your travel to ancient Persia? You don't need to overdose on mosques and historic homes during your visit in central Iran at cities of Isfahan, Kashan, and Yazd. The sand dunes in deserts of these regions will make your trip more interesting than what you think. You can slide down the soft and gold sand of high dunes with your board to spice up your tour to Iran.

Iran has two big deserts. One is the Dasht-e Kavir that expands from south of Alborz Mountains down to the central region and the other is Lut Desert on the south-east, a UNESCO world heritage site that holds the title of the hottest spot on earth, and is the most mysterious part of Iran.

For sand boarding you must be ready for a good amount of workout and calorie burning session because this sport is a combination of climbing, surfing, and snowboarding. There are no ski lifts carrying you up the hill so you need to climb up the dune yourself. It is better to start your activity at the crack of dawn and carry some water with you. Sand boarding is more fun than boarding on the snow because the soft sand makes falling pleasant!

The highest sand dunes of Iran are at Varzaneh, Rig Zarin, and Rig Yalan regions.

Varzaneh desert, in Isfahan province, is the final destination of the living Zayanderud River that originates

from the rocky Zagros Mountains. Varzaneh has the biggest number of dunes among other deserts of Iran. On top of dunes, you have the view of Gavkhooni Wetland. Rig Zarin in Lut Desert, Yazd province, is another sand boarding destination. After visiting Meybod and Chak Chak, the most sacred Zoroastrian fire temple, you can walk barefoot on the warm sand and slide down the slopes with your board.

Rig Yalan region in Lut has the highest sand dune of Iran and the third highest in the world. You will have a major adrenaline rush when you slip on the banks of a 500m tall sand dune. The mysterious beauty of Lut desert and its unique Kaluts mesmerizes any traveller.

Sandboarding might not sound such a relaxing or romantic vacation but it would definitely be a fun activity with a group of daredevil friends. Let's see how adventurous you get on the scalding hot sands of a desert.







# WHY YOU SHOULDN'T MISS SKIING IN IRAN?

**G**reat ski resorts of Iran plus plenty of stunning attractions will make you want to stay here for the entire winter.

Iran is not known as a ski destination in the world, but it has thirteen international ski pistes with great quality chest-deep snow powder on the foot of its famed mountains. Plus Iran is one of the rarest destinations where you can ski on mountains and take a flight to the Persian Gulf coast for a lovely sun bath on the warm silver sands of the beach, on the same day!

Ski resorts of Iran are among the most wonderful places you can visit on your tour to Iran.

Dizin in Alborz Mountains, north of Tehran established in 1969, is the crown jewel of all ski pistes of Iran. Because of its snow quality, long pistes, and a lengthy ski season (late November to mid-May) Dizin was selected as an international piste by International Ski Federation.

Dizin gets seven meters of snow fall annually with "the snow quality as similar to that of the Rockies" as the legendary back-country skier Chris Anthony said. Summer activities such as grass-skiing and climbing are very popular at Dizin as well. There are two hotels, nineteen cabins, and five restaurants at the village for skiers.

Shemshak, Darbandsar, and Tochal are the other ski zones of Alborz Mountains. At Shemshak the skiing session doesn't end by the dark, you can enjoy sliding down the steep slopes under the starry night and the bright light projectors.

Darbandsar piste located in a village with the same name is the newest piste in Alborz Mountains. Its highest point from the sea level is 3050m and the ski season starts from early December to mid-April.

If you dream of exploring one of ancient Silk Road's most beautiful cities after a day skiing on a great powder snow, we must say your dreams will come true at Tabriz. There is an international ski piste close by Tabriz, known as the cultural capital of Iran. It is the best for art-loving skiers.

On domains of beautiful Sahand mountain, the biggest ski resort on west of Iran extends in a 1200m length with a six months ski season. Sahand piest hosts a big number of skiers every season. Gondolas and chairlifts, hotel, villa, and restaurants are available at this piest.

Iran's ski resorts are awesome destinations for your winter vacation and they compete with European resorts. Alpine skier and snowboarder are welcomed in all pistes of Iran.





# A Guide for Your SUMMER Tour to Iran

Are you looking for a destination to plan an unforgettable summer adventure?

We must tell you that you will have remarkable expeditions in canyons, caves, and mountains of Iran. Of course, some of the world heritage sites will be on the list no matter why or when you are traveling to Persia. If you are going to visit Iran on summer we'll recommend the cooler regions of the country which are in northwest and west such as Azerbaijan provinces (eastern and western), Kermanshah, and Zanjan. To your surprise, we are going to introduce destinations in Fars province on the south of Iran too.

Lafur, Mazandaran



# Escape the Ordinary

Summer is a great time for summiting the top three peaks of Iran: Damavand, Alam Kuh, and Sabalan. Also, you can enjoy water rafting in rivers of Zagros and Alborz Mountains. Hiking, climbing, rafting, biking, rock climbing and canyoneering are some fun activities you can do in the ever-green Alborz Mountains. In fact, Alborz is a canyon-filled paradise for beginner and expert explorers. To escape the heat of summer days in Iran you can plan an expedition to one of Alborz canyons.

You must note these expeditions are not easy and need enough body and mental strength. You must have proper outfit such as wetsuit, water proof back pack, and also the experience of mountaineering and work with descending gears. Expeditions will be a couple of days at least and a guide must accompany you who know the route and the proper spots for camping at night very well.

Chakrood canyon in Guilan province originates in a village on Caspian Sea coast is a great destination for outdoor enthusiasts. Be ready to slosh through shallow streams, jump from rocks in to the cool water, swim and rappel through this natural reserve. Chakrood has one main canyon, two secondaries, and numerous waterfalls. A two-day expedition will take you through this gorgeous canyon.

Mor canyon in Mazandaran province is another great destination for adventure lovers in Iran. The very first expedition in Mor was done in 2010. The canyon achieved its name from the Mor forests on its North. Mor canyon has 40 waterfalls from 2m to 30m height. The first 33 waterfalls are seasonal but the last seven ones have permanent flow.

Nest is Kamjel canyon in Mazandaran province on Caspian shores. Crossing this canyon is very technical. It is less than a decade that the first expedition took place in Kamjel. You will be walking in water all the way and will descend almost 30 waterfalls on your way to the bottom. The heights of waterfalls vary from 20m to 40m tall.

This one is the masterpiece of nature, Raghaz canyon in Fars province. It has breathtaking scenery with huge rocks, crystal clear water, and stunning waterfalls. It covers four kilometers with 64 waterfalls and 100 pools. The highest waterfall of Raghaz is 65m high and you must use gears to descend it. You can start the journey without any gear at the beginning since the falls are not too high and water is so clear that you can estimate the depth and just jump into the pool until you reach a waterfall that is 23m from then the route gets technical.

Kermanshah province of Iran is famous for having several unique and wonderful caves such as Ali Sadr and Parau. Ghooori Ghal'e is another incredible cave that we recommend you visit in your tour to Iran. Ghooori Ghal'e is one of the longest and most beautiful river caves of Iran and its formation dates back to 65 million years ago. In 1976 a group of biologists from France and Britain found this cave while they were looking for some mammals such as bats. They progressed into the 620m depth of the cave to a point that the water was up to the ceiling and they assumed they've hit the end of it but the cave goes deep into 3140m which was discovered in 1989. Throughout your journey in the cave, you will see very interesting stalactites looking like different animals or ice-cream next to beautiful natural pools. There is an area with stalactites that looks like drapes and when you touch them they create a sound like different musical instruments and it's called Beethoven area.

To make your summer journey in Iran even more unforgettable make sure you check out some historical attractions of Iran that are world heritage as well. Just make sure you will stay in cooler areas again.

Takht-e Soleyman literally means Throne of Solomon in West Azerbaijan province, is the fourth monument of Iran that was registered by UNESCO as a world heritage site.

The structure belongs to the first millennium BC and during Sassanid era it gained high importance. Takht-e Soleyman complex functioned as an educational, religious, and worshiping place in the pre-Islamic era.

1800 years ago only Sassanid king and high military people could come to this fire temple. Some historians believe the Sassanid rulers performed the special ceremonies before receiving their throne at the Azargoshasb. The main purpose of this historical remaining was for worship and religious ceremonies of Zoroastrian followers and its original name was Azargoshasb fire temple.

There is a lake in the complex that has an artesian spring source and Zoroastrians believe this spot is one of the main locations on earth where the energies merge together which makes this lake sacred. One interesting fact about the lake is that its temperature stays the same during summer and winter.

Have you heard about the Persian story of Shirin and Farhad? Did you know this story made Bisotun famous among Iranians?

Before the bas reliefs and inscriptions were translated by European researchers, locals believed the engraving tells the story of Shirin and Farhad, a tragic love story written by the great Persian poet Nezami Ganjavi.

The bas relief high on the lofty Bisotun Mountain has an ancient beauty and gives you a great sense of the days Persia was the most powerful empire in the world. This mythology is one of the most legendary stories and everyone knows it very well. The story ends with the tragic death of Farhad and it is the ending that made Shirin and Farhad such a great reputation. People still believe if you listen closely you will hear the sound of Farhad's ax on the mountain.

The inscriptions on mountain narrate the victory of Darius over Gaumata, a Median magus who led a rebellion against the king of Persia is one of the most famous and important documents in Achaemenian and world history.

Bisotun is a very valuable document not only for Iran but also for the world because it is the only official document that shows sovereignty and re-establishment of the greatest empire in the world by Darius I. It became a world heritage site in 2006.







### Chakrood Canyon

In Guilan province originates in a village on Caspian Sea coast is a great destination for outdoor enthusiasts.

### Kamjel Canyon

Crossing this canyon is very technical.

### Ghoori Ghal'e Cave

Ghoori Ghal'e is one of the longest and most beautiful river caves of Iran and its formation dates back to 65 million years ago.

### Bisotun Mountain

Stepped village on the mountain slopes

### Babak Fort

Perched at 2,300m above sea level on a cliff, the ruins of Babak Fort a Sassanid era structure is a valuable national heritage.

### Soltaniyeh

Arthur Upham Pope described it as the anticipating of Taj Mahal.

### Mor Canyon

Mor canyon has 40 waterfalls from 2m to 30m height. The first 33 waterfalls are seasonal but the last seven ones have permanent flow.

### Raghaz Canyon

It has breathtaking scenery with huge rocks, crystal clear water, and stunning waterfalls.

### Takht-e Soleyman

literally means Throne of Solomon in West Azerbaijan province, is the fourth monument of Iran that was registered by UNESCO as a world heritage site.

### Tabriz Bazaar

It is the heaven of Persian souvenirs such as handmade carpet, rug, and aromatic spices.

### Kandovan

An unusual looking village with ice-cream cone shaped houses carved in the rocks on a remote corner of Iran is one of the places we definitely recommend you to pay a visit.

## 11 Arasbaran protected area

gorgeous scenery with 23,500 nomads living in different zones of it.

Takht-e Soleyman



# MICE SERVICES





# IRAN DOOSTAN MICE SERVICES

The MICE industry has been growing over the past few decades into a mature business sector, driven by the globalization and increase in cross border trade.

Especially within the Iran culture, businesses simply cannot function in a fully effective way without the face-to-face meetings of the parties involved.

More and more companies now understand that meetings, conferences and exhibitions are indispensable means of communicating their business messages, increasing sales and business development in Iran.

In 1990, Iran Doostan Tours established its MICE department under the name of Iran Doostan MICE services, specializing in planning and organizing MICE events as well as arranging for post-meeting tours. Today, we boast a team of qualified MICE staff members who are dynamic, well-experienced, highly devoted and cooperative.

Iran Doostan MICE services are equipped with up-to-date-how MICE expertise who are capable of coping with emergencies.

## About our team:

In a challenging market where our clients have the highest of expectations, Iran MICE Group exceeds those expectations with confidence and ease. Above all, we are passionate and excited about what we do.

Our team member is chosen and developed with care, commitment and the Iran MICE Group passion for greatness-the same qualities we bring to every project and every client. We look forward to welcoming you as a new client in the near future.

## MICE SERVICE

- Iran visa procedure
- Exhibition Services
- Hotel Reservation
- Air ticket booking
- Transportation
- Transport
- Catalogue

- Personalized business matchmaking
- Event promoting services
- Partner search
- Space renting
- Trade mission
- Trade shows





# THIS IS THE HISTORY OF IRAN MICE GROUP'S PARTNERS IN 2016:

IN THIS TABLE YOU CAN SEE OUR HISTORY SUMMERY IN ONE LOOK:

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| 1. The 9th International & 14th National Congress on Quality Improvement in Clinical Laboratories<br>19-22 April | 6. The 17th International Exhibition of Food and Food Processing/Iran-Mashhad Exhibition Center<br>25-28 Agust  |
| 2. Iranian Aviation Symposium Dawn of a New Era Tehran, Iran<br>25-26 April                                      | 7. Iran connect 2016<br>6-7 September   |
| 3. Project- Tehran Permanent Fairground<br>25 - 28 April   | 8. Iran telecom innovations 2016- The 17th International Exhibition of Telecommunications, Information Technology & Innovative CIT Solutions/ -Tehran International Permanent Fairground<br>25 - 28 September |
| 4. Second International & Fourteenth Iranian Genetics Congress Iran-Tehran<br>21-23 May                          | 9. 2nd Iranian Iron & Steel Conference<br>26-28 September   |
| 5. 23rd International Exhibition of Food, Food Technology & Agriculture<br>30 May - 02 June                      | 10. IranConMin 2016<br>5-8 November   |



# MICE TESTIMONIALS



Iran Doostan MICE Group highly appreciated the cooperation with the Iranian Aviation Symposium 2016. They have been very cooperative to guide us through all the possibilities. Which was really a welcomed support, hence we hold our offices inside Europe and having limit access of the ME market. Iran Doostan MICE Services just not only delivers the requested services, but their team is also very kind and keen to improve their high standards.

Panagiotis Panagopoulos  
CEO & Founder of Aeropodium



As the organizers of the international exhibitions iran agrofood and iran telecom, we are pleased to confirm our good coopertion with Iran Doostan Tours, since many years, regarding visa arrangements and hotel bookings for our staff and our exhibitors.

Martin März  
Fairtrade's managing director



IranConMin has ended very successful and most of our exhibitors was satisfied with the outcome and the organisation or the event. For the first time Iran Doostan Tours has offered to all the foreign exhibitors their services - flight, accommodation in Tehran and- the most important- Visa services. For the first time there was no complain at all. Therefore we would like to thank you for the perfect service you have done.

Peter Bergleiter  
CEO at IMAG GmbH new proposals in regards to our cooperation.



As the organisers of COTTM - China Outbound Travel & Tourism Market, we are pleased to confirm our good cooperation with Iran Doostan Tours, who have for many years successfully organised the Iran participation at COTTM, as our agent in Iran.

Matt Thompson  
COTTM Project Manager



Iran Doostan Tours are my partners since fifteen years. For many international exhibitions in Tehran and Mashhad, as well as for delegation trips or sightseeing tours around Iran, I have experienced them as reliable and perfectly organized travel partners. Their price/performance ratio is reasonable and their staff is always friendly and efficient. Their support for visa arrangement and shuttles is always fast and good. I can warmly recommend them.

Monika Schädel  
Fair Consult International Managing Director



On behalf of IFP Group and ATD, I would like to express our deepest gratitude for the excellent services provided by Iran Doostan Tours Co. for Project Iran International Exhibition 2016. The help and assistance provided by Iran Doostan MICE Group to the exhibition was more than valuable, and played a decisive role in the success of the event. We were extremely impressed with, and grateful for, the efficiency, promptness and experience the team has demonstrated, and hopefully will continue as partners to add to us in our future project as we move forward.

Haidar Mshaimesh  
Project-Iran General Manager



# LET'S GO TO OUR ECO-RESORT MATINABAD

A NEW BEGINNING FOR THE FRAGILE IRANIAN DESERT

In the quiet desert, far from the noise and tensions of city life, we always think about Rumi's quote "There is a voice that doesn't use words. Listen." Being surrounded by the vast, tranquil, and gold desert is so spectacular that we want everyone to experience it. Knowing magical effects of nature on the human spirit, we decided to establish an eco-resort in the middle of a serene setting, where our dear guests can enjoy the tranquility of the gorgeous nature and take a break from the noise of modern civilization.

Iran Doostan Tours Company (IDT) established the first eco-resort of Iran, Matinabad, 60km on the south east of Kashan. Matinabad is in a beautiful desert with a gorgeous view of Karkas Mountains on the south. Watching the full-star night sky, lying on the hot gold sands, trekking the desert on calm camels, and riding down the dunes on your bike or board are the adventures you can enjoy doing during your stay. Also the short distance from the historic and exotic village of Abyaneh, a very popular destination in Iran, adds to the activity list of the resort.

Matinabad eco-resort and organic farm received an award from UNDP in 2014 for being one of 18 best practices in sustainable eco-tourism with potentials for replication elsewhere. Also in 2015 Ali Vaghefi, the managing director of IDT received the prestigious award of Dr. Taghi Ebtekar for establishing an eco-camp based on responsible sustainable tourism.

We strongly believe that tourism is not only about going from a place to another. As a result, we follow CSR (Corporate Social Responsibility) and SRB (Socially Responsible Business) models and never stop to demonstrate, educate and help to promote the ideas of "Consider, respect and conduct the ethic codes", in our everyday practices.





To support a sense of place and cultural authenticity, we used traditional design for our accommodations. The caravanserai building resembles caravanserais of Safavid era (15th century). And Koomeh rooms that their cubic structure goes back to the Zoroastrian era.

The first phase of Matinabad was ready in 2010 consisting of a caravanserai building and tents for accommodation, restaurant, tea house, and different desert activities.

Now we have opened the second phase in which we added eleven more rooms to the caravanserai, one Gooshvareh room, thirteen Koomeh rooms, a new restaurant, and outdoor fire places in the complex for the guests to enjoy peaceful star-full chilly nights of the desert while sitting by the fire.

Koomeh is a traditional structure we brought back to life at this resort. Koomeh in Farsi refers to a hut that farmers used to build at their ranches as a resting area or protection from sun and rain. Koomehs are single rooms built with brick and mud and a dome shaped roof, which gives the best natural air circulation to the room.



At this eco-resort we use green technology to have the least impact on our fragile desert. 70% of the energy needed for heating water is supplied by solar energy for 100 people per day.

Improvement of several quality factors in local people's lives such as employment, literacy, specialized hospitality training, healthcare, and other aspects of local inhabitants of Matinabad and its environs is the primary measurement of the project's success.

We use water irrigation system on the farm to maximize water management, 100% local staff, eco-friendly lights, and also we ask our guests to manage their energy consumption in order to lessen the oil/gas usage and carbon dioxide emission.

In addition to establishing the resort, the number of people immigrating to cities has decreased massively resulting in preserving valuable occupations such as agriculture and farming in the area.











**WORLD  
NET  
HOTELS**

wnh-ir.net

**W**orld Net Hotels is the leading hotel booking wholesaler specializing in quality hotel accommodation at discounted rates. We offer in excess of 90,000 hotels in almost 80 countries in both cities and coastal resorts. We offer a full range of properties, including convenient airport hotels, 2 and 3 star budget hotel rooms, 4 and 5 star luxury hotel accommodations. We provide a wide range of services including FIT hotel bookings, transfers, excursions & sightseeing, ground handling, group handling, VIP clients.

Our sophisticated, user friendly online system ensures efficiency, pioneer use of the latest technology.  
World Net Hotels Current operating offices : Lebanon - Switzerland - Turkey - Greece - Tunisia - Thailand - Malaysia - Indonesia - Armenia - Libya - Algeria - Syria - Iran - Iraq







# IDT Digital Marketing Department

The main goal for IDT Digital Marketing team is to make Iran Doostan Tours website one of Iran's first online tourism platforms, cultural website, and information directory. Promoting Iran and its unmatched nature, historical sites, and hospitable people to the world, creating an Iran-information-bank, and introducing it as a top tourist destination are our top missions.

Our vision was to aid the tourism industry by informing and accommodating all different categories of travelers from holidaymakers to business elites and offering travelers a smooth, fulfilling experience of Iran.

## Our strategies

Our digital marketing strategies are focused on Social Media, Content Marketing, Online PR, Website, SEO, Email Marketing, and Travel Magazine to promote Iran in the best way.

# SOCIAL MEDIA



IranDoostanTours



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Tourstolran



IranDoostanTours



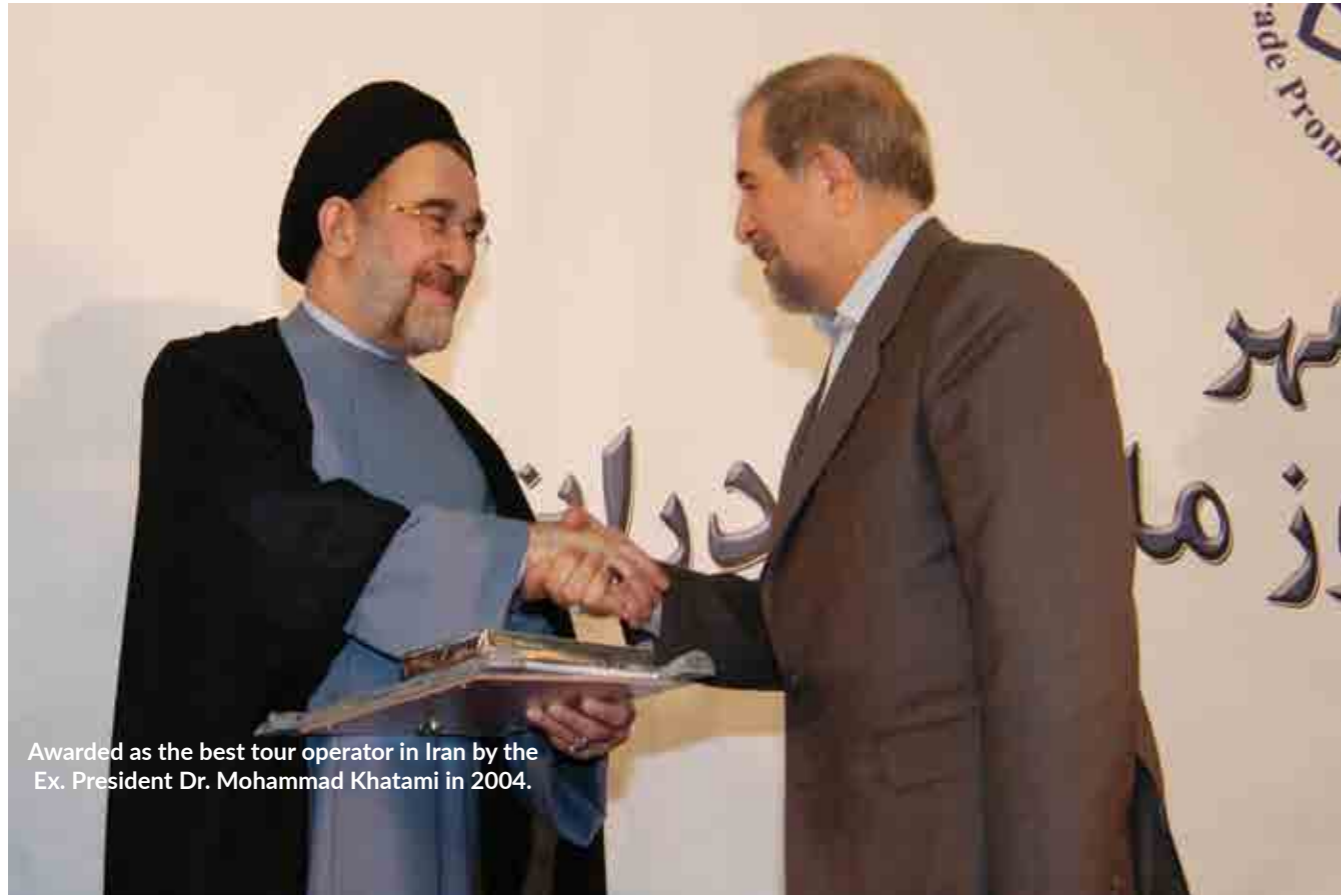
IranDoostanTours



IranDoostanTours

# DIGITAL MARKETING IS AT THE HEART OF OUR WORK.





Awarded as the best tour operator in Iran by the Ex. President Dr. Mohammad Khatami in 2004.



Awarded as the best tour operator in Iran by the Deputy President Dr. E. Jahangiri and foreign minister Dr. MJ. Zarif in 2015.

See You in IRAN





[www.irandoostan.com](http://www.irandoostan.com)  
[info@idt.ir](mailto:info@idt.ir) , [info@irandoostan.com](mailto:info@irandoostan.com)  
No. 15, IDT Bld.3 St. Yousefabad Valiasr Ave.1433633611, Tehran, Iran  
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