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Full Itinerary

Discover Iran in a Different Way (12 Days)

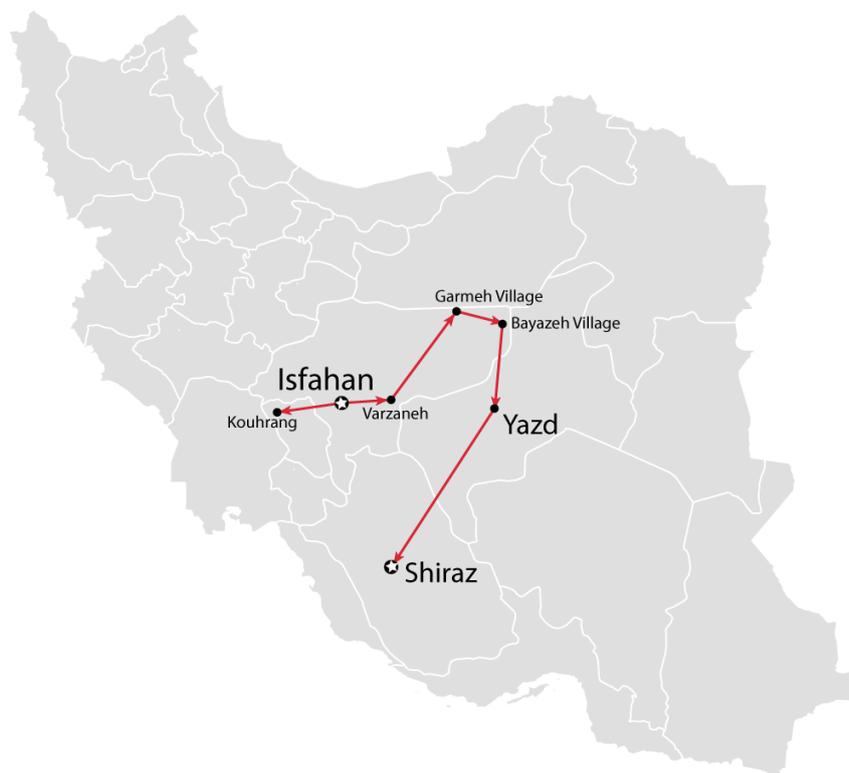
Route: Isfahan - Kouhrang - Varzaneh - Naeen - Garmeh Village - Yazd - Abarkouh - Perspolis - Shiraz

- Enjoy the visit to Isfahan known as the pearl of the east
- Get captivated by the beauty of Persian Carpet in Qeisarieh Bazaar
- Explore the ancient Zoroastrian cemetery in Yazd
- Get deeply involved with the life realities of the Bakhtiari nomadic tribes
- **UNESCO World Heritage Sites:** Persepolis, Pasargadae, Chehel Sotoun Palace, and Naqsh-e Jahan Square



Tour Overview

Group Size: 2 - 20	Date Available: Apr to Oct
Distance: 1600 Km	Range: 15 to 70 year old
Altitude: 1519 m - 1575 m AMSL	Theme: Cultural & Ecological
Physical Rate: 1 out of 5	Tour Code: STC107





Itinerary

In a Nutshell

Along with the visits to major cities of Iran, travelers will have chances to experience night stays in nomadic tents. The local guide will introduce different kinds of activities you can enjoy doing in the company of the Bakhtiari nomads.

Day 1: Isfahan

You will arrive in Isfahan very early. After the visa formalities, you are welcomed by your guide. You will have a good breakfast. Visit **Chehelsootun Palace** (World Heritage Site) and then discover **Naqsh-e Jahan Square** (World Heritage Site), which literally means the image of the world and is one of the most majestic works of human history, with its central fountains and a pool surrounded by lawns where it is good to hang out or rest. A harmonious complex commanded by King Shah Abbas at the time of the Safavids at the beginning of the 17th century: the Naqsh-e Jahan Square Mosque, **Ali Qapu Palace** and the covered **Bazaar**, whose main entrance overlooks the square. There, you will find the most beautiful carpets, the essences of flowers, the finely chiseled metal, the pottery and the tissues. In the evening, you have time to visit Safavid **bridges on the Zayanderud River** which are wonders of Persian architecture. The whole site is classified as a UNESCO World Heritage Site.

Overnight: Isfahan, **Meals:** B, L, D

Day 2: Isfahan

Today you have the city tour of Isfahan. In the morning you head into **Jolfa Quarter** and visit **Vank Cathedral** dating back to the Safavid dynasty. After that you will go to the **Music Museum**.

In the afternoon you return to the royal square to visit the **Sheikh Lotfullah Mosque** and you have a bit of free time to discover the covered Bazaar. Late afternoon, it is time to visit **Zurkhaneh** (traditional Iranian sport).

Overnight: Isfahan, **Meals:** B, L, D

Day 3: Isfahan - Kouhrang

You will visit the **Valleys of Chelgerd** and enjoy the time you will pass with the **Bakhtiari Nomads**. You are given time to get involved in the activities the nomads do to get familiar with their lifestyles and culture.

Overnight: Kouhrang (Nomadic Tent), **Meals:** B, L, D

Day 4: Kouhrang - Isfahan

Early this morning, you will serve your breakfast and get ready to visit **Sheykh Ali Khan Waterfall**. After visiting the waterfall you will be transferred to an area near an **Ice Cave**. You will get off the bus and take a long walk to reach the cave.

Overnight: Isfahan, **Meals:** B, L, D



Day 5: Isfahan - Varzaneh

This morning, after breakfast, you will leave your hotel to go toward Dasht-e Kavir which is a great central desert. At the first step you arrive to **Varzaneh** which is the last village before the marshy expanse of Gavkhouni Lake, where the Zayanderud River running through Isfahan is lost in the desert. We will visit the **Citadel of Qurtan**, the bridge of the twelfth century, dovescotes and wind towers. A **Traditional Weaving Workshop** will also be visited. You have a good chance to enjoy sunset in the desert in Varzaneh.

Overnight: Varzaneh (Guesthouse), **Meals:** B, L, D

Day 6: Varzaneh - Naeen - Garmeh Village

The road will take us to Naeen where we will visit the very old **Jameh Mosque** and the adjoining desert museum. Late afternoon we will arrive to **Garmeh** and visit the oasis wandering between palm trees to see a water source. You have chance to have your feet in the water for a **fish therapy** on foot. Tonight, you will serve a local dinner.

Overnight: Garmeh (Guesthouse), **Meals:** B, L, D

Day 7: Garmeh - Bayazeh - Yazd

In the morning you will continue your way to penetrate more deeply in the desert until you arrive at the tiny Village of Bayazeh. You get off the bus to visit the **Citadel of Bayazeh** and the oasis as well.

Overnight: Yazd, **Meals:** B, L, D

DAY 8: Yazd

You will start your day by going to the old center of Yazd (World Heritage Site) and enjoying the labyrinth of the city streets and the houses equipped with wind catchers. **The Jameh Mosque**, the covered bazaar, **Amir Chaqmaq Square**, and the **Water Museum** are the next to be explored during the rest of the day.

Overnight: Yazd, **Meals:** B, L, D

DAY 9: Yazd - Abarkooh

In the morning, we will continue our visit by discovering the **Zoroastrian Fire Temple**, where priests always keep lit the sacred fire. Afterwards you head toward the **Tower of Silence** which is an ancient Zoroastrian cemetery. Continue your tour to Shirkuh, which rises to over 4000 m, and then arrive to Abarkuh which is a small town on the edge of a dry lake. Here, the first Aryan settlers, 4500 years ago, planted a **Sacred Cypress** known as one of the oldest trees in the whole world. We will also visit the **House of Agha Zadeh**.

Overnight: Abarkooh (Traditional House), **Meals:** B, L, D

DAY 10: Abarkoog - Persepolis - Shiraz

Today is time to get surprised by the glory and majesty of the Persian Empire. **Pasargades** (World Heritage Site) is the first site to visit. It holds **Tomb of Cyrus** the Great who was one of the Achaemenid kings and their ruling period dates back to 2500 years ago. You will also discover **Naqsh-e Rostam** (World Heritage Site) with its gigantic royal tombs dug in the mountain. **Persepolis** is the next site which awaits you. Darius the Great planned this area for royal Nowroz celebration. The construction of the area took almost two centuries.



We will take all the time necessary to immerse ourselves in this magical atmosphere. After the visit, we continue to reach Shiraz (45 km) and arrive there late afternoon.

Overnight: Shiraz, **Meals:** B, L, D

DAY 11: Shiraz

In Shiraz we will visit the **Mausoleum of Hafiz**, an internationally famous poet. **Nasir-al Mulk Mosque** and the **Naranjastan-e Qavam** are the two other sites to be visited. In the afternoon, we will travel through the covered bazaar next to **Karim Khan Fortress**. Late afternoon travelers are free to pass time on their own. The last dinner will be served in town.

Overnight: Shiraz, **Meals:** B, L, D

DAY 12: Departure



Need to Know

<p align="center">Accommodation Standard Class 4-5* Hotels & Guesthouse</p>	<p>Total - 8 nights in 4-5 star double room, 2 night in guesthouse, 1 night in traditional house & 1 night in nomadic tent 4 Nights - Hotel in Isfahan 1 Night - Nomadic Tents in Kouhrang 1 Night - Guesthouse in Varzaneh 1 Night - Guesthouse in Garmeh 2 Nights - Hotel in Yazd 1 Night - Traditional House in Abarkouh 2 Nights - Hotel in Shiraz</p>		
<p align="center">Transport</p>	<p align="center">Air-conditioned Private Mini Bus</p>		
<p align="center">Meals</p>	<p align="center">B: 11</p>	<p align="center">L: 11</p>	<p align="center">D: 11</p>
<p align="center">Inclusion</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Hotel Accommodation - Airport - Hotel - Airport Transfer - Meals as it's mentioned - Iran Visa (Reference Code) - Entrance fees as it's mentioned - Professional English Speaking Tour Guide - Professional Tour Guide - Free Wi-Fi - Iranian SIM Card 		
<p align="center">Exclusion</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - International Airfare - Personal Insurance - Visa Stamp Fee - Expenses of Personal Nature - Tips and Portages 		



Why travel with Shakiba?

A to Z Services: Shakiba Travel Company offers all the necessary services you need from A to Z, during your trip to Iran. The services include visa collection assistance, tour guides, transfer, transport (private car, van, bus, plain and train), and accommodation (hotels, hostels, Eco lodges, homestays, guesthouses).

Iran Visa: Shakiba experienced visa team highly recommends travelers to get their Iran visas before coming to the country. This will accelerate and facilitate the trip and will cause lots of comfort upon arrival. Sometimes it has been noticed that some travelers applied to get a visa upon arrival and unfortunately they were rejected due to some problems. If travelers collect their visa before arrival they will guarantee their trip and there won't be the risk of rejection. Our team at Shakiba Travel Company is well ready to assist its customers with the process of visa application and is on-line 24 hours to answer all visa-related questions.

Reasonable Prices: There is always the possibility of comparing our prices with other companies and make sure of our low fees. There are also different occasions for benefiting from Shakiba Company's offers and discounts.

Free of Charge: One free in groups of up to 10 person

Security: Iran is generally a very safe place to travel. Violent crime against foreigners is extremely rare and, indeed, if you do your best to fit in with local customs, you are unlikely to be treated with anything (<https://www.lonelyplanet.com/iran/safety>).

Service Quality: Shakiba does its best to fully satisfy the customers to receive travel services with the quality they expect. So, we guarantee your satisfaction.

Full-Time Support (7/24): Our experienced team is always ready to support its customers all day long. Customers and travelers can always feel free to ask whatever questions they have and receive immediate responses and advise on their selected package. Our professionals are willing to assist with all of your tour-related inquiries.