



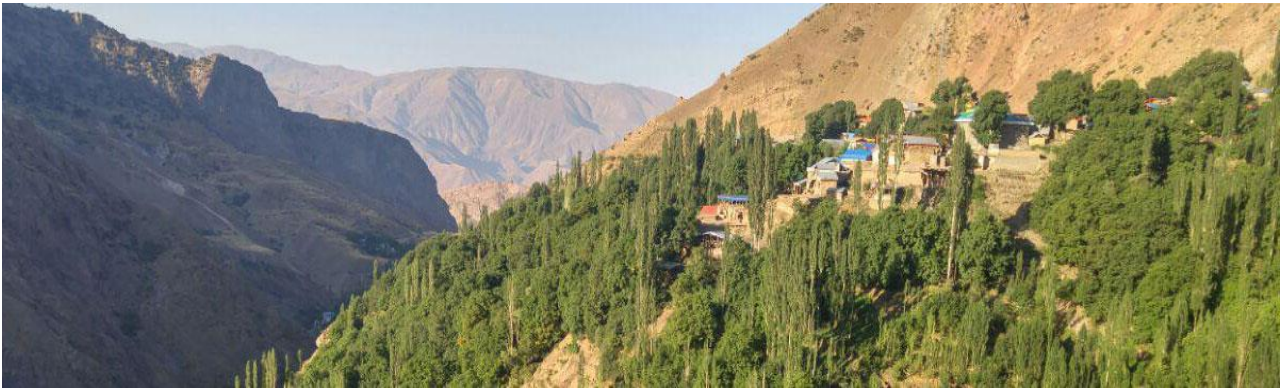
Tel: +98 31 36698742  
Fax: +98 31 36692654  
Whatsapp: +98 912 054 0429  
Email: [info@shakibatravel.com](mailto:info@shakibatravel.com)  
Website: [shakibatravel.com](http://shakibatravel.com)

## Full Itinerary

# From Alborz and Zagros to Persepolis (12 Days)

**Route:** Tehran - Qazvin - Alamout - Gazorkhan - Haniz - Sialan - Tonekabon - Tehran - Abyneh - Isfahan - Kouhrang - Izad Khast - Abadeh - Shiraz

- Mule-back riding in Alborz
- Zagros hiking and meeting the Bakhtyari nomads
- Enjoy a variety of accommodations (homestay, bivouac and hotels)
- **UNESCO World Heritage Sites:** Chehel Sotoun Palace, Naqsh-e Jahan Square, Persepolis, and Pasargadae



## Tour Overview

<b>Group Size:</b> 2 - 20	<b>Date Available:</b> April to Oct
<b>Distance:</b> 2250 Km	<b>Range:</b> 18 to 60 year old
<b>Altitude:</b> 1214 m - 4185 m AMSL	<b>Theme:</b> Cultural & Ecological
<b>Physical Rate:</b> 3 out of 5	<b>Tour Code:</b> STC104





## Itinerary

### In a Nutshell

Travelers will have lots of unique experiences on this tour. They are highly recommended to join us on the tour to get to know the simple life of the nomads who are living in the heart of the mountains. On this package, you will be able to get familiar with different cultures and lifestyles. There is still a lot to discover about the Iranians. Just pick up this package and start the way.

#### Day 1: Tehran - Qazvin - Alamout Valley

Upon arrival in Tehran, Shakiba's representative awaits to welcome you. Immediately we move straight to Qazvin. Qazvin is crowned as the Calligraphy Center of Iran and it has many attractions to explore. Qazvin was one of the capitals of the Safavid state and accordingly some of its historical works have the same name with ones in Isfahan. We start our tour visiting with **Chehel Souton Palace** which has impressive murals that were made at the time of Shah Tahmasb I. **Aminiha Hosseiniyeh** is worth a stop to see. When you want to enter this enormous house, you don't know what is waiting for you. Upon entering the main hall, you'll encounter a vault spanned by stunning decoration and colored windows. We consider visiting the **Alamut castle** (13<sup>th</sup> century AD). Alamut Castle is the site dedicated to fans of Hasan Sabbah are known as the Assassins. The path leading to the castle is incredible and recommend you to save your memories by taking photos here. You'll spend the night in the **Village of Gazorkhan**. It's better to sleep well at night. You'd start tomorrow by mounting Sialan (4185 MASL).

**Overnight:** Gazorkhan Village, **Meals:** B, L, D

#### Day 2: Alamout - Haniz - Sialan

For mounting **Sialan**, you should go to the **Village of Haniz**. The Sialan is the magical mountain. One side leads to Alamut Castle and its other side to Dohezar Forest. The height of this mountain is more than four meters. So we advise you to prepare yourself for perfect mountaineering. The Sialan is located between the provinces of Qazvin and Mazandaran. You'll sleep on the mountain at night. If you're lucky to have smooth sky, you'll see a lot of stars above your head.

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

#### Day 3: Sialan

After serving breakfast, you'll continue your way to Sialan and spend the night on the mountain.

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

#### Day 4: Sialan - Tonekabon

When you go down Sialan Mountain, you reach to the **Asal Mahaleh Village**. This village is located in the woods. We'll have lunch there. We drive to Tonekabon in the evening. The **Caspian Sea** is in front of you. This sea is the largest lake in the world, located among the countries of Iran, Azerbaijan, Russia, Kazakhstan and Turkmenistan. You have time at night to stroll aside the sea and listen to the sound of marine birds.

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



#### **Day 5:** Tonekabon - Tehran

Say farewell to Tonekabon and move to Tehran today. Tehran is the capital of Iran and considered as one of the most populated cities in the continent of Asia. We embark on a city tour of Tehran with the **National Museum of Iran**. This museum is the largest one in Iran that holds many antiquities. The oldest works of this museum belong to the Paleolithic period, which is astonishing. We recommend you take a photo when you encounter Persepolis pillar head. Our last stop in Tehran will be **Abgineh Museum**. This museum is located in an amazing classical building that keeps glasses of all periods in Iran.

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

#### **Day 6:** Tehran - Abyneh

We make our way from Tehran to Abyneh. The red colored stair-step shape **Abyaneh Village** spanned with willows will catch your eyes from afar. When you take a stroll in the village lanes, the local women's clothing will admire you. These clothes are the kind of Zoroastrian ones that you can buy a scarf with local designs and patterns if you wish. When you take a look at the top of the houses, you notice most of them has a terrace in front of a wooden lattice terrace. As the sun sets, the red color of the village becomes dreamlike and immerse anyone with its attraction. So it's better to sit on a high place to watch the beauty of this village at the sunset. Make sure to enjoy it.

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

#### **Day 7:** Abyaneh - Isfahan

In the morning we drive to Isfahan, the jewel of ancient Persia. It is Iran's largest desert city, which the Zayandehrud River crosses through it. After serving breakfast, **Chehel Sotoun Palace** (World Heritage Site) is the first attraction to explore. **Naqsh-e Jahan Square** (World Heritage Site) is the next place to visit. Upon arrival, you will see a vast space in front of your eyes, with magnificent works on each side of it. The **Shah Mosque** is located on the south side of the square, which is very mysterious. You must pass a corridor to reach the main courtyard. At that moment, its beauty will be astonished you. The **Qeysarie Bazaar** is located south of Naqsh-e Jahan Square. This bazaar is full of old-fashioned Isfahan businesses that are producing handicrafts with old methods. The rest day is for exploring historic bridges, **Si-o-se pol** and **Khaju**. Si-O-se pol (33 arches) is the longest bridge on the Zayandehrud River, built at the time of Shah Abbas I. There you will find adolescents who come near you to speak English. You can ask questions about the customs of Isfahan people.

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

#### **Day 8:** Isfahan

Continue our journey to visit **Jolfa Quarter** today. This quarter has been dedicated to Christians since Safavid times and there are numerous churches there. **Vank Cathedral** is the largest one in Isfahan. The impressive paintings of this church will catch your attention and remind you the Bible's stories. You can also visit the **Armenian History Museum** in Esfahan, which is located in the courtyard of the church. The **Music Museum** would be our last attraction to discover in Isfahan.



In this museum you can get familiar with Persian musical instruments and listen to the live music for a few minutes. Definitely you'll enjoy it. Our tour visiting ends with serving special food of Isfahan as a dinner. Iranian cuisine is unique. You can judge honestly.

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

**Day 9:** Isfahan - Kouhrang

Maybe you've never lived in a nomadic tent. Today you'll have this opportunity to get familiar with the lifestyle of the nomadic tribes of Iran. Nomads are said to people who have no stable home and vamoose to cooler places in the summer and to warmer places in the winter. The **nomads of the Zagros** spend the summer at the foot of the Zagros Mountains. So it's the best time to see them.

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

**Day 10:** Kouhrang

Zayandehrud is the largest river in the center of Iran, which originates from the Zard-Kuh Bakhtiari Mountain. Our first stop is Koohrang Fountain, the source of Zayandehrud. Later consider visiting **Sheikh Alikhan Waterfall** and **Choma Ice Cave**. Sheikh Alikhan is a tall waterfall and if you travel there in late March and early April, you'll probably encounter the overturned tulips. The weather in the summer is very mild. Chama Cave is one of the unique caves in Iran, which is formed by the accumulation of a few years old snow. The roof of the cave consists of snow that not disappear in the summer. Be sure to go inside and feel the cold weather there. You'll back to Kuhrang in the evening and stay overnight in the tent.

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

**Day 11:** Kouhrang - Izad Khast - Abadeh

We make our way from Koohrang to Abadeh. Izadkhast is an ancient city whose fortress is mentioned in most Oriental travel logs. Upon entering, you'll encounter the great monuments that are the **remains of the castle**, which is located at a height of six to fifteen meters above the ground. **Izadkhast Caravanserai** and **Safavi Bridge** are other attractions to visit. You'll spend the night at Abadeh.

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

**Day 12:** Abadeh - Shiraz

**Necropolis** (World Heritage Site) is worth stopping at on the way to Shiraz. It is the burial place of the Achaemenid and Sasanian kings who have been carved in the heart of the mountains. The tomb of Darius I is here. **Persepolis** (World Heritage Site) is must see site that you'll never ever forget. Alexander after arriving in Iran and entering this palace, he faced with the magnificent Imperial Iran. We move toward **Pasargadae** (World Heritage Site). The tomb of the great Cyrus is located here. After being killed in the Massagetae war in northeastern Iran in 529 BC, Cyrus was taken to this place and buried here. In the evening, you move to Shiraz and spend the night there.

**Day 13:** Shiraz

We should know the value of time to not miss anything today. We embark on visiting with **Nasir-al-Mulk Mosques** known as pink mosque.



Its pink color due to the colored glasses that gives you a strange feeling when you stand in front. You will be taken to **Khan's school**, one of the oldest Iranian schools which has educated renowned scholars especially in the field of philosophy. After that, **Narenjestan Qavam** is waiting us. It's the old and magnificent Shiraz house, which will definitely leave traces in your mind. A little further away, you will enter the **Shiraz Bazaar**. Recommend you to buy handicrafts with suitable price here. In the evening your guide will lead you through the **Tomb of Hafez** who is a poet of love as only lovers perceive his words. If you are in love, tell the guide to read one of Hafez's poems for you!

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

**Day 14:** Shiraz

Departure



## Need to Know

<b>Accommodation</b> Standard Class 3-4* Hotels, Guesthouse & Tent	<b>Total - 7 nights in 3-4-star double room, 2 nights in tent, 1 night in nomadic tent &amp; 1 night in local home</b> 1 Night - Homestay in Gazorkhan Village 2 Night - Sialan Mountain in Tent 1 Night - Hotel in Tonekabon 1 Night - Hotel in Tehran 1 Night - Hotel in Abyaneh 2 Night - Hotel in Isfahan 2 Night - Hotel in Nomadic Tent 1 Night - Hotel in Abadeh 2 Night - Hotel in Shiraz		
<b>Transport</b>	Air-conditioned Private Mini Bus		
<b>Meals</b>	B: 13	L: 13	D: 13
<b>Inclusion</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Hotel Accommodation</li> <li>- Airport - Hotel - Airport Transfer</li> <li>- Meals as it's mentioned</li> <li>- Iran Visa (Reference Code)</li> <li>- Entrance Fees as it's mentioned</li> <li>- Professional Tour Guide</li> <li>- Free Wi-Fi</li> <li>- Iranian SIM Card</li> </ul>		
<b>Exclusion</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- International Airfare</li> <li>- Personal Insurance</li> <li>- Visa Stamp Fee</li> <li>- Expenses of Personal Nature</li> <li>- Tips and Portages</li> </ul>		



## 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.