

## A Writers', Poets' and Photographers' 17-day Tour of Iran



*Exploring the magnificent culture and literature of ancient and modern Persia*

### Day 1

Arrive in Tehran

Overnight (O/N) in Tehran

### Day 2

Today we start to explore this amazing buzzing capital city of 15 million in our own bus.

National Museum of Iran

Qajar dynasty's Golestan Palace

Delicious lunch in the busiest restaurant in Iran at Tehran Grand Bazaar entrance

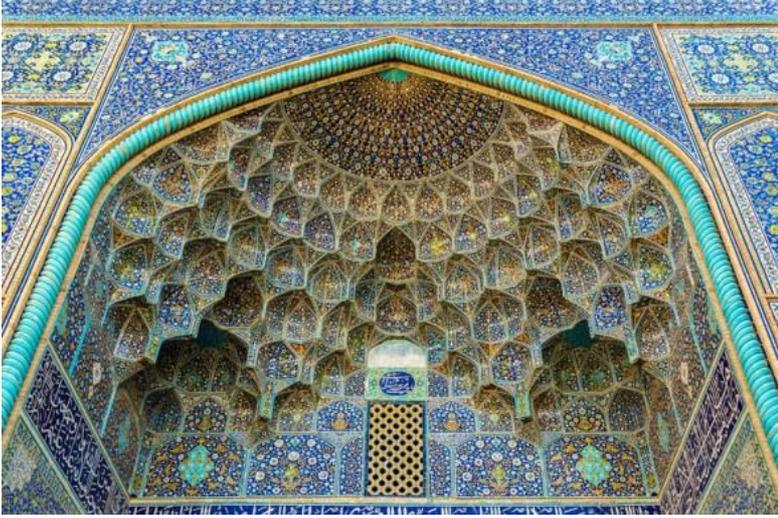
In the evening, we will head to Darband in the north of Tehran for a walk and dinner.

O/N Tehran



**Day 3**

We take an early flight south to Shiraz, the city of great Persian poets.  
 Bagh-e Eram from the Qajar dynasty  
 O/N Shiraz

**Day 4**

Nasir-ol-Molk mosque  
 Shah Cheragh/or (Saadi of Shiraz, a major Persian poet)  
 Narenjestan Persian garden  
 Shiraz Bazaar  
 Tomb of Hafez, Persia's finest poet  
 O/N Shiraz

**Day 5 (early start)**

Shiraz to Abarkuh (Via Persepolis, Naghsh-e Rostam, and Pasagadae)  
 Persepolis  
 Naqshe Rostam.  
 Tomb of Cyrus the Great at Pasargadae  
 O/N Abarku



**Day 6**

Aghazadeh Mansions

We can hold the first of our workshops here on Persian culture, poetry or music, writing a travel journal or on photography techniques.

O/N Abarkuh



**Day 7**

Drive to Yazd, an adobe desert city

Towers of Silence: Zoroastrian final resting place/Aerial burial



Guided walk through the old centre of Yazd and the Jame mosque

O/N Yazd



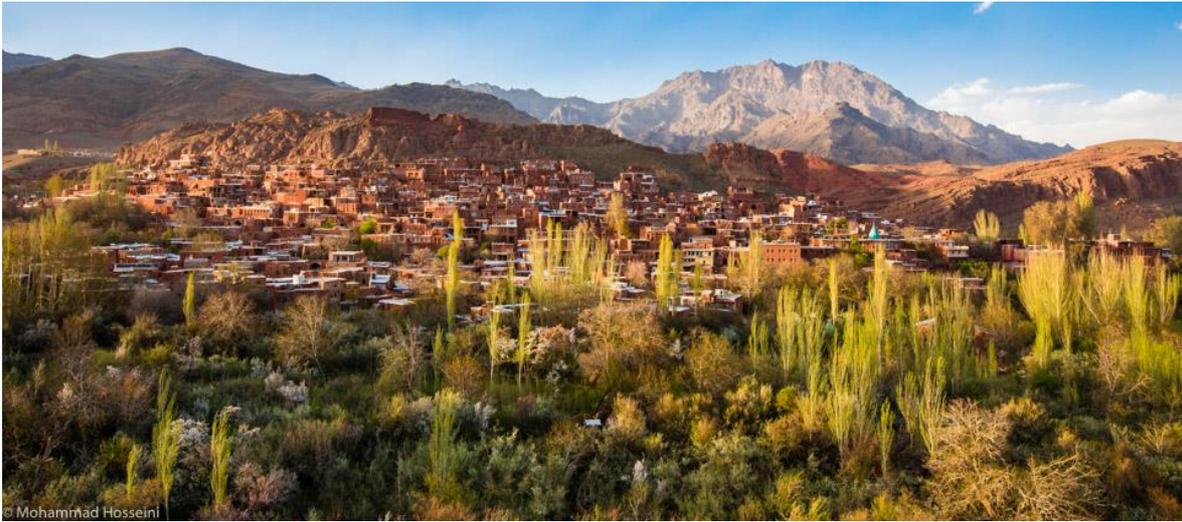
**Day 8**

Zoroastrian Fire Temple

Water Museum, Qanat of Yazd

Dolat Abad Garden with the tallest wind tower O/N Yazd





### Day 9 (early start)

Drive to Isfahan via Kharanagh, abandoned oasis  
(Visit Chak Chak, Zoroastrian Fire Temple on the way)

Isfahan's Naghsh-e Jahan Square

O/N Isfahan



### Day 10, 11, 12

Imam Mosque

Ali Qapu Palace

Bazar in Imam square

Chehel Sotoun pavilion

Bridges of Isfahan

Jame' Mosque of Isfahan

Vank Cathedral

Zoorkhaneh, house of strength, the ancient form of gym

Music Museum with a collection of Persian musical instruments

O/N Isfahan

### Day 13

Isfahan to Abyaneh, an ancient village of red mud brick houses

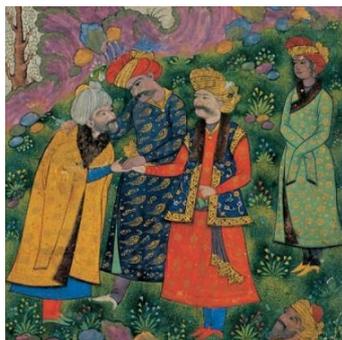
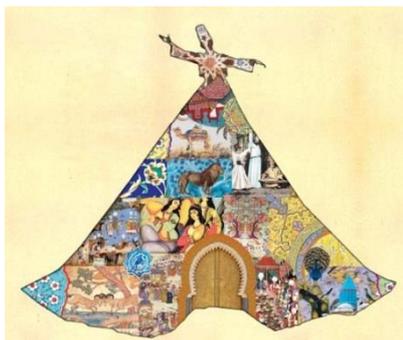
O/N Abyaneh



### Day 14

Abyaneh to Kashan  
 Borujerdi House  
 Kashan Bazaar  
 O/N Kashan

Another writing or photography workshop in Kashan, and/ or a special event such as traditional music in a boutique hotel, or a talk about contemporary Persian poetry, focused on Sohrab Sepehri, a notable Iranian Poet of 20<sup>th</sup> c.



### Day 15

Baghe Fin, an old Persian garden, with the bathhouse museum  
 Tabatabaei House Kashan  
 Sultan Amir Ahmad Bath House, an opulent architectural masterpiece  
 O/N Kashan



**Day 16**

Visit the Maranjab Desert near Kashan (1.5 hours' drive)

**Day 17**

After breakfast, we drive to Tehran Airport for our homeward journey

**General Information****Level of fitness for the tour:**

There are no long walks or climbs on this tour. However, there are a couple of places with some steps and moderate hills. These are all the steps and climbs in the tour

- Persepolis - entry to walk into the palace, very moderate steps.
- Towers of Silence (very moderate hilltop climb/steps)
- Water museum basement of a building with steps.
- Yazd hotel (for breakfast you go to the roof – 1 ½ floors)
- Chak Chak (about 20 minutes of hilltop and steps)
- Ali-Qapu Palace second floor (if you want to see over the Square of Isfahan from the second floor)

**Water**

Tap water is safe to drink in Iran. This makes the food prepared in the hotels and restaurants safe and bug free. However, many travellers stick to bottled water, which is widely available and provided by the organisers.

**Toilets**

Clean public toilets are available in each of the places we are visiting, and in between the cities there are mosques with toilets for public use.

**Visas**

Visa applications and acquisition will be taken care of by the tour organisers.

**Hotels**

All hotels will be four/five star or best in town.

