

# IRAN


PERSIAN SIMORG TOURS



Experience Iran's famously warm hospitality and be greeted by friendly locals who are genuinely interested in welcoming guests. Explore the country's rich culture and history as you visit UNESCO World Heritage sites, admire exquisite Iranian architecture, enjoy local cuisine and experience local Iranian culture to see for yourself why Iran has been described by Lonely Planet as "possibly the friendliest place on earth."







Iran Persian Simorg Tours specialise solely on Iran, and therefore offer you an experience like no other. Our tours don't just 'show you the sights,' they provide you with an opportunity to immerse yourself in Iranian culture and interact with the warmly welcoming locals. As a point of differentiation we place an emphasis on providing you with an authentic experience of Iran.

We do this by offering:

- Small, intimate (4-8 people) and unique tours of Iran with an experienced local tour guide and assistant
- Experiences that you will not find on other tours or by travelling alone
- Opportunities to interact with local people by visiting local spots in addition to the main attractions.
- Opportunities to learn about Iran's rich history and culture spanning three millennia, while gaining an understanding of life in present day Iran
- Accommodation in traditional hotels/houses and high standard 3 star hotels all based on double or triple share (single traveller supplement available)
- Visits to UNESCO World Heritage sites
- Opportunities to experience and learn about Iran's regional and cultural diversity formed by being at the main crossroads of the Silk Road and consisting of Persians, Azeris, Turks, Kurds, Lors, Turkmen, Arabs, Baluchis, and Nomads.
- Local home-style Persian cuisine
- Opportunity to discover Iran's breathtaking landscapes including mountains (covering a third of the country and some of the highest peaks), forests, parks deserts, seas and lakes with one of the world's highest number of flora and fauna.
- We are confident and can guarantee that if you hold any negative preconceptions of Iran as unsafe or hostile then these will be transformed and you will want to visit again!

Join our tours and see what Iran can offer you, both step back in time while experiencing the modern dynamic Iran. Our tours can also be customised if travelling privately.





Walk in the footsteps of history's giants and the great battles, names including Cyrus the Great, Darius, Shapour, Alexander the Great, Ghengis Khan, spanning the pre-Islamic ancient civilizations' of the Achaemenids and the Sassanids. Go where the Biblical Garden of Eden, the Jewish pilgrimidge site of the Tomb of Daniel, and the Islamic tombs of Imam Reza and Fatima. And not least, The Silk Road which gave rise to unprecendented trade and the interchange of ideas which lay foundation to the modern world.

So much to see and explore. With some of the highest mountain peaks in the world, drive through both miles of rolling green hills and "painted deserts" similar to the Australian outback or badlands America. Take your pictures with the backdrop of rainbow coloured mountains like Peru's, an extensive system of caves and lakes, Iran offers more than you could fit into one trip.

Food hygiene and sanitary standards are high throughout the country so you can enjoy eating and need not worry about ill-health.





## What's included

- All airport transfers from and to IKA.
- All internal travel- air and land
- All accommodation for the duration of each tour
- Qualified and licenced Iranian tour guide and assistant
- Entrance fees to all sites visited
- Two standard meals per day
- Lanyard with USB stick of your itinerary and other necessary information
- Travel insurance

## What's excluded

- Additional meals
- Extra activities

## Optional:

International air fares and visa fees can be organised for you, if required. Please inquire.



## OTHER INFORMATION AND FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

With all the riches Iran has to offer it has a high level of domestic tourism. In recent years international tourism has grown to record levels not seen since before the 1979 revolution. In 2013 tourism grew 12 percent, and in 2017 Iran had over 6 million tourists visit which was triple compared to 2009. By 2025 this number is set to grow to 20 million.

With all the negative media stories, the depiction of Iran and its people in Hollywood movies, and lack of information regarding tourism there it is understandable that people question Iran as a holiday destination. This representation makes Iran one of the most misunderstood destinations. But if you spend some time researching and talk to people who have been to Iran your views, like many, after will quickly change and once you experience it first-hand any misconceptions will be resolved.

### Is it safe to travel to Iran?

Yes, Iran treats security as a very high priority. The occurrence of crime is very low and it's safe to carry larger than normal amounts of cash. The only fear of danger you may face are the different traffic norms faced as a pedestrian, but rest assured with some care and guidance you will adapt quickly and feel safe in a short time.

Another precaution to take has to do with political demonstrations and photography. If by the rare chance there is a political demonstration please avoid participating or taking videos or photography as security officials are very sensitive to foreigners partaking in such events. Also, avoid taking photos of government offices or military and police sites.

### Are there strict dress codes?

While there are some strict dress codes for both men and women, it is women who are more constrained by this. However, most report that they were not encumbered by these dress codes, and contrary to some preconceptions the rules are lax when it comes to the style of wearing a headscarf (for foreigners these codes are even less strict).