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IRAN

Iran Oasis Tour

**Tehran, Abyaneh, Varzaneh, Mesr, Garmeh, Yazd, Zein-o Din
Caravanserai, Meymand, Mahan, Rayen Castle, Shahdad,
Kerman
13-Day Itinerary**



Gateway into Iran
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Day 1 – Tehran

Welcome to great Persia!

Day 2 – Abyaneh

Abyaneh will be our starting point. This village dates back more than a thousand years and it is unique with language and textiles. Its local people still speak the Old Persian language. There are many fruit trees such as apple, apricot, peach and sour cherry. The fruits are harvested and dried. Visit the hilltop lookout point in front of the village and enjoy the wonderful sunset.

Day 3 – Varzaneh

Another village that is famous for the traditional white Chador (Chador is the Islamic dress code). In this village, they farm cotton in order to weave this kind of fabric. At the entrance of the village, you can see a statue of an old lady weaving this kind of textile. We will walk in the street to get more familiar with it and see the old water pumping system in this village.

Day 4 – Mesr

This village is in the middle of the desert. It is impressive how hard work has resulted in finding water in the middle of nowhere. We may understand how difficult it was to trade with other villages with camel caravans. For this purpose, we will ride camels to feel the authentic life of these people.

Day 5 – Garmeh

Today, visit the village that holds many interesting desert castles. We will go to a pomegranate garden because this area is particularly famous for producing this kind of fruit. Enjoy chatting with local people and exploring this village.

Day 6 – Yazd

This city is important because of Zoroastrians and their lifestyle, so we will visit their Fire Temple and Tower of Silence and we will have a private audience with their priests.

Day 7 – Zeinodin Caravanserai

In ancient times, lots of merchants having to travel from one village to other city, had to stay in caravanserai on route. Today, we join with them and stay a night in the middle of the desert in a cozy, peaceful caravanserai serving delicious food. This place is the best to watch the desert sky and enjoy seeing the Milky Way.

Day 8 – Meymand

Today, we will be visiting the cave village of Meymand. Its local people carved these caves to make shelter. They have an unbelievable style to protect them from rain and keep warm. During the year, farmers move with their animals to defined settlements, traditionally four, and more recently three, that include fortified cave dwellings for the winter months. In three of these settlements, the houses are temporary, while in the fourth, the troglodytic houses are permanent. We will visit the Fire Temple and the mosque.

Day 09: Kerman

Kerman is another desert city with different minorities of people. Most of these people have faces resembling the peoples of the Sub-Continent, in particular, India. The best place to meet these people will be the bazaar. This is a good opportunity to take photographs. Moshtagh Tomb and Jameh Mosque will be other peaceful places to visit in Kerman.

Day 10 : Kerman - Mahan- Rayen - Bam - Kerman

Full day excursion in Kerman. Visit starts in Mahan. An oasis in the desert is a good example to see how water can make everything different and help to grow a green land. We will enjoy the sunset in the Sufi Tomb Minaret. Then visit Rayen Castle to explore how ancient Persian people built the residential parts of their villages. This castle is one of the most important castles in this area. It is divided into three parts to accommodate local people, merchants and kings. Continue to Bam, an agricultural centre situated on the Silk Road and long famed for its large fortress, was designated a UNESCO World Heritage site in 2004. Return to Kerman.

Day 11: Kerman - Shahdad - Kerman

Full day excursion in Kerman. Journey starts towards the Kalut of Shahdad in the morning. The approximate distance between Kerman and Kalut of Shahdad is about 230 km and takes approximately 3 hours. When we arrive there, explore along the desert and experience the unbeatable Natural Phenomenon of the Lut Desert, Kaluts, and Nabkha. Along the path back to Kerman, visit the Kalshour River and end at the Shafiabad village to visit the Shafiabad Caravanserai, return to Kerman in the evening.

Day 12 : Kerman

We return to Tehran by plane .

Day 13: Goodbye Iran

Our departure day and time to say goodbye to the land of Persia.