



# Essence of Persia

Day 1: Arrival – Tehran

Day 2: Tehran

Day 3: Tehran – Kashan – Isfahan

Day 4: Isfahan

Day 5: Isfahan – Meybod – Yazd

Day 6: Yazd

Day 7: Yazd – Kerman

Day 8: Kerman – Rayen – Mahan – Kerman

Day 9: Kerman – Shiraz

Day 10: Shiraz – Pasargadae – Persepolis – Shiraz

Day 11: Shiraz – Departure





## Day 1

### Arrival – Tehran

Upon arrival to Tehran, you would be transferred to hotel to take some rest and to get prepared for the tour to get started tomorrow morning.



## Day 3

### Tehran\_Kashan\_Isfahan

Early in the morning, we depart from Tehran towards Isfahan with a stop at Kashan to visit the main highlights of the city including **Fin Garden** with its old trees singing the life song and telling us the stories of last 200 years, **Sialk hill** as the remains of the ancient civilization of the area, and **Boroujerdis' historical mansion**. After finishing the city tour of Kashan, we continue driving to Isfahan. Upon arrival, you would be transferred to the hotel to take some rest.

## Day 4

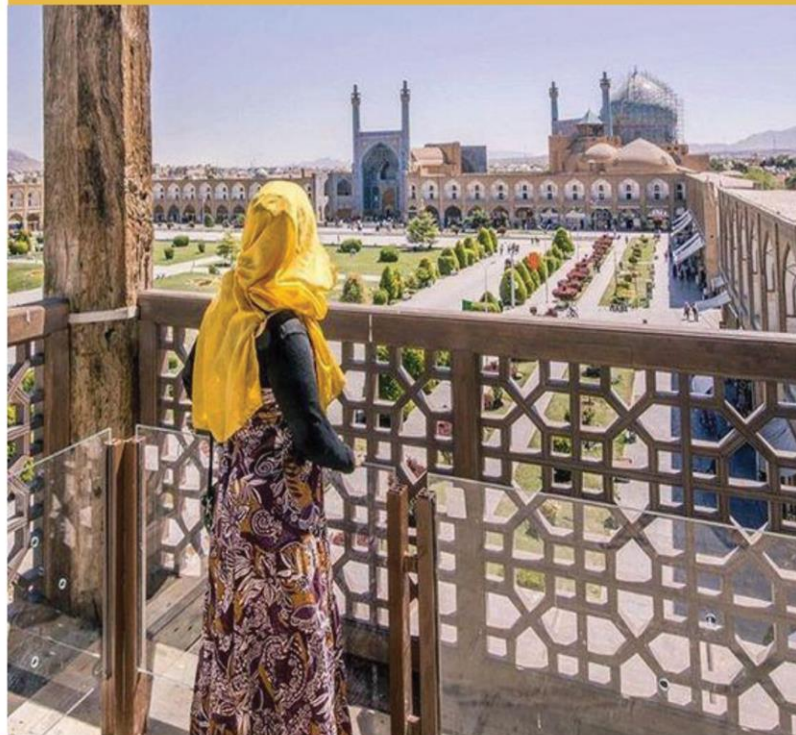
### Isfahan

Today, we take a city tour of Isfahan to visit the main highlights of the city including **Naghsh-e Jahan square**, **Shah (Imam) mosque**, **Sheykh Lotfollah mosque**, and **Ali Qapou palace**. After the visits to the marvelous Naghsh-e Jahan complex as the 3rd biggest square around the globe, you'll have some free time at bazaar to enjoy the Symphony of coppersmiths and horse bells. The tour continues with a visit to the **Vank cathedral** and the Armenian corner in Jolfa district. At the end, we'll visit the **historical bridges of Sio-Se Pol and Pol-e Khajou** enabling Isfahani citizens cross the famous Zayande River on top, and spend their eves singing together beneath the bridges.

## Day 2

### Tehran

A full day city tour of Tehran is arranged to show you the main highlights of the capital including **Golestan palace** with its breathtaking mirrorwork, **the archeological section of the national museum** to explore Iran's history from pre-historical era till the Arabs invasion, **crown jewels museum** as the biggest treasury around the world (if possible due to the opening hours and days of the museum). We only have the chance to visit this treasury from Saturday to Tuesday and in case we were in Tehran out of these days, instead we'll visit **Abgine glassware** and pottery museum located in a historical mansion with fabulous brick-works. After having a visit to **Tabiaat Bridge** as the modern symbol of Tehran, you would be transferred to hotel to take some rest and to get prepared for tomorrow's ride.



## Day 5

### Isfahan\_Meybod\_Yazd

Early in the morning, we depart from Isfahan to Yazd driving through the central desert of Iran. Through the way, we'll have a stop at Meybod to learn about the desert urban architecture and life style by visiting the main highlights of the city including the **caravanserai**, **great citadel** of Meybod as the heart of the old city, mud-brick made **ice supply**, and the **pigeon tower**. Afterwards, we continue driving to Yazd and check in to the hotel upon arrival to the city. You have some time at your own leisure to take some rest and to get prepared for tomorrow's tour.



## Day 6

### Yazd

After having a morning city tour of Yazd including **Dakhme** (towers of silence) as a Zoroastrian ancient grave yard, **Zoroastrian fire temple** which is keeping the 1500 years burning fire safe, **Kabir Jami mosque** and **Fahadan neighborhood** as the old town, we depart from Yazd to Kerman. **zoorkhaneh**, as Iranian traditional sport.



## Day 7

### Yazd\_Kerman

Early in the morning we will go to Kerman, on the way we will have a stop in **Carvansarai Zeinelddin**. Later we continue driving, when we will be in Kerman, an afternoon short city tour of Kerman is arranged to visit **Ganjali Khan Bazaar**, **Ganjali Khan Bathhouse** and **the Mint**.

## Day 8

### Kerman\_Rayen\_Mahan\_Kerman

A morning excursion to Rayen and Mahan to visit the **great citadel of Rayen** as the 2nd biggest Mud-brick made city after the Bam citadel in Iran, afterwards, **Shazdeh garden** as a great example of paradise on the earth and a great masterpiece amongst the Persian gardens, and **the mausoleum of Shah Nematollah vali** as one of the most famous Spiritualists and Soufis in Mahan. Arrived back in Kerman,



## Day 9

### Kerman\_Shiraz

Early in the morning, we start driving towards Shiraz. Through the way, we'll have a stop at **Sarvestan** to visit the palaces remained from Sassanid kings there. We will have another stop before arriving in Shiraz next to **Maharloo Lake** to enjoy its marvelous landscape. Upon arrival to the city of Shiraz, you would be transferred to the hotel to take some rest and to get prepared for tomorrow's tour.



## Day 10

### Shiraz \_ Pasargad \_ Perspolice \_ Shiraz

A full day excursion is arranged to visit the tomb of Cyrus the great, the founder of Achaemenes empire and the author to the first human rights law at Pasargade, the remain of the ceremonial palace complex of Achaemenes at Perspolice to understand their way of life, and their politics to rule almost half of the world. Now is the time to continue emperors besides the Sassanid reliefs at Naghsh-e Rostam. Then we drive back to Shiraz with a photo stop at Quran Gate.



## Day 11

### Shiraz \_ Departure

A full day city tour of Shiraz is arranged to visit the main highlights of the city including, **Nasirol Molk mosque**, also famous as the pink mosque because of the pink tiles used to decorate its walls, **Citadel of Karimkhan Zand**, **Vakil Bathhouse**, **Vakil Bazaar**, as parts of the royal complex of Zand, **Eram botanical Garden** and the **Mausoleum of Hafiz**, the great 15th century Shirazi Poet to learn about his ideas about life, and love. At the end, you'll visit **Ibn Hamze shrine** to learn about the Shia Muslim beliefs and then you would be transferred to the airport. Now is the farewell time, and we hope you leave Iran with a bunch of good memories. Have a safe flight back home.