Persian Voyages

REF: 15 HRSP

Iranian Holiday Package: Horse Riding in nomadic region and sightseeing in Persia

Horse riding holiday in Iran is simply unique

Eleven days horse riding tour taking place in the nomadic area, central Iran with most spectacular landscape and natural beauty, meeting local people, get to know their unique cultural and visiting the major sights of the great cities of Isfahan, Persepolis and Shiraz.
You can either join in our set tours with the set dates or we can plan an itinerary to match your own requirements.

Dates 2015
14 May - 24 May 2015
TOUR COST: £1890 without flight
Single supplement: £180

Persian Voyages

Tel: +44 (0)1306 885894

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Please continue for itinerary

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What is included in the tour price:

- Five nights' accommodation at a 3*, 4* hotels
- Five night camping
- Sharing a twin room
- Airport transfers
- Breakfast,
- Breakfast, lunch, dinner for days 4,5,6,7,8
- Land transport
- All excursions and sightseeing entrance fees
- Porterage
- An English speaking guide

What is not included:

- International flight (£450-£650), the suggested Airline for this tour is Turkish Airline fly to Shiraz and fly out from Tehran
- Iranian Consulate visa fee €180
- Travel insurance
- Visa service

Riding: 3-6 hours per day.
Horses: The Persian horse, Dareshori
Pace: moderate.
Riding ability: confident intermediate
Weight limit: 85kg (13st 5lbs).
Accommodation: 5 nights hotels, 5 nights Δ camping
Group size: max 8

The horses are The Persian horse, Dareshori, schooled and mannered.
Some part of the way it is better to canter, so you should be able to trot and canter,
The route will be flexible due to the weather at the time and other conditions. The maximum weight of rider should be 85 kilos.
Sleeping bag is provided unless the riders prefer to bring their own sleeping bags. The riders should bring water canteens, oral hydrates and rain coats. The weather can turn cold at night so please bring a warm jacket or fleece and water proof

ITINERARY

Day 1 Thu 14 May, Shiraz –
Upon arrival in Shiraz, you will be met with our representative at the airport and transfer to your hotel.
Overnight Shiraz

Day 2 Fri 15 May, Shiraz –
Sightseeing in Shiraz, visiting the **Eram Garden,** (Garden of Paradise) a large garden with a wonderful looking palace **Hafez** 14th Century Persian Mystic poet and **Saadi Tombs**, famousr Persian poet of medieval period and the colourful Bazaar
Overnight Shiraz

Day 3 Sat 16 May, Shiraz- Persepolis- Pasargadae-
Visit the tombs of **Nagsh-e Rostam** which is magnificently cut into a cliff high above the ground, bas relief and archaeological site of **Naghsh –e Rajab**. Then the highlight of any visits to Iran - Darius the Greats' fabulous **Persepolis**.
Overnight Shiraz

Day 4 Sun 17 May, Shiraz-Gambil Valley
Two hours' drive to Sepidan, upon arrival have lunch, then start first day of horse-riding for 2-3 hours to get familiar with the horses. Camp near by Ghashghaee nomads in Gambil Valley for overnight.
O/N Camping

Day 5, Mon 18 May Gambil Valley –Sib Khalaj
Leave for one day Horse Riding, then camping in Sib Khalaj
O/N Camping

Day 6, Tue 19 May Sib Khalaj –Esfian village-
A day of horse riding, this time ride up to Margon water fall, then walking for a while to look at this breath taking waterfall. Overnight stay is camping in Esfian village where we meet up with local.
O/N Camping

Day 7 Wed 20 May , Esfian Village – Tange Borag-
A day Horse Riding, crossing rivers to the protected area of Tange Boragh for Overnight stay.
Overnight camping

Day 8 Thu 21 May Tange Borag-Isfahan
Last day of our horse riding , say goodbye to the horses and head to Esfahan.
Overnight Isfahan

Day 9 Fri 22 May, **Isfahan:** flashing with brilliant aquamarine mosaic domes, lofty minarets, and some of the world's finest architecture, is a visual treat and the indisputable centre of attraction for everyone.

The sites you will visit include:

Royal Square-This vast square is home to what is arguably the most majestic collection of buildings in the Islamic world. It's also the second-largest square in the world.

Imam Mosque -At the end of the Royal Square is One of the most breath-taking Islamic monuments in the world, the Imam Mosque. The rectangular entrance portal and the two turquoise minarets which flank it, dominate the Square. The Imam mosque is one of the Iran UNESCO Heritage site

Aliqapou Palace - The 16th-century palace of Shah Abbas Safavi, with its curious ornamentation. This palace was built as a functioning seat of government, and included a huge pavilion from where the Safavid rulers could watch the activities in the square below. The elevated trance offers a magnificent view over the surrounding mountains, town and the best view of the Square. The room on the sixth floor known as Music room,the wall and ceiling cut with the shapes of Persian musical Instruments and other household shapes

Sheikh Lotfollah Mosque - A shimmering mosque with amazing ceramic work, built in 1617. The mosque is unusual because it has no minaret or courtyard. The mosque was once called the Ladies's Mosque, because there is apparently a tunnel between this mosque and the Ali Qapu Palace which is on the opposite side of Royal Square, allowing Ladies from court's royal haram to attend prayers without being seen in public

Chehel Sotoun - ('The Forty Columns') a Safavid palace with a delightful pavilion supported by twenty columns, which double to make the legendary forty when reflected in the water. Inside are important murals, mirror mosaics and an exquisitely decorated wooden roof

Hasht Behesht Palaces (Eight Paradises) - An attractive 17th century small palace with wooden columns set in a delightful garden of Nightingales. The garden, is visible through the great arches, the most

interesting part of this palace are the spandrel title decorations on the exterior showing pairs of often mythical hunting animals

Isfahan Bazaar – A typical eastern bazaar, one of the oldest and longest roofed bazaar in the world. There are several traditional tea houses and restaurants. Wondering around in bazaar with its fragrant scents and spices is absolutely a real treat.

Overnight Isfahan

Day 10 Sat 23 May , Isfahan-

Am sightseeing in Isfahan

Friday Mosque - A building typifying nine centuries of Iranian sacred architecture, with vaulted arches, stucco carvings, and a marble pool. With no doubt Friday mosque is an architectural treasure and one of the most magnificent of all building in Isfahan, the architecture of the mosque is extremely complex and constructed in different periods. The main part belongs to 11th century of the era of the Seljuks. Later extensively redecorated and repaired by The Mongols.

The Bridges of Isfahan - The Zayandeh Rud (river) starts in the Zagros Mountains, flows from west to east through the heart of Isfahan, and dries up in the Kavir desert.
The bridges over the river include some of the nicest architecture in Isfahan.

Khajoo bridge- A magnificent structure with two tiers of arches which was built by Shah Abbas II in 1650. It is 123 metres long with 24 arches, and it also serves as a sluice gate.

Si-o-se-pol - built in 1632 by Shah Abbas, It consists of two rows of 33 arches. There is a larger base plank at the start of the bridge where the Zayandeh river lows under it, supporting a tea house, Where one can admire the beauty of Its impressive architecture

Vank Cathedral -
A Christian cathedral with lavish interior and domed in the same manner as the Persian mosque. The wall and ceiling is covered with magnificent Christian imagery, fine painting and tile works

Pm drive to Tehran. Overnight Tehran

Day 11, Sun 24 May Tehran-Airport

Transfer to the airport for the return flight

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