

## **IRAN, THREE CITIES (year round)**

***Character:***

The ancient lands of Persia are steeped with history and culture. If you want to learn more about this fascinating country from the vibrant city of Tehran to Shiraz, the home of famous Poets, Persepolis where you will encounter an astounding example of the rule of the early Achaemenid Empire and Isfahan famous for its ancient bridges, mosques, minarets, and tree lined avenues, this is the tour for you.

***Duration:***

4 days / 4 nights

***Accommodation:***

Superior hotels (4 star)

***Meals:***

4 breakfasts

***Mode of travel:***

Comfortable, air-conditioned vehicles

***Tour support:***

Services of local Iranian guide fluent in English

***Included:***

Accommodation for 4 nights

Meals as specified in the itinerary

Services of local Iranian guide fluent in English

All activities as per itinerary with all entry fees

All transfers in comfortable, air-conditioned vehicles

Visa processing

***Excluded:***

Optional activities

## ***Itinerary***

### **Day 1**

### **Tehran and Shiraz**

Arrive Tehran, city tour of Tehran including: Golestan Palace, where the coronations of the former Shah and his father took place, particularly notable are the hall of mirrors and the garden hall, archaeological museums featuring 7000 years of Persian history, from the 5<sup>th</sup> millennium BC to the 19<sup>th</sup> century AD. PM flight to Shiraz, arrive to Shiraz, transfer to hotel, rest.

***Overnight:*** Hotel in Shiraz

***Meal plan:*** Breakfast

### **Day 2**

### **Shiraz and Isfahan**

Excursion to magnificent Achaemenian city of Perspolis (57 km northeast of Shiraz). Beyond the gate lies the hall of 100 columns, the Apadana Palace with its spellbinding display of bas-reliefs, the Tachara, the unfinished palace of Artaxerxes III, the Palace of Xerxes and the Tripylon Palace. Rock tombs cut into the mountain are those of Artaxerxes II and Artaxerxes III. A few kilometers from Perspolis is Nash-e Rostam where four cliff tombs are located. Back to Shiraz visit: Bagh-e-Eram or Garden of Paradise, home to a pretty 19<sup>th</sup> century Qajar palace which looks enchanting in its flower setting beside a pool. Narenjistan-e-qavam or qavam Orangery, is an elegant 19<sup>th</sup> century house some fascinating tile work and orange trees in its garden. Transfer to airport for domestic flight to Isfahan, arrive to Isfahan transfer to hotel, rest.

***Overnight:*** Hotel in Isfahan

***Meal plan:*** Breakfast

### **Day 3**

### **Isfahan**

Full day city tour including: Chehel Sutun inside a garden with an area of 67,000 square meters that was built as an official court and a reception hall by Shah Abbas II, Imam Square with an area of more than eighty thousand square meters, twice as large as Moscow's Red Square. Sheikh Lotfollah Mosque, a masterpiece of architecture and tile work, a beautiful religious building built by Shah Abbas in honor of the great Lebanese Sheikh Lotfollah. Visiting the Friday mosque as well as the mausoleum of Velayat Haroun with its exceptional portal and the minaret of Ali-Qapou (highest of Isfahan). Back to hotel.

***Overnight:*** Hotel in Isfahan

***Meal plan:*** Breakfast

### **Day 4**

### **Tehran**

Continue your tour of Isfahan, Armenian Cathedral of Vank (Saint Savior), begun in 1606, at the time of arrival of Armenian immigrants to Isfahan, it was completed between 1655 and 1664 under the supervision of Archbishop David, Imam Mosque (Masjid-e Jam'e Abbasi) is one of the finest and the most stunning building in the world, Visit Bazaar, flight to Tehran.

***Overnight:*** Hotel in Tehran

***Meal plan:*** Breakfast