IN THE NAME OF GOD
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Travelling is the gate of discovering the secrets of life, unknown parts of the nature and creatures of God. Travelling broadens our attitude toward the surrounding world and gets us familiar with the history, old civilization and culture, unique natural attractions of our dear Iran. But travelling by train, watching Iran on railway, stopping at each station and thinking about the world and getting familiar with its attractions, all create a non-repeating pleasure. Therefore, we decided to look again at Iran from train windows. Stay with us to experience another view of our land through introducing its railway, historical and natural attractions.

Preamble

Men have faced several difficulties and shortages since long times ago, each of which have resulted in inventing a new possibility and tool for a better life. History of railway is also tied with the issue of ore extraction and its transportation from the mines which finally caused the emergence of the first railway in the world. Since then, it gained gradually much importance and significance as the most influential transport way that influenced the political, social and economic life of the countries. In Iran the emergence and operation of the first railway goes back to 1886 when Mahmood Abad-Amol railway road (in southern shore of Caspian Sea) was built. Though, the project was predicted to continue toward Tehran but it failed for some reasons. The railway was removed and instead used for telegram line. In 1888, construction of a tram line with length of 8700 meters began in Tehran-Ray route. Then, the trans-Iranian Railway called «North- South Railway» was operated in 1938. It connected Imam Khomeini port in Persian Gulf region to Torkaman port in Caspian Sea region. After the victory of the glorious Islamic Revolution, railway network extended more rapidly and presently most Iranian provinces are connected to the railway network.
Tehran Railway Station is one of the oldest railway structures in Iran. Its construction began in 1927 in south Tehran lands in a land with approximate area of 174 hectare, simultaneously with trans-Iranian railway building. Inspired by the magnificence and greatness of ancient Iranian architecture, the station’s building is made of iron and cement from foundation to the ceiling. Windows are totally made of bronze and iron; outer view is covered by white travertine stones extracted from stone mines of Pole Sefid with a big entrance. Approximately, 30000 sqm of the total area is allocated to Passengers Station that includes Waiting Hall, 5 passenger platforms and 1 international platform.
Tehran

As the capital of Iran, Tehran has unique historical attractions. Tehran province is distinct from other provinces because the political capital of the Islamic Republic of Iran is deployed in it. Tehran (capital of the Islamic Republic of Iran) has historical buildings, entertainment centers, museums and tourism places because it has been the capital of Iran for more than 200 years.

**Milad Tower**

Milad tower is a concrete structure built in a land with approximate area of 14 hectare. Its height is 315 meter and it's regarded as the fourth tallest telecommunications tower in the world. Considering the application area, it's the 1st tower among the world's tallest towers.

**Azadi Square**

Azadi square’s structure (former Shahyad structure) is one of the famous structures in Tehran dating back to Pahlavi ages, operated on Oct.16, 1970. It was designed and supervised by Hossein Amanat, Eng. The structure is built very elegantly and carefully and it’s the best sample of the combination of Iranian & Islamic architecture.

**Tourism Attractions**

Cultural and natural attractions include the followings in short: Sa’adabad historical complex, Niavaran historical complex, Imamzadeh Saleh (peace be upon him), Reza Abbasi museum, Imamzadeh Aliakbar (Chizar), Jamshideh park, Kolak Chai heights, Noorolshahada hill in north Tehran; Golestan palace complex, National Jewels Museum, Tehran Bazaar, tomb of Lutf Ali Khan Zand, Imamzadeh Seyed Nazreddin, Imamzadeh Zeid, Bagh-e Melli portal, Abgineh museum, Post museum, Iranian Ancient museum, in center and south of Tehran.

**Bagh-e MelliPortal (National Garden Gates):**

In a period when Reza Khan was the Minister of War (1340 A.H) a tall and magnificent gate was built in the entry of former Masghq square which was a place for military practice of the army in Qajar dynasty, within the kingdom of Fatih. Sa’ad portal replaced another building which was located in same place and resembled the present structure.

**Sa’adabad Palace Museum:**

North Tehran encompasses an enchanting region within Tochal foothills and Darband green valley. S’adabad complex with an area of 1,100,000 Sqm locates in this region. Limited to Alborz Mountains on north, Golabdarreh on east, Velenjak on west and Tajrish region on south, S’adabad had been the summer palace of Qajar kings.

**Golestan Palace:**

Golestan complex is a heritage remained from Tehran historical citadel, which was the residence of kings of Qajar kings. It’s one of the most beautiful and old buildings of Iran’s 200-years old capital. In the old times, the palace used to shine like a gem in this citadel.

**Niavaran Palace Museum**

Niavaran cultural-historical complex locates in northeast Tehran (Shemiranat). It dates back to the first years of the Qajar dynasty. Niavaran palace, Sahebqaranieh palace, Ahmadshahi pavilion, Jahan Nama pavilion, exclusive library and other cultural spaces such as the Blue Hall, exclusive cinema, Jahan Nama gallery and Niavaran garden all show the historical, cultural and natural attractions.
Tehran - Mashhad railway route receives annually a huge number of passengers due to location of the holy Shrine of Shiite 8th Imam, Imam Reza (peace be upon him). Tehran- Mashhad railway route with length of 926 Km was inaugurated in 1957. Mashhad railway station is 2 Km far from Imam Reza Holy Shrine. Its building was designed by the Iranian architect Heidar Ghiaei.

Most important stations of this route are: Ray, Varamin, Garmsar, Semnan, Damghan, Shahroud, Bastam, Sabzevar, Neishabour, Kashmar and Fariman. Tehran- Mashhad railway route is a double-line route and its electrical train project is under execution as well.

This route connects Sarakhs station which is the largest rail border of Iran. Iran railway connects Middle Asian and European countries via Sarakhs.
Ray
Ray is a district with an area of 2293Km, limited to Tehran county on north, to Qom county on south, to Varamin and Pakdasht counties on east, to Esalamshahr, Robat Karim and Zarandieh counties on west. The region has beautiful cultural and natural attractions such as Mil hill (Sassani fire temple), Tughrul tower, Bibi Shahr Banu shrine, Rashkan castle, Cheel Ghar (tower of silence), Shah-Abdol Azim holy shrine, Ibn Babawayh shrine (Shaykh Saduq) and tomb of Jahan Pahlevan Takhti (the world champion).

Varamin County
Varamin is 40 km far from southeast Tehran. It's located in the northwest part of central desert, limited to Alborz Mountains on north, Salt marsh on south, Garmesar on east and Ray on west.

Ray Station
Ray is the 2nd station in this route with total 11508.05 meter of railway lines. The station is located in a plain geographical location with a height of 1052 meter from the sea. The station is 10 Km far from Tehran and it's located within the town.

Shah-Abdol Azim Holy Shrine
The first building of the holy shrine was basically repaired in 2nd half of 3rd lunar century. Main entry of the building which is on northern part was repaired for the first time during the Buyid dynasty and then by the help of Majedolmolk Ghomi in Qajar dynasty. In following years some parts added to the building so that it changed into the present large complex. Presently, the complex includes several shrines, porticos, mosques, Veranda (rectangular spaces with three walls with one open end) and courtyards.

Tughrul Tower
Tughrul tower is located east of Ibn Babawayh shrine in Ray- Tehran province. It is one of the buildings remained from the Seljuk dynasty. It was registered as a national heritage under No. 147 in 1931. With an area of 48 Sqm and approximate height of 20 meter, the tower is seen as a high cylinder with an adobe-brick structure. It resembles clock hands and time can be read by sun radiation on its notches.

Varamin Station
Along the route, the train enters Varamin station after passing Shahid Souri station. Its total rail line is 62615 meter. It's located in a plain geographical location with height of 929 meter from the sea. It's 44 Km far from Tehran. Nearest village is Kheir Abad village, 1km far from the station. Varamin station is within the town.

Cheshmeh Ali
The spring dates back to about 8000 years ago. First signs of civilization in Cheshmeh-Ali include the ancient hill, old castles and fortifications, underground springs, red ceramic items belonging to 4th century B.C.

Imamzadeh Jafar Holy Shrine (peace be upon him)
It's 6 km far away southeast Varamin in Pishva city. The tall and magnificent building of this shrine is a heritage from the Safavid dynasty. Is has a turquoise dome and a vide courtyard located on a hill toward the city. Imamzadeh Jafar was one of the sons of Imam Moosa Kazem (peace be upon him).

Chief Mosque of Varamin
Chief mosque or Friday's Prayers mosque of Varamin is an old mosque dating back to Ilkhanate dynasty which is also one of the oldest buildings of Varamin. The building operation started in period of Sultan Mohammad Khodabandeh and ended during his son's period. The stuccos of the building are amongst the most beautiful Iranian stuccos.

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Alao- Doleh Tower
Alao-Doleh tomb is seen as a single tower in north of chief mosque, remained from the Seljuk dynasty. The dome of the tower is conic built on a circular Shabestan (the covered part of the mosque). It has 32 projections on outer view.

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Garmsar County
Garmsar city with an area of 9233 km² is limited to Firoozkooh and Damavand on north, to Semnan on east and to salt marsh on south and to Varamin on west. It’s 119 km far from the capital of province and 100 km far from Tehran.

Deh Namak town
Deh Namak Caravanserai is one of the historical-cultural tourism attractions of Deh Namak. Lasjerd Caravanserai, Shah Nizar holy shrine in Aradan and Aradan bazaar, a few kilometers away from Deh Namak, are other historical-religious and tourism attractions of the area.

Stoned Road (Jadeh Sangfarsh)
Aligned with Isfahan-Sari highway and after passing Bahram castle Caravanserai, the travelers faced the swamps and salt lands in south of Garmasar. After construction of stoned road with a length of 35 km and width of 5 m the travelers could reach next destinations more rapidly and easily. The road still remains in the salt marsh hoping for meeting the tourists again.

This caravanserai is one of the caravanserais remained from Safavid dynasty which was on the old historical road connecting Isfahan, Kashan, Khar (Garmasar) and Khorasan. The outer view is rectangular having several towers with two northern and southern gates.

Bahram castle Caravanserai
There are two old buildings in Deh Namak village: a caravanserai and a castle built of adobe and stratum called as the Gabri castle by local people. The caravanserai is in the old historical stoned road reaching Kashan and Khorasan. It has four verandas with a hall in southern part which was the place for rest of important travelers or guests (Shah Neshin). Shah Neshin part was rectangular built of Khatai brick. Caravanserai had 24 chambers with a 2×3 meter-room used by travelers in summers and winters.

Deh Namak station
The train enters northeast railway station which includes three districts: Semnan, Damghan and Shahrood. Deh Namak station is the 2nd station of northeast district after Yateri station. It has totally 3120 meter of railway line located in a plain area with height of 826 meter from sea level. It’s 153 km far from Tehran. Nearest village is Deh Namak village, 1Km distance.
Semnan city
Semnan province having Semnan as its capital has many tourism attractions. Semnan has a special significance among other provincial cities. Historical, cultural and religious places all are located within the city such as: Semnan museum, Tadayon house, Hakim Elahi tomb, Arg gate, traditional bazaar, chief mosque, Imam mosque, Imamzadeh Yahya, Imamzadeh Ali-ebne-Jafar and entertainment and natural places such as Simorgh park, Mookan park.

Abegarm Region
Natural and cultural attractions of Abegarm include: Almahdi mosque in Mahdisahr, Imamzadeh Ghasem, Darband calcareous cave, Darband Yaylaq region (highland summer pasture) in Mahdisahr, and hot water spring.

Ahuan Stone Caravanserai
The building locates 42 Km far from eastern Semnan. It's built of stone and black mortar. It was built in 5th century A.H.

Semnan Chief Mosque
Chief mosque can be regarded as one the oldest Islamic buildings of Semnan city. Based on the excavations done in 1966 it was built on the ruins of Sassanid fire temple in 1st century A.H.

Arg Gate
Arg gate is one of the historical and valuable buildings remained from Qajar dynasty. The building, which had been the Governor’s office, was built in Nasereddin Shah period (Qajar king). One of the masterpieces of this historical building is its beautiful portal which shows the historical battle between Rostam and white demon (Div-e sepid). The battle is displayed beautifully on 7-colors tiles. The designer of this image is Seyed Mohammadbagher Tabatabaei Semnani, a famous artist of Qajar dynasty.

Darband Cave
The cave locates 18 Km far away north Semnan. It’s one of the most beautiful Iranian caves in which stalagmite columns are seen. Length of the cave is 91 meter with maximum width of 36 meter and maximum height of 20 meter.
**Damghan city**

Damghan is limited to Mazandaran and Golestan provinces on the north, to Shahrood county on the east, to Isfahan province on the south and to the Semnan County on the west. With an approximate area of 13080 Km², it's 337 Km far from Tehran. Damghan (Sad Darvazeh) is one of the ancient and old Iranian towns which was the capital of Ghomes state and it is attributed to 3500-4000 years B.C. Some call it the capital of Kayanian dynasty.

**Shahrood City**

Shahrood is limited to Mazandaran province on the north, to central desert and Isfahan province on the south, to Damghan on the west and to Khorasan province on the east. Its area is 51419 Km² with a height of 1360 meter from the sea. It has warm and humid climate in summer with a cold and moderate winter.

**Cheshmeh Ali in Damghan**

About 35 Km far away Damghan, there is a spring known as Cheshmeh Ali that supplies the water of Damghan, too. There are two buildings there: one was built by Agha Mohammad Khan Qajar and the other was built upon the order of Fathali Shah in the lake which has two upper and lower floors.

**Tarikhaneh Mosque of Damghan**

The mosque is a complete sample of the mosques in the first Islamic centuries. Its architecture is taken from the Sassanid architecture. After being repaired in several centuries, it is considered as one of the oldest mosques of Iran after the Fahraj chief mosque in Yazd.

**Shahrood Museum**

Present museum building was in fact the old building of municipality (Baladieh). The museum has two parts: anthropology and archeology in two floors. In archeology part, some items taken from historical hills of Shahrood, Damghan and Semann are displayed. In archeology part, items such as traditional clothes, decorative jewels, handcrafts, documents and instruments are shown.

**Cloud Forest**

Cloud Forest of Ali Abad is a part of the oldest and most beautiful Hyrcanian forests which is connected to the green northern forests of Iran with an area of 35,000 hectare with unique animal and plant species. Since the forest is covered with an ocean of clouds in most of the times, it’s called as the Cloud forest. Clouds are so close together in the forest and it seems that the forest is riding on the clouds. You can surf the clouds. Many tourists believe that it’s one of the most beautiful natural landscapes of Iran. The forest is in Ali Abad- Shahrood road.
Bastam County

Bastam is 6 km far away north of Shahrood. Bastam historical complex includes several historical buildings each of which has its own history.

Bastam Chief Mosque

It dates back to 8th century A.H. The brick minaret of Bastam historical complex is located in eastern part of Bayazid mosque and is connected to it. According to Kufic brick manuscript, the said minaret was built in 514 A.H.

Eljativ Veranda

Here is a veranda in vicinity of Ghazan Khan dome in western side of Bastam historical complex, with a height of 14 meter which dates back to 717 A.H in the dynasty of Sultan Mohammad Khodabandeh Eljativ. The interior corridor and the portal have several architectural decorations each of which shows one of the decorative arts of that period.

Bastam Chief Tomb

The tomb is on north side of Imamzadeh Mohammad shrine in Bastam. The tomb of this honorable philosopher has no decoration. There is marble grave stone with famous prayers of Imam Ali (peace be upon him) engraved on it.

Khosrogerd Minaret

Khosrogerd is a booming city in Beihagh region, about 1 Km far away Sabzevar. The city had a big chief mosque in 5th and 6th centuries A.H. Some believe the minaret belongs to said mosque. Khosrogerd Minaret was a brick building in Neishaboor - Ray road that is a little far away Sabzevar - Tehran asphalt road now.

Sabzevar

Sabzevar is located in northwest of Khorasan province. It is limited to Jajarm and Esfarayen on the north, to Neishaboorn on the east, to Kashmar and Bardenas on the south and to Shahrood County on the west.

Chief Mosque

Chief mosque of Sabzevar includes 4 verandas. Kiblah veranda with height of 20 meter and its opposite veranda with height of 14 meter are taller than the other two side verandas. The mosque has a big Shabestan (an underground space in traditional mosques) on west side with a dome on brick columns. On east, there is also a double-floor Shabestan which was destructed and replaced with the new one.

Memorial building of Mola Hossein Kashefi

Molana Kamaleddin Hossein Kashefi (deceased in 910 A.H), was one of the famous scholars of the last era of Timurid dynasty who was contemporaneous with Sultan Hossein Babghara and Amir Alishir Navavi. He lived mostly in Harat. In 1975 a beautiful memorial was built for him by National Heritage Association which is now regarded as a cultural and tourist attraction of Sabzevar.

Sabzevar Station

Passing Shirin Cheshmeh, Gilan, Bakran, Jahan Abad, Abrisham, Jajarm, Azadoor, Sankhast, Jovin, Nghab, Esfarayen and Beihagh stations, the train enters Sabzevar. Total length of rail lines of the station is 3150 meter with a height of 1182 meter from sea. It’s located in a plain geographical location. It’s 718 Km far away Tehran.
Ferdows City
Golshan garden in Tabas and Ferdows hot water spring are among the cultural and natural attractions of this town. Orange blossom is one of the important agricultural products of the city.

Neishaboor
As an old region in Razavi Khorasan province, Neishaboor is located in an almost vast plain, which is limited to Chenaran and Ghoochan counties on north, to Mashhad on east, to Torbat Heidarieh and Kashmar on south and to Sabzevar on west.

Golshan Garden
Golshan garden is one of two main elements of Tabas town. The Portal, beautiful and historical walls of the garden tell the past people’s taste. They were ruined in earthquake in 1978 and only the green nature of the garden is the memorial of past days. Palm, citrus, pomegranate and other plant species have increased the beauty of garden.

Mausoleum of Attar
Sheikh Farieddin Attar, the Iranian poet, Sufi and writer born in 540 A.H and passed away in 515 A.H. His works include scientific services and valuable writings such as Tazkeratol Olya and Mantegholteyr and Elahi Nameh. His first tomb was built in 7th century A.H by Yahya-ebne- Saed the judge of Neishaboor. Then another monument was built on it by Amir Alishir Navayi, the minister of last Tymurid dynasty. Presently, only a black standing gravestone has remained of the tomb. In 1962 the National Works Association repaired it and decorated it with beautiful blue tiles. Attar tomb has been always attracted by the tourists and those who love literature throughout the world.

Neishaboor Station
Passing Attar station, the train enters Neishaboor. It’s located in a plain geographical location with a height of 1178 meter from sea. It’s 788 Km far away Tehran, with Total length of rail lines of 3498 meter.

Mausoleum of Khayyam
Hakim Abolfath Omar-ebne- Ebrahim known as Khayyam Neishaboori is a famous Iranian mathematician, astrologist, poet and intellectual who was born in Neishaboor in 439 A.H and passed away in 515 A.H. The monument of the great scientist was built in 1962 designed by Hooshang Seyhoon, Engineer. It was built with a mix of iron, concrete and tile decorations in form of rhombus forms inspired by the mathematical thoughts of Omar Khayyam.

Wooden Village (Dehkade Choobi)
Wooden village is located in Khayyam road, about 10 Km far away Neishaboor in a unique place built by Engineer Mojtahedi. Everything is made of wood in this village: mosque, houses, library, garbage bins, water closets, etc. There are handicrafts shops, restaurants, bakeries and several pavilions which are very attractive and nice.
Fariman County

Fariman is 75 Km far from Mashhad. With an area of 3325 Km² it’s limited to Mashhad on north and northwest, to Torbat Jaam on east. It has joint borders with Torbat Heidarieh on south. Its height from the sea is 1405 meter and it has two parts: central part and Ghalandar Abad.

Mashhad County

Holy Mashhad as a town in which the holy shrine of Imam Reza (peace be upon him) locates, has a special position among the Shi’a moslems around the world. Mashhad has many tourist, cultural, historical and natural attractions. Undoubtedly, the Holy Shrine of the 8th Shi’a Imam, Imam Ali-ebne- Mossalreza (peace be upon him) can be called the main cause of attraction of visitors.

Shah Garmab Hot Water Spring

The spring is in Ghalandar Abad region in Fariman County in Sefid Sang village. It’s 57 Km far away Fariman county. There are hot water springs which have odorless and colorless water with temperature of 48 °C which contain no sulfur, ammonia and salt.

Tomb and the Minaret of Arsalan Jazeb and Ayaz Mill

The tomb belongs to Arsalan Jazeb the governor and warlord of Toos and one of the two commanders of Sultan Mahmood Ghanizi who built a structure in Sang Bast in Toos plain and made his grave therein, too. He passed away in 420 A.H and was buried in said place. The structure has four walls, changed into 8 corners with a beautiful brick dome on it.

Ferdowsi Tomb

According to the narrations, Mansoor-ebne- Hassan, known as Abolghasem Ferdowsi was born in 329 A.H. He is said to be one of the nobles of Toos, belonging to the farmers’ class. He passed away in 411 or 416 A.H. in Toos. His present tomb with an area of 945 Sqm was built in 1966 after a series of architectural changes. His «Shahnameh» includes about 50,000 couplets which is regarded as one of the most famous and bold epic collections in the world. It was written in 30 years. He revived the Persian language by writing «Shahnameh».

Goharshad Mosque

This mosque is the largest 4-verandas Iranian mosque built in 821 A.H in the holy shrine complex of Imam Reza (peace be upon him) upon the order of Goharshad Agha, the wife of Shahrokh Tymurid. Its architectural design was done by Ghasaneddin Shirazi. It has an area of 9410 Sqm, 4 verandas named Maghsooreh, Darolsiadeh, Haji Hassan and Aab, plus 7 Shabestan (an underground space). The largest veranda is Maghsooreh decorated with vaulted forms, Thuluth manuscripts made by Baysonghor Mirza and very beautiful tiles. One of other attractions of Goharshad mosque is Sahebalzaman pulpit.

Haroonieh Building

This historical building is about 600 meter far away tomb of Hakim Abolghasem Ferdowsi. It’s exclusively a monastery, built in 8th century on old buildings of Tabran town. There is seen a black stone in memory of Imam Mohammad Ghazali, one of the mystics of 5th and 6th centuries A.H.

Shahan Garmab Hot Water Spring

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Geographical and Natural Location
With an area of 10450 Km, Mashhad is limited to Kalat on north, to Sarakhs and Torbat Jaam counties on east, Torbat Heidarieh on south, Neishaboor and Chenaran counties on west and to Dargaz County on northwest. Main mountain range of Mashhad is «Hezarsangar» located in east and northeast of the town. Its main summit named «Azhdarkooh» is 30 Km far away Mashhad. Binalood mountain range is in west and southwest of the town. Mashhad has a moderate and changing climate.

Economic Specifications
Economic activities of Mashhad originate from services, industry and agriculture. Main agricultural products of Mashhad are cereals, sugar beet, vegetables. Main mines of Mashhad include gypsum, salt, Chromite and marble stone. Food technologies, clothing, leather, building materials, metal industries and handicrafts are the most important industries of Mashhad.

Holy Shrine of Imam Reza (peace be upon him)
Holy shrine of Imam Reza (peace be upon him) and its historical artistic complex include the courtyards, verandas, rich museum, and central library of Astane Qods. The complex includes 4 tall verandas named Abbasi, Talae, East (Naqqara Khane) and west veranda plus 5 courtyards named Enghelab, Azadi, Imam Khomeini, Jomhour Eslami and Qods courtyards.
Tehran-Tabriz railway with a length of 736 Km is one of the most spectacular railway routes of Iran that trespasses several towns. Azerbaijan railway as the first official Iranian railway started its work in 1912. Important stations of the route are: Karaj, Hashtgerd, Qazvin, Takestan, Zanjan, Mianeh, Maragheh and Ajabshir. In its route, Tabriz railway connects Razi station and Turkey Railway network. Ghotour bridge is one of the famous Iranian railway bridges near Khoy county. The bridge connect Iranian railway to Turkey and Europe. Also, Tabriz-Jolfa electrical railway is the only Iranian electrical railway with a length of 146 Km in this route. The first Iranian tramway called Ghongha was operated in Tabriz in 1901.
Karaj County
Karaj County is limited to Mazandaran province on north, to Shahriar and Markazi province on south, to Savojbolagh County and Qazvin province on the west, to Tehran on east. Karaj derives from the word «Karaj» which means screaming and shouting. During the summer a fire was made on Atashgah hill, Kelak Mountains and Ghaleh Dokhtar in Shahrestanak and Boz castle in Eshtehard for sending messages and watching the area.

Qazvin Town
The town was basically built during Dynasty of Sassanid Shapoor I, known as Shad Shapoor. The town gained more credit during the Safavid dynasty when it was selected as its capital. Several buildings were built in town. Most important historical-cultural buildings include: the portal of Ali Qapu, museum of pavilion, Chehel Sotun palace, Almar castle, Sassan castle (great tomb), Barajin tower, Gonbad café, Saf bathroom, several water reservoirs, old mall of Qazvin, Kabir chief mosque, Masjedolnabi mosque of Qazvin, and Imamzadeh Hossein (peace be upon him).

Soleimanieh Palace
There is an old building belonging to Qajar dynasty in the large and beautiful area of Agriculture Faculty of Karaj. It is regarded as one of the magnificent and beautiful palaces of Fathali Shah Dynasty. The building as a part of Soleimanieh palace has much significance because of internal decorations, specially two paint & oil paintings on its eastern and western walls. It was built by Sadr Esfahani the famous architect of said period based on the order of Soleiman Miraza, son of Fathali Shah.

Holy Tomb of Imamzadeh Taher (Peace be upon him)
One of the holy shrines known in Karaj county is the holy tomb of Imamzadeh Taher (peace be upon him), one of the grandsons of Imam Zeinolabedin (peace be upon him). His holy shrine is located at beginning of Karaj-Qazvin highway, near Mehrshahr bridge about 10 Km far away west Karaj. The beautiful, tall and newly renovated dome can be seen easily from the road in the green space around it.

Tulip Garden of Gachsar
Gachsar is name of a village in Asaray district of Karaj. It’s 65 Km away northeast Karaj. It hosts the nature friends one month per year in the spring.

Imamzadeh Hossein (peace be upon him)
The building dates back to ilkhaniate dynasty, famous also as Imamzadeh Hossein. The entry on north resembles the town gates during the Safavids and Qajar dynasties. The entry has arcades and six minarets, decorated with beautiful tiles.

Peighambarieh Mausoleum
It’s the tomb of four holy prophets named Salam, Saloom, sahooli and Alghia. It’s located in Peighambarieh Street of Qazvin. Its holy shrine has 4 corners. On south, there is a veranda toward the yard. Decorations include stucco and tiling.

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Chehel Sotun Palace
The palace dates back to Safavid dynasty. It’s in the middle of a garden and has a big hall. Its decorations include: marquetry doors, paintings, tiling and gold working.

Leaving Tehran station and passing Nik Pasandi (Shahid Jabari), Lashgari (Shahid Bohlooli) and Maleki (Shahid Shirali-zadeh) stations, the train enters Karaj station, with total length of rail lines of 14361 meter. It’s located in a plain geographical location with a height of 1307 meter from sea. It’s 41 Km far away origin station (Tehran).

In Tabriz road after Abyek, Ziaran (Shahid Mohammadi) and Kohandej stations, the train enters Qazvin station, with total length of rail lines of 9929 meter. It’s located in a plain geographical location with a height of 1286 meter from sea. Nearest village is Choobin village, 2 Km far away. Name of Qazvin station is taken from Qazvin town, established between 1938 and 1941.
Takestan City
Formerly the city was called “Siadahan”, known as the Tat land. It was a prosperous city with a top status in Sassanid Dynasty. The stuccos found in Khandoo hill in northeast Takestan dating back to Sassanid dynasty, prove the prosperity of the region in said period.

Zanjan Town
Zanjan County as capital of zanjan town includes two central parts, Zanjanrood district and 10 villages. As one of the oldest Iranian towns, Zanjan has a long history.

Takestan’s Grape
Regarding grape production, Takestan stands in 3rd place in Iran after Fars and Khorasan province. It’s in 2nd place regarding raisin production. Iran is the 7th producer of grapes in the world.

Qez Castle
Qez castle is 20 Km far away Takestan, beside Abkoloo village. The castle is at the top of a stone mountain and it can be seen from several kilometers away. It’s limited to deep falls on three sides and the only access way is on the south corner.

Bogeh Pir in Takestan
It’s located in south Takestan in vicinity of old cemetery of the town and ancient hill of Khole Kooh. The building has a square shape with dimensions of 6.10×6.50 meter. There is a dome on top of it which is placed on a square plate by four corners.

Khanom mosque
The mosque is in Zanjan town and it dates back to Qajar dynasty. It was built in 1280A.H by a benefactor lady called Seyedeh Khanom. In next years, some repairs were done on it.

Rakhtshooy Khaneh Edifice
The edifice is located in the old part of Zanjan town, between Sa’di and Davoodgholi streets. It dates back to 1345 A.H, built by two brothers named Mashhadi Akber (architect) and Mashhadi Esmaeil (mason).

Soltaniyeh
Soltaniyeh, the largest masonry structure in the world after “Santa Maria” church in Florence- Italy, is one of the unique and exclusive historical buildings of Iran. Soltaniyeh is the mausoleum of Oljaitu. It was built in 1302-1312 A.H ordered by him in Soltanieh which was the capital of Ilkhanid dynasty. It’s one the important Islamic and Iranian architectural buildings. It’s registered in the world’s heritage list.

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Miyaneh City

Miyaneh is one of the old and historical cities of Azerbaijan in Iran. According to Diakonoff in History of the Medes, the Mannae land was located in present Azerbaijan and Kurdistan about 720 years BC. Its capital was near lake Urmia. Uch Tappeh, which is now one of the villages of this town, was the place of camping for Nadershah army.

Khorasanak Region

The ruins of an old village called Zahhak castle of Hashtrood can be seen when passing east Khorasanak station in Tehran-Tabriz route. It dates back to Sassanid dynasty. Natural attractions of the region are: Aydoghmush Chay river as one the most famous rivers of Hashtrood. Yanigh Gul, Bezojogh Gul, Ghusha Gul and Zulbin Gul wetlands which are the habitat of migratory birds.

Pol Dokhtar

The bridge is built on Qezel Ozan river in entry of Qaflankuh heights. 20 Km far away southeast Miyaneh. Age of bridge is not known. Some believe it dates back to the Sassanid and some attribute it to 8th century A.H.

Imamzadeh Esmaeil

Known as Kamaeddin mausoleum, Imamzadeh Esmaeil is at south of chief mosque of Miyaneh and is connected to it. The walls are made of brick and it has a dome. The outer layer is covered with greenish blue tiles.

Jamal Abad Caravanserai

The caravanserai is in Jamal Abad village, 35 Km far away Miyaneh. It is one of the buildings built by order of Shah Abbas.

Gharanghu Chay

Gharanghu Chay is one of the main and important branches of Ghezel Ozan river, originating from central and eastern mountains of Sahand. The deep valley in which the river floats is known as Darband Zahak and it has potential entertainment capacity. Some kind of fish especially trout and Caspian kutum live there in large numbers.

Zahhak Castel of Hashtrood

The Castel was used actively until the Ismaili dynasty and it had been very prosperous. The four-wall ruin is the only structure remained from Zahhak castle. Based on the legends, the castle was the residence of Zahhak (having two snakes on shoulders) which was built on the honor of Anahita – the goddess of love, fertility and waters in ancient Iran.
Maragheh County
Maragheh is one of the old and historical counties of Azerbaijan which has many historical and cultural attractions. Alavian earth dam in northeast Maragheh locates in a highland toward Maragheh in the green valley of Alavian with high tourism potentials. Other natural attractions include Varjooy spring, Goshayesh spring, Hampoeil cave (Pigeons), Maragheh plain.

Ajabshir Town
Ajabshir is one of western towns of east Azerbaijan province, and its capital is Ajabshir. The green town is 35 Km far from northwest Maragheh in a height of 1330 meter from the sea. Lake Urmia is in west of Ajabshir.

Mausoleum of Owhadi Maraghai
The mausoleum is the tomb of Rokneddin Abolhassan Maraghai known as Owhadi Maraghai, the Iranian poet and scholar, author of Gooye Namdar and famous Jam-e Jam ode. His tomb in amidst a green garden in Maragheh.

Hampoeil cave (Pigeons cave)
Pigeons cave (Hampoeil) is one of the caves of east Azerbaijan province, located 8 km far away southeast Maragheh near Goshayesh village. There is a big square at cave entry, the ceiling of which is the pigeons nest. The lime sediments have been formed during millions of years and created a beautiful view. No one has been able to access the end of caves yet. The cave air is very humid and there is not enough air at end of it. Reaching the sides of cave is not possible without enough equipment.

Rahmanlu port
Rahmanlu port and village belongs to west Dizaj rud rural district in central part of Ajabshir, in east shore of Lake Urmia. It’s one of the important ports in east Azerbaijan. There is a bay in north of port for passenger and cargo vessels. On the south part, there is a place for passengers who come to the port for enjoying the sea water and minerals. Danalu, Ghobadlu and Zinatu ports in east shore of Lake Urmia are 35 Km far away Ajabshir.

Zahak castle (Dash Ghaleh)
The castle is 28 Km far away east Ajabshir and is one of the valuable historical places of the town. It was studied for the first time in 1971 by a German archeologist team. Based on the signs remained in semi-cylinder towers at the gate of castle, it dates back to the Sassanid dynasty. The walls which are covered with rectangular stones remind the wall covers in Sassanid dynasty.

Red Tomb
Among five tombs in Maragheh, Red Tomb in Azerbaijan is the oldest tomb known as “Ghermez Gonbad”. It is a square building with a dome on the corbels which are still intact. The inscriptions and geometrical shapes made of red brick and greenish blue tile are seen at the portal. There are paintings of flowers and leaves with a blue theme on the ash gypsum flooring.

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Azarshahr County
Azarshahr is one of towns of east Azerbaijan province, and its capital is Azarshahr. Azarshahr is 50 Km from southeast Tabriz and east of Lake Urmia. On the north it’s limited to Osku County, on south to Ajabshir County, on west to Lake Urmia. The city is in a plain area in Maragheh-Tabriz route. Its old name is Dehkhareghan. It has many fruits, grapes and walnut gardens. Dehkhreghan means the location of lower village (downstream village).

Tabriz County
Tabriz as capital of east Azerbaijan province with approximate population of 1,914,000 people and area of 194281/ Km² is 620 Km far from northwest Tehran and 150 km far from Iran-Azerbaijan border. Though it’s located in a cold region but it has a special delicate weather.

Top Topon Spring
The spring is 5 Km far away Azarshahr in Tabriz-Maragheh road. Its water contains calcium bicarbonate, gas magnesium and ferrous mineral water which heals many diseases.

Ghadamgah Cave
The cave is located at south Azarshahr in Badamyar (Ghadamgah) village. Its interior space is like a circle basement with diameter of 15 meter. The cave’s altar (or mosque) with its hanging vaults dates back to the Sassanid dynasty. Presently, the cave is the place of religious ceremonies in Muharram and Ramadan months.

Blue Mosque of Tabriz
Blue or Islam turquoise mosque is regarded as one of the masterpieces of Islamic architecture. It was built by order of Abu Mozafar Jahanshah Qareqoyunlu. It attracts the artists to its turquoise tile, Persian blue tile and excellent Thuluth, Nasta’liq and Na’sh scripts, innovative geometrical and Arabesque forms.

Maqbaratolsheara in Tabriz (Mausoleum of Poets)
The tomb is in Sorkhab neighborhood in southeast corner of Seyed Hamzeh tomb. It’s the mausoleum of tens of famous Iranian poets, scientists, scholars and literary figures.

El- Golu park of Tabriz
El-Golu park (people’s pool) which was formerly called Shahgolu (king’s pool) is a beautiful natural resort in Tabriz located on a hill in southeast Tabriz.
Marand County
Marand County dates back to several centuries B.C. In Islamic Encyclopedia, it’s said that Marand was the central residence of important tribes in Kaldeh and Assyrian period. Some narrations say that Marand is the place where the grave of Noah the prophet lies. There is a castle called San Sarood, about 26 km away north Marand on a high hill between two branches of the river. It’s one of the historical buildings of this region.

Saint Stepanos Monastery
Saint Stepanos Monastery is a monastery called Saint Stepanos which is the name of first Christian martyr. The monastery dates back to 1st millennium. It’s made of three parts: bell tower, prayers room and Daniel hall (Boghos Petros prayers room) and the Fire Temple dating back to the Zoroastrian period.

Asiab Kharabeh Fall
Asiab Kharabeh (Khara or Deyrman) fall is one of the most beautiful regions in east Azerbaijan. It’s called as Kharabeh (ruined) fall because of the ruins of a watermill. To reach the interesting place, you must pass Marand- Jolfa road to Mahdishahr (Alamdar- Kargar). After an earth road in borderline of Iran and Azerbaijen Republic and passing a sub-road you reach a pretty valley which is the place of the watermill.

Jolfa Region
Jolfa means "weaver". In old times, it was the place of silk worm reproduction. Its people were masters of producing silk fabrics. Main historical works of Jolfa include: Saint Stepanos monastery and Asiab Kharabeh fall.
The route with total length of 1333 km is the most important railway transport route of Iran. Its main stations are Sirjan, Golgohar, Tazraj and Shahid Rajaei. Its importance has doubled due to several rich mineral mines such as Golgohar Iron ore in Sirjan, Choghart mine in Bafgh, Chadormalu mine, as well as convergence of significant industrial and economic poles of Iran such as: Isfahan steel, Oil Refinery of Bandarabbas, Hormozgan steel industry and Shahid Rajaei port. Since railway stations from Tehran to Kashan were introduced in last part, this route will be introduced from Kashan station.
Kashan Town

Kashan is one of the very old towns of Iran. According to the archeological explorations the Silk hills, 4 Km far away west Kashan, is known as the first capital of civilization and residence of prehistory human beings. Kashan is certainly one of the Iranian rich towns due to its historical and cultural attractions.

Fin Garden of Kashan

One of the splendid and historically valuable buildings of Isfahan province is in garden in Kashan, 6 Km far away south Kashan in vicinity of Fin village. The garden is a sample of the Safavid palaces. Some parts were added to it during the Zand and Qajar dynasty. The first building of the garden dates back to pre-Islam period and has old ties with the 7000-year civilization of Silk town. The garden is irrigated by Soleimanieh spring which is attributed to the prophet Solomon.

Agha Bazzorg Mosque

The mosque has a splendid portal with tiling decorations, 2-floor big courtyard, closed-off space with a great dome and tiled minarets. The whole building including its dome which is the largest brick dome in the world is built with bricks. Decorations include the tiling, brick works, and valuable tile and plaster inscriptions, honeycomb works, Tuluth and Nastaliq scripts and paintings.

Borujerdis House

Borujerdis house is one of the most famous houses in Kashan and is known as the symbol of this town. It was built by the order of a famous merchant of Kashan in 2nd half of 13th century. The portal and eight-entry corridor, the north veranda entry, yard and the rooms around it, cellar, north veranda, hall and alcove and wind shields are among its architectural specifications. The paintings in the alcove are very beautiful.

Badrud Town

Certainly, Badrud is one of the oldest towns in central Iranian plateau. It’s affiliated to Isfahan province, 140 Km far away from it. Its pomegranate called as “Souvenir of Badrud” is known because of its unique taste and quality.

Mausoleum of Imamzadeh Agha Ali Abbas and Shahzadeh Mohammad (peace be upon them)

They are sons of Imam Musa Kazem (peace be upon him), the 7th Shia Imam. Their holy shrine is 30 Km far away Natanz town and 8 Km far away Badrud town. It’s one of the main holy shrines of Iran.

Karshahi castle

One of the masterpieces of the Qajar architecture is the beautiful castle of Karshahi. It’s built of raw adobe brick with 5 watchtowers. It has interrelated rooms and spaces, surrounded by a large trench with a beautiful engineering method which prevented the enemies from entering the castle.

Passing Mohammad Seyed, Shoarab (Shahid Aagar), Firoozabad, Dehnar (Shahid Zareian) and Mad Abad stations, the train enters Kashan station. It has totally 8525 meter of railway lines. It’s located in a desert geographical location with a height of 944 meter from sea. It’s distance from origin station (Tehran) is 278 Km. Fakhre village, 18 km far away the station is the nearest village.

Passing Kashan and Gaz (Shahid Rohani), Sekh Gol (Shahid Darougeh) and Deh Abad stations, the train enters Badrud station. It has totally 3250 meter of railway lines. It’s located in a desert geographical location with a height of 1014 meter from sea. It’s distance from origin station (Tehran) is 342 Km. Badrud village and town is 7 km far away the station.
Zavareh Town

Zavareh is a small town in south outskirts of great Salt Desert, 120 Km far away Isfahan (northeast of Isfahan) in vicinity of central Iranian Desert. Several historical buildings such as Imam Hassan Mojtaba Minaret, Moghol castle and chief mosque are seen in the town.

Chief Mosque of Zavareh

The mosque dates back to the Seljuk dynasty which is the first mosque having 4 verandas. The mosque was completed in 531 A.H sponsored by Abutaher Hossein-ebne-Ghali ben Ahmad. The plaster and brick decorations of the mosque especially its Kufic scripts are very unique. The building includes the dome, verandas, yard, Shabestan (underground space), the place for calling to prayers, and 40 columns.

Pamenar or Ben Kuyeh Mosque

In Zavareh town there is a minaret with approximate height of 20 meter with Kufic inscription. The script tells that it was engraved in 461 A.H sponsored by Mohammad Ebne Ibrahim. It’s noteworthy that after Saveh minaret, it’s the 2nd Iranian minaret having a manuscript. The mosque has 5 historical Mihrabs dating back to Seljuk dynasty. Unfortunately, the main shabestan which dates back to the Sassanid has been destructed.

Nain County

Nain is one of the towns of Isfahan province in central part of Iran, having Nain County as its capital. The town is in Great salt Desert with a hot climate. Its old age can be seen in Narin Castle or Naenj castle.

Chief Mosque of Nain

One the most important historical buildings of Nain is called Alavian Chief Mosque. Main building of the mosque dates back to 4th century A.H and it’s very similar to Damghan’s T arikhaneh mosque. There are beautiful and surprising plaster decorations in Mihrab which never can be overlooked.

Pirnia House

This house is one of the valuable monuments of the Safavid. The plaster and Iranian paintings in the alcove veranda and its upper room are very eye-catching. Presently, it’s used as the anthropology museum of Nain town.
Ardakan County
Ardakan County is one of the counties of Yazd province in central part of Iran. Ardakan consists 32% (more than 24,000 Km²) of area of Yazd province and is its biggest county. In prosperity days, Ardakan was located in a place called Zardak of which old walls still remain. The county has three parts: central, Kharanagh and Aghda part.

Meybod County
Meybod’s height from sea is 1090 meter with an approximate area of 845 Km². The oldest symbol of historical identity and urban life in Yazd province, is Narin castle in Meybod. The old castle like a tired old and silent old man remembers the long years of peace and pain of its people.

Taghdiri House
Taghdiri house dates back to the Qajar dynasty is in Tiran neighborhood. It has an archway with length of 15 meter and two wind shields in north and south parts. 5-door and 3-door rooms with colorful and tiny glasses are mong the beauties of this 2-floor house.

Ansari House
The oldest wind shields of Ardakan built based on Yazd style is in this house in Charkhab neighborhood. It’s one of the most original buildings of Qajar dynasty which has beautiful plaster decorations and window-like frames with meshy geometrical shapes.

Chief Mosque of Ardakan
The mosque, dating back to more than 400 years ago, has two north and south gates, prayers room for summer and winter.

Chief Mosque of Meybod
The mosque includes several mosques with verandas (customary of the region) in Yazd. The tile manuscript on internal wall of Mihrab dates back to 867 A.H. The manuscript of wood portal shows the names of Shi’a 12- imams and a verse from holy Quran, dating back to 913 A.H.

Chapar Khaneh (house of courier) in Meybod
The courier house dates back to Qajar dynasty that included a central yard surrounded by mangers. It’s mainly built of adobe brick and mud.
Yazd County

It’s said that Yazd is the 2nd historical town of the world after Venice and the 1st adobe - built town in the world. Wind shields are a masterpiece of Iranian-desert architecture which are valued around the world.

Seyed Rokneddin Mausoleum

The mausoleum dates back to 8th century A.H. It has brick, Kufic script and Nastaliq script decorations on walls, water-colored ceiling. It was registered as a national Iranian building in 1935.

Zoroastrian Fire Temple

The temple is located in Ayatollah Kashani Avenue in Yazd. It includes a building and a garden built in present century. Here the holy fire which dates back to 1500 years ago is preserved.

Chief Mosque of Yazd

The sponsor of main building of this Islamic architectural treasure was Seyed Rokneddin. The present mosque with 48 meter minarets and portal height of 24 meter dates back to 8th Century A.H.

Amir Chakhmaq Complex

Amir Chakhmaq complex is one of the prominent historical complexes located in the capital of historical part of Yazd town. It’s one of the important and logistic points of Yazd. It dates back to 9th Century A.H. It was founded by Amir Jalaleddin Chakhmaq, one of Tymurid commanders when he took reign in Yazd. The complex includes the mall, Tekyeh (a place where Shia Mosters gather to mourn the killing of Husayn bin Ali), mosque and two water reservoirs dating back to the Tymurid dynasty (9th century A.H.).
Bafgh County

The county having Bafgh town as its capital, is 120 far away southeast Yazd, in a height of 927 from the sea. Its area is 15298.

Fahraj Village

It is a big and well-known village of Bafgh county whose name has been mentioned in historical books of Yazd repeatedly. Its fame originates from two valuable buildings which are chief mosque and martyrs cemetery (Mazar e shohada). The first establishment of Fahraj village dates back to the Sassanid.

Imamzadeh Abdullah Mausoleum

(peace be upon him):

Imamzadeh Abdullah (peace be upon him) in Bafgh is the brother of Imam Reza (peace be upon him) and son of Imam Moosa Kazem (peace be upon him). Its dome is one of the uniquely beautiful ones and it’s said to be the most circular dome in the world. Its building was completed in 5th century A.H.

Shifting Sand Dunes

One of the most interesting tourist attractions of Bafgh is the shifting sand dunes, 17 km far away Bafgh in vicinity of Sadegh Abad village. The locals call them the “Sand of Sadegh Abad”.

Sirjan County

Sirjan is originally “Sırjan” and it’s attributed to Bahman, the Parthian king. Sirjan is 75 Km far away southwest Kerman. It’s limited to Rafsanjan (230 km) and Shahr Babak (70 Km) county on north, to Hormozgan province on south, to Balt (129 Km) and Bardsir counties on east, to Fars province on west.

Sang Castle, in ups and downs of Sirjan History

The stone pulpit of Sang castle is the only monument of Sirjan old town. The pulpit with height of 1.5 meter and weighing more than 2 tons, dates back to the dynasty of Sultan Ahmad Mozafari (789 A.H).

Chopoghi Wind Shield

Chopoghi wind shield is one of the unique architectural works of Iran. It was built by Haj Seyed Mohammad Shojaei. It was built in Pahlavi period based on the form of the vessels smoke shaft. It’s a combination of Architecture and industry. With regular geometrical mesh beneath it, the wind shield is located on the rectangular space on northeast side of the house. It has 4 outlets which guide the wind stream to lower spaces through its corridors.
Bandar Abbas
Name of Bandar Abbas dates back to 1622, when Shah Abbas could free the port from the Portuguese. The port was named Bandar Abbas in the honor of Shah Abbas.

Natural attractions of Bandar Abbas include: Geno mineral springs, Lashtan, Chah Ahmad, Khorgu, Badi hotwater spring, Sorkhan and Nian and Chastan hot water spring. Other interesting points are Kish, Hormoz islands, Hara (Mangrove) forest. Cultural and historical attractions include Pavilion, Laft castle, Khamir castle, ancient wharf of Laft port, old region of Soru, Laldan bridge, Dejkan mosque, Membar Kohneh mosque, chief mosque of Bandar Abbas, Sahrabaghi mosque, Imamzadeh Seyed Mozafar, Khahe Nasir shrine, Imamzadeh Seyed Kamel and Hindu temple.

Delgosha Chief Mosque
The building dates back to 12th and 13th century A.H. It includes a Shabestan (underground space) in old and the new part. Old part has several columns with plaster heads similar to those of Galeh and Dejkan mosques. The building was registered under No. 1599 as a national Iranian building.

Hindu Temple
Hindu temple is one of the historical buildings in Bandar Abbas which is known as Bot Guri, too. It's a unique sample of Indian architecture in Iran. The building was built by skilled Indian builders in 1310 A.H for the Indian merchants living in Bandar Abbas.

Old Wharf
The old wharf of Bandar Abbas is now one the places visited by the passengers of Hormozgan province. It's in southern line of Taleghani Blvd. The wharf was built in 1939 with length of 185 m and width of 420 m. The greatness of the new wharf and its installations attract many new-comers to this town.

Geno Resort
Geno mountain with height of 2347 meter is 29 Km far away west Bandar Abbas between Fin, Siahoo and Isin villages. Compared with hot climate of Bandar Abbas, the resort has a relatively moderate climate. It has great environmental and entertainment significance.
The route with a length of 497 Km is one of the most beautiful and unique Railway routes of Iran. Tehran- North Railway was operated at the same time with Trans-Iranian Railway in 1938. Zarrin Dasht, Firouzkouh, Veresk, Ghaemshahr, Sari, Neka, Behshahr and Bandar Torkaman are the most important stations of this route. Veresk bridge is one of the most famous engineering structures in the world. Gaduk tunnel is the longest tunnel in Iran with length of 2887 meter. It's one of the attractions of this route. One of the main economic properties of this route is the connection of North railway to Amir Abad port and connection of Gorgan to Inche Bourn.
Firouzkouh

Firouzkouh is in the Far East point of Tehran province. It’s limited to Savadkuh district in Mazandaran province on the north, to Mahdishahr in Semnan province on the east, To Damavand County on the west and to Semnan on the south. Its height from sea is about 1980 meter. It has a very cold winter and cool moderate summer. In winter it’s one of the regions in Iran with lowest temperature.

History of Firouzkouh

Due to its special location, Firouzkouh has been always attracted by different groups of people. Therefore, several works can be seen in this region, including 35 Imamzadeh mausoleums and tombs, 28 castles, one historical houses, 7 cemeteries and shrines, 18 ancient historical & cultural sites, 3 natural caves and castles, 2 historical bridges, one historical mosque, 8 caravanserais, 18 mausoleum towers, etc. Firouzhouh is an old town which is said by some people to be interrelated with incidents like Damavand, such as Fereidoun and Zahak legends.

Tangeh Vashi

Tangeh Vashi is a place with natural-historical attractions. About 15 km far away northwest Firouzkouh county. It attracts many tourists to its favorable climate in the summer. In addition to its nice nature, Tangeh Vashi has many historical attractions. One of three famous Qajar inscriptions is situated in this mountain pass. It was engraved upon the order of Fathali Shah Qajar, in a size of 6×7 meter. The biggest embossed figure of these inscriptions displays the hunting ground with horse, javelin and the hunted animals. The inscription is about 185 years old.
**Veresk**

Veresk bridge is one of the most beautiful natural attractions of the region. Historically, the bridge was built in Pahlavi dynasty on Veresk valley in Savadkuh region. It became famous as the Victory Bridge during the 2nd world war. With an opening with length of 66 m and height of 110 m, the bridge is regarded as one of the engineering masterpieces in Iran and the world.

**Savadkuh**

Savadkuh County in central Alborz region is in vicinity of Semnan province. The main town of this region is Zirab.

Veresk station is after Gaduk and Dogol (Shahid Najafi) stations. It has totally 1566 meter of railway lines. It's located in a mountainous geographical location with a height of 1488 meter from sea. Its distance from Tehran station is 246 Km. Nearest village is Veresk, 3 km far away the station. Nearest town is Pol Sefid, 26 Km far away the station.

**Naghshe Shah**

Naghshe Shah is the only figure of Naseredin Shah Qajar and his courtiers engraved on the stone. The engraving is next to Vana tunnel and ancient road in Haraz road belonging to the Sassanid dynasty.

**Kanglu castle**

The castle is about 20 km far away southeast Doab (Savadkuh region) near Kanglu village on top of a rock. Most parts of the castle have been destructed by the time. Outer view of castle includes a great stone fortification. It consists of two watchtowers in middle and lateral sides. The internal space had been built in a circular 2-floor form, most of which has been ruined.
Ghaemshahr
Telar forest is one of the tourist attractions of Ghaemshahr, about 10 km far away the town. Tar Lake and its forest heights have created a surprising beauty in the region. Main local and agricultural products of Ghaemshahr include: handcrafts, wood products, Kilim, squash and pomegranate.

Tar Lake
One of the natural attractions near Damavand and in heights about 3230 meters from the sea is Tar Lake. The lake is located in a region surrounded by mountains with a height of 50-500 meter from sea. The heights without any valley between them have created a hole which forms Tar Lake.

Sari County
Because of diverse climate, Sari County has many beautiful forest, sea and green plain locations. Soleimand Tanghe region, about 45 km far away Sari, with its natural attractions and forest heights, Imamzadeh Abbas, dam lake and Reskat tower are among the attractions of this region. Tajan and Tekeh Pahnev Kola rivers are among other attractions of Sari.

Reskat Tower
Reskat tower is 40 km far away southwest Sari. The brick tower is near Reskat village in Dodangeh district. Its decorations include the vaulted forms and two brick inscriptions with Kufic and Pahlavi Sassanid scripts.

Sa’at Square
Sa’at is name of a square in capital of Sari. It has a big tower with an analogue clock and a bell that announces the hours. At night, the midnight bell can be heard in far streets of Sari due to repeated bell of clock and the night’s silence. Its construction was started in 1976 by Mr. Mohammadali Heidari and completed in 1978.
Neka
Like other north towns and the towns along Caspian Sea, Neka has natural attractions. Diverse forest trees and green regions have created a nice view. Neka forest and Gomishan cave are among natural-historical attractions of this region. Wood handcrafts, different pickles, jams, and traditional bread are among the important products of the region.

Behshahr
Old name of Behshahr is Abbas Abad. It has many historical buildings dating back to the Safavids: dam, tower, public bathroom and mosque. Emarat Jangal spring, Abbas Abad Lake, Miankaleh Island and pond (wetland) are among the natural attractions of the region.

Gomishan Cave
Gomishan cave in Khaneh Sar village is 5 km far away Neka town, 20 km far away Behshahr. It was discovered in 1988. Till now, 40000 animal bones, 30000 stone tools and some clay pots have been discovered in high layers of the cave. It can answer many questions about the life style of the region.

Safi Abad Palace
Safi Abad palace was built in 1010 A.H upon the order of Shah Abbas the Great. It’s situated in southwest Behshahr County (Mazandaran province) on the heights that reach a plain field.

Hotu Cave
Hotu is name of a cave near Behshahr in Terjan village (Shahid Abad) which has historical value. Many important ancient works have been discovered in the cave regarding the life of first human beings. The cave is in the slope of Alborz Mountain toward the sea. It’s located at the entry of Behshahr town, 50 meter far away from its twin cave, Kamarband cave. This cave and Kamarband cave dating back to 70,000 years ago have international fame because of discovery of a human skeleton in them.

Abbas Abad Gardens
Abbas Abad Gardens are 9 Km far away Behshahr county in the slope of Alborz Mountains among the mass forests. They are one of the most important and largest gardens of Iran. The complex has been registered in UNESCO heritage as one of the Iranian gardens.
**Bandar Gaz Wharf**

Bandar Gaz located in far west corner of the province, is limited to Damghan county in Semnan province on the south, to Behshahr in Mazandaran province on the west, to Kordkuy on the east and to Gorgan gulf on the north.

**Bandar Torkaman**

Bandar Torkaman is one of the western towns of Golestan province. It’s limited to Turkmenistan Republic on the north, to Gorgan and Ali Abad counties on southeast, to Kordkuy County on the south, to Caspian sea and Bandar Gaz County on the west. Its area is 19020 Km and its main specification is its fishing and tourism capabilities.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Historical places of Bandar Gaz</th>
<th>Ashuradeh Island</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>- Jar Kalbad (on west of old village of Kalbad)</td>
<td>Caspian Sea has just one island: Ashuradeh Island. It’s said to be the famous Abaskun Island mentioned in the history. It’s believed that during the Moguls Attack, Sultan Mohammad Kharazmshah escaped to this island. Ashuradeh is one of the most beautiful tourist regions of Iran that has been evacuated for several years.</td>
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<tr>
<td>- The ruins of the old fire temple (on southeast of old village of Kalbad)</td>
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<tr>
<td>- Mar Ghaleh (Snake castle) in southeast of east Liván</td>
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<td>- Ghadim Ghaleh (Old castle) in north of Sar Mahaleh</td>
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<tr>
<td>- Aroos castle (south of Golfarav Sute Deh)</td>
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<td>Historical hills: Din T apeh (south of old Kalbad), Abdollahi hill (north of old Kalbad), Senan T apeh, Khaneh Sar (between Nokandeh and Telor), Dar Dar Lateh hill (south of Nokandeh).</td>
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Gorgan Town
Gorgan town is the capital of Golestan province which was called Estar Abad in old times. Its climate is moderate with very rich farm lands. Main language of its people is Estar Abadi accent, a combination of local groups such as the Fars, Torkaman, Baluch, Sistani, Deylami, Mazani, Sabzevari, Kashmari, Shahrdi and Bastami accents. It has a very diverse nature including the mountains, forest, range, plain and plain field, desert and salt pan, sea and gulf, river and wetland and farm lands.

Naharkhoran Forest Park
Naharkhoran forest park is the oldest resort of Golestan province, 4 Km far away Goragn. It includes a complex including the forest space around the road, river, urban and tourist installations. Since it's situated in a special geographical location in two very slopy ranges, it has a very favorable climate and attracts always many tourists.

Alang Darch Forest Park
The park is located at southwest Gorgan, 3 Km far away Goragn. It's situated in the mountain range of north forests with a unique plant species and a river passing therein.

Turang Tapeh
It's about 17 km far away northeast Goragn. The archeological works discovered in the explorations show the residence of human beings in the region about 6000 years B.C. Also, items belonging to the Parthian and Sassanid dynasties and the Islamic period have been discovered in said location. The most attracting place in Turang Tapeh is a castle dating back to the Sassanid dynasty (35-th century). It was originally built in the Parthian dynasty. There is also a cross vault dating back to 7th century.
With a length of 1019 km, the route is one of the most attracting tourism routes of Iran having several historical and natural attractions. It attracts millions of Iranian and foreign tourist annually. Isfahan railway was operated in 1968. Cultural and tourist points, industrial and economic centers of Isfahan province have brought a special significance to the railway. Isfahan railway connects Fars Province. Shiraz station was operated in 2009.

Stations of this route include: Eslamshahr- Kashan- Badrud- Isfahan- Shahreza- Eqlid- Pasargad- Sivand- Marvdasht and Shiraz. The present part will introduce the stations and tourist attractions of this route. Kashan- Badrud stations have been mentioned formerly.
Passing Mehr Abad and Tapeh Sefid stations, the train enters Eslamshahr. It has totally 15357 meter of railway lines. Its height from the sea is 1072 meter. It’s 21 Km far from Tehran station. It has a plain climate and the nearest village is Aprin village.

Eslamshahr County
Eslamshahr County is in southwest side of Tehran town in Tehran- Saveh road. Its distance from Tehran is about 15 Km. It has two parts: Dodangeh and central part each having two villages.

Imamzadeh Aghil (peace be upon him) Mausoleum
Imamzadeh Aghil (peace be upon him) is one of the grandsons of Hazrat Abbas Ibne Ali Ibne Abitalib (peace be upon him). The mausoleum has a rectangular plan with an adobe brick dome. The outer part is decorated with blue, yellow and greenish blue tiles. The tiles contain several Kufic manuscripts. The meshy tomb of the mausoleum was built in Isfahan in 1993 and installed in the holy shrine.

Isfahan
Isfahan is the capital of Isfahan province, an ancient town in central Iran. It has been famous as “half of the world” in the Iranian culture. During the first Islamic periods, the town was classified into two parts: Jay and Yahudieh. Its prosperity began when it was selected as the capital of Iran during Shah Abbas dynasty in 1000 A.H.

Chehel Sotoun (Forty columns)
Chehel Sotoun is one of the historical buildings of Isfahan province with an approximate area of 67000 Sqm. It was constructed originally during dynasty of Shah Abbas I. It was completed during the dynasty of Shah Abbas II. Mirror hall, Hejdah-sotoun (18-columns) hall, two large rooms in north and south of mirror hall, the side verandas of king’s hall, the big pond in front of the hall were added later to the building with all painting, mirror decorations, tiling in walls & ceiling.

Jameh Mosque of Isfahan
The mosque is one of the Iranian mosques of Isfahan town built in 2nd century A.H. It includes a collection of art works and buildings. The decorations include mainly the tiling, plastering and vaulted forms. The chief mosque can be regarded as the oldest historical building of Isfahan.

Khaju Bridge
Khaju bridge (Shahi bridge) is built on Zayanderud river. Main foundation of the bridge dates back to them late Timurid dynasty. It was completed to the present form in 1060 A.H in Shah Abbas Safavi II’s dynasty. The walls are covered with tiling and painting.
Siosepol (Allah Verdi Khan Bridge)
The bridge is one of the unique masterpieces of the dynasty of Shah Abbas I. It was built by Sardar Allah Verdi Khan. Its other names are: Zayanderud bridge, Chahrbagh bridge, Jolfa Bridge. It's the highest bridge on Zayanderud river built in 1005 A.H with length of 300 m and width of 14 m.

Sheikh Lotfollah Mosque
The mosque is one of the architectural and tiling masterpieces of 11th century (A.H), built by the order of Shah Abbas I. It’s located in east side of Naghshe Jahan Square, opposite Ali Qapu building. Its architect was named Mohamadreza Isfahani. It has mosaic tiling with scripts on them written by Alireza Tabrizi Abbasi. The mosque has no minaret and shabistan (underground space) and its entry has no stairway.

Vank Cathedral
It's one of the most beautiful and largest cathedrals in Jolfa-Isfahan. The interior space is decorated with oil painting and gold plating and photos showing the life of Christ (peace be upon him). The magnificent cathedral was built in 1605.

Imam Mosque (Abbasi Mosque)
The mosque known as Abbasi mosque too, is one of the mosques in Naghshe Jahan square. It was built in south side of Imam square in 1020 A.H by the order of Shah Abbas I. The architect was Aliakbar Isfahani. Manuscripts have been engraved by calligraphists named Alireza Abbasi, Abdolbaghi Tabrizi, Mohamadreza Emami, Mohammad Saleh Emami.

Fire Temple of Isfahan
The temple is 8 km far away west Isfahan near Zayanderud river, on a stone mountain in height of 1680 m. It’s made of adobe bricks. There is a thin reed layer among the bricks. On some of the bricks it’s written: 1352. The big brick piers emerge from the middle of the hill and change into big and strong pillars. In the past, there had been some rooms on the pillars, too.

Imam Square (Naghshe Jahan Square)
The square was built during the dynasty of Shah Abbas I, in a garden known as Naghshe Jahan. It’s one of the world’s biggest squares. During the dynasty of Shah Abbas it was a place for playing polo, army’s parade, celebrations and different shows. Today, it’s one of the historical buildings registered in UNESCO.

Ali Qapu
Ali Qapu building (Dolatkhaneh palace) is one of the exclusive palaces of the Safavid dynasty, built by the order of Shah Abbas I at the beginning of 11th century. It has 5 floors, each containing important plaster decorations and painting. One of the interesting parts of this historical building is sound room which had been a place for playing music.
Shahreza
Shahreza is one of the towns of Isfahan province in Iran. It’s 70 km far away southeast Isfahan with an almost hot and dry climate.

Eqlid
Eqlid County with an area of 7205 km² is limited to Abadeh county on north, to Marvdasht, Sepidan na’ (Yasuj) counties on south, to Semirom County on west, and to Khorrambid county on east.

Engelab Forest Park
It’s located near a spring. It was built by Eqlid municipality after victory of the Islamic revolution of Iran. It attracts many travelers due to its cool climate.

Kaftar Lake (Shadkam)
The lake is one of the sweet water lakes of Fars province, located in southeast of Eqlid county. Its area is about 48 Km and its habitat of immigrating birds.

Imamzadeh Shahreza
Mausoleum of Imamzadeh Shahreza (peace be upon him) is one the valuable Islamic works of Safavid dynasty. The basic building was built during the dynasty of Shah Esmail Safavi. Some attribute the Imamzadeh to Imam Hassan Mojtaba and some say that he was the son of Imam Musa ibne Jafar (peace be upon him). The mausoleum is in north entry of Shahreza town.

Balangan spring (Haji Abad)
With natural and beautiful landscapes, the spring is in a space with area of 3 km. Due to several springs in the region, the area has provided a good chance for tourism and trout farming.
RAILWAY TOURISM GUIDE OF IRAN

Tehran Shiraz Route
**Pasargad**

Pasargad is one of the counties of Fars province, including two parts: central and Hakhamanesh. It’s limited to Khorrambid and Abadeh counties on north, to Eqlid and Marvdasht counties on west, to Marvdasht County on south and to Arsanjan County on east.

**Sivand**

Sivand is a town, 75 km far from Shiraz that has many historical buildings. First it was called “Si Band”. It was named so because there were 30 ponds therein from Pasargad to Takhte Jamshid. Its historical places include Sivand pond, Link spring, Khereft Khaneh, Sivand cave, Paykivi manuscript of Tang Khoshk Sivand, Safavid cemetery, Shah Abbasii Caravanserai, Achaemenian stone mines, Taghi bathroom, Ghale Farangi building, old post office of Sivand, Emtiaz garden& building, Iranian Jewish caravansera, Tang Fashak ruins, Tanghe Bolagh and stone bridge.

**Tomb of Cyrus the Great**

The tomb includes a four-wall room on a 6-floor stand. It’s built of white stones. The distance between room’s ceiling and the roof of tomb is 3 meters. The tomb is the tomb of Cyrus and his wife Cassandane, the mother of Cambyses.
Marvdasht
The town is 35 km far from north Shiraz, with a moderate mountainous climate. It’s one of the centers of agricultural products in Iran. Kamfirouz quality rice, Farugh and Seyedan pomegranate, Farugh and Dashtak walnut, corn and beetroot are among its products.

Naqsh-e Rustam
Naqsh-e Rustam is one of the important historical sites dating back to the Elam, Achaemenid and Sassanid dynasties and some other historical works in the slope of mountains. At the bottom of mountain, there are bold figures of the Sassanid dynasty including 7 engraved figures showing different gatherings of the Sassanid. On top of the mountain the tombs of the achaemenid kings can be seen. Four tombs in Naqsh-e Rustam belong to Darius I, Xerxes, Darius II and Artaxerxes I.

Perspolis
(Takhte Jamshid)
Takht Jamshid (Perspolis) is one of the most well-known structures of the ancient time. Perspolis is situated in slope of Rahmat Mountain in Marvdasht plain, 30 km far from Shiraz. Its construction began about 518 years B.C by the Achaemenid king Darius. It continued during the kingdom of Xerxes, his son, and other Achaemenid kings. Buildings of Perspolis complex are on a plate with approximate area of 125000 Sqm. It was registered in UNESCO world’s heritage in 1979.
Tourist Attractions

Other tourist attractions of Shiraz include: Maharlu lake, Allah Akbar gate, Delgosha garden, Abunasr palace (Takhte Abunasr), Baghe Takht (Takhte Gharache), Bamou national park, Bibi Dokhtaran mausoleum, Rachi spring, Khargan spring, Khani gate, Band-e Amir, Armenian church, Nasir al- Mulk mosque, Ikhani gardens building, Neshat garden and building, pavilion, Vakil bathroom, Vakil bazaar, Khajavi Kermani mausoleum, Narenjestan garden and museum.

Shah Cheragh Mausoleum

Shah Cheragh is the mausoleum of “Mir Seyed Ahmad” known as Shah Cheragh, son of Imam Moosa Kazem, the 7th Shi’a Imam (peace be upon him). The building was built in the Salghurids dynasty of Fars, in 6th century. Its dome and shrine have beautiful tiling. The interior shrine is decorated with tiny colorful mirrors in an artistic style, with many Persian and Arabic manuscripts surrounding the mirrors.

Nasir al- Mulk Mosque

Nasir al- Mulk mosque is one of the old mosques of Shiraz, situated near Imamzadeh Shah Cheragh. It was built by architect Mohammad Hassan, upon the order of Mirza Hassan Ali, known as Nasir- al- Mulk, who was one of the great men of Qajar dynasty.

Tomb of Hafez

Hafez was one of the great poets and scholars of 8th century who was born in Shiraz and passed away in 798 A.H. His tomb is in north of Shiraz in a place called Hafezieh. It has two north and south yards and many poems, scholars and scientists are buried there.

Tomb of Sa’di

Sa’di is one of the great Iranian poets and authors born in 7th century in Shiraz. He passed away in 795 A.H. His main books are Boosan and Golistan. His tomb is in Sa’di gate in Shahrah Sa’di. It has a tomb and a garden that was repaired several times by the sultans and Emirs.

Eram Garden and Building

Eram garden is one of the most beautiful Iranian gardens in Shiraz. It is attributed to the Seljuk dynasty. The garden was repaired in Zand and Qajar dynasties and now it’s used as a botany garden.
This route is 936 km long and it’s one of the roads with highest railway traffic. Shahriar, Qom, Arak, Shazand, Azna, Dorud, Bisheh, Dokuh, Andimeshk, Shushiar, Haft Tapeh, and Ahvaz are main stations of this route. Taleh Zang bridge is in this route in Dorud-Andimeshk road which is one of the famous railway structures of Iran. It was damaged several times during the Holy Defense. Also, Taleh Zang box bridge was operated along the old bridge in 2012. Bisheh waterfall is one of the most beautiful natural attractions of Iran, near Bisheh station and one of its access road is via the railway. South Railway played an important role in 8 years of Holy Defense. During the war, the soldiers and army equipment were carried by train. South Railway connects Shalamcheh via Khoramshahr and this has caused the connection between Imam Khomeini port and Basra port.
Shahriar
Shahriar County with an area of 320 Km², is one of the counties of Tehran province. It’s in west of Tehran province, limited to Karajin Alborz province and Malard on west, to Qods and Tehran counties on north, to Robat Karim county and Zarand (Saveh in Markazi province) on south, and to Eslam Shahr on the east.

Tapeh Jughin
Tapeh Jughin is one of the ancient sites in Shahriar, belonging to the Sassanid dynasty. Jughin hill and castle are built of adobe brick, 10 km far away southwest Shahriar in Shahra Vahidieh. According to the age and residence of people in said place and the coins and other discovered items, it dates back at least to the dynasty of Sassanid Yazdegerd III.

Imamzadeh Bibi Sakineh
Imamzadeh Bibi Sakineh was the dear daughter of Imam Musa Kazem (peace be upon him) and sister of Imam Reza (peace be upon him). It’s in a village called Bibi Sakineh, 40 km far away west Shahriar. Due to her miracles (generosities), her tomb has always attracted people and it’s mentioned in old books.

Shaghayegh Plain
Shaghayegh plain in Shahriar in Akhtar Abad region in west Shahriar, attracts annually thousands of visitors from different Iranian towns specially Tehran. From mid-May to end of June, the hills and beautiful Akhtar Abad Mountains in Malard become full of corn popys, the red colors of which can be seen from far aways. It looks like as if a red cover has been put on the field.

Rudshur
Rudshur river is also called Abhar Rud, 30 km far away northwest Ghidar in Zanjan province. It originates from Ghearah Dagh Mountain and after irrigating Abhar, Qazvin, Savojbolagh and Tehran, it joins Karaj River. Its branches include Kharghan and Khoshkerud. Main branches of the river are a favorable site for the leisure pleasure time of people of Tehran.

Shahriar Station
Passing Eslamshahr station, the train enters Shahriar station. It’s 36 km far from Tehran and Robat Karim is the nearest district. It has totally 13925 m of railway lines in a mountainous geographical location with a height of 1045 m from sea.

Rudshur Station
Passing Shahriar station, the train enters Rudshur station. It’s 59 km far from Tehran in a mountainous geographical location. It has totally 5438 m of railway lines with a height of 1116 m from sea. Parandak and Saveh are respectively 32 and 55 km far away the station.
**Qom Town**

Qom is one of the main religious towns of Iran and the world’s Shi’a Moslems. It’s the mausoleum of Hazrat Fatemeh Masoumeh (peace be upon her). Natural attractions of Qom include: Qomrud river, Ghareh Chay, salt lake and Hoz Soltan as entertainment places of the town.

**Tourist Attractions:**

There are several historical-cultural buildings in Qom such as: Molasadra house, Imam Khomeini house, Feyzieh School, Kenar Gard caravanserai, Talab and Aveh villages, Qom bazaar, tombs of Qajar kings and tomb of Shah Abbas II, Mostofi tomb, holy shrines of many grandsons of Shi’a Imams.

**Tomb of Green Dome Garden:**

At the end of Chaharmardan street in Qom, in east part of the town, three historical structures have remained in a small garden called “Green Dome Garden” dating back to 8th century. The region is known as Kashan gate and its domes are known as “Domes of Kashan Gates”. Based on available historical manuscripts, two domes are the tombs of Emirs of All Saff family- an independent governor of Qom in 8th century. And the third dome belongs to same era based on various documents.

**Holy Shrine of Hazrat Masoumeh (Peace be upon her)**

Hazrat Fatemeh Masoumeh (peace be upon her) is the dear daughter of Imam Musa Ibn Jafar (peace be upon him). She was born in Medina on 1st day of Zighadeh in 173 A.H. She traveled toward Khorasan in 200 A.H to visit Imam Reza (peace be upon him). But she resided in Qom midway due to a disease and passed away in 201 A.H. Her holy shrine is known as a beautiful collection of original Iranian and Islamic architecture which has always attracted the Shi’a Moslems. Presently, the holy shrine has a meshy tomb, dome, corridors, verandas, courtyards and very beautiful Goldasteh (top of menirat).

**Qom Bazaar:**

Qom bazaar is regarded as a part of old texture of this town with its parts named Rasteh, Chaharsogh, Sara and Timcheh. The bazaar includes two straight ways with a dome on them. The roofed nature of bazaar originates from its traditional architecture, and is regarded as a guard against hot and cold weather in summers and winters due to the location of Qom in a desert area. Large parts of Qom bazaar that is the old part of it were built in the Safavid dynasty. The chief mosque was built around it and the required structures were built in it until end of the Safavid dynasty.

**Mohammad Abad Stone Caravanserai**

The caravanserai is 50 km far away northeast Qom in Kuh Sefid road. It’s in form of a four-veranda caravanserai with high stone walls and 8 watchtowers. It dates back to 5th-6th A.H century. Mountain stones had been used in building the caravanserai and it has separate spaces for keeping the animals and resting place for the travelers.
Arak Town
Arak county is limited to Farahan and Ashtian on north, to Khandab on west, to Mahalat on east and to Khomein and Sarband counties on south. Emarat wetland, Sefidkhani cave, Chai Nakhtir cave, Haftad Ghaleh protected zone, and Sarband pasture area are among the natural attractions of Arak. Its historical-cultural buildings include Chahar Fasl bathroom, Ak bazaar, Haji Vakil castle, Sepahsalar School, Imamzadeh Mohammad Abed (Mashhad-e Miqan), Imamzadeh Mohsen, Ezatollah Khan Bayat garden.

Miqan International Wetland
Miqan international wetland is one of the important wildlife habitats especially for the immigrating birds. Most species of birds include immigrating common crane, Pelican, Flamingo, and birds that leave the wetland in winters after the first snow toward warm southern regions and Africa. They return again in spring.

Pakal Ski Resort in Shazand
Pakal ski resort is in Pakal mountain pass of Shazand, in south of Shazand. It's 20 km far from Shazand and 55 km far from Arak. Its approximate height is 1250 m with length of 5 km with a cable-car line. Presently, the resort receives travelers in spring and winter.

Shazand County
Shazand (and Sarband) county is one of the important counties of Markazi province. Its capital is Shazand and it has joint borders with Hamedan and Lorestan provinces. It has a mountainous climate.
Azna Town
Azan is one of the towns in Lorestan province, between Aligudarz, Dorud, Arak, Khomein and Shazand. Azna people speak Persian with Luri accent (Gapleh accent). There is a part in Azan county called Pache Lak where people speak with Bakhtiari accent.

Dorud Town
Dorud is one of the towns of Lorestan province and capital of Dorud County. Its area is 1326 km² and it’s near Oshtorankuh Mountain.

Oshtorankuh Mountain
It’s one of the unique places in Lorestan province with many natural attractions. Due to its special environmental conditions, it’s a suitable habitat for growth and duplication of wild animals specially the mammals. Since it’s located in central Zagros Mountains, it has cold high summits with heights above 3500 m from the sea as well as warm valleys.

Chekan Fall
A very beautiful waterfall streams on the slopes of southern mountains of Dorud named as Chekan fall. The fall originates from a cave toward the farmlands of Chekan region. Its height is tens meters. A marvelous nature surrounds the fall. An Imamzadeh called Abu Ali (peace be upon him) is 3 km far away.

Gahar Lake
Gahar Lake is amid Oshtorankuh Mountains in Lorestan province, in Zaz and Mahru district of Aligudarz and central part of Dorud. The lake called “Diamond of Oshtorankuh” is one of most beautiful natural lakes of Iran, with a height of 2360 m from the sea in Oshtorankuh protected zone.
Bisheh Fall
It's located in Zagros Mountains, beside Tehran-Khouzestan railway near Bisheh station. With its beautiful landscape, it's one of the unique and beautiful falls in Lorestan province. Its height from earth is 48 m with crown width of 20 m.

Andimeshk Town
Andimeshk County is one of the counties of Khouzestan province. It's limited to Lorestan province on north, to Dezul and Shush on south, to Ilam on west. The county is in a plain location with hot and dry climate. Its drinking water is the best drinking water in Iran. The best natural clear water is found here.

Karkheh Dam
Karkheh dam on Karkheh River is in Khouzestan province. It's one of the largest earth dams in the world. It's the largest earth dam of Iran and Midle east. It's 22 km far away northwest Andimeshk in Khouzestan province.

Old Bridge of Dezful
The old bridge is the most important historical structure of Dezful, built about 1750 years ago by the Sassanid Shapur II, helped by the Roman prisoners. It's also named as Roman bridge. It's on Dez River. Shapur II also built a castle for protecting the bridge. There is a place in the old part of Dezful named the same as the bridge.

Amir Bahman Khan Samsam Castle
Castle of Amir Bahman Khan Samsam is one of the famous historical buildings in Dezful. Beautiful brick works of the castle taken from brick Architecture style of Dezful is unique in itself.
Shush City
Shush city is in northwest of Khuzestan province, 115 km far way Ahvaz. Dating back to thousands years ago, Shush is the first place of urbanization and permanent settlement in one place in Iran. It has been the capital of two great civilized empires of ancient Elam and Achaemenid dynasties. It was very prosperous during the Parthia, Sassanid and Islamic periods.

Tomb of Daniel
Daniel was one of the prophets of the Israelites (7th century B.C). In Hebrew language, Daniel means "God is my judge". He and a group of the Jews migrated to Iran and settled in Shush. He passed away there. His tomb is in east coast of Shavur River opposite Arg hill. The tomb includes two yards. It has a star-cone like dome which was common in the region.

Shush castle
John Mary Jacque de Morgan traveled to Shush in 1897 for research and exploration. He convinced the Franc government to build a safe and suitable place for the archeology board of France in Shush. Therefore, the highest point of Shush hills named Acropol was selected and a European Middle-age castle was built there.

Apadana Hill
Apadana hill (the palace of Darius and Elam works) is situated in lower parts of Elam palaces. The palace was built in the Elamite structures during the Achaemenid dynasty.

Chogha Zanbil
Chogha Zanbil temple, 46 km far away southeast Shush, is the oldest and largest adobe brick building in the world that is remained from Middle Elamite period and its king Untash Napirisha.

Haft Tepeh
Haft Tepeh is 15 km far away southeast Shush. The archeological explorations in Haft Tepeh began in 1965 by the famous Iranian archeologist, Dr. Negahban. The result was exploration of valuable things such as: clay sculpture, tomb, temple, group graves, various clay dishes and musical instruments. Though the civilization in this region dates back to 600 years B.C, but some of the items exhibited belong to an Elamite city dating back to 13001500- years B.C.

Haft Tepeh Museum
The museum construction began in 1960 by by Dr. Ezatollah Negahban and completed in 1973. The museum has been inspired by the native architecture style based on the climatic conditions, taken from the Elamite architecture style in said period. It's a place for public display of the things explored in the region.
Ahvaz County

Ahvaz County is the capital of Khouzestan province. It’s the biggest city of Khouzestan province. Its distance with the farthest city (Izeh) in northeast Khouzestan and the nearest city (Hamidieh) in west Ahvaz is 276 and 30 km, respectively. Its height from the sea is 12 m.

Khorramshahr

Khorramshahr is one of southern cities of Khouzestan province and the capital of Khouzestan County. The city is located in the cross point of Arvand Rud and Karun rivers with an area of 23 km. Due to its vicinity with the Persian Gulf and Iraq, Khorramshahr has a special economic, trade and political significance. It’s located in the farthest point of Khouzestan province and its wharfs are along Arvand Rud river.

Siah Bridge or Railway Bridge

The first bridge in Ahvaz that was built in 1929 with Trans-Iranian railway got famous as Siah bridge due to its black body and columns. It’s on Karun River and connects Imam Khomeini port’s railway in southwest Khouzestan to Ahvaz railway station. From there, it connects Khorramshahr- Tehran- North railways. Siah bridge is a metal bridge with concrete foundations built on the stone bed of Karun river. Its length and width is 1050 and 6 meters respectively, with 52 columns.

Mausoleum of Ali Ebn Mahziar Ahvazi

Ali Ebn Mahziar Ahvazi who lived in 3rd century A.H, was a famous Shia jurist, narrator of traditions and scientist whose mausoleum is in Ameri neighborhood along Karun shore in Ahvaz. The mausoleum is the place of various religious ceremonies annually that receives the followers of the Household of the Prophet.

Sefid Bridge, the 1st Suspension Bridge of Iran

Sefid bridge or Moalagh (Suspension) bridge is the name of one of the bridges in Ahvaz which is regarded as the symbol of Ahvaz. The bridge was built in 1936 on Karun river with two 12 and 20 meter concrete arch. It was the first pedestrian and vehicles bridges that connected the old and new parts of Ahvaz.

Chief Mosque of Khorramshahr

It has totally 9813 m of railway lines. It’s in a plain geographical location with a height of 5 m from sea. It’s 914 km far from Tehran.

Passing Qods- Hamid (Shahid Hamid Mousavi), Ahu, Hosseineh and Shohadaye Shalamcheh (Garmdasht) stations, the train enters Khorramshahr station. It's 914 km far from Tehran.

IRAN NAMA

Khorramshahr Route

RAILWAY TOURISM GUIDE OF IRAN
Tehran-Kerman-Zahedan railway route with a length of 1658 km connects Iran’s railway network to the southeast of Iran. On its route, it passes many old historical towns. Zavareh, Naein, Ardakan, Meybod, Yazd, Batgh and Zarand are the main towns of the route. It extends from Kerman to Zahedan and then toward Mirjaveh station which is the border station of Pakistan railway. Tabas, Kashmar and Sangan are important stations in this route with some branches. Several industrial, weaving, chemical and agricultural centers as well as rich mineral reserves such as clay stone, marble stone and copper have brought special significance to the railway industry in this region. Stations of this route are: Kashan, Badrud, Zavareh, Naein, Ardakan, Meybod, Yazd, Batgh, Zarand, Kerman, Darzin, Bam, Fahraj, Zahedan and Mirjaveh. They are introduced in this part. Kashan, Badrud, Zavareh, Naein, Ardakan, Meybod, Yazd and Batgh were introduced in previous sections.
Kerman
Kerman is one of the metropolis towns of Iran and capital of Kerman province and the biggest town in southeast of Iran. Considering the urban area, it’s the eight Iranian town and a very populated region in southeast of Iran.

Zarand
Zarand is the capital of Zarand County and is 75 km far away Kerman metropolis. It is connected to Kerman, Ravar and Rafsanjan by the asphalt road and to Bağh in Yazd by Kuhbanan road. Zarand plain with an area of 4655 km is between the mountains surrounding Lut plain on northeast and Badamu mountains in southwest.

Vakil Complex
The complex was built in Qajar dynasty and includes Vakil bazaar, Vakil bathroom and Vakil caravanserai.

Shazdeh Garden
Shazdeh or Shahzadeh (Prince) garden is one of the most beautiful historical gardens of Iran dating back to the Qajar dynasty, located near Kerman in slopes of Tigran high mountain. The garden was registered in UNESCO in June 21, 2011.

Jalal Abad Tower
Jalal Abad tower was built in 1013-th centuries in Qajar dynasty. Its height is 14 meter with diameter of 6 m and area of 20 m. The wall’s thickness starts from 2 m and decreases toward the top of walls and reaches 30 cm.

Jebelieh Dome
It's one of the Pre-Islam buildings mentioned in history as Gabri Dome, too. In all historical notes, the building is attributed to the Sassanid dynasty (maybe it had been a fire temple or the grave of one of the Zoroastrians).

Shrine of Shah Nimatullah Wali:
Shrine of Shah Nimatullah Wali (well-known poet and mystic of 9th century), is situated 30 km far away southeast Kerman in Mahan city. It has an area of 32000 and was built during 6 centuries. It displays beautifully the continuity of Iranian architecture in past 6 centuries. The building was mostly expanded during the Qajar dynasty.

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Darzin
Darzin is a village in central district of Bam county in Kerman province.

Bam
Bam is one of the important cities of Kerman province in southeast of Iran. It is well-known in the world because of its history and agricultural products.

Arg-e Bam
Arg-e Bam is located at northeast corner of the city and vicinity of the Silk Road. Based on several narrations, it dates back to the Parthian or the Achaemenid dynasties. Until end of Qajar dynasty, it was used for residence. Arg-e Bam was registered in national heritage list on March 21, 1966 under No. 519. Bam city was also registered in world heritage list in June 2004 as “Bam & Its Cultural History”. Arg-e Bam is the most beautiful adobe building in the world which was comparable with China Great wall regarding its beauty and greatness. Unfortunately, this unique building was damaged seriously in earthquake of Jan. 2004.

The station is 10 km far away Darzin village. The nearest city is Bam, 5 km far away the station. It has totally 965 m of main railway lines and sub-railway lines with a length of 900 m.

Bam Station
Bam station is 1 km far away Bam city. It has totally 6720 m of main railway lines and sub-railway lines with a length of 980 m. The nearest village is Khajeh Asgar village, 10 km far away the station.
Fahraj
Fahraj is one of the cities of Kerman province, in southeast of Iran. Most people of Fahraj are Baluch. Fahraj has four famous cities which were very important during the Seljuk dynasty. Their importance was due to the Silk Road that passing these cities and reached throughout the world. In very old days, caterpillar breeding was very popular in Fahraj.

Handcrafts
Rug weaving is very prosperous in this city. The size of rugs is between 1.5×2 and 2×3, plus the cushions. First material of rugs is supplied from Kerman or produced by the weavers themselves.

Chief Mosque of Fahraj
Chief mosque of Fahraj was mainly built in 1st half of 1st century A.H. It’s the only Islamic mosque with an old age which has not changed since its construction. It has Shabestan (underground space) without any veranda. Though there is disagreement among the archeologists but it seems that the chief mosque of Fahraj is the oldest mosque of Iran.

Zahedan
Zahedan is one of the metropolis towns of Iran and capital of Sistan & Baluchestan province. Its old name was “Dozdab”. It’s limited to Zabol county on north, Khash county on south, Afghanistan and Pakistan on east, and Fahraj county and Lut desert on the west. Most people of Zahedan speak in Persian with Sistani accent or speak in Baluch language.

Sarpush Bazaar
The bazaar is one of the first architectural structures of Zahedan. It was built in 1929 by the Yazd architect Gholamali Khalafi, with the same plan of other Iranian traditional markets. The plan of market is “L” form built with adobe, mud and cement. It has a corridor in center surrounded by chambers. It has dome ceilings with four parts.

Zaeim House
The old building is located in urban decay of Zahedan town in Shariati avenue. It was built by one of famous architects of Yazd, Mr. Reza Zaeim, who was one of senior employees of justice administration in those days. It dates back to 1932. Important parts of the house include: summer and winter part (that were used in summer or winter), pools space, kitchen, bathroom, heated pool, and a big veranda in summer part of the house.

Fahraj station is 5 km far from Fahraj city. Nearest village is Rahmat Abad, 15 km far away the station. Its main railway line equals 970 m and its sub-railway line is 5800 meter long.
Feizolrahman Mosque
The mosque dates back to first cores of Zahedan town. With an area of 212.55 Sqm, the mosque has been built of raw adobes in a rectangular land, forming a roofed space. Its cross surfaces have been executed on 12 rectangular columns. 4 columns have created an arch space with cross ceiling, plus a roofed Shabestan having some columns.

Mirjaveh
Mirjaveh is the capital of Mirjaveh County, one of small cities of Sistan & Baluchestan province in Iran. Its distance with southeast Zahedan is 75 km. It’s the only legal border of Iran in southeast that is used by foreign and Iranian tourists.

Saam Castle
The castle is 28 km far from Zahedan-Zabol road, in form of an irregular trapezoid. Its length from east to west and from south to north is 376 and 296 meter, respectively. Saam castle has two northern and southern gates each having a watchtower. The castle dates back to the Parthia dynasty, built of raw adobe. It has totally 36 towers. There are 9 big towers in corners of castle and 28 small towers built around the castle.

Sianjan River (Talkhab)
Sianjan border river originates from Pachanshahi mountain in Mirjaveh, 15 km far from east Zahedan. It streams aligned with Zahedan railway to Mirjaveh in southeast of Iran. Its total length is 250 km.

Rock Architecture in Tamin
There is a complex of beautiful rock architecture in Tamin village, one of the villages of Mirjaveh in Zahedan County. The complex has been built in the heart of the mountain. Though such architecture (among the rocks) dates back to the Medes and Achaemenid dynasties, but it seems that all ossuaries have been dug in the Islamic period, except two ossuaries that belong to the Sassanid dynasty.

Nosrat Abad Caravanserai
Considering its architecture the building dates back to the Safavid dynasty. Its main specification is symmetrical structure that has 4 verandas. Main building materials include adobe and mud with simple and small decorations.

Oskol Abad Mineral Water Spring
The spring is near Zahedan-Khash road in west of Taftan mountain. Main eye of the spring is 40 km far from Oskol Abad-Khash junction. The distance between the junction and main eye is about 1 kilometer. The spring streams from the hole in limestones which have changed seemingly to the marble stone.

Zahedan Museum
Items regarding the archeology, anthropology and traditional arts are displayed in Zahedan museum. One of the most attractive works in archeology division, is the renewed gravestone discovered in the Burnt City (Shahr-e Sukhteh). It shows the burial manner, skeleton and wares dating back to 3200 years B.C. In anthropology division, traditional clothing of this province and various traditional arts attract the visitors, including: the jewelries, musical instruments, pottery wares of Kalpurgan, fabric weaving device, etc.

Ladiz Castle
The castle is 18 km far from south Mirjaveh, near Ladiz village in Mirjaveh-Zahedan. The first core of castle dates back to the Sassanid dynasty. Some changes were made in the castle in the Islamic period. Adobe was used in construction of the castle. It has a protective guard around it, too.