



TEHRAN (Tasnim) - The mosque, constructed by Goharshad, the wife of Shahrokh Teimoori, in 821 AH, features a large central courtyard surrounded by four porticos. Beautiful inscriptions in Thulth script adorn the walls. The most important section of this mosque is its southern portico which boasts of arches and valuable inscriptions. Undefined Along side this portico stand solid minarets with thickness of 6 m., with the same height of the portico itself, which help in supporting the ceiling and prevent the roof from collapsing. In bombardments of the Russian forces in 1330 AH, the main dome of this mosque which was 15m. in dia. undefined sustained a loss. This dome was demolished in the year 1339 AH. The current dome has been constructed (in keeping with the former circumference) with concrete.

The Oldest Mosque in Iran's Mashhad

Khazineh Valley, Marvel of Nature in Lorestan

Khazineh valley is midway between Pol Dokhtar-Andimeshk Road, in western Iran, next to a village by the same name. It has undergone erosion with

Karkheh river passing through it gives it a particularly marvelous look. One of its main attractions is a bridge measuring 112 meters in length



the passage of time and taken its current shape after many peaks and troughs. Together with the drawings on the walls of the valley, the

and 85 meters in height, Mehr news agency reported. This is Iran, and the West Asia's highest suspended bridge. All throughout the val-

ley, and especially as seen from over the bridge, lies a beautiful, pristine landscape ready to be visited and photographed with memorable climbs. Lorestan is a mountainous region enjoying a temperate climate in the spring and summer. It attracts many tourists in these seasons from home and abroad. Access to Khazineh Valley is via Pol Dokhtar town in Lorestan province. Take the Andimeshk road from there, drive another 47kms to Khazineh village, and another 2kms from there to Karkheh 2 dam building site. By driving past the dam site and driving for another 3kms, the top of the suspended bridge will be reached for a bird's eye view of the landscape.

The Niloofar Sarab (wetland) also known as Lake Niloufar (Water Lily) is located about 15 km northwest of Iran's Kermanshah and in the Kermanshah-Kouzran road at the foot of Mount Komijar. This wetland has a large pool covered with lotus flowers. It is a recreational area, besides which fishing is also possible. The surface of this lake is covered in water lilies and it is the habitat of wild geese and herons. Recreational and tourist facilities have been built around the lake which is a popular destination during the Nowruz (New Year) celebrations and in the summer.



Niloofar Sarab Wetland in Iran's Kermanshah

Uzbekistan Ranks among World's Fastest-growing Tourism Destinations in 2025

Arrivals in Uzbekistan are up to 73 per cent compared to 2019, exceeding national targets as investments, visa-free travel and global promotion fuel growth. Uzbekistan ranked among the seven fastest-growing destinations worldwide for inbound tourism between January and September 2025, according to the latest analytical data released by the World Tourism Organisation (UN Tourism). International tourist arrivals increased by 73 per cent compared to 2019 levels, highlighting the country's rapid recovery and sustained momentum in the post-pandemic tourism landscape. The Tourism Committee of Uzbekistan says that national targets for the year have been exceeded, and the position of the country in the global travel map has been strengthened. According to Umid Shodiyev, head of the Tourism Committee of Uzbekistan, the sector's rapid growth is rooted in long-term state planning. "Tourism is a core component of Uzbekistan's national economic strategy and one of the priority sectors under the 'Uzbekistan-2030' development strategy. To support this goal, a visa-free regime has been introduced for citizens of nearly 100 countries." At the beginning of the year, Uzbekistan's President, Shavkat Mirziyoyev, set a clear objective for the sector: to attract 10 million tourists by the end of 2025. According to the Tourism Committee of Uzbekistan, that goal has already been surpassed as 10.7 million foreign tourists visited the country in 2025 up to November, gener-

ating approximately €3.74 billion in tourism service exports. "This year, we reached a stable milestone: starting from April, Uzbekistan has welcomed more than one million tourists every



single month. As a result, between January and October alone, total arrivals have already reached nearly 9.6 million," Aziz Mirjalilov, head of marketing at Uzbekistan's Tourism Committee, told Euronews. "Importantly, it is not only the volume of visitors that is increasing, the length of stay is growing as well. While tourists previously spent an average of four to five nights per trip, this figure has now risen to seven, eight, and even nine nights." Neighbouring and regional markets continued to account for the largest share of inbound tourism to Uzbekistan in 2025,

reinforcing the sector's strong regional orientation. Compared with the same period in 2024, tourist arrivals from neighbouring and Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS) countries increased by a factor of 1.1, while arrivals from non-CIS countries rose at a faster pace, increasing by 1.5 times year on year. In absolute terms, Central Asian neighbours dominated where tourists were coming from. Kyrgyzstan ranked first with 2.8 million visitors, followed by Kazakhstan with 2.3 million and Tajikistan with 2.2 million. Among non-regional markets, China recorded 217,700 visitors, ahead of Türkiye with 148,100, India with 66,100 and South Korea with 41,600. Long-haul markets remained comparatively small in volume but showed signs of sustained growth. The United States, in particu-

lar, recorded rising interest in Uzbekistan as a destination, with 28,600 US citizens visiting the country for tourism purposes between January and September 2025, representing a year-on-year increase of 22.4 per cent. For US visitors, travel is overwhelmingly driven by the desire for leisure. Thousands arrive eager to explore new landscapes, experience local culture, or simply unwind, with leisure travellers numbering 23,600. Business takes a smaller, yet significant share, as 2,400 travellers combine work with the opportunity to see the world. Family ties draw 2,100 visitors, who make the journey to reconnect with relatives and share moments. Education brings 395 individuals seeking knowledge and learning experiences, while trade motivates 111 travellers focused on commercial pursuits. Local tourism in Uzbekistan has also seen remarkable growth. Between January and November 2025, residents embarked on 23.7 million domestic trips as part of the "Travel across Uzbekistan" programme, reflecting a renewed enthusiasm for exploring the country's diverse regions. To further encourage family travel, the government designated the second weekend of every month as "Family and Community Travel Days," giving households a dedicated opportunity to connect through shared experiences. New tourism routes, trekking paths and cross-border tourism corridors were developed, further diversifying travel experiences across regions.

Perspective



Zanjan has Golden Chances for Investment

Zanjan province has golden chances for investment. It has unique capacities in various fields including tourism. According to statistics, more than 2,000 historical monuments have been identified in this province, of which 925 have been registered in National Heritage List, and the existing capacities in this area have made Zanjan a safe and secure place for the investment, IRNA reported.



Zanjan is a province whose huge tourism capacity can be found not only in its historical and religious monuments, but also in its nature, customs, and even its special climate, all of which are ready to host tourists appropriately. With 27 tourist attractions, this province ranks 13th in the country in terms of tourism. Soltaniyeh Dome as the largest brick dome in the world, Katala-Khor Cave, the largest and most unique limestone cave in the world, Rakhtshooy Khaneh and the Salt Men Museum are among the most visited collections that are always welcomed by the tourists, and the thousand-year-old knife, copper, tapestry and many other handicrafts made by Zanjani artists are world famous. However, Zanjan is still considered a province that tourists pass through and its tourist numbers are very low compared to the tourist provinces, and the number of about 79,000 tourists during Nowruz is very insignificant compared to more than 6 million tourists in northern cities and 700,000 tourists in Hamedan and Qazvin provinces which neighbor Zanjan. He added that 7,000 tons of copper products, six million knives, and two tons of traditional jewelry are produced in Zanjan annually. "The turnover of copper handicrafts alone has reached 4,000 billion rials (\$4 million) per month, and the registration of the world city of Malileh (filigree) and the geographical designation of knives have established the global position of these arts."



Asef Vaziri House in Iran's Sanandaj

One of the attractive and historical relics of Iran's western city of Sanandaj is the Asef Vaziri House (House of Kurd or Kurd House). The Asef Vaziri's Mansion is one of the oldest Houses of Sanandaj that dates back to Safavid era, and is located in the city center. Its construction is divided into four parts and different sections were added to it in different eras. The Asef Vaziri Mansion consists of four external yards, internal residence, water distribution chamber and servant's place. The mansion was built in line with local architecture style. Motamed Hashemiha's family (Amjad-Al-Ashraf) is known as the first founder of this building and probably Mirza Mohammad Reza Vaziri (Asif

Divan's father) has owned it and this edifice gained its final magnificent by constructing the entrance (with a brick facade on the Iranian Baroque style) and eastern and western parts of it during Asef Divan period. Its plaster work and sash windows even though archaic spell a special beauty, in addition to its mode of architecture, sculptured stone and arches. Another feature of the edifice is the huge bath located in a large courtyard, and is well worth mentioning. The cultural heritage organization of Kurdistan considered the management of this building in 1997 and it's reopened as the biggest anthropology museum related to one tribe in Iran in 2003. Stucco, old Sashes, carved stones, mirror decoration, carved brick and

embowed arches has been reflected skillfully and beautiful in this building. undefined In addition to the building entrance and the entrance corridor, aqueducts and dividing water room, has four gates that they are known as the outer courtyard (main), inner courtyard, kitchen garden and employees yard. In the southwest corner of Edifice, a specific bath was built in the architectural style of Iranian bath with lime designs. Today, a part of the southern part of this building turned to gallery and the other part has become traditional tea house by roofed this part of the building with brick domes and refurbished the main pool and build the porch around it.