PHT EXCLUSIVE
ESCORTED
JOURNEY

21 SEPTEMBER 2019

discover persia

Phil Hoffmann travel

Personally escorted from Adelaide by Jo McLaren
16 day escorted tour

With opulent mosques and palaces, crumbling ancient ruins, and locals eager to make your acquaintance - you may be surprised by Iran's hidden treasures and legendary hospitality. Be welcomed by the curious locals as they show you their land and their customs. Among Iran's stellar attractions are the long-dead city of Persepolis, Yazd – birthplace of Zoroastrianism, Shiraz and beautiful Esfahan. Discover a slice of paradise in Persian gardens, get an authentic experience mingling with the locals at the buzzing bazaars and try outstandingly delicious Persian food.

Day 1: 21 Sep 2019
Adelaide to Tehran
Fly from Adelaide to Tehran, via Dubai.

Day 2: 22 Sep 2019
Tehran
On arrival in Tehran later this morning, enjoy a transfer to our hotel for immediate early check-in, with the rest of the day to relax.
Stay: Tehran Grand Hotel or similar—2 nights

Day 3: 23 Sep 2019
Tehran
Good morning Tehran! Enjoy a full day tour. Highlights include the opulent UNESCO-listed Golestan Palace, the treasure-filled National Museum, the Jewelry Museum with its impressive array of crown jewels and the Grand Bazaar of Tehran. (B)

Day 4: 24 Sep 2019
Tehran to Kashan
Drive to Kashan, a merchant town known for its high-quality ceramics, silks, carpets and fine houses. Visit the lush Fin Garden - a historic and classical Persian garden. Stop also at Borujerdi House. Tonight, experience Iranian hospitality with a visit to a local home for dinner. (B,D)
Stay: Parsi Hotel or similar

Day 5: 25 Sep 2019
Kashan to Yazd
Continuing on the Silk Road to the UNESCO-listed city of Yazd, an en route stop is made at the old clay house town of Na'in and Aqda for a Persian lunch. Arriving into Yazd late this afternoon, a visit is made to a famous confectionery maker. The ancient, rustic desert city of Yazd was a major stop on the caravan routes to Central Asia during the Silk Road period. It's also known as the heart of the Zoroastrian religion, which dates back over 4,000 years and was the state religion before the arrival of Islam. (B,L)
Stay: Dad Hotel or similar—2 nights

Day 6: 26 Sep 2019
Yazd
This morning, explore the UNESCO-listed Old City. Visit the Dolat Abad Garden and Amir Chakmaq complex, then walk through the narrow kuches (lanes). Later, visit two vestiges of Yazd's Zoroastrian heritage on a trip to the Fire Temple and the Towers of Silence. In the Zoroastrian religion, fire and water are agents of ritual purity. The fire in the Atashkadeh Fire Temple is said to have been continuously burning since 470 AD. The intriguing Towers of Silence are part of the Zoroastrian tradition of raised circular structures where the dead are laid out to be picked clean by scavenger birds. This evening, travel to the village of Taft for a simple dinner. (B,D)

Day 7: 27 Sep 2019
Yazd to Shiraz
On the 6 hour drive to Shiraz, en route stop at the ice-houses of Abarkuh. The Abarkuh Cyprus – a 4,500 year-old tree is the oldest in Iran. Evening at leisure in Shiraz. (B)
Stay: Pars Hotel or similar—3 nights

Day 8: 28 Sep 2019
Shiraz
Heartland of Persian culture for over 2000 years, Shiraz is home to splendid gardens and exquisite mosques. On a guided walk, explore the evocative Vakil Bazaar and the Khan Citadel. This afternoon, visit the vast complex of Eram Garden. Following this, visit the tombs of Persian poets and literary juggernauts - Hafez and Sa'di. (B)

Day 9: 29 Sep 2019
Shiraz
Enjoy a morning tour of Persepolis and Nagsh-e-Rostam. Built on the slopes of Mt Rahmat, UNESCO-listed Persepolis was intended as a showcase of the Achaemenid empire, designed to awe visitors with its scale and beauty. Over 150 years, the city was embellished with the additions of subsequent kings. By the 4th century BC Persepolis was an

elaborate project of palaces, treasuries and necropolis, illustrating unsurpassed artistic excellence. Inevitably, the city attracted the envy of powerful rivals and in 330 BC it was all but razed to the ground by the armies of Alexander the Great. While the ruins we explore today merely hint at Persepolis' former glory, excavations in the 1930s have helped restore some of the features to their original splendor. Nagsh-e-Rostam is also an impressive archaeological site. (B)

Day 10: 30 Sep 2019
Shiraz to Esfahan

On the 6 hour drive to Esfahan, an en route stop is made at the archaeological site of Pasargadae, an ancient city built by Cyrus the Great that precedes Persepolis. Remains of day at leisure. (B)
Stay: Keryas Hotel or similar—3 nights

Day 11: 1 Oct 2019
Esfahan

Known as the jewel in Persia's crown, beautiful erstwhile capital Esfahan offers a profusion of tree-lined boulevards, Persian gardens and important Islamic buildings giving it a stunning visual appeal. Embark on a walk through gargantuan Imam Square (second largest in the world). Rest of the day at leisure. (B)

Day 12: 2 Oct 2019
Esfahan

Continue exploring Esfahan with a guided visit to Vank Cathedral, located in the Armenian quarter of the city, and where disciples are still allowed to practice their religion in peace. Esfahan also boasts a wonderful bazaar. Consider browsing for fabrics, spices, jewellery and other treasures. (B)

Day 13: 3 Oct 2019
Esfahan to Tehran

This morning, on the drive back to Tehran, an en route stop is made at Qom – Iran's second most holy city. Back in Tehran, visit the Abgineh Museum. Remains of day at leisure. (B)
Stay: Tehran Grand Hotel or similar— 2 nights

Day 14: 4 Oct 2019
Tehran

Explore more of Tehran today with a visit to the sprawling Sa'd Abad Palace and Museum – a 104-hectare complex which is home to 18 palaces, most of them converted into museums. Used as a royal summer residence during the Pahlavi period (from 1925-1979), before the monarchy was overthrown in the Revolution, the palaces offer a fascinating glimpse into the opulent lifestyle of the overthrown Shah of Iran. Later, continue to Tabiat Nature Bridge for some afternoon exploration. Tonight, enjoy a farewell dinner in Darband – a charming Tehrani suburb. (B, D)

Day 15: 5 Oct 2019
Tehran to Adelaide

Enjoy late check-out today, before our afternoon transfer to Tehran Iman Khomeini International Airport for the onward flight to Adelaide arriving on the evening of Day 16. (B)

Iran is one of the safest and friendliest places you can travel but is very conservative. For your adherence to these codes, you will be richly rewarded by one of the most incredible travel experiences.

- Conservative dress codes apply (particularly for women) in what may be quite warm weather. On arrival in Iran, all women must wear a headscarf and must also have their arms and legs covered. Men must also be conservatively dressed (no shorts, tank tops).
- Furthermore, alcohol, pork, illicit drugs and immodest or controversial literature is strictly forbidden in Iran.
- Leave Western women's magazines (Marie Claire etc) or racy literature at home.

Tour inclusions

- Return economy class flights (from Adelaide[1]) inc taxes
- 13 nights 3 star accommodation (with early check-in/late check-out—Tehran)
- Travel by private air-conditioned bus
- Sightseeing per itinerary with entry fees
- 17 meals
- Luggage porterage
- Escorted from Adelaide
- Services of a professional English speaking tour director
- One way home to airport transfer[2]
- Pre-departure function, tour documentation
- Facilitation of Authorisation Code (for procurement of Tourist Visa—see ts and cs)

[1] departures from other capital cities available
[2] departure transfer within Adelaide metro area only per person

tour costs:

Twin share	$ 7,699
Single Supplement	$ 1,269

Prices per person ex Adelaide

Refined itineraries meticulously tailored to offer a wealth of authentic experiences with a touch of luxury and added value.

Phil Hoffmann Travel 'Point of Difference'

A combination of expertise, intuition and passion for travel underpins every tour we design. With our own people on the ground helping orchestrate our Escorted Journeys program, we encapsulate the best of every destination, affording our travellers exclusive, individual and authentic experiences that no one else can offer. Into the mix, we add unexpected gems that offer further shine to the experience.

Phil Hoffmann travel

Group tour booking conditions

Amendments/changes: A fee of $100 per amendment will be charged for any reservation changes after your booking is confirmed, unless change increases the value of your booking. This fee is in addition to any charges from land operators.

Baggage: The free baggage allowance on flights is strictly limited to one piece, 30kgs of check-in luggage per person for economy class passengers. Hand luggage is restricted to 1 piece per person weighing less than 7kg. Airlines may charge you for baggage in excess of these allowances, which will be at passenger's expense. Whilst on tour one main bag and 1 piece of hand luggage per person is allowed. As no porterage is provided, participants are urged to travel with a wheeled suitcase and a day backpack that can be easily carried.

Booking Forms & Booking Conditions: You are required to complete some forms when booking which provide essential information we require to process your booking. Your consultant will provide you with all relevant forms. Please ensure you read these booking conditions in conjunction with the Phil Hoffmann Travel 'Schedule of Professionalism' booking conditions.

Cancellations: Cancellations of firm bookings will be subject to $400 per person service fee plus any charges imposed by principals involved in operating the tour. Therefore, the cancellation fee may be up to the total cost for land and/or airfares. Cancelled bookings are non-transferable.

Children: Participants must be over the age of 15.

Extensions/stopovers: An amendment fee of $100 per person will apply for any changes to group flight arrangements. You may also need to pay any applicable additional taxes.

Fitness: As there is extensive walking at and between attractions, participants must be of average to medium fitness. Daily walking distances when not aboard the bus may be anywhere between 3 –5 kilometers or more during selected sightseeing and especially at archaeological sites—such as Persepolis. There may also be uneven ground, some steps and walking on steep inclines.

Insurance: Insurance is compulsory for cover against loss of deposit and loss of airfares, personal accident, medical cover etc. If you have an ongoing medical condition you may be required to complete a pre-existing medical form. If you are over 70 years of age, you are required to complete a seniors medical form. Your consultant will provide all details.

Medical Advice: It is wise to seek medical advice before travelling. We recommend seeking advice from a travel specialist doctor, or from your own GP. Travellers must meet Phil Hoffmann Travel 'Statement of Fitness' standards to participate.

Minimum Numbers: Group fares quoted for this tour are subject to a minimum 15 paying and maximum 25 passengers travelling together. Phil Hoffmann Travel reserve the right to increase the tour price or cancel the this tour should the numbers travelling not meet the required minimum.

Not Included on tour: Travel insurance; porterage, tips for driver, tour leader or any local guides; items of a personal nature eg drinks, laundry, phone calls, meals other than those indicated, additional sightseeing or optional tours; extensions/stopovers/amendments (if applicable); 2 departure transfer within Adelaide metro area only to the value of $50 per person. Not all towns/suburbs covered;

Passport & Visas: It is necessary for all passengers to be in possession of a valid passport which has at least 6 months validity beyond your return into Australia. Australian passport holders require a Tourist visae for entry into the Islamic Republic of Iran. Please understand the process will take around 8 weeks to procure the necessary visae in advance of travel. You will need to allow sufficient time for this and plan any other travel around your Iran trip accordingly. Iranian Tourist visas are issued in a two-step process and this will differ according to your nationality.

1. An authorisation code for your visa must be issued by the Iranian Ministry of Foreign Affairs
2. A visa for your passport must then be obtained at an Iranian Embassy once the authorisation code has been issued

Your PHT consultant will assist you with the application and procurement process.

Please note that if you choose to travel to Iran, you will no longer be eligible to enter the United States under the Visa Waiver Program, and must obtain a travel visa for entry to the United States by attending a consulate.

Price Alterations: Tour prices specified are based on land arrangement tariffs applicable at the time of printing, therefore they may be subject to alteration with or without prior notice until final payment date, as per brochure. Final payment date 5 June 2019.

Reservations: A deposit of $400 per person is required within 7 days of confirmation of your booking. The balance is due no later than 5 June 2019. If a booking is made after this date, the full tour price is due at the time of confirmation. Prices are subject to change at anytime until full payment has been received for entire group and tickets have been issued.

Tour Changes: We endeavor to provide an accurate itinerary however, local operators, hotels and airlines sometimes change arrangements and our itinerary would then be adjusted to suit however, the same standard will always be used.

Tour Escort: Tour escort travels when minimum numbers are met.

Twin Share Room Match Policy: In the event of a cancellation for a twin share room match, the travelling passenger may be required to pay for a single room supplement cost, which will not be covered under their travel insurance policy. Similarly, if a traveller decides whilst travelling that they do not want to share any longer, they will be required to pay the full cost for a single room. Further, visitors should note that a man and woman cannot share a room unless they can prove they are married. Although westerners are generally exempt from this rule, it makes sense to carry a copy of your marriage certificate just in case.

Refunds/Credits: No refund is available in respect of any sightseeing tours, accommodation, meals or any other services not utilised or required during this tour. No refund is available for cancellations after the tour has commenced. Credit offers cannot be refunded or taken as cash.

Responsibility: Phil Hoffmann Travel reserves the right to alter or omit any part of the itinerary or change of reservation, features and/or means of conveyance without any notice and for any reason whatsoever. Phil Hoffmann Travel does not accept liability for failure on the part of transportation companies, hotel contractors and other principals whose responsibility is confined to their own operations. Phil Hoffmann Travel reserves the right to alter hotels used should the necessity arise. The transportation companies or firms shall be exempt from all liabilities in respect of any detention, delay, loss, damage, sickness or injury and by whom so ever caused and whatever kind occurring of or to the passenger at any time when the passenger is not on board a conveyance used or operated by the transportation companies or firms. We reserve the right to take any reasonable action should your health, actions or behaviour impinge on the rights, welfare or enjoyment of other passengers. Phil Hoffmann Travel reserve the right to cancel or withdraw any person as a member of the tour at any time. All ticket coupons and orders are furnished and issued subject in all respects to those terms and conditions under which the means of transportation or other services provided thereby are offered or supplied by the owners, operators, public carriers, management agents or agents.

The Phil Hoffmann Schedule of Professionalism applies. E&OE. Brochure produced: 30 Oct 2018

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