Images of IRAN

MOSQUES AND MONUMENTS OF PERSIA

April 13 to 29, 2012
Few countries in the world spark the imagination — or create misconceptions — in the minds of Americans as does Iran. In the past six years, Stanford has led numerous groups of educational travelers to this cultural and historical gem, and time and again, they return with stories of the country’s amazing sights and of the Iranian people’s incredible warmth and hospitality. “Eye-opening,” “humbling,” “extraordinary” and “not to be missed” are just some of the glowing terms Stanford travelers have used to describe this exceptional destination. Join us and Iran expert Shahzad Bashir in 2012 as we delve deep into a country that is at once full of — and ever on the verge of making — history. We hope you join us.

BRETT S. THOMPSON, ’83, DIRECTOR, STANFORD TRAVEL/STUDY

**Highlights**

**VIEW** priceless archaeological treasures, including the Iranian crown jewels and a collection of rare miniatures, in the museums of Tehran.

**STROLL** through peaceful gardens where Sufi poets meditated in medieval times, and marvel at the tiled mosques and squares of Esfahan.

**PONDER** the past amid the ruins of legendary Persepolis, Darius I’s ceremonial capital and one of the best-preserved sites remaining from the ancient world.
FRIDAY & SATURDAY, APRIL 13 & 14
DEPART U.S. / TEHRAN, IRAN
Depart on an overnight flight to Iran, arriving late Saturday evening or early Sunday morning, and transfer to our hotel. LALEH HOTEL

SUNDAY & MONDAY, APRIL 15 & 16
TEHRAN
Enjoy two full days in Iran’s vibrant capital city, concentrating on its world-class museums. Visit the Archaeological Museum with its fine collection of treasures from Persepolis; the Reza Abbasi Museum with its dazzling array of Persian miniatures; and the Bank Milli Iran, which exhibits the precious Iranian crown jewels. LALEH HOTEL (B,L,D—BOTH DAYS)

TUESDAY, APRIL 17
TEHRAN / MASHHAD
Fly to Mashhad, a holy city and place of pilgrimage for Shi’ite Muslims from around the world. Visit the shrine complex of the tomb of Imam Reza, who died in the 9th century, and view a rich library of manuscripts and handwritten books. HOMA HOTEL MASHHAD (B,L,D)

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 18
MASHHAD / TUS
Take a day trip to Tus and visit the mausoleum and birthplace of Ferdowsi, one of Iran’s most famous poets and author of the epic poem, Shahnameh. HOMA HOTEL MASHHAD (B,L,D)

THURSDAY, APRIL 19
MASHHAD / KERMAN
Visit the Khwje Rabie mausoleum and cemetery, then fly to Kerman and view the city’s many ancient monuments, which reflect the various cultures and dynasties that have ruled here over the centuries, including Arabs, Buyids, Seljuks and Mongols. PARS HOTEL (B,L,D)

FRIDAY, APRIL 20
KERMAN / RAYEN / MAHAN
Travel outside Kerman to Rayen, a preserved medieval city molded from the red clay of the surrounding desert. After lunch drive to Mahan, the final resting place of the Sufi saint and poet, Shah Nematollah Vali, who died in the 15th century. PARS HOTEL (B,L,D)

SATURDAY, APRIL 21
KERMAN / YAZD
After a morning exploration of Kerman’s bazaar and a former bathhouse museum, depart by coach for Yazd, passing through many pistachio orchards and stopping at a picturesque caravanserai en route. MOSHIR GARDEN HOTEL (B,L,D)

SUNDAY, APRIL 22
YAZD
Once a major stop on the caravan routes to Central Asia and India, Yazd contains some of the finest examples of traditional Persian architecture. Visit the 14th-century Friday Mosque with its elegant portal and dazzling tile work, as well as the beautiful Dowlatabad Gardens. Learn about the area’s Zoroastrian history and visit the Atashkadeh, a fire temple whose sacred flame is said to have remained burning since 470 AD. MOSHIR GARDEN HOTEL (B,L,D)

MONDAY, APRIL 23
YAZD / PASARGAD / SHIRAZ
Drive to Shiraz, stopping en route in Pasargad where the white limestone tomb of Cyrus the Great stands among scattered remains of gardens, palaces and temples. Continue to Shiraz and enjoy dinner at our hotel. HOMA HOTEL (B,L,D)
TUESDAY, APRIL 24
SHIRAZ / PERSEPOLIS
Spend the morning exploring the monumental ruins at Persepolis, the city begun by Darius I in the 6th century BC and destroyed by Alexander the Great in 330 BC. Examine this archaeological wonder’s major ruins, including the Gate of All Nations, the Hall of a Hundred Columns and the Treasury. Continue to nearby Naghsh E Rostam with its elaborately carved tombs. Return to Shiraz and explore its bazaar, one of the finest in Iran.

OMA HOTEL (B,L,D)

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 25
SHIRAZ / ESFAHAN
Explore Shiraz, the city of poets, including the Fars Museum, the elegant Nasir-al-Mulk Mosque and the tomb of the celebrated poet Hafez. Continue by coach to Esfahan and check in to our historic hotel, a converted caravanserai. ABBASI HOTEL (B,L,D)

THURSDAY & FRIDAY, APRIL 26 & 27
ESFAHAN
Enjoy two full days exploring this beautiful city, Iran’s capital from 1598 to 1722. Begin in the Maydan-e Shah, or Royal Square, stopping at the exquisitely tiled Lotfallah Mosque, the Ali Qapu Palace and the towering portal of the Shah Mosque. Visit three of the five bridges that cross the Zayandeh River, including the beautiful two-story Khaju Bridge. Celebrate the end of our journey at a farewell dinner. ABBASI HOTEL (B,L,D—BOTH DAYS)

SATURDAY, APRIL 28
ESFAHAN / TEHRAN
Depart Esfahan and drive back to Tehran, stopping en route at the mountain village of Abyaneh where the villagers still wear traditional dress. While here, learn about the area’s agrarian practices. Return to Tehran where day-rooms are reserved until our departure late this evening. LALEH HOTEL—DAYROOMS (B,L,D)

SUNDAY, APRIL 29
TEHRAN / U.S.
Depart Tehran on late-evening or early-morning flights back to the U.S.

What to Expect
Past travelers report that Iranians are very curious about, and extremely welcoming of, American tourists. Travel in Iran does require an open mind and a sense of adventure, and all participants are expected to adhere to local customs and laws, details of which will be sent to registered travelers. Women in Iran must wear a headscarf and loose-fitting clothing that fully covers the arms and legs, and alcoholic beverages are strictly prohibited. We consider this to be a moderately strenuous program that is at times physically demanding and busy, with some long travel days. Average drive times range from 4 to 8 hours, with rest stops. Daily excursions may involve one to three miles of walking, often on uneven terrain, such as at large archaeological sites or in older city quarters with uneven unpaved streets. In many instances, stairs do not have handrails, and most buildings do not have elevators. Participants must be physically fit and in active good health. We welcome travelers 15 years of age and older on this program.
Information

DAT E S
April 13 to 29, 2012 (17 days)

S I Z E
Limited to 35 participants

C O S T*
$7,895 per person, double occupancy
$9,195 per person, single occupancy
*Association nonmembers add $200 per person

IN C L U D E D
14 nights of best-available hotel accommodations, plus use of a dayroom in Tehran on April 28 • 14 breakfasts, 14 lunches and 14 dinners • Visa fees for U.S. citizens • Bottled water on excursions and at all group meals • Gratuities to porters, guides and drivers for all group services • Internal flights within Iran • All tours and excursions as described in the itinerary • Airport transfers and baggage handling for all participants • Minimal medical, accident and evacuation insurance • Educational program with lecture series and pre-departure materials, including recommended reading list, a selected book, map and travel information • Services of our professional tour manager to assist you throughout the program

N O T I N C L U D E D
International and U.S. domestic airfare • Passport fees • Visa fees for non-U.S. citizens • Immunization costs • Meals and beverages other than those specified as included • Private transfers • Trip-cancellation/interruption and baggage insurance • Excess-baggage charges • Personal items such as email, telephone and fax calls, laundry and gratuities for nongroup services

A I R A R R A N G E M E N T S
International and U.S. domestic airfare is not included in the program cost. Round-trip, economy-class airfare on Lufthansa Airlines from San Francisco to Tehran is approximately $1,342 as of June 2011 and is subject to change without notice. Information on recommended flight itineraries will be sent by our designated agent.
Deposit & Final Payment
A $1,000 deposit is required to hold space for Images of Iran. Final payment is due 120 days prior to departure.

Cancellations & Refunds
Deposits and any payments are fully refundable, less a $500-per-person cancellation fee, until 120 days prior to departure. After that date, refunds can be made only if the program is sold out and your place(s) can be resold, in which case a $1,000-per-person cancellation fee will apply. We recommend trip-cancellation insurance; applications will be sent to you.

Insurance
Stanford Travel/Study provides all travelers who are U.S. or Canadian citizens with minimal medical, accident and evacuation coverage under our group-travel insurance policy. Our group policy is intended to provide minimal levels of protection while you are traveling on this program. We strongly recommend that you subscribe to optional baggage and trip-cancellation insurance. A brochure offering such insurance will be mailed with your confirmation about one week after we receive your deposit. The product offered in this brochure includes a special Waiver of Pre-Existing Conditions and coverage for Financial Insolvency and Terrorist Acts if you postmark your insurance payment within 15 days of the date listed on the confirmation letter.

Eligibility
We encourage membership in the Alumni Association as the program cost for nonmembers is $200 more than the members’ price. Parents and their children under 21 may travel on one membership. For more information or to purchase a membership, visit www.stanfordalumni.org/membership or call (650) 725-0692.

Responsibility
The Stanford Alumni Association, Stanford University and our operators act only as agents for the passenger with respect to transportation and exercise every care possible in doing so. However, we can assume no liability for injury, damage, loss, accident, delay or irregularity in connection with the service of any automobile, motorcoach, launch or any other conveyance used in carrying out this program or for the acts or defaults of any company or person engaged in conveying the passenger or in carrying out the arrangements of the program. We cannot accept any responsibility for losses or additional expenses due to delays or changes in air or other services, sickness, weather, strike, war, quarantine, force majeure or other causes beyond our control. All such losses or expenses will have to be borne by the passenger as tour rates provide arrangements only for the time stated. We reserve the right to make such alterations to this published itinerary as may be deemed necessary. The right is reserved to cancel any program prior to departure in which case the entire payment will be refunded without further obligation on our part. The right is also reserved to decline to accept or retain any person as a member of the program. No refund will be made for an unused portion of any tour unless arrangements are made in sufficient time to avoid penalties. Baggage is carried at the owner’s risk entirely. The airlines concerned are not to be held responsible for any act, omission or event during the time that passengers are not onboard their plane or conveyance. Neither the Alumni Association, Stanford University nor our operators accept liability for any carrier’s cancellation penalty incurred by the purchase of a nonrefundable ticket in connection with the tour. Program price is based on rates in effect in June 2011 and is subject to change without notice to reflect fluctuations in exchange rates, tariffs or fuel charges. As a condition of participation, all confirmed participants are required to sign a Release of Liability.

California Seller of Travel Program Registration #2048 523-50
Faculty Leader

SHAHZAD BASHIR grew up in Pakistan and came to the United States to attend college in 1987. Professor Bashir’s research is concerned with the intellectual and social history of Iran and Central and South Asia from the 14th century to the present. He is currently working on the way the past has been made an object of knowledge in Persiante societies.

“My constant interest in the different projects I have worked on,” says Professor Bashir, “has been the issue of the relationship between human ideas and historical development. Iran is a fantastic case for such exploration because of its vibrant history as a place where great intellectual paradigms have matured in the context of fabled empires and states.” During our program, Professor Bashir will lecture on Iranian history up to the modern period, Iran’s Shi’ite identity, and the place Sufi ideas and poetry hold in Iranian culture.

- At Stanford: professor, religious studies; director, Abbasi Program in Islamic Studies
- BA, Amherst College; PhD, Yale University

“[This trip gave] us the opportunity to reach out across the abyss of propaganda and prejudice to connect in a heartfelt and more knowledgeable way with [the Iranian] people.”

ANN BUSCHO, ’72, IRAN SUITCASE SEMINAR, 2011

STANFORD TRAVEL/STUDY

Reservation Form Images of Iran

Mr./Mrs./Ms. Miss/Dr./Prof.

NAME

AGE STANFORD CLASS

NAME

ADDRESS

CITY / STATE / ZIP

CELL / WORK / HOME

PHONE

EMAIL ADDRESS

I/We have read the Terms and Conditions for the program and agree to them.

SIGNATURE

If this is a reservation for one person, please indicate:

☐ I wish to have single accommodations.

OR ☐ I plan to share accommodations with:

OR ☐ I’d like to know about possible roommates.

Here is my deposit of $______ ($1,000 per person) for _____ space(s).

☐ Enclosed is my check (payable to Stanford Alumni Association) OR

☐ Charge my deposit to my:

☐ Visa ☐ MasterCard ☐ American Express

CARD #

EXPIRATION DATE

CARDHOLDER SIGNATURE DATE

Mail completed form to address on mail panel or fax to (650) 725-8675 or place your deposit online at alumni.stanford.edu/trip/iran2012. Please submit your reservation only once to avoid multiple charges to your account.

7508

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7508
“We’ve traveled all over the world and this ranks as one of the best trips we’ve ever taken. Not only were we surprised by the friendliness of the Iranian people, but the food was outstanding and the sights we saw were magnificent.”

RANDALL LARRIMORE, IRAN SUITCASE SEMINAR, 2011