

# Autumn delights in Marin village



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The first days of autumn in Marin village, located in Gachsaran, Kohgiluyeh and Boyer-Ahmad Province, have brought about a vibrant market where pomegranates and wild pistachios, known as *baneh*, are processed. The village becomes a magnet for tourists who are captivated by the charm of rural life. With its terraced houses, Marin is often referred to as the “Massuleh of southwestern Iran”. Massuleh is a historical and touristic town, a perfect work of architecture in northern Iran. It is known for its architectural style, in which the yard of the building above is the roof of the building below.

The enchanting gardens, abundant springs, and pristine dreamy nature have earned Marin village the reputation of a lost paradise.

Every year, as autumn begins, the village buzzes with activity as locals diligently collect fruits from *baneh* trees (a type of wild pistachio tree), harvest pomegranates, and create delicious pomegranate

paste known as *robb-e-anar* in Persian.

A wide range of fresh and dried fruits, including wild pistachios, acorns, hawthorn, pomegranates, mulberries, and figs, are directly available to consumers. It can be regarded as a vibrant hub of tourist attractions due to its diverse offerings.

One of the delicious products of this village is wild pistachios, which the men of this village bravely climb the mountain to harvest.

Among the assortment of orchard fruits cultivated in the village, pomegranates have gained widespread recognition throughout Kohgiluyeh and Boyer-Ahmad Province. The pomegranate orchards in Marin village bear witness to the dedicated efforts of the locals, who diligently harvest the fruit from early August until November.

Some villagers go the extra mile by transforming their produce into dried pomegranates or pomegranate paste, allowing them to generate additional income. The sight of these bustling activities serves as an unforgettable attraction for tourists, leaving a last-

ing impression.

In addition to dried pomegranates, this village also produces exquisite dried figs and raisins that have gained a significant following due to their exceptional quality.

Nestled in the heart of Marin village, you'll find a captivating blend of stair-case houses, refreshing natural springs, lush fruit gardens, delightful weather, and breathtaking landscapes.

But wait, there's more to this enchanting land than just its natural wonders! The locals have diligently preserved their ancestral traditions, transforming Marin into an alluring tourist destination.

In Marin village, residential houses gracefully stand, with their unique architectural style. These charming abodes are typically constructed with one or two floors. What sets them apart is the presence of a hidden gem nestled behind their roofs – the enchanting courtyards of neighboring houses. This distinctive feature lends the village a captivating ambiance reminiscent of the renowned village of

Massuleh.

The rural houses in this village boast unique architectural elements that instantly captivate any viewer. With their flat roofs, charming courtyards, small windows, and narrow walls crafted from a medley of stone, brick, mud, clay, and wooden beams, they exude an irresistible allure. It's truly the most enchanting feature of the village, leaving a lasting impression on all who lay eyes upon it.

The travelers who venture to Marin village are treated to a symphony of bird-song, a picturesque blue sky adorned with fluffy white clouds, and a tranquil atmosphere untainted by the smoke and fumes of cars. These elements combine to create an unforgettable experience for visitors.

Ali Akbar Arjmandzadeh, a rural manager, enthusiastically shared that Marin village boasts a plethora of captivating attractions throughout the year. However, he emphasized that autumn, with its bountiful harvests and diverse array of products, offers an unparalleled experience

for travelers. A journey to this village during this season promises to create cherished and everlasting memories.

Owing to the unique architectural design of stair-like houses and the potential risk of water seepage in the lower houses of the residential area, gardens have not been established within the vicinity. Instead, all gardens are thoughtfully situated at the lower part of the village, ensuring a harmonious and safe living environment for residents.

“Almost all villagers own livestock, which is why the sound of sheep bells, the shepherd's melody, and the supply of fresh livestock products are among the other attractions of this village,” he said.

Basket weaving is the main handicraft of this village, which is skillfully produced from the branches of almond trees. Usually, elderly women weave these baskets for storing bread and fruits.

This village, with two eco-lodges, is among the few that can accommodate tourists on most days of the year.

## Hafez poet of compassion, beauty



Compiled by  
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Shams al-Din Moḥammad was born in Shiraz. At an early age, he memorized the Qur'an and was given the title of Hafez meaning memorizer, which he later used as his pen name.

From the days of his youth, Hafez was faced with the most tyrannous and sanctimonious rulers that neither had an iota of compassion for their own close relatives nor the masses of people and committed many horrible crimes against their opponents. Mubzar al-Din Moḥammad was one of these strict rulers who governed in Shiraz with cruelty.

As the situation got worse and Shiraz was invaded repeatedly, Hafez took refuge in the world of poetry; the poems that had deep roots in philosophy and thought. His poems were as sweet as real honey and attractive



as a charming lady. He was well acquainted with Iranian musical styles and mingled his poems with euphonic sounds skillfully. It is reasonable to deduce from his poems that he might have been familiar enough with music and in justification of his wide mu-

sical knowledge he could create melodious rhymes. He has combined the words so skillfully that it is indeed a remarkable masterpiece of Persian literature. This juxtaposition of words is supposed to be similar to an expert jeweler who has joined

precious stones properly on crown jewels. The aroma of his poems had a vast geographical spread and covered even the farthest lands.

His profound attitude over the meaning of life, perceiving great beauties of the cosmos and his fervent

emotions have given an incomparable manner to his lyric poetry. Freshness, sweetness and happiness undulate in his poems.

This heavenly lyricist imagined a world where nobody suffers from starvation or nobody is to be forced to undergo humiliation and nobody is to be forced to sell his soul. He imagined a world full of joy and strong feelings of enthusiasm that are stronger than death's sensation. He was continually interested in pre-Islamic culture because mendacity was the worst sin in ancient Iran and he was hungry for verities of life.

The final years of his life were accompanied by a state of social chaos, but this heartbroken aged poet was floating yet in love and exhilaration. Twenty years after his death, a tomb, known as the Hafezieh, was erected to honor Hafez in the Musalla Gardens in Shiraz.



The current mausoleum was designed by Andre Godard, a French archeologist and architect, in the late 1930.

Oct. 12 is designated as Hafez Day in Iran to commemorate the great Persian poet of the 14th century CE.