

Zanjan Bazaar, an architectural treasure



IRNA



safarbaz.com



iraniantours.com



safarbaz.com

Iranica Desk

Zanjan, a city with a rich history dating back 2,000 years, is the provincial capital of Zanjan Province and is considered one of the oldest cities in the country. Previously known as Zangan, the city boasts many historical landmarks, the most prominent of which is the large and famous traditional bazaar. This bazaar is a popular destination for both domestic and foreign tourists, offering a glimpse into the city's rich cultural heritage. The traditional bazaar of Zanjan is a highly prized structure in the city and is considered a national treasure. This brick-built bazaar is the longest bazaar in the country, stretching from Enqelab Square to Amir Kabir Square. Despite the passage of time, the bazaar remains a vi-

brant hub of economic activity, with its chambers, alleys, and caravanserais still pulsing with life. The bazaar's historical significance is evident in its unique architecture and the many shops and stalls that offer a wide range of goods and services. A visit to this bazaar is a must for anyone interested in experiencing the rich cultural heritage of Zanjan. This bazaar has been constructed and completed in various stages, and it has had a significant connection with other parts of society. Many events and incidents have taken place in this complex over time. The old monument is divided into two sections: the upper bazaar (bazaar-e bala) and the lower bazaar (bazaar-e pa'een). The upper bazaar includes Qeisarieh Bazaar, Bazazha Bazaar, Hojjatul-Islam Bazaar, Imamzadeh Ba-

azaar, and Abdolali Beyk Bazaar. This section is significant for the production and supply of goods and related services. Within these bazaars, there are several old caravanserais where merchants engage in their activities. Caravanserais were inns built along roads, near city gates, or within cities, where travelers could rest and rejuvenate during their long journeys. The caravanserais of Zanjan Bazaar are some of the best-preserved examples of these historic structures. The Haj Aliqoli Caravanserai was constructed in 1928 CE by a person with the same name. It is the largest caravanserai in the bazaar, featuring two porticos, with rooms in four main directions, two separate courtyards, and seven entrance doors. Architects paid close attention to the principle of symmetry in

the design of the central courtyard of Haj Aliqoli's caravanserai. The porticos surrounding the courtyards are adorned with dignified geometric forms, showcasing the architects' precise and proper use of symmetry in the building's architecture. The caravanserai primarily utilizes brick and stone materials, with some areas incorporating adobe and traditional plaster and mortar. The facades feature clay and straw elements. The building's decorations feature a combination of brickwork and tilework. The northern and southern courtyards, as well as the southern chamber, showcase tilework in a variety of colors, adorned with intricate geometric and floral patterns. Meanwhile, brickwork decorations can be found throughout various parts of the building.

Iranica Desk

The town of Mayamey is famously nicknamed the "Land of Caravanserais" thanks to its collection of 10 remarkable historical caravanserais. Nestled in the heart of the city on Imam Reza Street, you'll find the breathtaking Miami Caravanserai. Constructed with brick and boasting a central courtyard along with four impressive *ivans* (porticos), this architectural gem is affectionately known to the locals as the Shah Abbas Caravanserai, IRNA wrote. The is a significant model of an urban caravanserai. Spanning an area of 4,623 square meters over two floors, this caravanserai was officially listed on Iran's National Heritage List in 1986. The inclusion of an expansive enclosure specifically designed to accommodate camels sets this caravanserai apart from its typical contemporary designs. It beautifully showcases the architectural skill and artistry involved in its creation. The entrance to this building showcases a stunning octagonal shape. Adorning the upper part of the entrance, you'll find ancient stone inscriptions proudly displaying the construction date

Mayamey: Land of caravanserais and cultural gems



Jahanabad Caravanserai
IRNA

as 1064 AH (1653 CE) and name of its builder, a remarkable milestone achieved during the reign of Shah Abbas II. The existence of Miami Caravanserai, along with the collection of other caravanserais including Miandasht, Abbasabad, Alhak, Sadrabad, Mohammadabad, Pol-e Abrisham, Sangi Sharifabad, and Jahanabad, signifies the historical importance and grandeur of Iranian architecture in this town. Mayamey boasts an impressive tally of 58 registered historical and national heritage sites. Situated along the Tehran-Mashhad road, it offers ideal conditions for enthusiastic tourists to explore and indulge in its rich cultural treasures. Mayamey also boasts four distinct tourist zones and seven charming villages that are popular tourist destinations. These include Abbasabad, Ebrahimabad, Namnik, and Nardin villages. In a momentous achievement, 54 historic caravanserais in Iran have gained recognition at the 45th session of the UNESCO World Heritage Committee. They now proudly stand tall as Iran's 27th tangible cultural heritage on the prestigious UNESCO World Heritage List.



Miami Caravanserai
wikipedia.org



Abbasabad Caravanserai
iranwonders.com



Pol-e Abrisham Caravanserai
chtn.ir