

Kashan, a destination for lovers of literature, art and nature



The town of Qamsar, Kashan
● apochi.com

Iranica Desk

The enchanting natural landscapes of Kashan, a city in Isfahan Province, along with its rich artistic and literary heritage, have yet to be fully appreciated, said a tourism expert.

Akbar Rezvanian added that Sohrab Sepehri, renowned for his poetic celebration of nature, deserves the title of the "Green Poet," while Kashan itself can be rightfully recognized as a cultural haven for tourists seeking both artistic and literary experiences.

"Tourism and Green Investment," he said, "was the overarching theme for World Tourism Day of 2023 (Sept. 27)."

He continued that ecotourism encompasses all aspects derived from the natural world: verdant landscapes, majestic mountains, dense forests, vast plains, arid deserts, meandering rivers, and expansive seas readily come



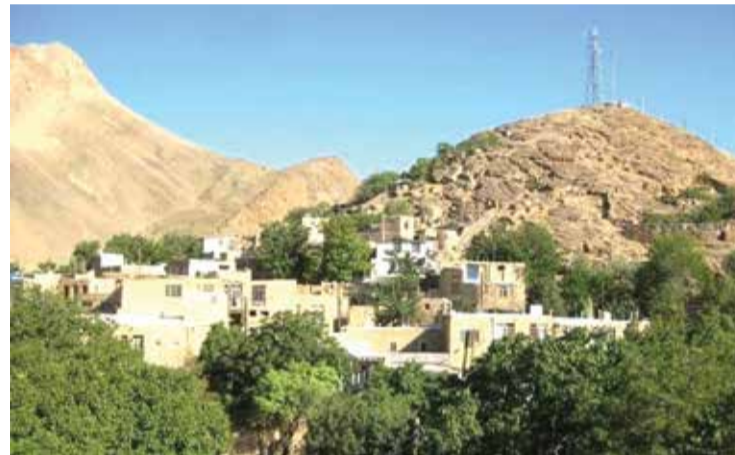
The town of Niasar, Kashan
● apochi.com

to mind. "Integrating travel and exploration into this equation, it is imperative that we strive to foster and endorse tourism while concurrently safeguarding the integrity of our natural surroundings and the environment at large. This principle embodies the essence of sustainable tourism and ecotourism," he said.

Rezvanian noted that Kashan is comprised of three climatic zones: Mountains, foothills, and desert. Whenever Kashan is mentioned, only the historic fabric, ancient houses, Fin Garden, and hand-woven carpets come to people's mind, all of which are very beautiful, important, and valuable. However, the pristine and beautiful

nature of Kashan remains unknown and can showcase itself alongside the history and culture of this region, becoming a tourist attraction and a destination for art-lovers, writers, and nature enthusiasts.

"Literary and artistic tourism can have a special place in Kashan, and its hallmark is Sohrab Sepehri. The content of all of Sohrab's



The town of Bazok, Kashan
● apochi.com

poems and paintings are derived from nature but, unfortunately, we have not worked on introducing Kashan as a destination for literary, artistic, and green tourism."

"Sohrab Sepehri's paintings command a noteworthy price in Iran, being highly regarded in the realm of art. Furthermore, his poems exhibit a distinct

and universally appealing style of language. However, it is worth noting that we have not yet delved into his introduction of Kashan as his birthplace," he added. Born in 1928, Sohrab Sepehri is recognized as a pivotal figure in contemporary literature and art, renowned for his nickname as "The Poet of Nature". His childhood and teenage



Sohrab Sepehri

years were spent in Kashan, where he embarked upon a profound journey of knowledge and artistic exploration. In the subsequent decade, Sohrab indulged in voyages of discovery and travel in nature, while in his fourth decade, he immersed himself in extensive sojourns. It was during this period that he made repeated visits to Japan, France, Italy, India, and America, alongside numerous other nations spanning the East and the West.

Saryazd village's charm and rich heritage

Iranica Desk

The rustic villages of Iran are absolutely enchanting. They showcase the boundless generosity of nature, offering breathtaking views and a plethora of tourist and historical attractions. Each village exudes a genuine sense of simplicity, yet pulses with vibrant energy. Located in Yazd Province, five kilometers east of Mehriz, and 40 kilometers south of the city of Yazd, Saryazd

village boasts an impressive 2500-year history. It proudly holds the prestigious title of being Iran's fifth Exemplary Tourism Village.

With a rich history spanning thousands of years, Saryazd, which has been hailed as a gateway to the province, was known as Farafar in the ancient times. Archaeological studies carried out on the pottery items found in this village indicate that this region

flourished during the Seljuk, Ilkhanid and Safavid eras.

According to experts and historical records, it is believed that prior to the founding of the city of Yazd, there existed a fascinating area near Rashtak village, known as Farafar. However, due to a devastating drought, its prosperity waned, eventually leading to its disappearance. Subsequently, the resilient locals built their new city in what

is now known as Yazd.

The old castle of Saryazd, dating back to the Sassanid era, stands as a magnificent testament to the rich history and architectural prowess of the village. It is revered as the foremost historical landmark in the village, bearing immense cultural significance. This iconic structure holds a coveted position on Iran's National Heritage List. Once hailed as Iran's largest and most renowned treasury,

it served as a vital refuge for farmers and a storage facility for grains and provisions. Within its chambers, an array of exquisite vaults and storerooms housed a variety of earthen jars.

With its sturdy brick walls, meticulously crafted and interconnected, along with its inner courtyards and towering fortifications, it stands as a testament to strength and grandeur. The main gate, designed to close from top to bottom with

seamless precision, adds an extra layer of security. This architectural marvel was built in three stories evoking awe and admiration.

An excavated trench encircles the castle, strategically designed for defense. Ingeniously, hidden traps beneath the straw ensured the enemy's futile attempts to infiltrate the fortress.

In addition to this castle, we mustn't overlook the renowned Farafar Gate, which serves as the main

entrance to the city of Yazd. This remarkable structure holds great importance and, even after its reconstruction, it has successfully retained its role as a symbol of identity.

Just beyond this gate, you'll find a charming caravanserai that dates back to the Safavid era. This architectural gem, built with sturdy bricks and crowned by a majestic dome, has rightfully earned its place on Iran's National Heritage List.



● persiplanet.com



● iraniantours.com



● IRNA