

# Borujerd, a haven of nature, culture, and harvest delights



Nature of Borujerd  
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Bisheh Delan Wetland  
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## Iranica Desk

If you're passionate about immersing yourself in nature, exploring cultural and historical treasures, relishing the finest locally grown agricultural products, and basking in the beauty of breathtaking landscapes, with perfect weather and azure skies, then you must absolutely not miss out on visiting the enchanting city of Borujerd and its picturesque surrounding villages during the vibrant autumn season. In the enchanting embrace of autumn's golden sunshine, the heart finds solace and delight. And when you intertwine this captivating beauty with the allure of pristine nature and the tapestry of history and culture, prepare to embark on a journey that will multiply your joy manifold, IRNA wrote.

Fortunately, Iran is abundant with such magnificent destinations for autumn tourism. However, each one possesses its own unique beauty and deserves separate attention. Otherwise, excessive cold or exhausting heat might deprive you of the pleasure of your journey.

The city of Borujerd in Lorestan Province, nestled at the foothills of the Zagros Mountains, is one of those places. The beginning of autumn can provide you with perhaps the best opportunity to fully experience the enchanting autumn sunshine, unique nature with blue skies, alongside its rich historical and cultural heritage. If you happen to encounter autumn rain during this journey, you will carry a priceless experience of this trip back home with you.

In general, if you are someone who enjoys visiting nature, cultural and historical sites, having access to high-quality local agricultural products, and experiencing a unique atmosphere with excellent weather and blue skies, do not miss out on Borujerd and its

surrounding villages.

If you have a passion for wandering through the corridors of history, delighting in cultural experiences, and immersing yourself in the vibrant ambiance of a traditional marketplace, then make no mistake – Borujerd awaits you. Its timeless allure is evident in the bustling corridors of its historic bazaar, where you are guaranteed to leave with cherished treasures and memories that endure for a lifetime.

Nestled gracefully alongside the majestic Grand Mosque, the bustling bazaar of this city continues to thrive, effortlessly blending its timeless essence with modern architectural elements. A haven of exquisite craftsmanship, the bazaar showcases renowned traditional arts like knife-making and woodcarving, with a rich heritage that has earned this city the title of Iran's woodcarving capital. Explore this vibrant market, where every corner is a visual feast, offering a glimpse into the captivating traditions that have stood the test of time.

The art of blacksmithing and carpentry are among the many other crafts that one can delight in while strolling through the vibrant market of Borujerd. From the craftsmanship of samovar-making, tailoring, and the production of colorful local garments, to textile vendors, copper artisans, and white felt production, the traditional bazaar of Borujerd offers a delightful showcase of everything. Experience the joy of witnessing these wonders simply by exploring the market and immersing yourself in their captivating beauty.

In addition to the mentioned items, what truly stands out is the presence of high-quality agricultural products from the region. Here is where you can directly purchase food and agricultural products from the farmers themselves, who

have come to the city's market to sell their produce, without any intermediaries.

Welcome to the magnificent historical residence of Ayatollah Borujerdi, a distinguished figurehead in Shia Islam during the 1930s and 1940s. And behold the illustrious historical Grand Mosque of Borujerd, a marvel of architectural craftsmanship commissioned by the order of Fath-Ali Shah Qajar. With its iconic grandeur, reminiscent of the renowned mosque in Tehran, this sacred site stands as a testament to Iran's rich cultural heritage and serves as a charming destination for history enthusiasts.

If you intend to enjoy the beauty of nature and the stunning landscapes of this city, early autumn is the perfect time to travel to this region and delight in the splendor of its mountains, the Bisheh Delan Wetland, and the surrounding villages.

Embrace the allure of autumn as it unveils its captivating treasures. With its perfect weather for delightful exploration and abundance of locally grown agricultural delights, such as a splendid array of legumes, walnuts, and delightful almonds, the season of harvest in this region beckons you with its authentic charm. Experience the joy of direct access to these high-quality, reasonably priced products, cultivated by the hands of local farmers. And remember, this city reveals its own unique wonders in every season, from the blossoming beauty of spring to the sun-soaked adventures of summer, and the enchanting landscapes that winter bestows upon.

Thanks to transportation networks connecting it with Khuzestan Province, and its proximity to the provinces of Isfahan, Markazi, Hamedan, and Kermanshah, Borujerd is easily accessible for residents from various areas.

## Literary return movement in the late eighteenth century

In many ways, Isfahan in the late eighteenth century was the perfect place for the 'literary return' movement to take shape, and in other ways it was not so advantageous. From the fall of the Safavids in 1722 until the early nineteenth century, Isfahan was a city in flux, ravaged by turmoil, natural disasters, famine and sieges by different political factions.

Isfahan was both geographically and figuratively at the crossroads of political actors competing for control during a transitional time in its history.

The turmoil of the times, especially following the termination of the Safavid Empire, is often presented as evidence that a definitive historical break occurred in Iranian history not to be resumed until the rise of the Qajars.

With the end of the Safavids the slate in Iran was wiped clean, so it goes, and any societal trends – literary or otherwise – that existed before and after were necessarily deemed disconnected from one another. Depicting the fall of the Safavids in such a way significantly

abets conventional misreadings of the emergence of what would become known as the 'literary return' movement.

Siphoning off Safavid times from what occurred afterwards excludes the recognition of any possible continuity in literary and cultural developments between the two periods. The result is an abstraction of the 'literary return' movement, removed from any previously established social or literary context.

Moreover, the correlating belief that the general turmoil of post-Safavid Iran militated against any discernible environment whereby poets could effectively engage with coterminous social and political structures paves the way for a conceptualization of 'literary return' as a singularly focused movement attendant to rekindling a classical poetic style.

Effectively removing any semblance of non-literary factors from the equation, either during Safavid or post-Safavid times means that no other explanation of the emergence of the 'literary return' movement re-

mains possible. According to such a rationale, it surely must have been a desire to 'return' to the style of the classical masters and expel any last vestige of the so-called 'Indian Style'.

The impact of social and political disruption certainly had a role in shaping the emergence of the 'literary return' movement, but, it neither entirely supplanted literary and social continuities between Safavid and post-Safavid times nor disallowed for the 'literary return' poets being attentive to their social surroundings.

During the mid-to-late eighteenth century, a changing cast of rulers and aspirants continually sought to control Isfahan. Not surprisingly, the city witnessed major periods of political instability, following its initial sacking by Afghan invaders in 1722. The number of groups attempting to gain control of Isfahan and the chaos and oppression ensuing from this jockeying for power are striking. The policies of rulers and mayors did not help. For example, a drought in 1740-1

was exacerbated by Nadir Shah (1736-47)'s policies, which both adversely affected planting and led to problems for residents in procuring food.

The situation following the death of Nader Shah in 1747 was by all accounts disastrous. Attacks, sieges, pillaging and raiding by invading armies followed.

A slight respite from this mayhem resulted from Karim Khan Zand's rule (1751-79), which according to one observer appeared like 'an island of relative calm and stability in an otherwise destructive period'. Even so, the Zand period did not protect Isfahan entirely from bouts of turbulence. During the oppressive rule of Hajji Muhammad Ranani, explored further below, the city also faced a severe famine in 1775 and an earthquake in 1778.

Following the death of Karim Khan Zand, a serious power vacuum ensued, and jockeying for dominance began anew. The situation in Isfahan devolved into anarchy. Battles between the Zands and Qajars followed.

