

Baraghan village, home to abundant historical and natural attractions



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Iranica Desk

Baraghan village is situated in Savojbolagh, just 13 kilometers from Karaj, Alborz Province. It boasts an ancient section and abundant gardens that are particularly appealing to tourists throughout the year, especially in the spring and summer. The *husseinieh* of Baraghan, where traditional Muharram mourning ceremonies are held annually, the historical Baraghan bridge, the ancient plane trees of Jaame Mosque, an old white poplar tree, and an ancient hill are among the unique attractions of this village.

The Shahroud and Sanj rivers, which originate from the central Alborz Mountains, flow past this village. Its bazaar and some old houses date back to the Qajar period.

In this village, an ancient tree with a lifespan of over 1,000 years can be seen, indicating the ancient history of Baraghan. The sour green plums known as *gojeh*



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sabz are considered one of the main and popular agricultural products of this village. The village has a texture of stone, adobe, and wood as the main materials used in its structures. However, the construction of summer villas in this area has altered its traditional texture, with new buildings predominantly adopting an imitation of urban architecture. Although the expansion of new buildings has no-

ticeably changed the traditional face of this village, the expanse of green gardens and farms around its rivers has bestowed a beautiful landscape upon this area. *Ta'zieh*, a religious performance held during the lunar month of Muharram marking the anniversary of the martyrdom of Imam Hussein (PBUH) and his companions, is considered a popular traditional ceremony of the village. The *ta'zieh* is performed during



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the first ten days of Muharram at the historical *husseinieh* of the village, attracting many people. According to the inscription on its entrance, the *husseinieh* dates back about 570 years. After entering the building, two-story vaulted passageways, separated by walls and wooden beams, are noticeable. These vaults are where mourners and spectators of the *ta'zieh* gather. On the western and eastern

sides of the *husseinieh*, there are five vaults, and on the northern side, there is an *ivan* (portico)-shaped vault, which is the residence of the *khan*, known as *khan neshin*. The ceiling of this *husseinieh* only covers the vaults and the *khan neshin*, while the central part, which is above the main platform and the place for performing the *ta'zieh*, is without a ceiling. In a corner of the *husseinieh* there is an old

pulpit, which is also considered a valuable historical relic.

Opposite the *husseinieh*, in its northern part, there is an ancient Jaame (Grand) Mosque of Baraghan, connected by a vestibule. In the courtyard of the Jaame Mosque, two ancient plane trees, one with a diameter of about 12 meters, and the other about 10 meters, are visible. The interior of the larger tree is completely hollow, while the smaller tree, located in the southern part, is fully rounded and green.

Baraghan village offers a variety of souvenirs, including mulberries, walnuts, honey, and dairy products. At the village's end, a winding path leads to the Karaj fire temple. Recently, 979 tourist-target villages in the country were assessed and ranked, based on four criteria: Attraction, infrastructure, development, and sustainability. Among these, 30 villages were recognized as top destinations, with Baraghan village achieving the fourteenth rank among them.

Soffeh Mountain: A haven of natural beauty and adventure in Isfahan



● wikipedia.org

In southern Isfahan, a strong, tall mountain stands as the protector of the city. This awe-inspiring mountain is a haven for those seeking relaxation on its green hills, climbers aiming to reach its peak, and visitors wanting to take a leisurely walk on Soffeh Mountain to behold the stunning views of the city,

both day and night.

This gorgeous mountain is part of the Zagros Mountains and stands at an elevation of 2,257 meters. It offers numerous routes to the top, ranging from easy to challenging, and the views are truly spectacular. Near the peak there are beautiful waterfalls and caves, making this

mountain a wonderful place to visit. Even from a distance, Soffeh Mountain is truly stunning.

Entertainments

In addition to its visual beauty, at the foothill of the magnificent Soffeh Mountain there is a great forest park where many inhabitants spend their leisure time.

The park features a cable cabin, bowling alley, playground, restaurants, and a zoological park, adding more charm to the area and making it one of the greatest attractions of the city. Although some areas may be crowded, there are peaceful spots to be found around Soffeh Mountain, especially at the top

of the mountain.

Rock climbing and breathtaking views

With its old rocky structure and suitable height, Soffeh Mountain provides an excellent location for rock climbing practice. The path to the top of the mountain is safe and has a

gentle incline. Depending on your level of preparedness, it typically takes about one to two hours to reach the peak. Locals often climb the mountain every Friday morning. While it may seem challenging, the breathtaking view of the entire city from the top makes it all worthwhile.



● stdconline.com