

Yasuj is full of natural wonders and landscapes



Yasuj Forest Park
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The city of Yasuj in Kohgiluyeh and Boyer-Ahmad Province, situated 1,870 meters above sea level on the slope of the Zagros Mountains, is a great destination for travelers from all across the country. With its ever-flowing Beshar and Mehrian rivers and oak forests, the city, which is home to the hospitable Lor people, ranks second in the country in terms of rainfall and snowfall. The most pristine natural sites have winding and unpaved roads, which create many challenges and difficulties for visitors; however, the tourism spots of Yasuj, located in the urban area, are easy destinations for travelers.

Forest Park

As a green area spanning over 1,000 hectares, Yasuj Forest Park is the largest of its kind in the southern part of the country. It is a distinctive natural attraction covered with oak and other local trees. Also known as Kuhestan Park, it is one of the most significant and well-known attractions of the city. The presence of numerous gazebos and hiking trails, as well as an asphalt road, has made the park a popular destination for those seeking recreation and exercise.

Coastal Park

The Coastal Park of Yasuj, located at the southern entrance of the city, is one of the most beautiful tourist sites in the region showcasing the interaction between humans and nature. Extending over an area of 14 hectares, the park which lies along the Beshar River hosts an amusement park that can create joyful moments for families and their children.

Waterfall Park

The Waterfall Park, located near the city center, with its abundant trees and amazing atmosphere,

creates an unforgettable memory in the minds of its visitors. Its pleasant weather, roaring rivers, fruit gardens, green pastures, and a beautiful waterfall have helped create a mesmerizing destination. With an area of eight hectares, each corner of the park manifests the traditional art and culture of the local people.

Mehrian Canyon

Mehrian village, situated between a river of the same name and Dena Mountain, with diverse trees such as oak, maple, plane, and wild grape, is another tourist destination near Yasuj. The flowing clear water in Mehrian Canyon, with a gentle slope along with the formation of charming waterfalls between thick trees, has helped create a captivating landscape in the area. Located on the road linking Yasuj to Oqlid, Mehrian Canyon is covered with green oak forests, walnut groves, and other unique scenes.

Ganjei Canyon

Approximately 10 kilometers from the northwestern border of Yasuj, there is an area with pleasant weather, a roaring river, and thick forests that attract a large number of tourists, especially during spring and winter. The canyon is located in a village of the same name where tall green trees provide shade over cool water springs. The songs of the birds, alongside the calming sounds of the wind and flowing water, refresh the souls of the visitors.

Souvenirs

Farshid Karimi, deputy head of Kohgiluyeh and Boyer-Ahmad Province's Cultural Heritage, Tourism, and Handicraft Organization, mentioned that thanks to its pristine landscapes and abundant natural and artificial attractions, the city of Yasuj is a popular destination for many tourists, especially in the summer. He referred to mountain plants, traditional handicrafts, and food items like curd, cooking oil, and honey as the main souvenirs of Yasuj.



Coastal Park
● rahbal.com



Waterfall Park
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Mehrian Canyon
● eligash.com

Ma'moureh Cemetery, a historical and cultural chronicle of Armenian presence in Chaharmahal and Bakhtiari Province



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The historical Ma'moureh Cemetery in Borujen, Chaharmahal and Bakhtiari Province, which was registered on Iran's National Heritage List in 2002, holds significant importance for artistic and stonemasonry research, as stated by archaeologist Khosrow Ahmadi in an interview with ISNA.

Discussing the history of Ma'moureh Cemetery, he noted that the presence of Armenians in Chaharmahal and Bakhtiari Province dates back to the Safavid era. "A group of Armenians arrived in the region under the direction of Shah Abbas Safavid and resided there for approximately 350 years," he added. He further mentioned that following the settlement of Armenians in the area, schools, churches,



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and cemeteries were established. The remaining structures provide valuable insight into the social, cultural, historical, and religious beliefs of the inhabitants for enthusiasts and researchers. Ahmadi highlighted the diverse stone inscriptions on the graves at Ma'moureh Cemetery, noting that the gravestones vary in size and design, with engraved patterns falling into five categories: botanical, ani-

mal, symbolic, objects, and tools. These engravings were tailored to depict the occupation, gender, and social status of the deceased individual.

The archaeologist elaborated that despite the name inscribed on the gravestone in the Armenian cemetery, the gender of the deceased can be deduced from the engraved patterns. He explained that angel and flower motifs were typically utilized for women, whereas symbols of the sun and human dignity were often engraved for men, based on their occupation, gender, and social standing.

Regarding the registration of 17 Armenian cemeteries on the National Heritage List, there are indications of Armenian presence in various parts of Chaharmahal and Bakhtiari Province. However, due to the absence of distinct gravestones and incomplete information, these areas have not been designated as national heritages. Therefore, proactive measures must be taken in this regard.

Ahmadi noted that the gravestones in Ma'moureh Cemetery date back to the Qajar and Pahlavi periods, with inscriptions in Armenian and dates according to the Gregorian calendar.

The archaeologist emphasized the importance of raising awareness among the public to preserve the historical significance of Ma'moureh Cemetery. He clarified that no artifacts were buried with the deceased.