

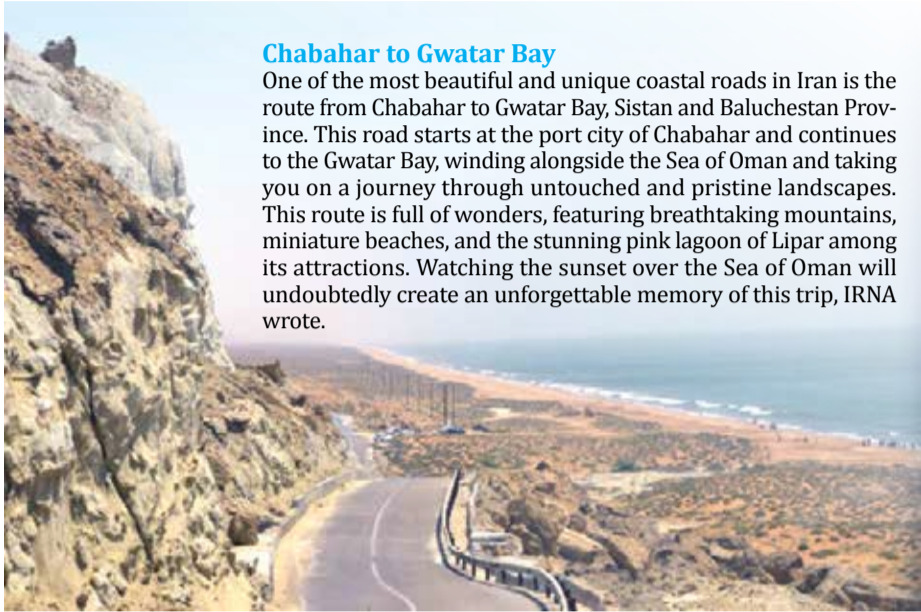
Coastal road adventures in Iran

Iranica Desk

Along the coasts of Iran, winding and beautiful roads extend, enchanting every traveler with their pristine nature and picturesque views. These roads provide a fantastic opportunity to see azure beaches, dense forests, and native villages. Most coastal routes tell a story of the sea, mountains, forests, and local people, offering a unique and different travel experience. In this article, we invite you on a different journey through the best coastal roads of Iran to discover the hidden beauties of these paths.

Chabahar to Gwatar Bay

One of the most beautiful and unique coastal roads in Iran is the route from Chabahar to Gwatar Bay, Sistan and Baluchestan Province. This road starts at the port city of Chabahar and continues to the Gwatar Bay, winding alongside the Sea of Oman and taking you on a journey through untouched and pristine landscapes. This route is full of wonders, featuring breathtaking mountains, miniature beaches, and the stunning pink lagoon of Lipar among its attractions. Watching the sunset over the Sea of Oman will undoubtedly create an unforgettable memory of this trip, IRNA wrote.



Jahaan Road

Jahaan Road is considered one of the most beautiful and famous tourist attractions in Kish, Hormozgan Province. This road encircles the island like a shining gem on a ring, showcasing stunning views of pristine nature and beautiful beaches of the Persian Gulf.



Noshahr to Noor Road

The coastal road from Noshahr to Noor, Mazandaran Province, offers an option for driving near the Caspian Sea. Along this route, you can enjoy various tourist attractions, including the Sisangan forest, which represents a natural example of the lowland forests of northern Iran.

From north to south, Iran's coasts are filled with picturesque landscapes and natural attractions, each possessing a unique story. The coastal roads of Iran are a great opportunity to explore these beauties and provide an unforgettable experience of nature, culture, and local life. If you are looking for a special and different journey, choosing one of these roads could bring you a beautiful and delightful memory.

Parsian to Bandar-e-Moqam Road

The coastal road of Bandar-e-Moqam, also known as the Parsian to Bandar-e-Moqam road, in Hormozgan Province, is one of the most beautiful coastal routes in the country. This unique road presents tourists with extraordinary and unrivaled views by combining breathtaking mountain and sea landscapes. Its location at the confluence of mountains and sea enhances its beauty significantly.



Evolution of Persian calligraphy

Persian calligraphy is renowned worldwide for its elegance and fluidity, holding a special place in Iranian culture. Its history spans centuries, evolving from ancient scripts through Islamic influence to the unique Persian styles we recognize today. More than just a writing system, Persian calligraphy is a form of expression, devotion, and pride for the Persian people. In this article, we'll explore the history of

Persian calligraphy and the development of its various styles, surfiran.com wrote.

Roots of Persian calligraphy

The origins of Persian calligraphy are as ancient as Iran itself, with the earliest scripts being Old Persian cuneiform and Pahlavi. The Islamic conquest of Persia in 651 CE marked a significant transformation, introducing the Arabic script to replace older writing

systems. Persian scribes adapted the Arabic alphabet, adding four letters to the original 28 to better accommodate the sounds of the Persian language. This adaptation resulted in the 32-letter Persian alphabet, laying the foundation for the many styles of Persian calligraphy that followed. After adopting the Arabic script in the 7th century, early Persian calligraphers primarily used Kufic, characterized by its angular shapes and bold lines. Kufic was well-suited for religious and monumental inscriptions, appearing on mosques, coins, and significant buildings. Iranian calligraphers soon infused their own aesthetic into the Kufic script, softening the lines and introducing beautiful symmetry that reflected Persian artistic sensibilities.

Development of calligraphic styles

As Persian calligraphy evolved, the renowned calligrapher Ibn Muqlah and his brother established six main styles: Mohaqqaq, Reyhan, Sols (also known as Thuluth), Naskh, Toqi, and Reqa. These styles introduced the first formal rules of calligraphy, specifying proportions for each letter to create harmony and beauty. Ibn Muqlah's system,

known as "proportional script," elevated Persian calligraphy from a simple writing technique to an art form, where each line and curve held meaning and adhered to specific guidelines. For nearly four centuries, these six styles were practiced by calligraphers throughout Persia.

Among these styles, two gained particular popularity in the 11th century: Naskh, derived from Kufic and primarily used in books and manuscripts, and Thuluth, favored for decorative purposes and larger inscriptions in mosques and public spaces. In the 12th century, the Taliq script emerged as a blend of Naskh and Reqa. Known for its flowing, connected letters, Taliq became a versatile and expressive style, commonly used for Persian poetry and bureaucratic documents. By the end of the 13th century, it was widely adopted in the chanceries of Persian states.

The 14th century saw the rise of Nastaliq, often referred to as the "bride of calligraphy." Developed by Mir Ali Tabrizi, this style elegantly combined elements of Naskh and Taliq, creating a fluid form that captures the rhythm and beauty of the Persian language. Nastaliq became the

favored style for Persian literature, embraced by poets like Hafez and Rumi. Today, it remains the most celebrated form of Persian calligraphy, admired for its refined, delicate strokes that require years of practice to master.

In the 17th century, Persian calligraphy took another turn with *Shekasteh*, or "broken script." Created as a faster, more practical version of Nastaliq, *Shekasteh* is characterized by overlapping letters and compact strokes. Initially developed for administrative documents, it quickly gained appreciation for its beauty. Darvish Abdolmajid Taleqani is considered a

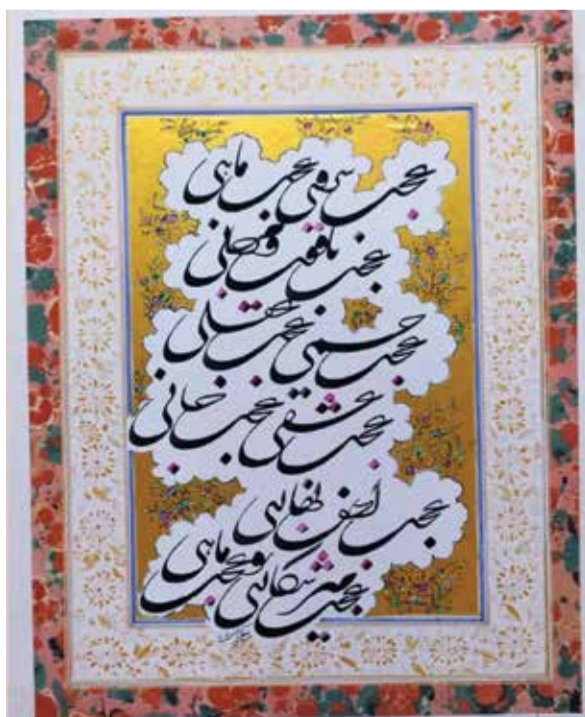
master of *Shekasteh*, infusing creativity and freedom into the style.

The 20th century witnessed a revival of Persian calligraphy, with artists like Mohammad Ehsai and Reza Mafi breathing new life into traditional scripts by merging them with modern abstract art techniques. Today, Persian calligraphy is showcased in galleries worldwide and has evolved into "calligrafitti," a blend of calligraphy and street art that introduces this rich tradition to a new generation.

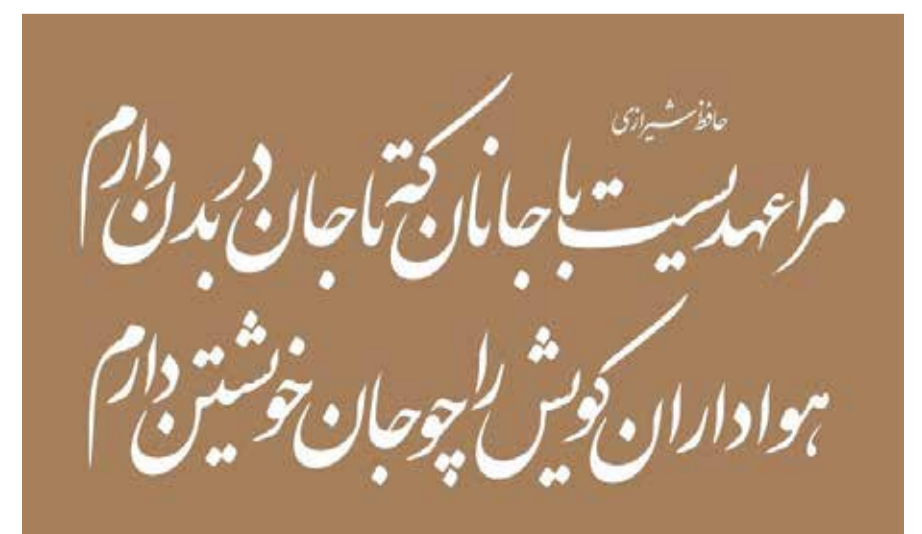
Persian calligraphy in art and architecture

Persian calligraphy ex-

tends beyond paper; it has become a significant aspect of Persian art and architecture, adorning the walls of mosques, palaces, and public buildings. The Shah Mosque in Isfahan is a stunning example, featuring intricate Thuluth and Nastaliq inscriptions in vibrant blue and gold tiles. Calligraphy also embellishes ceramics, metalwork, textiles, and everyday objects, reflecting the Iranian love for the written word and calligraphy as an art form. These pieces, often found in the bazaars of Isfahan, Shiraz, and other Iranian cities, transform ordinary items into expressions of art and beauty.



Taliq Script



Nastaliq Script