

# Revitalize summer with Golestan’s natural wonders

Iranica Desk

With the arrival of mid-summer and the steady rise in temperatures across most parts of the country, many people begin searching for destinations where they can escape the sweltering, oppressive heat and unwind in a cool and peaceful natural setting. Golestan Province, with its extraordinary biodiversity and pleasant, moderate climate, is located in the northeast of Iran and is widely recognized as one of the country’s most popular and well-loved tourist destinations. Boasting the ancient Hyrcanian forests — listed as a UNESCO World Natural Heritage site — along with abundant waterfalls, lush summer pastures, and stunning natural landscapes, Golestan offers a rare and exceptional opportunity for those seeking to experience a truly different kind of summer holiday, chnair wrote.

Alangdareh forest

Alangdareh Forest, one of the crown jewels among the natural attractions of Golestan, lies just outside the city of Gorgan. Towering trees and winding pathways weave together to form an immersive environment that feels as though it belongs in a fairy tale. Strolling deep into this enchanting forest, hearing the soothing melodies of songbirds and the gentle babble of crystal-clear streams, is an unforgettable experience that can provide a welcome reprieve from the scorching heat of summer. The cool breeze drifting through the canopy and the invigorating freshness of the air not only revive the spirit but also help re-



Alangdareh Forest  
● safarmarket.com



Naharkhoran Forest Park  
● pinorest.com

store both mental and physical well-being for every visitor who ventures into its heart.

Kaboudwall Waterfall

Kaboudwall Waterfall, standing proudly as the tallest waterfall in Golestan Province, is located near the town of Aliabad Katul. With a drop of more than 20 meters, it presents a majestic sight complemented by the powerful, resonant roar of cascading water. Beyond its breathtaking beauty, the surrounding fresh and cool air makes it an ideal location for summer picnics and a perfect

refuge from the noise and chaos of urban life. Owing to its untouched, pristine surroundings, Kaboudwall Waterfall is considered a paradise for nature lovers, offering them the chance to spend an unhurried, serene day amidst unspoiled nature.

Naharkhoran Forest Park

Naharkhoran Forest Park, located in the city of Gorgan, is another beloved hotspot for summer visitors. This expansive park is well-equipped with amenities, including traditional eateries, numerous walking and hiking



Kaboudwall Waterfall  
● irangard.com



Ziarat village  
● kojaro.com

trails, and broad swaths of lush greenery, making it a superb choice for families and travelers alike to spend leisurely, enjoyable hours. The pleasant climate, combined with the sheltering shade of towering trees, creates a haven from the summer sun, attracting thousands of visitors every year.

Ziarat village

Ziarat village, a charming and refreshingly cool highland retreat situated near Gorgan, is celebrated for its mineral springs, lush surroundings, and a variety

of hiking trails. This mountain village is especially appealing to those who seek tranquility and fresher, cooler air during the summer months. Every year, it welcomes waves of travelers eager to escape the stifling heat of urban areas, heading toward the highlands to create cherished memories amidst nature’s beauty. Beyond its serene landscapes, Ziarat Village offers visitors a chance to immerse themselves in the local culture, savor traditional cuisine, and learn about the customs and heritage of its residents.

A blend of rich culture and history

Golestan is far more than a land of natural wonders; it is also a living tapestry woven from the rich culture and deep history of its people, which blends seamlessly with the province’s scenic splendor to make any journey here even more rewarding. Spending a night in a traditional local home and indulging in authentic regional dishes, alongside exploring untouched landscapes, adds depth and authenticity to the travel experience, ensuring memories that will last for years. With such remarkable features, Golestan Province welcomes thousands of domestic and international visitors each year — all in search of cooler climates, revitalizing landscapes, and vibrant moments filled with joy and energy. Summer in Golestan is not just a season — it is an invitation to restore your spirit and reconnect with nature. Here, you can sit under the shade of ancient, towering trees, listen to the bubbling of nearby streams, and lose yourself in the harmonious chorus of birdsong, casting away the fatigue of everyday life. If you are planning to spend this summer in a cool, tranquil setting surrounded by natural beauty, there is no better choice than Golestan Province. All it takes is a bit of planning, packing your bags, and setting off toward this emerald jewel of northeastern Iran, where a summer of unique experiences and unforgettable memories awaits. Golestan is ready to embrace you warmly and welcome you into the heart of its untouched paradise.

# Mostowfi House; a cultural oasis in Shushtar

Mostowfi House in Shushtar, Khuzestan Province, dates back to the Qajar dynasty. This complex includes a mosque, public bath, and bridge, all built under the orders of Mohammad Ali Mostowfi during the reign of Muzaffar-Al-Din Shah. The architect was Mohammad Taghi Memar. The complex also houses a museum, restaurant, handicrafts gallery, and photography studio. It has been designated as the official UNESCO center in Khuzestan Province. The traditional interior design, scenic view of the Shadorwan River, and authentic local cui-

sine make the monument one of Shushtar’s prime tourist destinations. The house is divided into two sections: Zananeh and Biruni, both offering views of the Shadorwan weir-dam and the Shatit River, a branch of the Karun River. The Biruni section consists of doorways, corridors, rooms surrounding a vestibule, while the Zananeh (women) section features a central courtyard, alcove, porch, reception rooms (divided into summer and winter areas), and windcatchers. The structure is primarily built from clay brick, and stucco.

The main doorway is located on the west side of the complex and leads to the central courtyard through a narrow corridor flanked by two rooms. The square-shaped courtyard is paved with rectangular bricks. On the eastern side of the mansion, there is an octagonal pool. Along this axis lies a pavilion and a smaller rounded pool. The pavilion is adorned with traditional Karbandi and Rasmibandi decorative techniques. Next to the eastern side of the mansion is a wide, flat porch supported by two octagonal columns, two half-columns, and

three barrel vaults. Some areas near the porch rise to two stories. The porch roof features three large windcatchers — the two on the sides are octagonal, while the central one is quadrilateral. The central windcatcher ventilates the porch, with the others providing airflow to the basement. On the northern side, the mansion borders a flat corridor measuring one meter in height and eight meters in width. This corridor connects the northwestern and southwestern sections of the complex and is supported by nine rounded brick columns.

