# Farakhin Lake welcoming visitors with serenity, adventure





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#### Iranica Desk

Mazandaran Province is a region rich with attractions for all seasons, welcoming travelers from across Iran. This land, with its vast beauty and attractions in summer and autumn, ranks among the best travel destinations for mental and spiritual refreshment.

Among all the well-known places in Mazandaran Province, the Farakhin Lake, located in the jurisdiction of Nowshahr, holds a legendary and little-known existence for tourism enthusiasts. This lake, with an area of approximately half a hectare and an elevation of 790 meters above sea level, is considered one of the smallest lakes in the province, IRNA wrote.

The water of this lake is supplied by upstream springs, including the Farakhin spring, waterfalls, and snowfall and rain. Its presence among tall trees, combined with water of a deep blue color, gives it a unique charm and beauty. The

feeling of peace accompanied by the sounds of nature, including birdsong, provides the perfect excuse to escape the urban environment.

If you want to reach this lake, you should enter Karaj-Chalus road, and after passing five kilometers from the city of Marzanabad, you will reach the Kandolus road. Then, after traveling 13 kilometers, you will enter the road to Vesar village. From this village to the lake, there is about a 15 kilometer distance. Keep in mind that due to some parts of this road being unpaved, traveling with ordinary cars can be somewhat difficult, and you will need more equipped vehicles such as off-road cars.

Hiking: The hiking trail in the forests surrounding Farakhin Lake or the path leading to this lake is one of the most beautiful routes; therefore, by wearing appropriate shoes, you can enjoy the vegetation along the lake's edge and create lasting memories with the beautiful Hyrcanian forests.

**Off-road driving:** The road leading to the lake, due to its unusual conditions and uneven terrain, is one of the suitable paths for off-road drivers. To fully enjoy the excitement, be sure to hire a professional driver.

Cycling: Given the natural conditions, the route to the lake is ideal for cycling as a fun and healthy recreational activity. Be sure to plan this with the help of a professional guide.

**Photography:** Capturing beautiful moments of the scenery and your companions is one of the enjoyable activities at Fara-

khin Lake. Make sure to take full advantage of this for creating

memorable experiences.

**Boating:** Although boating is not possible on the lake itself, you can arrange to bring a small inflatable boat for transport so that you can enjoy peaceful moments on Farakhin Lake.

**Cycling:** Some prefer to reach this lake by bicycle to enjoy the journey even more. In this case, you can take advantage of cycling tours organized by professional guides in this field.

**Setting up tents and camping:** If you plan to spend more time

by the edge of Farakhin Lake, the best and most solitary way is to set up tents in nature. Keep in mind that this should be done with companions, a professional guide, and with all the necessary basic equipment for overnight camping, as this area lacks essential facilities such as restrooms, accommodations, electricity, and telephone service.

#### **Best time to visit**

Farakhin Lake is beautiful throughout the year, but when planning a trip, it is important to consider the conditions. For example, winter travel is very challenging due to snowfall and slippery roads in the northern regions, requiring professional equipment. However, spring, summer, and autumn offer more favorable conditions.

It is important to note that, given the pleasant weather and the lake's abundant water, the best time to visit is from mid-April to mid-September. Although autumn also offers a unique expe-

rience with the diverse colors of the leaves and the distinct beauty of the surrounding scenery, making it an exceptional time for exploration.

#### **Important tips**

- Since Farakhin Lake lacks basic facilities, it is recommended to travel in groups and with a guide so that you can assist each other in case of any problems.
- The route to Farakhin Lake involves specific complexities, so make sure to use navigation tools such as GPS during your trin.
- Driving on the road to the lake requires a professional driver; be sure to hire an experienced driver for this purpose.
- As this area is considered a pristine natural environment, please make every effort to preserve and protect its ecosystem.
- Be sure to purchase essential supplies, including food, before the trip, as there are no stores in this area to buy such items.

## Feast your eyes on Chahkuh Canyon's unique landscape

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Chahkuh Canyon, one of the most beautiful and distinctive geosites within the Qeshm Geopark, is situated approximately 70 to 95 kilometers northwest of Qeshm Island, adjacent to the village of Chahu Sharghi. This magnificent canyon is renowned not only for its geological significance but also for its historic role in storing and supplying water to the local community.

Living in a region devoid of per-

manent water sources like rivers, dams, and wells has been a longstanding challenge for inhabitants of arid areas. To overcome this, residents of Qeshm employed various water conservation methods including storing rainwater in underground reservoirs, creating ponds, constructing water cisterns, and digging qanats and wells, chtn.ir wrote. Chahkuh Canyon acts as a natural channel for rainwater flow, prompting locals to dig wells along its pathway to capture and

preserve water for use during dry seasons. The canyon's impermeable rock formations prevent rainwater seepage, allowing water to remain accessible for prolonged periods.

According to geological principles, water naturally flows toward the lowest point or base level. Along its course, it encounters natural barriers such as hills and rocks and gradually carves its path by infiltrating cracks and fissures in the stone. The distinctive shape of Chahkuh Canyon is

the outcome of this natural erosional process spanning millions of years.

Qeshm Island's geological history, which stretches back several million years, includes multiple episodes of submersion under the sea followed by emergence. Ripple marks, known as ripple marks, found at the canyon's entrance reveal that this area was once a seashore.

Distinctive spherical and hollow rock formations called "pigeon-hole cavities," formed through chemical weathering, adorn the canyon walls. Moisture in the air, combined with salt particles — primarily due to the canyon's proximity to a salt dome — settle on these walls, causing the rock layers to flake. This cyclical weathering process has gradually widened the cavities, shaping the canyon's current unique features. Additionally, a fascinating phenomenon known as the Dig-e Jen, or "Genie's Cauldron," exists on the canyon floor. These cavities form due to the swirling motion

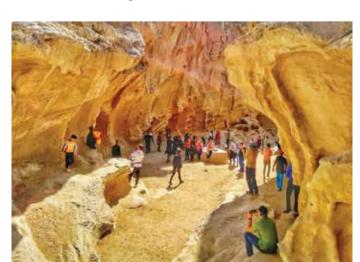
bles trapped inside these hollows cause the water to strike against the walls, steadily enlarging their diameter and depth over time. Chahkuh Canyon, with its exceptional geological features and historical importance in water conservation, stands as one of the

of water within rock grooves; peb-

tional geological features and historical importance in water conservation, stands as one of the premier geosites of the Qeshm Geopark. As a treasured natural heritage site, it holds considerable promise for promotion, preservation, and drawing visitors from both inside Iran and abroad.







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