



## Iran (Bradt Travel Guide)

By Hilary Smith, Patricia Baker

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**Iran (Bradt Travel Guide)** By Hilary Smith, Patricia Baker

Known as the jewel of Central Asia, Iran's cities are packed with gilded mosques and blue-mosaic shrines built in honour of the country's greatest leaders. Its people are generous and its terrain ranges from the sands of the Persian Gulf to the Alburz Mountains in the north. The expert authors give first-hand descriptions of attractions ranging from the exquisite mosques of Isfahan and the museums and palaces of Tehran to remote, spectacular mountain hikes. New maps and up-to-date information on all the basics - hotels, restaurants, businesses and shops - help you to uncover the mysteries of ancient Persepolis, to enjoy a soak and scrub in a local hamam, or to pick up a pair of giveh slippers or a Persian rug in Kirman's bazaar.

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#### Review

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Wander through the ancient ruins of Persepolis and discover the glory of the Persian empire

Buy a carpet at Esfahan’s bazaar

Watch the sun set over Zoroastrian ‘towers of silence’

Marvel at the view from Tehran’s Milad Tower

Read advice on tour operators, documentation and independent travel

Iran may not be at the top of your wish-list of destinations, but it’s worth thinking again. The country offers plenty to interest the discerning traveller: jewel-like gardens of the Bagh-e Eram in Shiraz, the troglodyte village of Kandovan and, perhaps surprisingly, ski slopes in the Alborz Mountains. Take time to explore the bazaars, visit museums and mosques, or take a break in a lively café and enjoy the friendliness and warmth of the Iranian people.

With expanded hotel and restaurant listings, and improved mapping, this fourth edition reveals the real Iran.

#### About the Author

Patricia Baker was an independent lecturer and researcher specializing in Islamic art. She first visited Iran in 1971 and subsequently went back numerous times. Hilary Smith is an independent lecturer focusing particularly on the cultural history of central Asia.

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