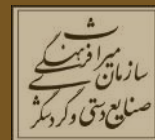





IRANIAN WORLD HERITAGE SITES



ICHHTO

Iranian Cultural Heritage Handicrafts and Tourism Organization



Islamic republic of Iran enjoys various tangible and intangible heritage signify its cultural and ritual diversities, rich history of civilization, some epochal monuments of significance, unique natural sites and rituals. Benefited from rich history stands for gifted people who created this prosperous civilization are to be preserved and transferred to the next generations as a treasure.

The following pages present an overview of information pertaining to Iranian World Heritage sites inscribed on the World Heritage list by UNESCO 1979-2018.



Tchogha Zanbil

1250 B.C

Cairo and Luxor

22-26 October 1979

Criteria: (iii)(iv)

Ref: 113

The ruins of the holy city of the kingdom of Elam, are found at Tchogha Zanbil. Founded 1250 B.C, the city remained unfinished after it was invaded by Ashurbanipal, as shown by the thousands of unused bricks left at the site.



Persepolis

518 B.C

Cairo and Luxor

22-26 October 1979

Criteria: (i)(iii)(vi)

Ref: 114

Persepolis was the capital of the Achaemenid Empire Founded by Darius I. It was built on an immense half-artificial, half-natural terrace, where the king of kings created an impressive palace complex inspired by Mesopotamian models.



Meidan Emam, Esfahan

17th century A.D


Cairo and Luxor

22-26 October 1979

Criteria: (i)(v)(vi)

Ref: 115

The Meidan Built by Shah Abbas I (Safavid Ruler) at the beginning of the 17th century, these monuments are an impressive testimony to the level of social and cultural life in Persia during the Safavid era.



Takht-e Soleyman

6 th century A.D

Paris, UNESCO Headquarters

30 June - 5 July 2003

Criteria: (i)(ii)(iii)(iv)(vi)

Ref: 1077

The archaeological site of Takht-e Soleyman, is located in north-western Iran. The site includes the principal Zoroastrian sanctuary partly rebuilt in the Ilkhanid (Mongol) period (13th century) as well as a temple of the Sasanian period (6th and 7th centuries) dedicated to Anahita.



Pasargadae

6 th century B.C

Suzhou, China

28 June - 7 July 2004

Criteria: (i)(ii)(iii)(iv)

Ref: 1106

The first dynastic capital of the Achaemenid Empire, founded by Cyrus II the Great, in Pars, homeland of the Persians, in the 6th century BC. Its palaces, gardens and the mausoleum of Cyrus are outstanding examples of the first phase of royal Achaemenid art and architecture and exceptional testimonies of Persian civilization.



Bam and its Cultural Landscape

6 th century B.C

Suzhou, China

28 June - 7 July 2004

Criteria: (ii)(iii)(iv)(v)

Ref: 1208bis

Bam is situated in southern edge of the Iranian high plateau. The origins of Bam traced back to the Achaemenid period. Its heyday was from the 7th to 11th centuries. Arg-e Bam is the most representative example of a fortified medieval town built in vernacular technique using mud layers.



Soltaniyeh

1302 A.D

Durban, South Africa

10 - 17 July 2005

Criteria: (i)(iii)(vi)

Ref: 1188

Soltaniyeh is one of the outstanding examples of Persian architecture and a key monument in the development of its Islamic architecture. The octagonal building is crowned with a 50 m tall dome covered in turquoise-blue faience and surrounded by eight slender minarets. It is the earliest existing example of the double-shelled dome in Iran.



Bisotun

521 B.C

Vilnius, Lithuania

8 - 16 July 2006

Criteria: (ii)(iii)

Ref: 1222

The principal monument of Bisotun archaeological site is the bas-relief and cuneiform inscription ordered by Darius I, The Great, when he rose to the throne of the Persian Empire, 521 BC. This is the only known monumental text of the Achaemenids to document the re-establishment of the Empire by Darius I.



Armenian Monastic Ensemble of Iran

7th - 17th century A.D

Quebec City , Canada

2 - 10 July 2008

Criteria: (ii)(iii)(vi)

Ref: 1262

The Armenian Monastic Ensembles of Iran, in the north-west of the country, consists of three monastic ensembles of the Armenian Christian faith. These edifices are examples of outstanding universal value of the Armenian architectural and decorative traditions. They bear testimony to very important interchanges with the other regional cultures, in particular the Byzantine, Orthodox and Persian. They are the last regional remains of this culture that are still in a satisfactory state of integrity and authenticity. Furthermore, as places of pilgrimage, the monastic ensembles are living witnesses of Armenian religious traditions through the centuries.



Shushtar Historical Hydraulic System

6th century B.C


Seville , Spain

22 - 30 July 2009

Criteria: (i)(ii)(v)

Ref: 1315

This masterpiece of creative genius, traced back to Darius. It involved the creation of two main diversion canals on the river Karun one of which, Gargar canal, is still in use providing water to the city of Shushtar via a series of tunnels that supply water to mills.



Sheikh Safi al-din Khanegah and Shrine Ensemble in Ardabil

16th century A.D

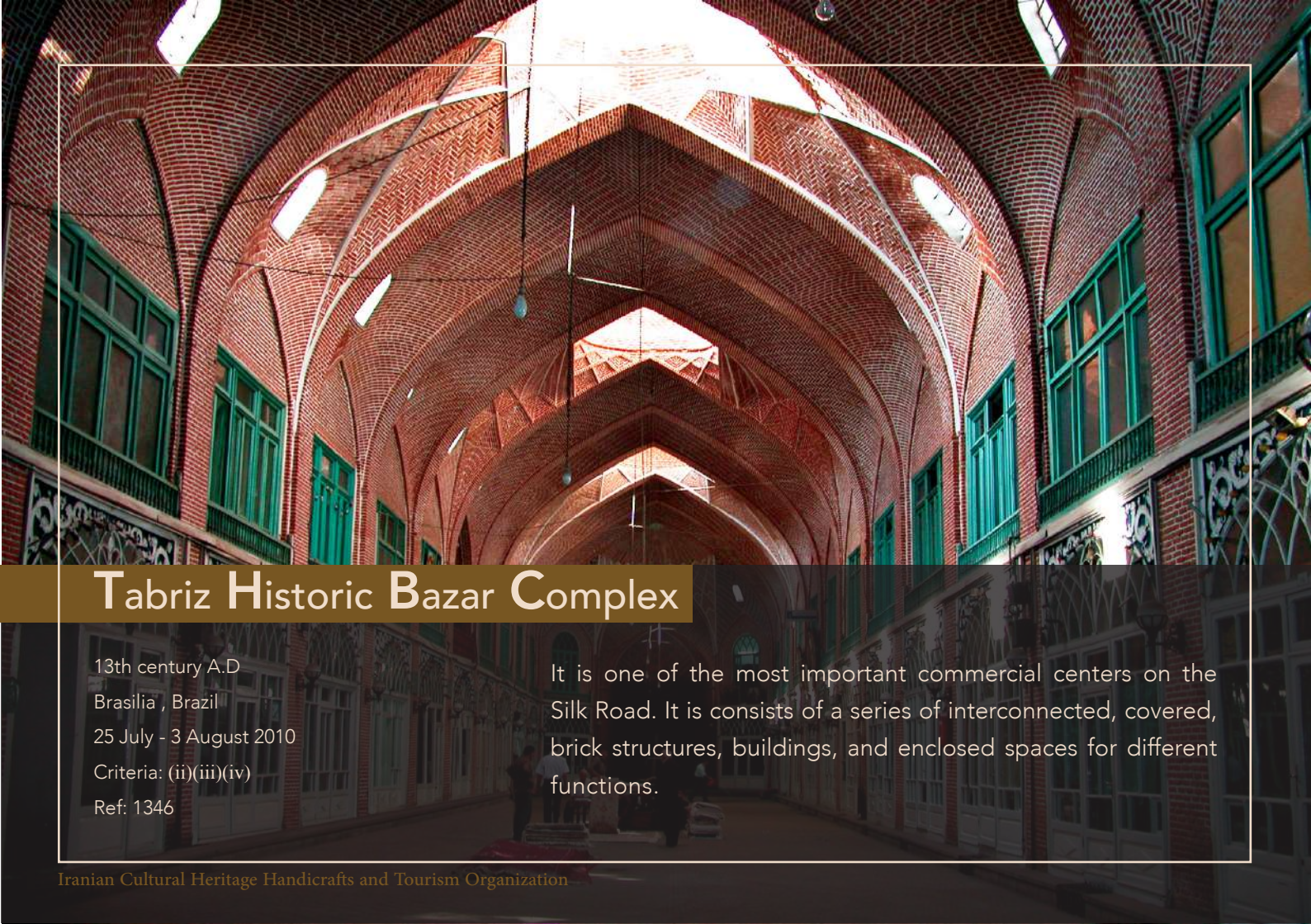
Brasilia , Brazil

25 July - 3 August 2010

Criteria: (i)(ii)(iv)

Ref: 1345

This place of spiritual retreat in the Sufi tradition uses Iranian traditional architectural forms to maximize use of available space to accommodate a variety of functions (including a library, a mosque, a school, mausolea, a cistern, a hospital, kitchens, a bakery, and some offices)



Tabriz Historic Bazar Complex

13th century A.D

Brasilia , Brazil

25 July - 3 August 2010

Criteria: (ii)(iii)(iv)

Ref: 1346

It is one of the most important commercial centers on the Silk Road. It consists of a series of interconnected, covered, brick structures, buildings, and enclosed spaces for different functions.



The Persian Garden

6th B.C - 19TH century A.D
 Paris , UNESCO Headquarters
 19 - 29 June 2011
 Criteria: (i)(ii)(iii)(iv)(vi)
 Ref: 1222

These nine garden exemplify the diversity of Persian Garden designs that evolved and adapted to different climate conditions while retaining principles that have their roots in the times of Cyrus, 6th century BC. The Gardens always divided into four sectors, with water playing an important role for both irrigation and ornamentation, the Persian garden was conceived to symbolize Eden and the four Zoroastrian elements of sky, earth, water and plants. They have influenced the art of garden design as far as India Spain.



Masjed-e Jame of Isfahan

9th - 19th century A.D

Saint Petersburg ,

Russian Federation

24 June - 6 July 2012

Criteria: (ii)

Ref: 1397

The Mosque is located in the historic center of Isfahan, and can be seen as a stunning illustration of the evolution of mosque architecture over twelve centuries. It is the oldest preserved edifice of its type in Iran and prototype for later mosque designs throughout Central Asia. Is also the first Islamic building that adapted the Four-courtyard layout of Sassanid palaces to Islamic religious architecture.



Gonbad-e Qabus

1006 A.D

Saint Petersburg ,

Russian Federation

24 June - 6 July 2012

Criteria: (i)(ii)(iii)(iv)

Ref: 1398

The 53 m high tomb is the only remaining evidence of Jorjan, a former center of arts and science that was destroyed during the Mongols invasion in the 14th and 15th centuries. It is an outstanding and technologically innovative example of Islamic architecture that influenced sacral building in Iran, Anatolia and Central Asia.



Golestan Palace

17th century A.D

Phnom Penh , Cambodia

16 - 27 June 2013

Criteria: (ii)(iii)(iv)

Ref: 1422

The lavish Golestan Palace is a masterpiece of the Qajar era, embodying the successful integration of earlier Persian crafts and architecture with western influences. The walled Palace, one of the oldest groups of buildings in Tehran, became the seat of government of the Qajar family, which came into power in 1779 and made Tehran the capital of the country.



Shahr-i Sokhta

5th millennium B.C

Doha , Qatar

15 - 25 June 2014

Criteria: (ii)(iii)(iv)

Ref: 1456

shahr-i sokhta meaning burnt city ,is located at the junction of bronze age trade routes crossing the Iranian plateau. the remains. The remains of the mudbrick city represent the emergence of the first complex societies in eastern Iran. Founded around 3200 BC.



Cultural Landscape of Maymand

1th millennium B.C

Bonn , Germany

28 June - 8 July 2015

Criteria: (v)

Ref: 1423 rev

It is a self-contained, semi-arid area at the end of a valley at the southern extremity of Iran's central mountains. The villagers are semi-nomadic agro pastoralists. This cultural landscape is an example of a system that appears to have been more widespread in the past and involves the movement of people rather than animals.



Susa

5th millennium BCE -

13th century BCE

Bonn , Germany

28 June - 8 July 2015

Criteria: (i)(ii)(iii)(iv)

Ref: 1455

This property encompasses a group of archaeological mounds rising on the eastern side of the Shavur River, & Ardeshir's palace. The excavated architectural monuments include administrative, residential and palatial structures. The site bears exceptional testimony to the Elamite, Persian and Parthian cultural traditions, which have largely disappeared.



The Persian Qanat

~ 2500 - 100 years ago

Istanbul , Turkey

10 - 20 July 2016

Criteria: (iii)(iv)

Ref: 1506

Throughout the arid regions of Iran, agricultural and permanent settlements are supported by the ancient qanat system of tapping alluvial aquifers at the heads of valleys and conducting the water along underground tunnels by gravity, often over many kilometers. The eleven qanats representing this system include rest areas for workers, water reservoirs and watermills.



Lut Desert

~ 208.5 million years ago

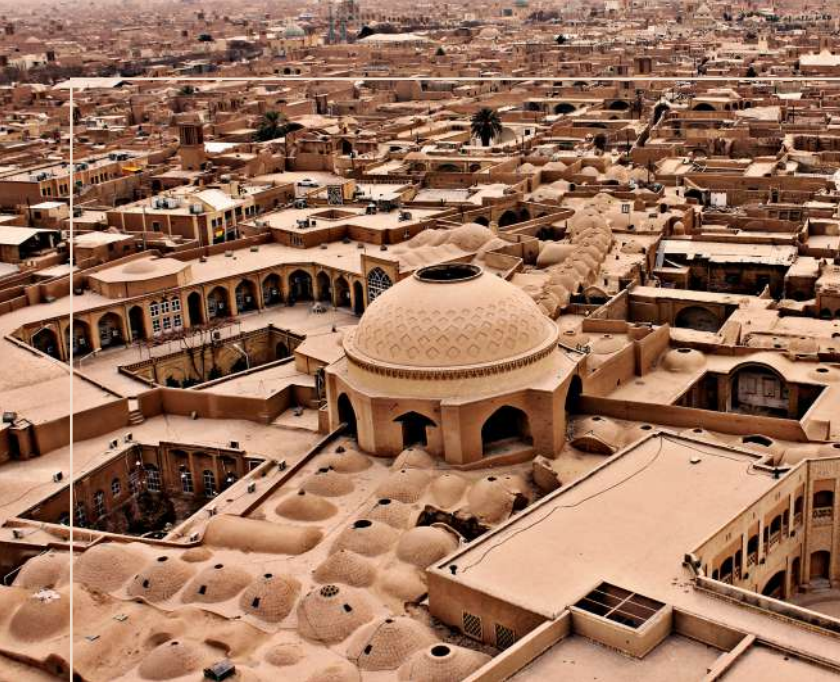
Istanbul , Turkey

10 - 20 July 2016

Criteria: (vii)(viii)

Ref: 1505

The Lut Desert, is located in the south-east of Iran. The site presents some of the most spectacular examples of Aeolian yarding landforms (massive corrugated ridges). It also contains extensive stony deserts and dune fields. The property represents an exceptional example of ongoing geological processes.



Historic City of Yazd

Early Islamic era-Present

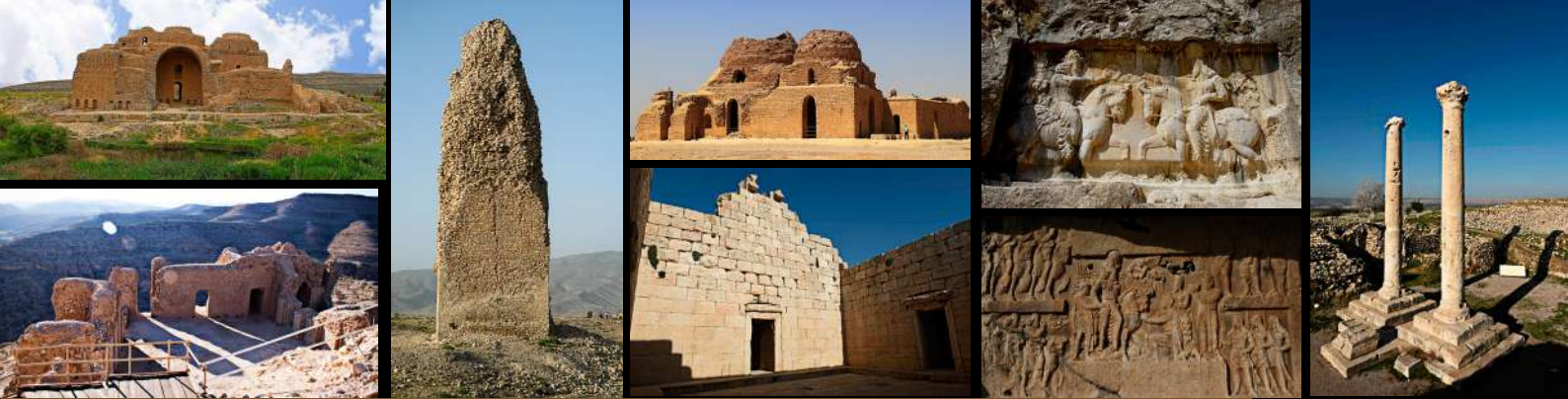
Krakow , Poland

2 - 12 July 2017

Criteria: (iii)(v)

Ref: 1544

The City of Yazd is located within the Iranian plateau, 270 km south-east of Isfahan, close to the Spice and Silk Roads. It bears living testimony to the use of limited resources for survival in the desert. Water is supplied to the city through a qanat system developed to draw underground water.



Sassanid Archaeological Landscape of Fars Region

224 - 660 A.D

Manama , Bahrain

24 June - 4 July 2018

Criteria: (ii)(iii)(v)

Ref: 1568

The eight archaeological sites situated in three geographical areas in the southeast of Fars Province: Firuzabad , Bishapur and Sarvestan. The fortified structures, palaces and city plans date back to the earliest and latest times of the Sassanian Empire, which stretched across the region. Among these sites is the capital built by the founder of the dynasty. Ardashir Papakan, as well as a city and architectural structures of his successor, shapur I. the archaeological landscape reflects the optimized utilization of natural topography and bears witness to the influence of Achaemenid and Parthian cultural traditions and of Roman art, which had a significant impact on the architecture of the Islamic era.