



500-year-old ceremonial bath unearthed

Archaeologists in the Peruvian Andes have discovered an Inca bathing complex built half a millennia ago, which they believe may have served the elite of the sprawling empire that once dominated large swathes of South America. Peru is home to hundreds of archaeological sites across the country.

Shemiran, a spectacular region in northern Tehran



Ahar village
tishneh.com



Shekrab waterfall
blog.rahbal.com



Meygun
wikipedia.org



Meygun
wikipedia.org



Sepid Kamar Chal Recreation Center
balad.ir

Iranica Desk

Most people travel to Tehran for business and commercial purposes, thus they return to their hometown after a few days. However, it is recommended that if you are planning to make a trip to Tehran, find free time to enjoy nature tourism in Shemiran.

Also known as Shemiranat, Shemiran is a region in the northern part of Tehran, on the slopes of Alborz Mountains. Due to its green environment and mild weather, the area is spectacular in the spring.

According to IRNA, Shemiran can be regarded as the tourism pole of Tehran Province. Its soaring mountains, cherry orchards, old palaces, museums and green villages dazzle the eyes of every viewer.

Many Tehrani people go to Shemiran both in the winter, which is the season of skiing and ice climbing, and in the spring, when its beautiful nature, pleasant weather and amazing landscapes can refresh their spirit.

If you're getting ready to hike, bike, or explore other outdoor activities, take a short trip to Shemiran and enjoy it.

Ahar

Ahar is a village in the Rudbar-e Qasran district, about two hours away from the northeastern part of Shemiran.

With its pleasant weather, Ahar village is regarded as a popular tourist destination, especially among those interested in rural tourism.

The old section of the village, its long and narrow alleys, along with its natural, historical and religious sites including Shekrab waterfall, Chehel Peleh waterfall, Sical Mountain and the holy tomb of Imamzadeh Taher host a large number of visitors throughout the year.

Due to its appropriate climate and abundant water resources, the agricultural and horticultural sectors of Ahar, the largest village of Rudbar-e Qasran district, are flourishing.

The roaring rivers flowing around the village provide water to rural people. Shekarab River, with a length of 15 kilometers, is the most famous river of Ahar village.

Meygun

Meygun is another village which is one hour away from the northeastern part of Shemiran.

Due to its proximity to the mountains of northern Tehran, its weather is mild and pleasant. A clear river, high mountains, and green trees have made this spot a favorite among visitors. The average annual temperature in Meygun is 13°C.

In fact, Meygun with its pristine environment and pleasant weather, is one of the best destinations for nature lovers.

Due to the demand of Tehrani people for a weekend getaway, a number of villas have been built in the area. The area is being devel-

oped into a countryside residential area, and the local government has built roads which can facilitate the travels of the villa owners. Having a mountainous climate, Meygun has various attractions including an ice-climbing school and a recreation center called Sepid Kamar Chal.

If you live in greater Tehran and are wondering where to go this weekend, or just want to get away from your busy life for few days and spend a happy time with your friends and family, make a short trip to Meygun. There are plenty of nice restaurants on the way where you can treat yourself to a nice meal, or you can bring a barbecue grill and prepare your meal in this beautiful mountainous area.

Various types of dairy products and fruits are the main souvenirs of Meygun village.

Lavasan

Lavasan, a town in Shemiranat, with an area of 70 square kilometers, is packed with beautiful mountain views, scenic country roads, clean air and jaw-dropping luxurious houses. It is divided into three sections.

The name 'Lavasan' is from Middle Persian (Pahlavi), which means the blade of the mountain where the sun rises. It refers to Mount Damavand that is located in the middle of the Alborz Mountain range, east of Lavasan.

In addition to several shopping centers and parks, located on a beautiful riverbank near Latyan Dam, Lavasan has a large number of religious, natural, historical sites including the tomb of Imamzadeh Ismael, Varjin Protected Area, Lar River, Barg-e Jah-an Waterfall, Vaziri Cave Museum and an ancient hill.

Afjeh

Afjeh, a village located one hour away from Shemiran, has a large number of springs and agricultural lands.

Most rural people were involved in planting wheat and summer crops and livestock breeding until 50 years ago, when the first cherry seeds were cultivated in the village. Presently, the cherry crops of Afjeh are among the main fruits exported from Shemiran.

Carrot Plain (Dasht-e Havij), Rahatabad Bathhouse, Mirza Aqakhan Nouri Castle, an old caravanserai dating back to the Safavid era, a 400-year-old cedar, several mountaineering routes, and Paskoohak waterfall are among Afjeh's main attractions.

Carrot Plain is one of the oldest resorts around Tehran; even the Safavid kings were hunting on this plain.

You may ask, why is the region called 'Carrot Plain'?

This is because carrots were planted all over the plain, which gave it an orange hue.

Unfortunately, carrots are no longer planted on this plain, and our generation has lost this unique view.

Iran's Soleimanzadeh to evaluate films at Indian festival



Iranian film critic, writer and scholar, Hamed Soleimanzadeh, was selected to evaluate the films at the 12th CMS Lucknow International Children's Film Festival in India, which will run through April 18.

Soleimanzadeh will be accompanied by Ibolya Fekete (well-known Hungarian filmmaker), Rajni Basumatary (Indian filmmaker, actor and producer), Abhijit Ranadiew (programmer and expert on Indian cinema), and Annapurni Subramaniam (Indian journalist and film critic), IRNA reported.

This festival is hosting six Iranian films in the feature and animation sections.

The festival aims at providing a common platform for the producers of children's films, to project their views for proper devel-

opment of children's potential through meaningful films; and also to promote friendship and cooperation among the people of the world.

Soleimanzadeh has already been selected as a member of the jury panel at the Schlingel International Film Festival in Germany, the 10th Dytiatko International Children's Television Festival in Ukraine, the 44th Göteborg International Film Festival in Sweden, the River International Film Festival in Italy, the Seoul Guro International Kids Film Festival in South Korea, the 17th International Short Film Festival Detmold in Germany, the Kolibri International Film Festival for Childhood and Youth in Bolivia, and Directors' Fortnight and Critics' Weeks sections of the 74th Cannes Film Festival.

Iranian historian Azkaei dies at 84



IRNA - Iran's prominent researcher and historian Parviz Azkaei died at the age of 84 on Friday morning in Hamedan, western Iran.

Born in April 1939 in Iran's western city of Hamedan, Azkaei was educated in his hometown before traveling to Tehran and Manchester, UK, to complete his studies.

His studies were focused on history and philosophy, including the life and works of 12th-century Iranian philosopher Ayn-al-Quzat. He wrote extensively on bibliography and the history of science.

He published 40 books and 70 scientific articles. 'Hamedan Nameh,' 'Baba Taher Nameh,' 'Contemporary History of Hamedan,' and 'Culture of Hamedan' are among his best-known works.

In 2016, Azkaei donated his personal library to Hamedan Central Library. The details of his funeral have yet to be announced.