



Online Registration Is Open

17th World Federation of Tourist Guide Associations Convention

28th January – 1st February
Tehran, Iran



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It is with great pleasure that your hosts, the Iran Federation of Tourist Guide Associations (IFTGA), its sponsors and the volunteers working on the convention will be welcoming WFTGA members and all our colleagues from around the world to Iran for the

17th WFTGA Convention, in January, 2017. I am also very happy to announce that registration is open and we invite you all to take advantage of the Early Bird registration no later than 31st October.

The first 50 participants that register for the convention will not have to pay for their visas. Please see the website wftga2017.com for more details.

IFTGA and its partners in Iran would like to also extend a scholarship program for up to 30 participants. Apply directly to IFTGA by wftga2017.com/scholarship.

This scholarship is separate to the WFTGA's Jane Orde Scholarship. Please do not hesitate to contact us for any questions you may have and we look forward to seeing you all in Iran!

Best wishes,

Arash Nooraghayee

President IFTGA

Chairperson of the 17th WFTGA Convention

Dates to Remember

Early-Bird Registration: 1st August to 31st October

Late Registration: 1st November to 31st December

Pre-Convention Tour

25th-27th
January

27th
January

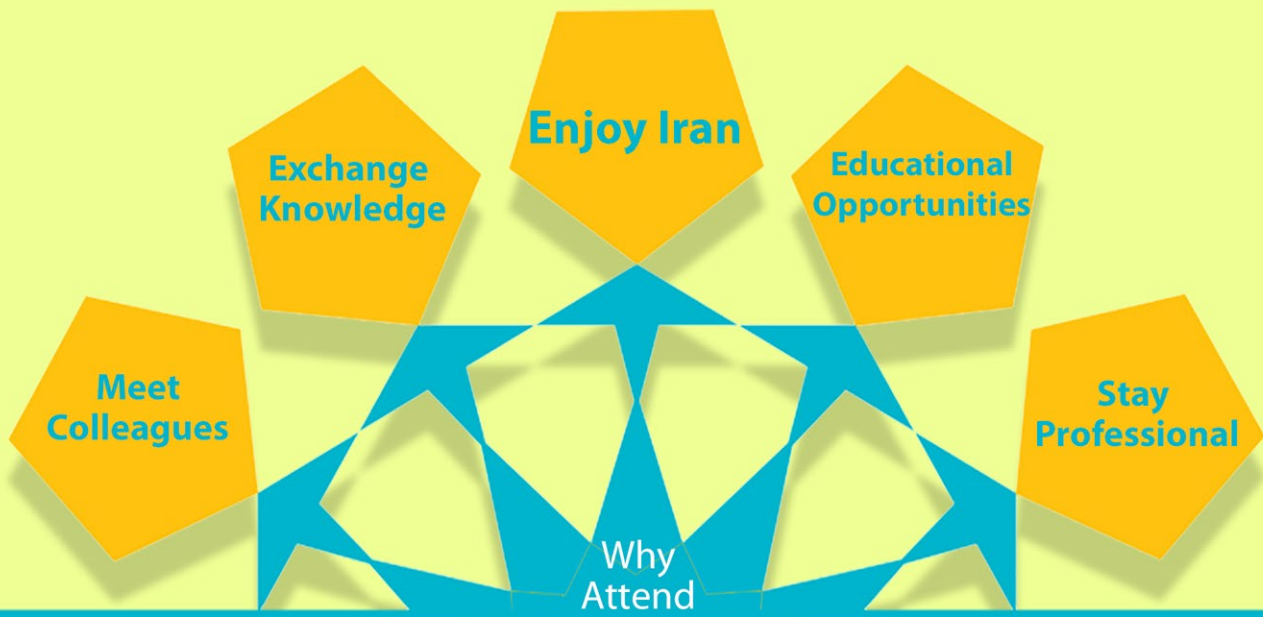
General Assembly
Pre-Convention Meeting

Convention

28th Jan to
1st Feb

1st-6th
February

Post-Convention Tour



Vienna Meeting

Vienna meeting between WFTGA and IRAN HOST, June 17th and 18th, 2016. A meeting to finalize convention venue Hotel, accommodation, scholarships, costs, programs and workshops, and meeting with Mondial DMC to start partnership for convention registration.

Presence:

WFTGA: Felicitas Wressnig, Ivana Curuvija, Hermann Friedsam.

IFTGA: Mohsen Hajisaeid, Mohammad Yazdani.



Felicitas Wressnig (President WFTGA) and Mohsen Hajisaeid (Vice-President IFTGA), Vienna Meeting June 17th

Iran's 2017 Convention's Website address is:

<http://wftga2017.com>

To access any further information about registration, visa regulations, convention programs, pre and post-convention tours, dates, and the things to know before travel to Iran, visit the website. Need more information or help?

Contact: info@wftga2017.com

During convention what you will visit in Tehran:

During the five-day Convention in Tehran, from the 28th of January through the 1st of February, 2017, you will visit Tehran's historical sites. In Tehran, you will have the opportunity to visit **Azadi Tower**, one of the artistic plazas in Iran over 120,000 sq meters, combining the symbols of the pre-Islamic ruins at Ctesiphon with the arches of the Islamic period. **Golestan Palace**, a World Heritage Site, is an example of merging Persian arts and architecture with European style of the 18th and 19th centuries. **Saad Abad Palace**, it is a complex of 10 museums built by the monarchs of two previous ruling dynasties, is your introductory step to become familiar with Iran's various cultural, historical and artistic aspects. Moreover, Treasury of National Jewels, as the most dazzling collection of gemstones and jewelry known in the world, reflects the creativity and taste of Iranian craftsmen over different eras of history. **Carpet Museum**, which exhibits a variety of Persian carpets collected from all over Iran from the 18th century to the present, is another place for a visit during the convention.

IFTGA Scholarship

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The registration of 17th WFTGA convention now is open:

<http://wftga2017.com/register/>

Our partner for registration is the Austrian company **Mondial Travel- DMC**. (Private limited company - GmbH & Co.) Founded in 1966, Mondial is a recognised brand in the tourism industry, the largest privately owned Destination Management Company in Austria and authorized by WFTGA and IFTGA to process registrations and manage financial transactions for the 2017 convention.

Pre-Convention Tour:

Iran will host all its international guests on the Convention's Pre-Tour in Qazvin, Zanjan, and Hamadan.



Hamadan



Zanjan



Qazvin

Wednesday, January 25th: Tehran-Qazvin-Zanjan: (10hrs)

Qazvin, which is located (150 km/90 mi) northwest of Tehran, was an ancient capital in the Persian Empire and nowadays is known as the calligraphy capital of Iran. Qazvin is the home to many historical and natural attractions. The tour includes a short visit to one of the best preserved urban caravanserais in Iran, called **Saadosaltaneh**. The spice of this trip would be UNESCO World Heritage Site (WH) **Soltaniyeh dome**, one of the outstanding examples of the achievements of Persian architecture and a key monument in the development of its Islamic architecture. From long ago, when people talked about Zanjan, its artistically made knives come to mind. Zanjan boasts of vivid records in civilization, culture, arts and sciences, experiencing both glory and hardship. The city lies in an agricultural belt with abundant grain harvests. Zanjan is also famous for its seedless grapes, and traditional sandals.

Thursday, January 26th: Zanjan – Hamedan: (5hrs)

Known in classical times as **Ecbatana**, Hamadan was once one of the ancient world's greatest cities. Pitifully little of antiquity remains, but significant parts of the city centre are given over to excavations and there is a scattering of historical curiosities. Sitting on a high plain, Hamadan is one of the cradles of Oriental Civilization with a legendary background. Visit the tomb which holds the remains of the biblical **Queen Esther and her Uncle Mordechai**, the most important pilgrimage site for Jews in Iran, and Mausoleum dedicated to the Iranian polymath Avicenna. Delegates will transfer this evening to Tehran.

Friday, January 27th: Hamedan – Tehran: (5hrs)

Visit to **Hegmataneh Hill**, ruins of Ecbatana (ancient Median and Persian capital), transfer to Tehran.

Mondial

<http://www.mondial-travel.com/en/about>



Post-Convention Tour

Iran will host guests on the Convention's Post-Tour in Shiraz, Yazd and Esfahan.

Wednesday, February 1st: Tehran – Shiraz (1:30hrs flight)

Experience the glory of love and nature in ancient Persia. Shiraz was the former capital of Iran, (1750CE-1800CE) but continues to be known as the capital of roses, nightingales, poets and literature. Numerous poets, mystics and philosophers were born and buried in Shiraz, a city that came to be nicknamed "the Athens of Persia". Afternoon, visit of **Karim Khan castle** and **Hafez tomb**.

Thursday, February 2nd: Shiraz – Persepolis - Yazd (12hrs)

65 KM north east of Shiraz, we find Persepolis, the Persian ceremonial capital built by Darius the great and the richest city under the sun in 518 BCE. You'll marvel at Persepolis, the unique archaeological site where Persia's king of the kings created an impressive palace complex. After lunch, enjoy a short visit of **Naqshe Rostam**, with a group of ancient Iranian rock reliefs cut into the cliff, from both the Achaemenid and Sassanid periods. Here, after exploring the glorious Persepolis and Necropolis, you will encounter the opposite – a city with mud-brick faced structures, (400 KM/250 mi).

Friday, February 3rd: Yazd (9hrs)

Yazd, Iran's home to the largest population of Zoroastrians (a group whose worship includes eternal flame and unique burial method) in the world welcomes all guests worldwide and shares its ancient history with visitors. Yazd, the phoenix of the desert, is well-known for being the city of wind towers. In Yazd you'll visit the **Old city**, **Jaame mosque** and Zoroastrians' **Fire temple**. Afternoon, you will have the chance to visit a UNESCO World Heritage Site with an impressively tall wind tower, called **Dowlat Abad garden**.

Saturday February 4th : Yazd – Esfahan (9hrs)

Drive to Esfahan via Meybod, the city of pre-Islamic architecture to visit 400 years old **Icehouse** (or refrigeration system) made of mud, (310km/190 mi).

Sunday, February 5th: Esfahan (10hrs)

Esfahan is very well known as a city of historical bridges, painters, blue domes, ancient royal palaces, hundreds-year-old mosques and long green streets, all leading to the river in the center. Esfahan is recognised for quality craftsmanship and artwork. There are not only Mosques, but churches in Esfahan, a city referred to by Iranian as "Half of the world". You will have the opportunity to see **Chehel Sotoun palace**, one of the wonders of the Safavid era and reflects the rich Iranian art, recognized as a World Heritage Site

Monday, February 6th: Esfahan- Tehran/IKA airport (9hrs)

In the morning, enjoy a short visit to Bazaar, where guests will get an opportunity to shop for authentic crafts and Persian carpets in the world. After lunch we depart for Tehran via Kashan. Depending on flight schedules, you may have a chance to visit very unusual and unique historical houses in Kashan. We will be at the Tehran airport, in time for evening flights.

The Host Team considers, no journey is very complete without the local flavours of each reach, which you will get experience in Shiraz, Isfahan, and Yazd! traditional foods, desert and appetizers such as Kashk-e Bademjan (Eggplant Dip), khoresh mast (Beef Yogurt), Fesenjan and biryani. Mouth watering and delicious food experiences await you!

Visa Regulations:

Depending your country, the visa application will be different. The first 50 registered participants will not have to pay for their visa.

- How to apply and where to obtain a visa?
- Who receives visa on arrival at the Tehran airport?
- Find your answers at wftga2017.com/visa

How to get more news about Convention:

Subscribe to the official website wftga2017.com and automatically receive the latest convention information.

Join us in:



17th WFTGA Convention Contact Information:

Do not hesitate to contact us!

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[The next newsletter in last September](#)

[Look forward to more information on workshops, lectures and educational segment of convention.](#)

Sponsors

