**IFTGA Measures to Ensure Travellers Have a Safe Trip to Iran**

1. The Iranian Government has fully supported IFTGA in holding this 2017 convention. That means WFTGA members will have an enjoyable stay in Iran. What’s more, IFTGA members possess ample experience in holding such events to ensure WFTGA members have an enjoyable and productive convention in Iran.
2. Aside from the government, IFTGA has 33 letters of support from the private sector who are avid to be involved in this international event. One of them is the Telecommunication Company that will grant a free SimCard to all participants with unlimited access to Internet.
3. IFTGA has a letter of support from Iran Insurance Company, so all the travelers can have medical coverage from the moment they enter Iran. The details will be available shortly.
4. Getting a visa seems to be a concern for a few countries, but because IFTGA is working on it, this would be facilitated by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. There are a few countries which do not have an embassy in Iran, but there are travellers who visit Iran from those countries. As a result, it will not be an issue, especially for this world-known convention.

Interests Section of the Islamic Republic of Iran in Washington DC is at the Embassy of Pakistan and will grant visa to Americans desiring to travel to Iran. Please visit [www.daftar.org/eng](http://www.daftar.org/eng) for further information.

1. Iran being the host for 2017 WFTGA convention was a decision made by the majority of Delegates representing WFTGA Member Associations eligible to vote for the 2017 host; a democratic and free decision which took place in a friendly atmosphere, so it needs to be appreciated. IFTGA members are here to present the real Iran, not the stereotype seen on screens. Stay positive and trust your colleagues' decision.
2. Above all, along with you we are a team of professional tourist guides from around the globe who respect the personal difference of peoples - i.e., we open our culture to people; we present a region of our own to the travellers. We have learned to act locally but think globally and we know how to make peace around the world. We need to explore the world and widen our circle of friends. We discover the beauty of the world while we appreciate ours. We need to help our governments in order to make the world a better place to live - and that’s what international organizations do best.
3. Being professional tourist guides, we make a clear distinction between governments and colleagues, between religion and politics. We need to stay alert and be open-minded. Your religion does not count for visiting Iran. Jews live in Iran, have a Member of Parliament and are well-respected. The legendary tomb of Esther and Mordechai in Hamedan, included in Pre-tour, Glorious Mosques in Yazd and Isfahan, and a unique cathedral in Isfahan in Post-tour are to be visited to truly project such manner, since these are typical places of attraction visited by almost all tourists visiting Iran.
4. Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender (LGBT): Many LGBT visit Iran, though it is not legitimate to be LGBT in Iran. The question is, have you ever heard of LGBT being upset in Iran? So, they can be who they are and be economical with this truth. The simple solution is for LGBT to not declare their orientation. On the whole, no foreigner has ever faced a problem for this matter when visiting Iran.

Please read the link below containing the statements of Gay travellers to Iran mentioned in Lonely Planet.

<https://www.lonelyplanet.com/thorntree/forums/middle-east/iran/gay-in-iran?page=1#post_13793539>

1. Top 20 destinations. Please read the news below:

<http://www.telegraph.co.uk/travel/destinations/middleeast/iran/10539349/Twenty-destinations-for-2014-Iran.html>

10. It is worthwhile to mention once again why Iran got the majority of

votes to host the 2017 WFTGA convention:

1. Thirty-seven letters of support from various sectors and organizations
2. Reasonable price for the whole convention and tours
3. Practical and varied workshops and lectures
4. Avid, young, and experienced bid committee representing Iranian manners and people
5. Seven world heritage sites to be visited in tours
6. A good presentation (film) originating from the love spread by Iranians and totally made by IFTGA members. It would be really enlightening for all the members to see this clip once. Please visit [www.facebook.com/#come2iran](http://www.facebook.com/#come2iran)
7. The necessity of a country to be discovered by WFTGA members.
8. The new administration run by Mr Rohani follows an open-to-other- countries policy. As a result, there has been a sharp increase in the number of incoming tourists to Iran in the last 16 months. Not only his term, but also the terms of IFTGA EXBO members will run until after 2017 WFTGA convention in Iran. However, NGOs are to be ahead of our governments. The walls are breaking down. We need to take actions and build peaceful houses for people to live in, to develop peace, to develop tourism.
9. The dress code for women is explained in short and demonstrated by pictures in the booklet. Please open the attached file titled "Dress Code". All the ladies in the #come2iran clip are also good examples of how you should look in Iran.
10. Last but not least, we IFTGA members are professional tourist guides like you. No matter what your religion, or where you come from; what your sexual interests are, or which political views you hold; we invite you to come to Iran, to:

* explore our country
* amuse yourself with half of the world (Isfahan)
* take interest in our varied handicrafts
* walk on red or orange Persian carpets
* taste Iranian cuisine
* take photos of one of the oldest earthen architecture complexes in the world (Yazd old city)
* entertain yourself in the richest city under the sun of 500 BC (Persepolis)
* be overwhelmed by Iranian hospitality and warm-heartedness

and above all.....

* share the benefits of WFTGA in Iranian context