



Iran's flag carrier, Iran Air, has explored the resumption of flights to Malaysia following a lengthy suspension, the airline said after its chief executive met with Malaysia's ambassador to Iran. Taher Abdolhay, chief executive of the Airline of the Islamic Republic of Iran, formally known as Iran Air, held talks with Dato' Wan Yusri, Malaysia's ambassador, on expanding the airline's flight network and exploring opportunities for its return to East Asia, Mehr news agency reported on Saturday. The meeting focused on the capacities and requirements for restoring Iran Air flights to Malaysia, as well as opportunities to resume services to the country after a prolonged interruption. They also discussed expanding bilateral cooperation and strengthening air links between Iran and Malaysia, particularly their role in promoting economic, trade, tourism and cultural exchanges.

Iran Air Seeks to Resume Flights to Malaysia



Explore the Best Travel Destinations for Every Decade of Your Life

A stunning sunset of the mountains behind Table Mountain looking over Camps Bay . Lion's head in the distance overlooking the bay Embark on a Costa Rican escape in your 20s with affordable flights, lively beaches, and lush rain forests.Discover Japan in your 30s, from Tokyo's bustling streets to serene Kyoto and snowy Hokkaido slopes.In your 70s and beyond, explore South Africa's wildlife, cultural gems, and historical landmarks in comfort.The definition of a dream vacation varies from person to person, but no matter how you define it, everyone deserves to go on a big, once-in-a-lifetime trip. But where do you even begin planning such an epic getaway?

In your 20s: Costa Rica

Costa Rica is far enough from the U.S. to feel like a true escape, yet close enough to make finding cheap flights totally doable. Plus, the relatively affordable cost of living will help ease any financial concerns. You can, enjoy a sandwich and fries for around \$10, and spend plenty of time lounging on the beach for free.If you're traveling with friends, book a house near the ocean and spend your time near or in the water—surfing, snorkeling, fishing, and kitesurfing. When you're ready for more, a short trip inland will transport you to lush rain forests that house sloths, spider monkeys, colorful birds, and jaguars. For guaranteed animal sightings, head to Centro de Rescate y Santuario Las Pumas in northern Cañas, an animal sanctuary and rescue center. And if you're craving adventure, hike one of the country's many volcanoes or zip line through the clouds.

In your 30s: Japan

There's something for everyone in Ja-

pan, with its next-level cityscape, rugged mountains, natural hot springs (this one in particular), and stunning beaches. All you have to do is narrow things down—which is easier said than done.In Tokyo, check out the fashion at Harajuku, make your way across Shibuya Crossing, and visit cafes of Akihabara. For culture and history, head to Kyoto, where you'll find a plethora of Buddhist temples, imperial palaces, Shinto shrines, and perfectly manicured gardens. Adventure lovers should visit in the winter when skiing takes over the northern island of Hokkaido, and the natural hot springs become a daily must. Alternatively, you can ski the Japanese Alps on the main island of Honshu and make time to visit the hot spring-loving monkeys at Jigokudani Monkey Park. If warm, sandy shores are more your style, head to the Okinawa Islands, where you'll find clear turquoise waters and white-sand beaches.

In your 40s: Machu Picchu, Peru

The sprawling agricultural terraces, mountain views, and intricate Incan citadels of Machu Picchu have captivated travelers for centuries. But sorting out the logistics takes time, and some of the best experiences involve strapping on a backpack (loaded with the right supplies) and conquering the journey by foot. That's why this trip is perfect for adventurous travelers in their 40s who have the know-how, time, and resources to book the once-in-a-lifetime getaway. Make time to enjoy Lima and the UNESCO World Heritage city of Cusco, in addition to the trip's main draw: the arrival at Machu Picchu. Remember, many trips are fully customizable, and you can hike, drive, or

take the train. For a classic take on the trip, stick to the Inca Trail, but to avoid the crowds (at least the worst of them), you might want to book a trek that takes you around Salkantay Mountain. There are also add-on excursions, including a visit to the Lares region. It's hard to go wrong.

In your 50s: Galápagos Islands

The wonders of the Galápagos are no secret, but until you visit for yourself, it's hard to know just how special the place really is. Thanks to serious protection efforts by the Galápagos National Park and the Galápagos Marine Reserve, the islands and the animals that inhabit them are still relatively untouched. You'll spot blue-footed boobies locked in a mating dance, swim with sea lion pups, and watch marine iguanas sunning themselves next to Galápagos penguins.To experience the islands, you'll need to book a tour and spend several days cruising or island-hopping, which is why a small-scale luxury yacht with an onboard naturalist is well worth the extra cost. Check out the offerings from INCA (International Nature & Cultural Adventures), a well-respected travel company that keeps its group sizes small and trip quality high—from multi-course meals to luxe extras like onboard Wi-Fi and a rooftop hot tub.

In your 60s: France

If you do it right, a trip to France can include all the bells and whistles of a once-in-a-lifetime trip. Start in Paris, soaking up the wonders of the city—from picnics under the twinkling Eiffel Tower to afternoons spent exploring the Palace of Versailles to dinners at one of the city's Michelin-starred restaurants.From there, rent a car and head southwest to the coastal city of

La Rochelle, where you'll nosh on freshly caught fish and explore the medieval and Renaissance architecture of the old town. A drive further down the coast puts you in Bordeaux, home to great food. You'll want to make a pit stop in the charming surf town of Biarritz before cutting east toward the French Riviera. As you travel along the stunning Mediterranean coast, swing by cities like Marseille and Nice, glitzy communities like St. Tropez and Cannes, and under-the-radar towns like Cassis and Antibes. Before returning to Paris, make time to stroll the lavender fields of Provence and drive among the jaw-dropping French Alps. It's a trip that not only exposes you to the finer things in life—architecture, art, but will open your mind to the distinctly French way of living, a mindset that is perfect for your 60s.

In your 70s and beyond: South Africa

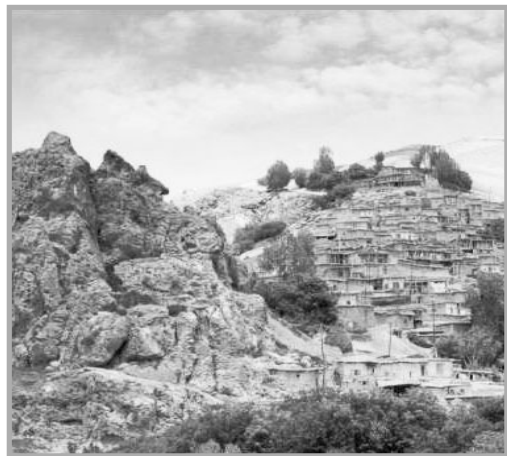
There's more to Africa than safaris—and this trip with smarTours proves it. In addition to visiting Kruger National Park, one of Africa's largest game reserves with a high density of animals (including the Big Five—lions, leopards, rhinos, elephants, and buffaloes), you'll get to explore the South African cities of Cape Town, Durban, and Johannesburg. learn about the legacy of Nelson Mandela, and check out Victoria Falls (if you book the extension).The trip is ideally suited to travelers ready to get out and explore but don't want the stress of booking every detail or committing to a ton of physical activity. With a bit of thoughtful planning (and the help of smarTours), galavanting all over South Africa and seeing incredible animals is not only doable, it's easy.



Quzlu: A Stepped Village Offering a Glimpse of Rural Iran

The stepped village of Quzlu, nestled in the mountainous landscape of northwestern Iran, offers travelers a chance to experience traditional rural architecture, unspoiled nature and a time-honored cultural heritage. Located in Zanjan province, Quzlu is among the rural settlements that reflect the longstanding relationship between human habitation and the natural environment. Its hillside homes, built into the mountain landscape, provide a distinctive setting for visitors seeking an alternative to conventional tourist destinations.

Quzlu's most striking feature is its stepped architecture, in which the roof of one house serves as the courtyard of the home above it. The arrangement follows the contours of the mountainside and creates a compact settlement that blends with its surroundings.Traditional construction materials, including stone and wood, are part of the village's architectural character. The buildings and their relationship with the surrounding landscape offer visitors an opportunity to observe a form of rural architecture rooted in local conditions. Preserving this architectural fabric could help maintain Quzlu's identity while creating opportunities for heritage tourism and traditional-style accommodation.The landscape surrounding Quzlu adds another dimension to a visit. Mountain scenery, green pastures and springs are among the natural features described as attractions of the area. The village and its surroundings offer potential for nature-based activities, including walking, photography and exploring the rural landscape. Seasonal changes in vegetation and scenery provide different experiences throughout the year.For travelers interested in quieter destinations, Quzlu presents an opportunity to spend time in a mountainous environment away from the bustle of major cities.



Quzlu is part of Mahneshan county, an area known for its distinctive geological formations and historical sites. Among the region's notable attractions are the formations known as the "Jinn's Chimneys," volcanic rock structures that rise dramatically from the landscape. The ancient Behestan Castle, also known as Takht-e Div or the "Devil's Throne," is another landmark that adds historical interest to the area. These villages also provide opportunities to discover local customs, handicrafts, regional food and traditional ways of life. Walking through their lanes allows visitors to see how residents have maintained a connection with their surroundings. For travelers seeking more than conventional sightseeing, Iran's stepped villages offer a rewarding experience. They combine striking scenery with history, architecture and cultural heritage, making them valuable destinations for those interested in discovering the country's diverse landscapes and living traditions.

UNESCO-listed Golestan Palace Undergoes Emergency Restoration

The second phase of a comprehensive conservation and restoration program at Tehran's Golestan Palace has begun, with priority given to preventing further damage before the onset of the rainy season, the head of the UNESCO-listed complex said on Wednesday. Afarin Emami said that over the past six months, the Golestan Palace had implemented an emergency conservation plan focused on hazard removal, safeguarding vulnerable elements, preventing secondary damage, documenting the site and conducting detailed assessments of damage sustained during the 40-day war with US and the Israeli regime. Following the completion of the initial phase and specialist assessments, the complex has now entered the second stage, involving restoration projects aimed at stabilizing historic structures, preventing the deterioration of damaged elements and protecting the palace's collections, Emami explained. She identified the restoration of the roof covering, along with its metal and wooden truss and roof-beam components, as among the priorities. The elements were damaged during the conflict by shrapnel and projectiles resulting from explosions in neighboring buildings. Restoration is also planned for damaged sections of plasterwork and painted decorative elements on the walls and porch of the Shams-ol-Emareh Palace, as well as its wooden doors and windows. Located in the heart of Tehran's historic core, the palace complex is one of the oldest in the city, originally built during the Safavid dynasty within the historic walled city. Over time, it underwent several expansions, receiving its most defining features in the 19th century, when it was designated as the royal residence and seat of power by the Qajar ruling family. The palace complex comprises eight main palace structures, primarily used as museums, along with the eponymous gardens, a central green space surrounded by an outer wall with gates, exemplifying the architectural and artistic achievements of the Qajar era, including the integration of European motifs and styles into Persian art.

Perspective



Iranian Women Showcased Traditional Crafts at BRICS Exhibition in New Delhi

A group of female Iranian artisans highlighted their skills at a handicrafts exhibition that was held on the sidelines of the 18th BRICS Summit in New Delhi. The five-day exhibition, titled BRICS Bazaar, ran from September 10 to 15. It brought together handicrafts from



BRICS member countries in an effort to strengthen cultural and artistic cooperation, as well as broader economic and political ties.The exhibition was designed as a symbol of cultural links among the participating countries, according to IRNA's correspondent in the Indian capital. At the entrance, handmade carpets from member countries were arranged in a circle in a range of colors, highlighting the cultural, ethnic, and religious diversity of the BRICS grouping. Speaking to IRNA, Ameneh Sedighi, an artisan from Iran's northern Gilan province, said her participation aimed to introduce Iranian traditional embroidery, particularly Rashti-doozi, to international visitors.She said the craft dated back between 330 and 550 years before Christ and had historically been practiced by men, but was then carried out by women.Rashti-doozi was produced using natural silk thread from Gilan and a special hook, Sedighi, who taught the craft, said."We were able to showcase the distinguished art of Rashti-doozi and our country's traditional arts to visitors at this exhibition," she said. Sedighi said foreign visitors, particularly Indians, had shown strong interest in Iranian handicrafts and had praised the host government's cooperation with Iranian artisans.The exhibition also highlighted the similarities between the handicrafts of Kashmir and Iran. A representative from Kashmir attributed the resemblance to the close cultural ties between the two peoples, IRNA reported. The BRICS grouping, whose name derived from its original members Brazil, Russia, India, China, and South Africa, was established in 2009. It later expanded beyond its founding membership.

Iran has registered more than 43,000

National Heritage Sites: Minister

Iran has registered more than 43,000 relics and properties, including more than 14,000 historical buildings, the minister of cultural heritage, tourism and handicrafts said on Tuesday.Seyyed Reza Salehi-Amiri said Iran's tangible heritage, including historic buildings, structures and archaeological sites, together with its written heritage, forms an important part of the country's historical and cultural identity. "Written heritage and tangible heritage are two important parts of the history, identity and record of the Iranian nation," Salehi-Amiri told IRIB news agency. He made the remarks during a visit to the center for documents of the Islamic Revolution. The minister said the two forms of heritage were closely connected and together reflected the history and identity of the Iranian people."The values embedded in them can reveal the greatness of this nation and land to present and future generations," the minister said.Salehi-Amiri said Iran's cultural identity could not be fully understood without considering its written heritage. "If we know Iran through its cultural and historical heritage, Iranian culture is also known through its written heritage," he said, adding that culture serves as a bridge connecting the country's tangible and written heritage. The minister also referred to the global distribution of manuscripts, saying there were about 2 million [Iranian] manuscripts worldwide, according to available information.