



## 20 Facts about Iran

1. Iran is one of the world's oldest continuous civilizations, with settlements dating back to 4000 B.C.
2. After oil, Iran's second largest export commodity is carpets
3. When creating rugs, Iranian weavers often make a mistake intentionally. They want to show their belief that "only God is perfect."
4. In 2007, Iran produced the world's largest handmade carpet for a mosque in the United Arab Emirates. It was the size of a soccer field.
5. The capital of Iran is Tehran, which means, "warm slope."
6. Iran has over one million foreign refugees, more than any other country on earth.
7. Iran is the 18th largest country in the world, with a total of 1,648,195 sq km.
8. The Iranian population in 2012 was 78,868,711 – over three times more than the Australian population - making it the 18th most populated country in the world.
9. The most popular sport in Iran is soccer. The national team has won the Asian Cup three times and played in three World Cup Final competitions.
10. The former name of Iran was Persia, which was in use till 1935
11. The flag has three equal width horizontal bands.
  - Green is the color of Islam and represents growth
  - White symbolizes honesty and peace
  - Red stands for bravery
12. The currency of Iran is the Rial. However, Iranians commonly express amounts of money and prices of goods in "Toman". 1 Toman = 10 Rial



13. Being the largest producer of pistachio nuts (known as 'smiling nuts' in Iran because of their semi-opening, Iran is considered to be the pistachio capital of the world, are
14. The word *mausoleum* comes from the famous grave of King Mausolus. It is a 45-meter-tall marble structure covered with bas relief, is one of the Seven Wonders of the Ancient World, and is found in Iran.
15. Mt. Damavand, the highest peak of Iran, is located on the Alborz Mountains which stands at 4,667 m.
16. The world's first ever windmill was created in Iran in the 9th century.
17. Muhammad ibn Mūsā al-Khwārizmī, the Persian mathematician, geographer, and astronomer, is considered as the original father of algebra, one of the branches of mathematics.
18. The President of Iran is President Rouhani
19. Iran has among the highest rates of female enrolment in university in the world (more than 60 per cent)
20. Iran leads the world in nose jobs! More nose jobs are performed in Iran per capita than in any other country in the world.