

Pomegranate varieties in Iran

There are many varieties of pomegranate in Iran, from very sour to very sweet in taste and from white, yellow, pink, red, purple and even black in color (about 100 varieties). There are about 70,000 hectares of pomegranate orchards in Iran, with about 700,000 tones products.

The black pomegranates are almost rare and more expensive than others (about two times), since it is a natural medicine for throat and lung's diseases.

The most famous place for pomegranate in Iran is Saveh – a small town near Tehran, the capital city of Iran (about 100 km, or about one hour by car).

Saveh located in a semi arid region. The biggest pomegranate which I have seen ,were more than two kg from saveh and 1.5 kg from neyriz. The European buyers, normally order 350 gr size, and the Korean order larger sizes up to 700 gr, and in special packages(only premier quality). the buyers from UAE buy different sizes and in plastic boxes(from premier quality to grade 2)

Neyriz is also a small town, located in south of Iran(about 1000 km from Tehran and 220 km from Shiraz, the largest city in Fars province.)

Neyriz is a dry region, but the soil there is very suitable for growing pomegranate, fig and almond .Neyriz is a major pomegranate land in Iran and has the most output ,even up to 120,000 ton one hectare. the best quality pomegranate of Neyriz is called RABAB, which could be considered as a best in Iran too. The shelf life of rabab is more than other pomegranates in Iran (two months). Saveh is known as pomegranate land in Iran, but Neyriz is still unknown for most people. Shiraz is a large city in south of Iran with a fair climate and about two million populations.

The distance from Tehran to Shiraz is about 900 km (1 hour by air plane). Shiraz has many historical places and archaeological sites (like Persepolis). Neyriz is 220 km from Shiraz toward east (2 hours by car). You will find different type of pomegranate all over Iran, for example in Yazd.

Yazd is a dry province in the middle of Iran with a different type of architecture.

Yazd is also famous for some other products, like sweet ,golden ornaments, handicrafts and textile . The People in Iran prefer to eat sweet and thin skinned pomegranate . Most people like to squeeze and suck its juice.

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The people in villages ,particularly in places which are far from major cities,prepare a special sauce(pomegranate paste) mostly from sour pomegranate which is used in some Iranian cuisine.you will find seedless pomegranate in Sangan region in the eastern part of Iran near Zahedan