

13 Day Tour | Best of Morocco

Marrakech - Ouarzazate - Merzouga - Fes - Rabat - Casablanca - Essaouira

From **\$2,685** pp twin share



11 Nights Accommodation throughout the program

Enjoy a Camel trek or Jeep Safari into the Erg Chebbi sand dunes

Spend a night in a Desert Camp and star gaze the Sahara skies

Explore the oldest medieval city in the world and visit its medina, dye pits and tanneries

Relax and enjoy some free time in Essaouira with its wind-swept beaches and charming cafes

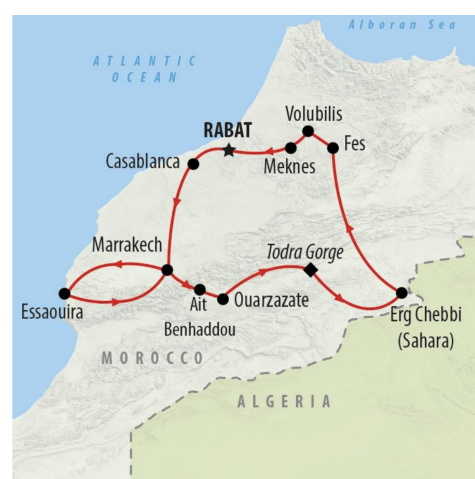
Visit a variety of UNESCO World Heritage sites!

Description



The journey of a lifetime awaits in Morocco on this exhilarating two week adventure..

An enchanting country nestled at the crossroads of Africa and Europe, it has a breathtaking tapestry of vibrant colors, rich history, and mesmerizing landscapes that captivate the soul. From the bustling souks, where the air is infused with exotic spices and the sound of laughter, to the golden dunes of the Sahara desert, where the setting sun paints the sky in a kaleidoscope of hues, Morocco's diversity astounds and entralls travelers from every corner of the globe. Ancient medinas boast intricate architecture and timeless traditions, while coastal towns offer pristine beaches and azure waters, inviting relaxation and adventure alike. Moreover, the warm hospitality and genuine smiles of the Moroccan people envelop visitors in an embrace of warmth, making every journey an unforgettable odyssey of wonder and amazement.



Itinerary

Day 1

Marrakech

Upon arrival at Marrakech airport you'll be met and transferred to your hotel in the centre of town. The remainder of the day is at leisure for you to explore Marrakech - why not head to the medina and discover the delights of Djemaa el Fna, the exuberant market place, which is a hive of activity, sights and smells at both day and night. Later on there will be a welcome meeting at the hotel at 730PM.

Meals: None

Accommodation: Adam Park Hotel & Spa or similar

Day 2

Marrakech

After breakfast we head over to the beautiful Majorelle Gardens just a short drive from the hotel. These botanical gardens were designed by the French Artist Jacques Majorelle in the 1920s and 1930s. He used a distinctive shade of cobalt blue for the majority of the garden and although a lot of his other work has largely been forgotten – this garden is seen as his greatest master piece. The garden has been owned by Yves Saint Laurent since 1980 and his ashes were scattered here after his death in 2008. The garden contains an extensive collection of exotic plants and trees and is home to 15 species of bird. There is also a Berber Museum representing the various indigenous tribes of Morocco including over 600 artefacts. The newly opened Yves Saint Laurent museum nearby is also well worth a visit - this museum was opened in 2017 and is dedicated to the life and works of Yves Saint Laurent himself. Please note entrance into the YSL museum is not included and costs 100 MAD per person if you would like to go in.

This afternoon you will meet up with the rest of the group who are coming in from Casablanca before embarking on a guided tour of Marrakech. Inside the rose coloured medina walls is a tangle of winding streets and alleys that open onto verdant gardens and bustling souks. At the heart of the medina is Djemaa El Fna, the city's exuberant market place and towering over it, is the famous Koutoubia Mosque, the tallest building in the city.

Meals: Breakfast and Dinner

Accommodation: Adam Park Hotel & Spa or similar

Day 3

Marrakech 🚗 Ait Benhaddou 🚗 Ouarzazate

Departing the city this morning we travel across the plains of haouz and reach the great High Atlas mountains. Climbing over the pass of Tizi n Tichka, we stop for lunch and then continue onwards with great views over the Mountains and valleys to Ait Benhaddou. This incredible ancient fortified Kasbah was built for defence purposes high on a hill and is a stunningly well preserved medieval city which has famously featured in many blockbuster movies, including Gladiator and Laurence of Arabia as its beauty is unequal to any other fortified kasbah in south Morocco. Carrying on we continue south to the Hollywood of North Africa – Ouarzazate (pronounced war-zazat). Ouarzazate is famous for being the filming location for many other Hollywood blockbusters and famous TV shows including James Bond – The Living Daylights, The Mummy and more recently Game of Thrones.

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch and Dinner

Accommodation: Ksar Ben Youssef or similar

Day 4

Ouarzazate 🚗 Todra Gorge 🚗 Merzouga (Sahara)

This morning we begin our journey into the Sahara with a medley of palm trees, rose fields and magnificent gorges. Travelling from Ouarzazate, there is a possibility of visiting the kasbah Amherdhil in Skoura before seeing the rose fields and reaching scenic Todra Gorge. Surrounded by towering vertical limestone cliffs reaching heights of 1000ft, it is known as Morocco's Grand Canyon. The charm of Todra lies in its changing colours as the sun slowly moves from east to west. After time to wander through Todra we hit the road again for Merzouga – our base before we head into the Sahara. Depending on the time of year, spend the afternoon relaxing and swimming before climbing aboard our camels for an incredible trek into the Sahara Desert to watch a beautiful sunset and spend the night at our remote Berber Camp, nestled amongst the dunes of Erg Chebbi. If you would prefer to take a Jeep to the Berber camp, this can be arranged locally through your guide at no additional cost. We enjoy local food, music and an amazing night camping in the Sahara.

If you would prefer the comfort of a hotel with en-suite facilities this evening, opt for our Sahara hotel alternative at no additional cost. Please do let us know your preferred option at the time of booking.

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch and Dinner

Accommodation: Camp Touareg

Day 5

Merzouga (Sahara) 🚗 Fes

Departing early, we climb back on our camels disembarking for a truly stunning sunrise. After freshening up and breakfast in Merzouga we're back on the road heading for Fes. It's a long drive today however there is a lot to see on the way. We'll pass through cedar forests full of Barbary Macaque monkeys on our way through the Moyen Atlas mountains. Just before Fes we stop at Ifrane – a beautiful town often likened to a Swiss Alpine resort. Along the way we also start to see our first glimpse of Morocco's nomadic Berbers – travelling across the mountains and often staying in make shift tents as they head to their next destination. We arrive into Fes in the early evening.

Meals: Breakfast and Lunch

Accommodation: Hotel Atlas Saiss Fes or similar

Day 6

Fes

Fes is the oldest and largest medieval city in the world and its medina is a cacophony of aromas, sights and sounds. This morning we enjoy a guided tour of Fes el Bali – the old walled city. This fascinating medina is a veritable rabbit warren of 9400 alleys that often finish with dead ends – so be sure to stay close to the group! We also visit the dye-pits and tanneries before lunch in the medina. The remainder of the day is at leisure – why not take part in an optional Tagine Making Class or a night of Moroccan entertainment and food at a restaurant in town (both payable locally).

Meals: Breakfast

Accommodation: Hotel Atlas Saiss Fes or similar

Day 7

Fes 🚗 Volubilis 🚗 Meknes 🚗 Rabat

Departing Fes this morning we visit the fascinating UNESCO listed Roman ruins of Volubilis, which date back to AD40. Continuing on we stop at the Imperial City of Meknes, which became known as the Versailles of Morocco due to its impressive buildings and elaborate monuments. After lunch and some free time our final stop of the day is Rabat – Morocco's capital where we overnight.

Meals: Breakfast

Accommodation: Riad Dar Alia or similar

Day 8

Rabat Casablanca Marrakech

This morning we take a guided tour of Rabat and visit some of the capital's highlights, including the impressive Chellah - a necropolis and complex of ancient, medieval ruins, the Royal Palace and the Mausoleum of Mohammed V. After lunch we continue to Casablanca where we visit the Hassan II Mosque, which has the tallest minaret and is the third largest mosque in the world - it can hold 25,000 worshippers at any one time. After our visit to the mosque we say goodbye to our fellow passengers leaving us in Casablanca and continue on to Marrakech for the night.

Meals: Breakfast

Accommodation: Adam Park Hotel & Spa or similar

Day 9

Marrakech Essaouira

Today we have a leisurely morning before starting our journey to Essaouira on Morocco's Atlantic Coast via private transfer, and upon arrival enjoy the rest of the evening at leisure. Why not find a restaurant in the charming old town and try the local cuisine.

Meals: Breakfast

Accommodation: Atlas Essaouira and Spa or similar

Day 10

Essaouira

Spend the next three days exploring the sights and delights of Essaouira at your own pace. Set on the rugged shores of the breezy Atlantic Coast, this charming seaside city offers a welcome respite from the hustle and bustle of Marrakech. While away the days here exploring its winding streets lined with whitewash houses, picking your way through the shops in its ancient medina, or by sitting at an ocean-facing restaurant sipping on a cup of coffee. During the warmer months why not try some water sports too, as the windy shores here offer ideal conditions for wind and kite surfing.

Meals: Breakfast

Accommodation: Atlas Essaouira and Spa or similar

Day 11

Essaouira

Today is a day at leisure.

Meals: Breakfast

Accommodation: Atlas Essaouira and Spa or similar

Day 12

Essaouira Marrakech

Early evening, we return to Marrakech for the night.

Meals: Breakfast

Accommodation: Adam Park Hotel & Spa or similar

Day 13

Marrakech

Our amazing tour of Morocco ends today after hotel check out. An included onward departure transfer to Marrakech airport will be provided.

Meals: Breakfast

Inclusions & Exclusions

Inclusions

- Breakfast daily, 3 lunches and 3 dinners inclusive of a traditional Berber meal at our Sahara camp
- 11 nights 3-4 star hotels and riads and 1 night simple accommodation at Sahara Desert camp (hotel alternative available)
- Guided sightseeing - Casablanca, Rabat, Volubilis, Fes, Merzouga, Todra Gorge and Ait Benhaddou and Marrakech
- Camel trek or Jeep into the Sahara Desert
- Escorted by a licensed English speaking Moroccan tour guide days 1 to 9
- Specialist guides in some cities
- Airport arrival and departure transfer on days 1 and 13
- All transportation and transfers in private air-conditioned tourism vehicle

Visas: UK, EU, Australian, New Zealand, Canadian and USA nationals do not require a visa for stays in Morocco of up to 90 days.

Exclusions

- International flights and Visa
- Tip for your tour guide and driver. We recommend you allow USD\$2-3 per day, per traveller for your guide and USD\$1-2 per day, per traveller for your driver. Tipping your guide and driver is an entirely personal gesture
- Entrance Fees: USD\$50-60pp, paid in local currency
- Tipping Kitty: USD\$155 - 195pp, paid in local currency

Want to stay earlier/later: Please contact our friendly Customer Service team about extending your trip and add ons!

Need a flight: We can quote you on your choice of Economy, Premium Economy or Business Class flights.

Single Supplement: There is a single supplement on this program of \$950.

Group Size: Min group size is 2, with a Max of 24.

Travel Insurance: We recommend Covermore travel insurance. To quote and book, please click [HERE](#).

Travelling on your own? Why not join the [Traveldream Solo Travellers Facebook group](#) where you can interact with other travellers.