

## MARRAKECH - SAHARA - FES - CHEFCHAOUEN - FES











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# VELCOMETO

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# 7 DAYS - GRAND TOUR OF MOROCCO

Day 1 - Marrakech - Ouarzazate
Early morning pick-up at the airport in Marrakech, luggage installation in our riad, then we start the visit to places of interest in Marrakech, from Jemma el Fna, La Menara, Bahia Palace, Marrakech Souk.

Dinner and accommodation.

## Day 2 - Marrakech - Valley of Dades

After breakfast we start our circuit, we will pass the High Atlas mountains. We will have an interesting stop at the Kasbah Ait Ben Haddou which is very attractive for visitors. You will enjoy Moroccan lunch there and our journey takes us further to the Dades valley. Here we stay for 1st night in a hotel / riad. You will enjoy a traditional Moroccan dinner and morning breakfast.

Dinner and accommodation. (half pension)

### Day 3 - Valley of Dades - Desert of Sahara (Merzouga)

Today our private Morocco trip continues from Dades valley towards Tinrghir and the Todra valley. You will enjoy the panoramic views of the old Berber villages. Todra Gorge is very popular for many Rock-climbers. After lunch in local restaurant, our Morocco trip continues to Merzouga passing Erfoud. We will drive through the valley of Tafilalet, which is the largest date palm grove in Morocco. We will enjoy shopping at the authentic local souk in Rissani. After we get to Merzouga we will spend a night in lcoal desert of merzouga.

Dinner and accommodation. (half pension)

Day 4 - Desert of Sahara (Merzouga) - Fes We will wake up early to enjoy a magnificent sunrise on the dunes then take a camel ride back to the hotel. After freshening up and breakfast we'll leave for Fes through Ziz Valley and the Middle Atlas mountains, cedar forests of Azrou and stop to hand feed the monkeys. We will continue via Ifrane, the 'Switzerland of Morocco' to arrive early evening to Fes.

After breakfast you will start your guided tour of the old medina, one of the world's largest walled city. You will explore the narrow streets lined with mounds of spices, fresh fruit intricately woven Berber carpets and many other art objects the country, you will visit the Quaraouine Mosque founded in 859 by Fatima el Fihria and the Andalussian Mosque dating back to 860. Then the Nejjarine fountain, Medersas (Qoranic schools) founded as early as the thirteenth century ,Batha Palace now a museum of arts and traditions, Tanneries, Souk Attarine, one of the liveliest in the city ,Bab Boujloud with its green and blue ceramics ,Mellah and the 17th century Ibn Danan synagogue, the Kings Palace, In the afternoon we set course for the northern blue city where we will spend the night.

### Day 6 - Chefchaouen Tour - Fes

After breakfast we will begin to discover the city of Chefchaouen, or the 'blue city', is arguably one of the prettiest places in Morocco. Set against a wide valley and nestled between two peaks in the stunning Rif Mountains, Chefchaouen may take you by surprise. Its medina has been lovingly cared for with striking blue and whitewashed houses, red-tiled roofs and artistic doorways. Much of Chefchaouen was recreated by Andalusian refugees escaping the Reconquistia, so you might feel like you're in the hills of Spain while exploring its streets. Ease into the relaxed pace of life in this rural retreat.

In the afternoon we return to the city of fez.

### Day 7 - Fes

Free day in fes until the specified time for transfer to the airport.

End of our services.



### THIS CIRCUIT INCLUDES

- Modern air conditioned 4x4 vehicle or Minibus.
- Pick up and transfer to the hotel or airport.
- Travel insurance.
- Berber tent accommodation in desert with enough blankets.
- Experienced driver/guide English speaking.
- Fuel, tolls and all associated expenses.
- Dinners and breakfasts (Vegetarians are welcome).
- It is possible to take a backpack with you on the camel.
- Sunrise and sunset camel treks.

### NOT INCLUDED

- Noon meal. (Possibility of picnic or restaurants).
- Tips and personal miscellaneous expenses.
- Entry fees to Monuments / Museums / Kasbahs
- Anything not mentioned in the program

### **IMPORTANT NOTES**

- Possibility of departure from other cities. Please consult.
- Possibility of carrying out the program in first, superior or moderate luxury category. Please consult.





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## ABOUT MOROCCO

Morocco is a country which is long north to south and located in the west end of North Africa. It is called Maghreb meaning "The country in which the sun goes down". Morocco faces the Atlantic Ocean on the west, and Mediterranean Sea on the north. Inland, over the Atlas Mountains, you will find a vast arid expanse. These landscapes make up the various climates of Morocco. Morocco can be divided into 3 climate regions; a Mediterranean climate in the north west, continental climate in the east, and a desert climate in the South. The coastal area of Morocco has been prospered as a gate to The European continent, taking advantage of the location which is just 14 km from Spain over the strait of Gibraltar, though it is in the African continent.

There are a lot of prospered areas which has been the trading post of the African, Middle eastern caravan.

Morocco has indigenous Berber and Arabic who immigrated with Islam. Most of Berber people still live their traditional lifestyle and the cultures are unique in each area.

The historical fact that Morocco was colonized by Rome, Islam and France made the culture of Morocco very unique mixed with Berber culture.

Morocco has a lot of different attractions. The ruins of Ancient Rome, maze-like Islamic Medina, white towns with a taste of colonial period, endless dunes of Sahara desert, great gorges and villages with the houses made of the durt of the mountain, fortified Kasbah, beaches, ski resorts. Morocco has everything from Mother Nature, Ancient ruins to relaxing resort.

A lot of tourists from all over the world visit Morocco all year around because of its exotic culture and great nature inspite of the convenient

### **CURRENCY EXCHANGE**

You can exchange at exchange counters, or at banks in most cities. Exchange rates are the same regardless of location.

There are a lot of ATMs in the country and credit cards are useful for getting cash.

### WEATHER

It varies according to the regions. On the coasts, winter it is soft and humid, in summer moderately hot. Inside the contrasts are greater. It is advisable to bring light clothes for the day and some shelter for the nights, especially in the interior and in the south, and if you travel between November and March.

### LANGUAGE

Arabic is the official language, but in the important cities and towns French is also used. In the north is still possible to be understood in Spanish with the locals.

### SAFFTY

The political situation is stable and relatively safe. It's safe enough for women to travel alone, but you should be mindful of pickpockets.

### SHOPPING

Without a doubt, Morocco is a shopping paradise. In all cities, towns and villages that the traveler travels, it is safe You will find something that captivates your interest such as: carpets, ceramics, embroidery, marquetry, etc.

### BUSINESS AND BANK OPENING HOURS

Winter: Monday to Friday 8.30-11.30 and 14.30-17.00

Summer: Monday to Friday

30-14.00 In Ramadan: Monday to Friday 9.00 -15.00 On Friday and Sunday some shops may be closed.

### GASTRONOMY

The great variety of recipes, the wise and subtle combination of sweet and savory spices and flavors have given universal recognition to the Moroccan cuisine. In addition to the cous cous, whose recipes vary according to the region, the seasons and the chef's own inspiration,

Moroccan gastronomy offers many delicacies, such as: Méchoui (whole lamb roasted slowly on the coals), Tajine (stew) of meat, or fish, with vegetables, which is served in the same container) Kefta (skewers of minced meat or meatballs), Pastella (thin layers)

puff pastry stuffed with pigeon meat with spices), etc.

Morocco uses the Greenwich (GMT) schedule, so in relation to to peninsular Spain, it is one hour less in winter and two hours less in summer. Museum hours are from 9 to 12 and from 15 to 17.30 hours. The stores, generally, open from 9.30 to 13 and from 15 at 19.30. Banks, in summer, have a continuous schedule of 8 a 15, 30 hours. Out of season, from 8.15 to 11.30 and from 14.15 to 17 hours. During the month of Ramadan they only open from 9:30 to 14:00. puff pastry stuffed with pigeon meat with spices), etc.

### WATER

We only recommend pre-packaged beverages to drink boiled or water-treated tablets. Bottled water is everywhere cheap to buy. Make sure the bottles are sealed when you buy them.

You should not drink tap water and do without ice cubes in drinks better Morocco

### LEGAL HOLIDAYS

New Year: 1 January

Declaration of Independence: January 11th

Labor Day: May 1st

Throne Festival: July 30th

West-Sahara-Tag: 14. August

National holiday: 20th of August

Birthday of the King: 21st August

Day of the Green March: 6 November ifno Morocco

Independence Day: 18th of November.





## THANK YOU VERY MUCH FOR YOUR ATTENTION

