



TRAVELLING TO NEW PLACES WITH CONFIDENCE

Morocco: Imperial Cities & Desert

9-Day, 8-Night Journey

Rabat, Fes, Merzouga, Ouarzazate, Marrakech

Embark on a vibrant Moroccan journey! Visit 4 imperial capital cities: Rabat, Meknes, Fes and Marrakech. Traverse the Atlas Mountains, admire Todgha Gorges and Ouarzazate's cinematic landscapes as well as Merzouga's tall Saharan dunes and Ziz Valley oasis. Dive into Marrakech's lively traditional souks. This tour offers a rich tapestry of Berber, Arab, African, and European cultures and history, together with breathtaking scenery. Experience Morocco's rich culture through its intricate ceramic tilework, hand-woven carpets, and aromatic cuisine, including flavorful tagines and couscous.



Evening food stalls at Jemaa el-Fnaa, Marrakech



Basilica, Volubilis, Morocco



Rich textures and intricate patterns of a Moroccan interior



Ait Ben Haddou (ancient fortress) near Ouarzazate



Majestic medieval architecture, Merzouga



Leather tannery, Fes

Highlights

- Imperial City of Meknes Tour
- Roman City of Volubilis Tour
- Imperial City of Fes Tour

- Middle and High Atlas Mountains, Sahara and Todgha Gorges Excursions
- Desert Camp
- Marrakech Tour

Inclusions

- Hotel Accommodations
- Daily Breakfast & 1 Dinner (see tour plan for details)
- Airport Transfers
- Intercity and Excursion Transfers
- Local guide and driver per itinerary
- Entrance Fees to Monuments and Attractions per itinerary

Exclusions

- International Airfare
- Government Tourism Fee
- Travel Insurance
- Medical Expenses
- Visa Fee
- Gratuities
- Personal Expenses

Nearby Airport

Casablanca - Casablanca Mohammed V International Airport (CMN)

Marrakesh - Marrakesh Menara Airport (RAK)

Itinerary

1 NIGHT IN RABAT

DAY 1: ARRIVE RABAT

Upon arriving at Casablanca airport (CMN), you'll be met and transferred to Rabat (1.5 hour). The rest of the day is free.

Rabat is the capital of Morocco and one of the imperial capital cities.

[Meals: None]

2 NIGHTS IN FES

DAY 2: RABAT – FES, MEKNES & VOLUBILIS TOUR

After breakfast, depart to **Fes** (8 hours @9am).



En-route visit the imperial city of **Meknes**. Visit Meknes' notable sites such as **Bab Mansour Gate** (which is the grandest of all the imperial Moroccan gateways) and the grand Moulay Ismail Mausoleum. Continue to the ancient ruins of the Roman city of **Volubilis**, a UNESCO World Heritage Site. Enjoy a guided visit to the remarkably well-preserved ruins, known for their mosaics, triumphal arch, and majestic columns. Continue your journey through the fertile countryside to the imperial city of Fes. **Fes** was the capital of Morocco for over 400 years and Morocco's spiritual and intellectual capital. Upon arrival, check in to your hotel and enjoy the evening at leisure. (drive time 4.5 hours)

[Meals: Breakfast]

DAY 3: FES CITY TOUR

Breakfast in the hotel then enjoy the guided **Fes tour** (6 hours @10am).

Spend the day discovering the cultural treasures of **Fes el Bali medina**, one of the oldest and most atmospheric medinas in the Arab world. Accompanied by a licensed local guide, explore historical landmarks such as Bou Inania Madrasa, Karaouine Mosque and University (al-Qarawiyyin University that is the oldest continuously operating university of the world). Visit Nejjarine Fountain and the famous Chouara Tanneries. Stroll through the bustling souks, artisan quarters, and hidden courtyards. In the afternoon, enjoy panoramic views of the medina from the Merenid Tombs.

[Meals: Breakfast]

1 NIGHT IN MERZOUGA

DAY 4: FES - MIDDLE ATLAS - ZIZ VALLEY - MERZOUGA (SAHARA DESERT)

Depart early for a long scenic journey south to the Sahara. Drive through the **Middle Atlas's** cedar forests via Ifrane. Stop in **Azrou** to see **Barbary macaques**. Lunch in Midelt (at your own cost). In the afternoon, descend into the **Ziz Valley**. Arrive late afternoon in **Merzouga**, on the Sahara's edge. Switch to **camels for a sunset trek** across Erg Chebbi's golden dunes to your desert camp. Enjoy a traditional dinner under the stars, followed by Berber music around a fire.

[Meals: Breakfast, Dinner]

1 NIGHT IN OUAZAZATE

DAY 5: MERZOUGA - TODGHA GORGES - OUARZAZATE

Wake up early to witness the magical sunrise over the dunes, a serene and unforgettable moment. After breakfast at camp, depart Merzouga and travel through the vast desert plains. Your first major stop is the dramatic **Todgha Gorges**, a natural wonder where limestone cliffs rise 300 meters high on either side of a narrow canyon.

Take time to walk through the gorge and enjoy the cool shaded valley. Continue your journey along the Road of the **Thousand Kasbahs**. Pass through the **Dades Valley** and head toward **Ouarzazate**, known as the "Hollywood of Africa" for its many film studios.

[Meals: Breakfast]

3 NIGHTS IN MARRAKECH

DAY 6: OUARZAZATE - AITBEN HADDOU - MARRAKECH

After breakfast, visit the striking **Kasbah Taourirt**. Then, head to nearby **Ait Ben Haddou**, a UNESCO World Heritage Site. Its dramatic earthen architecture has been featured in films such as *Gladiator*, *Game of Thrones*, and *The Mummy*. Enjoy a guided walk through the narrow alleys and climb to the top for panoramic views of the surrounding valley. Begin your journey across the majestic High Atlas Mountains via **Tizi n'Tichka Pass** (2,260 meters), offering stunning views, Berber villages, and scenic stops along the way.

Arrive in Marrakech by late afternoon and check in at your hotel. (8 hours @10am, drive time 4.5 hours)
[Meals: Breakfast]

DAY 7: MARRAKECH CITY TOUR

Breakfast in the hotel then enjoy the guided **city tour of Marrakech** (6 hours @10am).

Start your day at **Majorelle Garden**, a vibrant botanical oasis. See **Koutoubia Mosque** (exterior only), then explore **Bahia Palace**, a 19th-century Moroccan architectural masterpiece. In the afternoon, dive into the lively souks. End your day at **Jemaa el-Fnaa Square**, experiencing Marrakech's vibrant street life and authentic flavors. See amazing street performances of traditional activities by storytellers, snake charmers and peddlers of traditional medicines. You'll also have the opportunity to purchase authentic Moroccan argan oil, reputedly rich in nutrients and antioxidants beneficial to skin and hair.

[Meals: Breakfast]

DAY 8: MARRAKECH FREE DAY

Today is yours to enjoy Marrakech at your own pace. Relax at your hotel, visit a local hammam for a traditional spa experience, or explore further with optional activities.

[Meals: Breakfast]

DAY 9: MARRAKECH AIRPORT

After breakfast, hotel check-out and transfer to **Marrakech airport (RAK)** for your flight home.

[Meals: Breakfast]

*Hotel check-out time is generally around 11 am. If your flight departs in the evening or past midnight, we suggest you consider adding a post-tour hotel night during booking, to be comfortable and well rested before your flight home.

*The duration and start time of excursions are subject to change without prior notice.

Optional Add-ons:

- Additional hotel nights are available at the first and last cities for group tours.
- Additional hotel nights are available at every city for private tours.
- Standard double room is included with your tour. Room upgrades are available in the same hotel.

Classic 3-star and deluxe 5-star hotels are available for private tours, please advise the budget.