



TRAVELLING TO NEW PLACES WITH CONFIDENCE

## Best of Morocco

### 11-Day, 10-Night Journey

*Casablanca, Marrakech, Ouarzazate, Merzouga, Fez, Chefchaouen, Tangier, Rabat*

Embark on a vibrant Moroccan journey! Begin in Casablanca with its modern hustle and bustle, then dive into Marrakech's lively traditional souks. Traverse through Ouarzazate's cinematic landscapes and Merzouga's tall Saharan dunes. Explore Fez's ancient medina, Chefchaouen's blue alleys, Tangier's coastal charm, and conclude in Rabat, the regal capital city.

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 tilework, hand-woven carpets, and aromatic cuisine, including flavorful tagines and couscous.



Hassan II Mosque, Casablanca



Evening food stalls at Jemaa el-Fnaa, Marrakech



Ait Benhaddou (ancient fortress) near Ouarzazate



Panoramic view of Chefchaouen (Blue City)



Majestic medieval architecture, Merzouga



Fez, Morocco's cultural and spiritual capital

## Inclusions

- ▶ Hotel Accommodations
- ▶ Daily Breakfast & 3 Dinners  
(See tour plan for details)
- ▶ Private Airport Transfers
- ▶ Local guide 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)

# Itinerary

## 1 NIGHT IN CASABLANCA

### DAY 1: ARRIVE CASABLANCA

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

Casablanca is Morocco's largest city.

[Meals: Dinner]

## 2 NIGHTS IN MARRAKECH

### DAY 2: CASABLANCA CITY TOUR, MARRAKECH

Breakfast in the hotel then enjoy the city tour of Casablanca.

Begin with a visit to **Hassan II mosque**, the largest mosque in the country and one of the largest mosques in the world. Continue to **Ain Diab Corniche** for a pleasant stroll along the coast. Your next stop is Mohammed V Square. Enjoy some leisure time in the huge Morocco Mall.

Late in the afternoon we transfer to Marrakech or the "Paris of the Sahara" as Winston Churchill once described it. Overnight in Marrakech.

[Meals: Breakfast]

### DAY 3: MARRAKECH CITY TOUR

Breakfast in the hotel then enjoy the guided city tour of Marrakech.



Visit **Koutoubia Mosque** which is an old monument that likely inspired other buildings such as the Giralda in Seville, Spain and Hassan Tower in Rabat.

Stop next at **Bahia Palace**. It was built in the late 19th century and captures the essence of the Islamic and Moroccan styles.

Visit **Madrasa Ben Youssef** which is the largest Quranic school (focus on teaching the Quran) in Morocco.

Stop next at the **Saadian tombs**, which date back to Sultan Ahmad al-Mansur (1578-1603). The tombs were discovered in 1917 and were restored by the Beaux-Arts government department.

Continue to the world famous **Jema El Fna Square** where you will enjoy amazing street performances of traditional activities by storytellers, snake charmers and peddlers of traditional medicines.

Your last stop is the bustling souks in the old medina (historic district).

[Meals: Breakfast]

## 1 NIGHT IN OUARZAZATE

### DAY 4: MARRAKECH – AIT BEN HADDOU – OUARZAZATE

Breakfast in the hotel then depart Marrakech through the spectacular High Atlas Mountains to Ouarzazate. En-route, visit the spectacular fortress of **Ait Ben Haddou**. The village is a great example of earthen clay architecture and is a UNESCO World Heritage Site.

Continue to **Ouarzazate**, also known as “Morocco’s Hollywood”. Stop at the film studios where some of the most famous desert landscapes were shot, and are still being shot now.

Visit **Taourirt Kasbah** which is considered one of the most beautiful kasbahs (fortress) in Morocco.

Dinner in the hotel. Overnight in Ouarzazate.

[Meals: Breakfast, Dinner]

## 1 NIGHT IN MERZOUGA

### DAY 5: OUARZAZATE – DADES – TINGHIR – MERZOUGA

Breakfast in the hotel then depart Ouarzazate, heading into the heart of the Sahara desert. The drive is spectacular, with numerous of Kasbahs (fortresses) lining the route.

Visit **Kelaat M’Gouna**, a big town which is famous for cultivating roses. Expect to find many fine rose-infused products here.

Continue to **Dades** which is known as the valley of figs. The beautiful Dades Valley offers the picturesque Dades Gorge, a spectacular serpentine road, and striking burnished mud-brick homes. Continue to Tinghir, the drive is spectacular, winding through stunning desert landscapes and villages with the expansive Jebel Sarhro lunar landscape. **Tinghir** is a gorgeous 40 km long oasis, which boasts one of the largest palm groves in the country.

Stop at the famous **Todra Gorge**, a 300m wall carved deep into the High Atlas Mountains. Thanks to its robust rock sides with many uneven surfaces, Todra Gorge is popular among rock climbers.

Transfer to **Merzouga**, which is the heart of the desert. Enjoy a **sunset camel ride** to your charming desert camp by the dunes. Dinner in the Desert Camp. Overnight in Merzouga.

[Meals: Breakfast, Dinner]

## 2 NIGHTS IN FEZ

### DAY 6: MERZOUGA – ERFOUD – MIDELE – IFRANE – FEZ

Breakfast in the hotel then transfer to **Fez**, which is the spiritual capital of Morocco.

The drive takes you through many Amazigh (Berber) villages and along the Ziz valley.

Arrive at **Midele**, a Berber town in the high plains between the Middle Atlas and High Atlas mountain ranges. Midele is one of Morocco's principal cities for the mining several minerals.

Continue through the Middle Atlas mountains. Stop first in **Ifrane**, a charming town and ski resort. Ifrane is famous for its Alpine climate, European-style houses and its 1,665 meter (5,460 ft) elevation. The town experiences snow during winter months and has a cool climate during summer. Ifrane is also where the record low temperature in Africa occurred, -24 °C in 1935. While in Ifrane, expect to find animals like the threatened Barbary Macaque and local tree species such as the native Atlas cedar, Scrub oak and the introduced London plane.

Arrive in **Fez** in the late afternoon. Overnight in Fez.

There are 4 imperial capital cities in Morocco - Fez, Marrakesh, Meknes and Rabat.

[Meals: Breakfast]

### DAY 7: FEZ CITY TOUR

Breakfast in the hotel then enjoy the guided **city tour of Fez**.

Begin at the largest **royal palace** in Morocco. Continue with a panoramic view of the ancient **medina**.

Enjoy an authentic experience at the traditional ceramic crafts village of Fez. Your next stop is **Fez El Bali**, the ancient town or **medina**, which is a medieval part of Fez that has been unchanged for centuries.

Visit the famous **al-Qarawiyyin University (Al-Karaouine University)**, the oldest continuously operating university of the world.

Visit a **Medersa** which is a Quranic school in the medina.

Complete the city tour of Fez with the **leather souq** and the **oldest Leather Tannery** in the world. The tannery dates back at least nine centuries. Overnight in Fez.

[Meals: Breakfast]

## 1 NIGHT IN CHEFCHAOUEN

### DAY 8: FEZ – MEKNES – VOLUBILIS – CHEFCHAOUEN

Breakfast in the hotel then transfer to **Chefchaouen**.

En-route visit a previous capital city, **Meknes**, the “Moroccan Versailles” and one of the oldest cities in the kingdom. Stop at the massive **Bab El Mansour gate**, which is the grandest of all the imperial Moroccan gateways. Stop next at **Hri Souani**, which is a complex of three buildings built for granaries and stables. Continue to the Roman ruins in **Volubilis** (a UNESCO World Heritage site), a Berber and Roman city partly excavated by the UNESCO. Volubilis was considered the capital of the ancient Kingdom of Mauretania.

We then transfer to **Chefchaouen**, the “Blue City” and one of the most majestic places to visit in Morocco. Overnight in Chefchaouen.

[Meals: Breakfast]

## 1 NIGHT IN RABAT

### DAY 9: CHEFCHAOUEN CITY TOUR, TANGIER CITY TOUR – RABAT

Breakfast in the hotel.

Enjoy the **Chefchaouen city tour**. Start your tour at the 18<sup>th</sup> century **kasbah (fortress) of Chefchaouen**. Stop next at **Plaza Uta el-Hammam**, which is the main square in town and where the striking 15<sup>th</sup> century **Grand Mosque** sits. Uncover treasures in the narrow lanes, browsing handicraft shops which offer unique wool garments and handwoven blankets.

We then transfer to **Tangier**, the pearl of northern Morocco and the country's main gateway to Europe. Enjoy the city tour of Tangier. Stop first at the old town, the medina which is a UNESCO World Heritage Site. Visit the American legation, Dar El Oued Makhazen Kasbah, Mendoubia Gardens, Grand Socco and Petit Socco.

Then transfer to **Cape Spartel** which is the meeting point of the Mediterranean Sea and the Atlantic Ocean. Cape Spartel was known to the Greeks and Romans as the "Cape of the Vines". Visit the Caves of Hercules, which is Africa's most north-westerly promontory and has a strange sea window shaped like a map of Africa.

Transfer to **Rabat, the capital of Morocco** and one of the country's imperial cities. Overnight in Rabat.

[Meals: Breakfast]

## 1 NIGHT IN CASABLANCA

### DAY 10: RABAT CITY TOUR, CASABLANCA

Breakfast in the hotel then enjoy the **city tour of Rabat**.

Visit the **Kasbah of the Oudayas**. This 12<sup>th</sup> century hilltop fortress offers scenic views of the Rabat waterfront.

Stop next at **Mohammed V Mausoleum** to see its ornate woodwork, marble and bronze ornaments.

Your last stop is **Hassan Tower**, which is a minaret built in 1195.

In the afternoon we transfer to Casablanca. Overnight in Casablanca.

[Meals: Breakfast]

### DAY 11: CASABLANCA AIRPORT

After breakfast, hotel check-out and transfer to Casablanca airport (CMN) 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.