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## Highlights of Morocco

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**1<sup>ST</sup> Day: – Welcome arrival- Casablanca**

*Approximately 40 min drive*

Arrival into Casablanca airport, you will be welcomed by your English-speaking guide and transferred by your private car to your hotel.

**2<sup>nd</sup> Day: – Casablanca – Meknes & Volubilis- Chefchouen**

*Approximately 5 hours drive*

Morning visit of the remarkable Hassan II mosque, one of only two mosques in Morocco open to non-Muslims. Built by the late King Hassan II at the end of his 40-year reign, this astounding edifice is larger than Saint Peter's in Rome and capable of holding 80,000 worshippers.



Then drive to the Imperial city of Meknes, known as the “Moroccan Versailles” and founded in the 17th century by King Moulay Ismail. Meknes is famous for its 25-milelong walls.



Arrival to Chefchouen in the afternoon,

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**3<sup>rd</sup> Day: Chefchouen**

At **10h00 am**, your guide will meet you at the lobby of your hotel for a tour of Chefchouen.

Chefchaouen: Hanging like a crescent from Twin Mountains, the town is a 15th century relic of the Muslim civilization of Andalusia. Nestled into a fold of the Rif Mountains the walls of the town are painted a pale ochre in order to diminish the intensity of the sun. The roofs are covered with brown tiles and resemble those found

in southern Spain. The roofs are covered with brown tiles and resemble those found in southern Spain. The alleyways climb to little squares often crossed by Andalusian arches.

Visit Chefchaouen, which is also called Blue City, and has many surprises for visitors. The town's historical aspects and because it is near to the Spanish border and Tangier. The town is easily recognizable by its unique blue-rinsed buildings and houses. This tradition was started by Chefchaouen's former Jewish population and has been carried on down to this day.

Visit the famous Plaza of Chefchaouen Uta El Hammam



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**4<sup>th</sup> Day: Chefchaouen-Fes**  
**Approximately 4 hours drive**

After breakfast, meet your guide and drive to transfer you to Fes.

Arrival late afternoon,

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**5<sup>th</sup> Day: - Fes**

At **9h30 am**, your guide will meet you at the lobby of your hotel for full day tour of Fes:

**Fes el Bali** is a UNESCO World Heritage Site and was founded in the 9th century. Home to the oldest university in the world, Fez reached its height in the 13th–14th centuries under the Merinids, when it replaced Marrakech as the capital of the kingdom. The urban fabric and the principal monuments in the medina – madrasas, fondouks, palaces, residences, mosques and fountains - date from this period. Although the political capital of Morocco was transferred to Rabat in 1912, Fez has retained its status as the country's cultural and spiritual centre.



Artisan workshops in the medina are as active today as 100 years ago, and strongly contribute to the city's industrial economy. Trades such as metal and leather working, ceramics, silk, tapestries, and sculpting are still practiced in these workshops. Original ramparts still protect the ancient city and its' 9000 passageways and narrow streets.

Your sightseeing tour will include the following:

### [New Medina](#)

The “nouvelle Ville” of Fez, or new city, provides a startling contrast with Fès el Bali. Wide and elegant avenues are lined with numerous cafés and restaurants. The modern aspect of the new city highlights the economic differences of the suburbs and the city center.

### [The Medersa](#)

This theological college, marked by its green tiled roof, is a prime example of Merinid architecture, and it's the most beautiful of Kairaounie University's residential colleges. Inside, elegant calligraphy graces the ceramic tile walls. The marble floors, sculpted cedar, and carved stucco walls—made with a concoction of plaster and egg white—have held up since this masterpiece Medersa was built in 1350. Since it is still in use, non-Muslims must depart during prayer time.



### [Bab Boujloud](#)

Constructed in 1913, this gate is about 1,000 years younger than the buildings behind it. It's proof that age doesn't matter—the relatively youthful structure is the most strikingly beautiful entry point into the old city. Painted flowers and calligraphy embellish its outer blue ceramic tiles and, depending on one's interpretation, the green mosaic interior either represents peace or the official color of Islam. Stop by at sunset for some excellent photo opportunities.

### [The Splendid fountain at Place Nejjarine](#)

The square, with its splendid and unusual fountain, takes its name from the Souk Nejjarine (Carpenter's Souk) which is situated behind a wooden door in a narrow street below the square.

### **Time for lunch**

### **Continue the tour**

### [The Mellah](#)

The Jewish Quarter. The Jews lived here and received protection from the sultan. The main street is especially interesting with its balconies and Art Deco zellij mosaic. Most Jews in Fez (around 300) now live in the Ville Nouvelle. Visit of the Ibn Danan Synagogue, a recently restored 17th century synagogue.

### [Souks](#)

The souks of Fez are located in the ancient city center, the medina. Merchants selling the same sort of products are generally grouped together in their own “souk”. The tiny alleyways are crowded with the tiny boutiques on both sides. The henna and wood working souks are located in the Nejjarine neighborhood and the scent of cedar is everywhere. The main plaza is planted with trees and provides a shaded haven from the warm sun. Various natural products derived from henna are sold here. Nejjarine is also where the fabric dyers are located. You simply should not miss El Attarine, the spice souk. Without question, this souk is the most colourful in Fez.



**6<sup>th</sup> Day: – Fes – Erfoud-Merzouga**  
*Approximately 7 hours drive*

Morning transfer to the town of Erfoud, a base from which to explore the vast dunes of Erg Chebbi. This is a spectacular drive through the cedar forests of the Middle Atlas to Midelt and on across the Pass of the She-Camel and through the Tunnel of the Legionnaires looking out over the valley of the Ziz to Errachadia.

Arrival to Erfoud in the afternoon.

**Afternoon**, a 4x4 WD with driver will be waiting for you to take you deeper to the dunes of Erg Chaabi.

**CAMPING IN THE DESERT**

One of the most requested parts of Morocco is camping out in the desert. Based around the world renowned dunes at Mergouza to the south of Erfoud, we have a special arrangement with an encampment that is quite unique and private. Excellent accommodation, full WC and shower facilities and first-rate service and dining are all part of this experience.

A night in the desert is an extraordinary experience enhanced by there being no light pollution so the night sky is spectacular.



Free morning to enjoy the desert.

At 14h00 your 4\*4 will be waiting for you to start a day excursion to the dunes of Erg Chebbi, possibly the largest dunes in the Sahara Desert. The dunes of Erg Chebbi are a strikingly strange natural formation. On top of the flattest area you could imagine, suddenly a long mountain of sand rises. This mountain is surrounded by flat and desolate nature on all sides, and you could end up wondering if it really is real. But so, it is, even if its existence is so weird that it has given rise to legends and myths among the locals.

**8<sup>th</sup> Day: – Merzouga - Skoura.**  
*Approximately 5 hours drive*

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Breakfast at the camp and at **09h00** am continue to Skoura .

En route, visit Rissani, the holy city where Moulay Ali Cherif, ancestor of the Alaouite dynasty, is buried. Visit the ruins of Sijilmasa, a famous capital of the old caravan routes in the 8th century. Visit the Kasbah of the 17th century and the Ksar Abbar ruins which gives us an opportunity to discover the lifestyle of the Berber village. Continue to Tineghir via the Tinjdad road and stop to view the Todgha canyons which is a canyon in the eastern part of the High Atlas Mountains in Morocco, near the town of Tinerhir then continue to Boumalne Dades which is a beautiful urban communion situated about 25 km from the city of Kelaa M'gouna



**9<sup>th</sup> Day: –Skoura – Marrakech**  
*Approximately 4 hours and half drive*

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Morning short sightseeing tour to discover Ouarzazate and visit the UNESCO World Heritage Centre of Ait Benhaddou, where movies such as Gladiator and Jesus of Nazareth were filmed. In Ouarzazate, you will visit the Kasbah Taourirt of Pasha Glaoui and continue directly to Marrakech through the col of Tizi Tichka, the highest passage of Morocco and all of North Africa as you cross over the High Atlas Mountains.

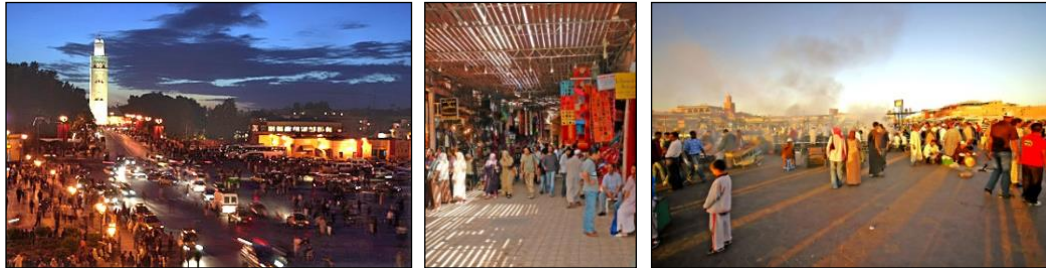


Arrival to Marrakech late afternoon

At **9h30 am**, your guide will meet you at the hotel for full day guided tour of Marrakech

Founded nearly 1000 years ago, it is also known as the "red city" and is perhaps the most famous destination in Morocco. A combination of the old (the Medina) and the new (Guéliz), Marrakech is an exotic cocktail of sights and sounds.

There are many historical places of interest to see including the extraordinary Jemaa el-Fna, the main square in Marrakech. In the evenings, the square becomes a venue for alfresco eating and entertainment with troupes of costumed acrobats, storytellers, magicians, dancers, and semi-mystical Gnawa musicians. The souks display a vast array of merchandise & offer an insight into a way of life unchanged in centuries.



The "new town" Guéliz, built by the French in the 1930's, is a total contrast to the Medina with its broad avenues, modern shops and cafés. The most visited site in Guéliz is the "Jardins Marjorelle" created by Yves St Laurent. A haven of peace set in an exotic garden.

Your sightseeing tour will include the following:

### **The Square, Jemaa el Fna**

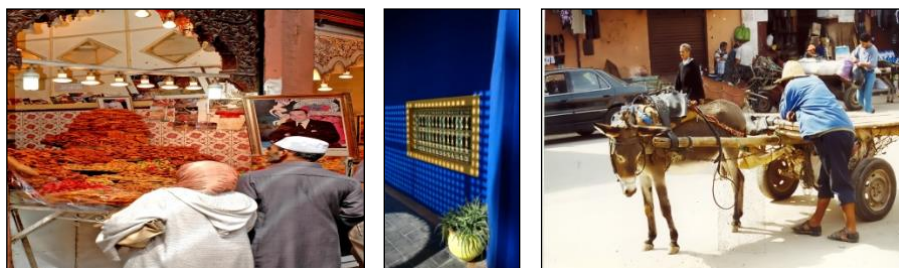
Jemaa el-Fna, translated as the Square of the art, is the main open space in Marrakech, and as old as the city itself. Once the scene of public executions, it is now the city's cultural center, thronged day and night with a carnival of local life, including snake charmers, dentists, scribe, herbalists, and beggars.

### **Saadian Tombs**

One of the most visited sites in Morocco is the Saadian Tombs, which were only accessible via the mosque next door. However, in 1917 they were opened to the public and can now be accessed via a narrow passage that leads to an enclosed garden watched over by two mausoleums that include more than one hundred mosaic decorated tombs.

### **Koutoubia Minaret**

The centre piece of Marrakech is the square tower of the Koutoubia minaret, attached to the Koutoubia Mosque, built in the late 12th century. It's not particularly high—about 250 feet—but it towers over the Medina thanks to a long-standing planning ordinance that forbids any other building in the old city to rise above the it.



### **El-Bahia Palace**

This 19th century palace is elaborate in its decoration and was built over a period seven years for Ba Ahmed, the son of the Grand Vizier Si Moussa. There are row after row of apartments—that once housed Ahmed's

harem—a trapezoidal garden, a huge tiled courtyard, and many hidden treasures, both in the form of antique objects d'art and the palace's convergence of Andalusian and Moorish architecture.

### **Time for lunch ( on own)**

### **Continue the tour**

#### **The Koranic School Medersa Ben Youssef**

Theological college founded by the Merenid Sultan Abu Hassan in the 14th century, and restored in 1564 by the Saadians who made it the largest theological college in the Maghreb, and a rival to the important Medersa Bou Inania in Fés.

#### **The Souks**

At the heart of Marrakech, filling the alleys north of the central square, are the souks, mile after constricted mile of tiny, closet-sized emporia. The sheer number of shops is overwhelming—100 of them in 100 yards. Every section of the souk has its own specialty, with alleys devoted to everything from spices and ironwork to the ingredients necessary for casting magic spells.



The remainder of the day is at your leisure.

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### **11<sup>th</sup> Day: – Marrakech**

**At 09h30 am**, your guide & driver will meet you at the lobby of your hotel for a guided tour of Marrakech gardens as follows:

The gardens of Marjorelle, a property acquired in 1922 by the painter of the same name and then bought and developed by Yves St Laurent. These gardens are an oasis in the heart of the city and rich with flora and fauna. Once inside the garden walls, you would never think you were in the heart of a busy city. There is an excellent café in the gardens where you can enjoy a drink or snack.



The garden of “La Menara”, and its hundreds of olive-trees, the park extends for over a hundred hectares (280 acres approx) and has in its centre an immense pool dating from the XIIIth century. At the water’s edge is a small Saadien house that has been restored.

The Palmery - just outside the city of Marrakech - has about 150.000 palm trees.

At 16h00, meet your Side car driver to enjoy the excursion of the city by moto.



**12<sup>th</sup> Day: – Marrakech-Casablanca**  
*3h drive aprox*

Free morning and by **12h00**, transfer to Casablanca via high way.

Arrival at **16h00** to their hotel.



**13<sup>th</sup> Day: – Casablanca airport**

Transfer to Marrakech airport for your onward flight out.

***End of Our Services!***

***4 Star Hotels***

Accommodation	City	Room type	Number of rooms	Nights
<b>1-2 DAY</b>	CASABLANCA	<b>Standard room BB</b>	1	1
<b>LE DOGE</b>				
<b>Bed and Breakfast basis</b>	Visit to Meknes - day tour on the way			
<b>2-4 DAY</b>	CHEFCHOUEN	<b>Suite room BB</b>	1	2
<b>RIAD CHERFIA</b>				
<b>Bed and Breakfast basis</b>				
<b>4-6 DAY</b>	FES	<b>Deluxe room BB</b>	1	2
<b>PALAIS AMANI</b>				
<b>Bed and Breakfast basis</b>				
<b>6-8 DAY</b>	MERZOUGA	<b>TENT HB</b>	1	2
<b>DESERT LUXURY CAMP</b>				
<b>Bed and Half board basis</b>				
<b>8-9 DAY</b>	SKOURA	<b>SUPERIEUR ROOM HB</b>	1	1
<b>KSAR EL KABBABA</b>				
<b>Bed and Half board basis</b>				



9-12 DAY	MARRAKECH	Junior room BB	1	3
<b>LA MAISON ARABE</b>				
Bed and Breakfast basis				
12-13 DAY	CASABLANCA	SUPERIEUR ROOM BB	1	1
<b>SOFITEL TOUR BLANCHE</b>				
Bed and Breakfast basis				
<b>Transportation</b>				
<b>Date</b>	<b>Vehicle</b>	<b>The Way</b>		
01 DAY	A/C car with driver and fuel	Transfer from the airport of Casablanca to their hotel		
2 DAY	A/C car with driver and fuel	City tour of Casablanca & Meknes and transfer to Chefchouen via Rabat <b>(drive)</b>		
3 DAY	A/C car with driver and fuel	City tour of Chefchouen		
4 DAY	A/C car with driver and fuel	Transfer from Chefchouen to Fes <b>(4h drive)</b>		
5 DAY	A/C car with driver and fuel	City tour of Fes		
6 DAY	A/C car with driver and fuel	Transfer from Fes to Merzouga <b>(7h drive)</b>		
7 DAY	A/C car with driver and fuel	Transfer from Merzouga to the Camp		
8 DAY	A/C car with driver and fuel	Full day at Merzouga		
9 DAY	A/C car with driver and fuel	Transfer from Merzouga to Skoura <b>(5h drive)</b>		
10 DAY	A/C car with driver and fuel	Transfer from Skoura to Marrakech <b>(5h drive)</b>		
11 DAY	A/C car with driver and fuel	City tour of Marrakech		
12 DAY	A/C car with driver and fuel	Garden's tour of Marrakech & excursion inside car		
13 DAY	A/C car with driver and fuel	Transfer from Marrakech to Casablanca <b>(3h drive)</b>		
Transfer to the airport of Casablanca				
<b>Guiding &amp; Monuments</b>				
<b>Date</b>	<b>City</b>			
1 -13 DAY	English guide at disposal Monuments fees			
<b>Other services included in the trip</b>				
<b>Date</b>	<b>Service</b>			
5 DAY	Dinner at Fes			
7 DAY	Excursion picnic lunch at the oasis Camp			
11 DAY	Excursion in Side car			

**Private Vehicle:** Mercedes Vito, air conditioned, including wifi, mineral water. Driver expenses and fuel are included.

**OTHER SERVICES INCLUDED:**

- Camel ride by sunset and sandboard in the desert of Merzouga
- A qualified English speaking guide throughout the journey.
- 24/7 emergency phone service by English speaking staff in our Marrakech offices.

**USD Price per Pax in double room : \$5095.00 per person** at today's exchange rate includes taxes.

It also includes:

Air conditioner Mercedes vito with driver and fuel at disposal 24/7, English speaking guide and all services mentioned above.

- 24/7 emergency phone service by English speaking staff in our Marrakech offices.

It doesn't include:

- Tips, extras, and personal expenses.
- Any lunches or meals, Drinks not mentioned as included.