



## Morocco: Sahara Sands, Markets, and a Feast for the Senses

**DURATION** | 14 Days

**TRIP LEVEL** | Level 1 - Easy Pace

# Trip Overview

Discover Morocco's vibrant traditions, from mountain villages to bustling markets, and savor its diverse landscapes and cuisine. Start in Rabat, where ancient sites like Hassan Tower blend with modern elements. In Chefchaouen, share a meal with a local family, explore a djellaba workshop, and hike for stunning views. Next, in Meknes and Fes, immerse yourself in medieval history, local crafts, and traditional methods of tanning leather. Relax in a luxury desert camp in Erfoud, ride camels across the Sahara, and watch a sunrise over the dunes. Explore the High Atlas Mountains, the UNESCO-listed Kasbah Ait Ben Hadou, and conclude in Marrakech, navigating the vibrant Djemma el-Fna market and experiencing the city's rich cultural fusion. This journey promises an in-depth exploration of Morocco's captivating heritage and landscapes.

# Trip Highlights

- Stroll through the blue-painted Old City and medina.
- Enjoy a luxury tented experience in the desert.
- Explore Fes and Marrakech's bustling medinas, and tour women-owned cooperatives.

# Map View



Arrival: Arrive in Rabat (RBA), Morocco on Day 1 by 4:00 PM.

Departure: Depart from Marrakech, Morocco (RAK) on Day 14 at any time.



# Trip Itinerary

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## Day 1

### Arrive in Rabat

Welcome to Morocco! Arrive at Casablanca or Rabat airport and transfer to your hotel in Rabat. One group transfer will be provided from each airport to your hotel in Rabat (specific time will be determined closer to departure). Private transfers at other times are available for purchase. Meet your Moroccan guide and fellow travelers before enjoying a lively welcome dinner where you'll share stories and excitement about your upcoming adventure. Morocco's rich cultural tapestry, from its vibrant music and art to its historic traditions, will soon captivate you. Your journey begins in this hospitable and historically rich country, setting the stage for an unforgettable exploration.

Meals: dinner | Overnight: Hotel La Tour Hassan



### Hotel La Tour Hassan

This extraordinary place defies time. Everything is designed for your comfort and well-being. Luxury, calm, and serenity are all part of your stay.

Amenities: Soap, shampoo, conditioner, hair dryer; electricity; Wifi



# Trip Itinerary

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## Day 2

### Rabat to Chefchaouen

Explore Rabat this morning, visiting landmarks like the Mohamed V Mausoleum and Hassan Tower, and stroll through Kasbah Oudaya. Drive through the scenic Rif Mountains and enjoy lunch en route to Chefchaouen. After a brief orientation of this charming blue-washed town, check into your riad and savor a delicious dinner with your group, getting ready to immerse yourself in Chefchaouen's unique atmosphere.

Meals: breakfast, lunch, dinner | Overnight: Riad Lina



### Riad Lina

Surrounded by magnificent cerulean mountains and nestled in the heart of the medina, this luxurious ryad enjoys a privileged position in one of Morocco's most unique destinations. The spa with its heated indoor pool and hammam will offer traditional delicious moments of relaxation. The personalized service promises a unique and unforgettable stay in an area where authentic medina living is still preserved.

Amenities: complimentary toiletries, safe, flatscreen TV, Wi-Fi, air conditioning

# Trip Itinerary

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## Day 3

### Discover Chefchaouen

Embark on a walking tour of Chefchaouen's medina, soaking in the cultural blend of Berbers, Muslims, and Jewish influences. Visit a traditional workshop to learn about the iconic Djellaba robe and enjoy a traditional lunch with a local family. Hike a surrounding hill for panoramic views of the town. Optionally, indulge in a traditional hammam experience before a group dinner at your riad.

Meals: breakfast, lunch, dinner | Overnight: Riad Lina



# Trip Itinerary

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## Day 4

### Chefchaouen to Fes

Depart Chefchaouen and journey towards Fes, stopping first at Volubilis, a well-preserved Roman site with impressive mosaics. Continue to Meknes for a tour and wine tasting at a local vineyard. Arrive in Fes in the evening, where you'll check into your riad and enjoy a group dinner, readying yourself for exploration of this historic city.

Meals: breakfast, lunch, dinner | Overnight: Riad Fes



### Riad Fes

Riad Fes is located in the heart of the ancient city of Fes. It has succeeded in combining refinement with inspiration and invites you to relax and enjoy your stay in a serene atmosphere with decor reminiscent of Arabian Nights. Riad Fes provides guests with the opportunity to travel back in time and enjoy the splendor and authenticity of the lifestyle of Fassi nobility. The prestigious history and refined civilization of this imperial city are reflected in the Spanish Moorish architecture and attention to detail seen in the decor.

Amenities: complimentary toiletries, bathrobes, hair dryer, minibar, bottled water, coffee / tea maker, flatscreen TV, Wi-Fi, air conditioning

# Trip Itinerary

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## Day 5

### Explore Fes

Start the day with a panoramic view of Fes, then dive into its medina with your guide. Navigate the narrow streets, souks, and tanneries, and visit notable sites like the Karaouine Mosque. Witness traditional leatherworking and blue ceramics. After a traditional lunch, there will be an optional activity/workshop offered such as a cooking class, garden tour or pottery making. Prices vary from \$30 -50 per person depending on the activity or workshop. This will be booked by your guide and payment can be made in-country. Or you may choose to opt out of any activity this afternoon and take some time to relax at your riad. Enjoy dinner back at your riad.

Meals: breakfast, lunch, dinner | Overnight: Riad Fes



# Trip Itinerary

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## Day 6

### Drive to Aguelmam Sidi Ali

Depart from Fes to Sefrou to spend the day with a women's cooperative crafting djellaba, scarves, and rugs. Learn to make cherry buttons and enjoy lunch while exchanging stories with the women. Then, travel through the Atlas Cedar forest and high pastures to reach your mountain retreat near the peaceful Aguelmam Sidi Ali Lake, about a 90-minute drive.

Meals: breakfast, lunch, dinner | Overnight: Hotel Xaluca



### Hotel Xaluca

Nestled in the heart of Morocco lies the Hotel Xaluca Spa Aguelmame Sidi Ali. This property is a haven of peace and tranquility, perfect for those seeking a serene escape amidst nature's beauty. Situated on the shores of Lake Aguelmame Sidi Ali, the hotel offers stunning views of the Atlas Mountains and an abundance of local flora and fauna. The lake itself is renowned throughout Morocco for its natural beauty, boasting a depth of 35 meters and surrounded by scenic cedar forests that house a variety of local wildlife, including goats. Each room provides a cozy and comfortable atmosphere, where guests can unwind and take in the natural splendor of their surroundings.



# Trip Itinerary

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## Day 7

### Drive to Erfoud

Continue your journey to Southern Morocco with a few short stops including a picnic lunch along the way. Watch for changing colors, landscape, architecture, and vegetation along this journey. Settle into your lovely hotel in Erfoud when you arrive this evening. It's a long drive today (nearly eight hours), but you'll be rewarded with a much more private, off-the-beaten-path experience, including the possibility of meeting a local semi-nomadic family.

Meals: breakfast, lunch, dinner | Overnight: Kasbah Chergui



### Kasbah Chergui

Kasbah Chergui is in a quiet spot on the outskirts of Erfoud, not far from the largest and most spectacular sand dunes in Morocco. The hotel has a pool, spa, and hammam, as well as an indoor and outdoor restaurant.

Amenities: complimentary toiletries, hair dryer, Wi-Fi, air conditioning

# Trip Itinerary

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## Day 8

### Erfoud to Merzouga

Spend a leisurely morning at your hotel in this beautiful area before departing for Merzouga. Enjoy lunch once you arrive at your private desert camp. Arrive at your luxury tented camp in the dunes of Erg Chebbi. The camel handlers and camels will be waiting to take you on a camel ride to soak in the sunset over the vast sand dunes. Gather for a hearty dinner outside under the starry sky with your new friends.

Meals: breakfast, lunch, dinner | Overnight: Luxury Tented Camp



### Luxury Tented Camp

Your tented camp in the Erg Chebbi dunes is complete with stunning detail. Your tents include comfortable beds with fine linens, attached bathrooms, and soft furnishings. Your stay in the desert will be unforgettable.

Amenities: complimentary toiletries, hair dryer, electricity

# Trip Itinerary

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## Day 9

### Merzouga to Skoura

If you're awake early enough, walk up to one of the highest sand dunes to watch the sun rise over the desert. This is a peaceful experience you won't forget. Enjoy some free time at your camp before rejoining your driver to head to the Todgha Gorge. Explore on foot the Todgha Gorge, a canyon in the eastern part of the High Atlas Mountains. The gorge is spectacular; and you will probably meet local people herding camels and goats along the way!

Meals: breakfast, lunch, dinner | Overnight: Ksar El Kababba



### **Ksar El Kababba**

Located in the heart of Skoura palm grove, and made with centenary old stones, Ksar El Kebbaba comes to life in the middle of lush greenness and precisely under the branches of an aged olive tree.

Amenities: complimentary toiletries, safe, Wi-Fi, air conditioning

# Trip Itinerary

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## Day 10

### Skoura to Atlas Mountains

Explore the Kasbah on foot. Kasbah Ait Ben Haddou, a World Heritage Site, is probably the most preserved Kasbah in the south of Morocco and is a famous film location. After lunch, cross the spectacular Tizi n' Tichka pass, journey towards the plains, and then head up to the village of Asni at the foot of the Atlas Mountains – this will be a complete change of scenery. Today's total drive time will be about six and a half hours, and you will get off the beaten path to explore Morocco more deeply.

Meals: breakfast, lunch, dinner | Overnight: Kasbah Angour



### Kasbah Angour

Kasbah Angour is a gorgeous Berber castle, perched on a hill-top in the Atlas Mountains near Marrakesh, with superb panoramic views. The boutique hotel and restaurant have 25 rooms & suites, spacious public areas, a wonderful swimming pool, and beautiful gardens.

Amenities: complimentary toiletries, Wi-Fi, air conditioning



# Trip Itinerary

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## Day 11

### Atlas Mountains to Marrakech

Go out on a hike to discover the traditional architecture of the Berber villages and learn about local terraced agriculture. Then visit a local women's group, which offers education and teaches traditional skills to local people. Drive about an hour to Marrakech and relax at your hotel. Enjoy dinner on your own tonight – have dinner at the hotel or go explore a local restaurant with some of your new friends!

Meals: breakfast, lunch | Overnight: Hotel La Sultana



### Hotel La Sultana

La Sultana captures the charm and elegance of residences from a bygone era, offering the intimacy of a smaller hotel with unparalleled one-on-one service and experiences. Made-up of five separate riads, it feels maze-like and disguises its sprawling corridors and hidden chambers for the delight of its guests.

Amenities: complimentary toiletries, hair dryer, minibar, bottled water, cable / satellite TV, flatscreen TV, Wi-Fi, air conditioning



# Trip Itinerary

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## Day 12

### Discover Marrakech

Explore Marrakech with your expert guide, visiting historic monuments, gardens, and museums like Dar Tiskwine and Maison de La Photographie. Wander through vibrant souks, where you can shop for traditional crafts and souvenirs. As the evening approaches, enjoy the lively atmosphere of Djemaa el Fna Square before a group dinner.

Meals: breakfast, lunch, dinner | Overnight: Hotel La Sultana

# Trip Itinerary

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## Day 13

### Free Time in Marrakech

Enjoy a free day in Marrakech to explore further or relax. Optional activities include visiting the Majorelle Gardens or local art museums, or enjoying the hotel's spa. Spend the evening at a farewell dinner with your group, celebrating the memories made during your Moroccan adventure.

Meals: breakfast, dinner | Overnight: Hotel La Sultana

# Trip Itinerary

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## Day 14

### Depart Marrakech

On your final morning in Marrakech, enjoy a last breakfast and say goodbye to your fellow travelers. Transfer to the airport for your flight home, with a group transfer provided. Private transfers are available upon request.



# What's Included

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## What's Included

- Accommodations as per itinerary based on double occupancy
- All meals as listed in the itinerary
- All ground transportation
- One group transfer on arrival and departure
- Guided sightseeing and activities as indicated in the itinerary
- English-speaking guide throughout the trip
- Drinking water available in large jugs to refill personal bottles
- Gratuities for hotel staff, camp staff, lodge staff, wait staff, local guides, and assistant driver

## Not Included

- International airfare to and from Morocco
- Optional activities
- Meals not specified in the itinerary
- Alcoholic beverages (unless otherwise specified)
- Fees for passport, visas, immunizations, or travel insurance
- Cost of hospitalization or evacuation
- Items of a personal nature
- Gratuities for main guide and driver

*Please note: AdventureWomen will attempt to adhere to the itinerary as much as possible. However, certain conditions (political, climatic, environmental, and cultural) may necessitate changes in the itinerary. AdventureWomen reserves the right to alter any itinerary at any time if necessary. We will attempt to notify participants of changes as far in advance as possible. Costs incurred by such changes will be the responsibility of the participants.*

