

Best of Morocco

Discover the vibrant souks and ancient palaces of Fes and Marrakesh. Then, leave the bustling cities behind for the golden sands of the Sahara Desert.

11 DAYS | 1 COUNTRY | 21 MEALS | BALANCED



4.2/5

feefo

Guest Review Rating



Trip code: E938/W938

DEPARTURE MONTHS

Year-round

For dates, prices and to choose your group size call your Travel Advisor or see insightvacations.com/bestmorocco

DAY 1 | WELCOME TO CASABLANCA

Join your Travel Director and fellow guests for dinner, enjoying an evening of good food and great company. (D)

Hotel: Gray Suites, Casablanca

TRANSFERS: Depart the airport at 09:00, 12:00 and 15:00.

WELCOME: Meet your Travel Director at 18:00.

DAY 2 | RABAT, IMPERIAL MEKNES AND FES

During an exploration of the sights of Casablanca view the huge Hassan II Mosque, the third largest in the world. Depart for the capital of Rabat to see the Royal Palace, Hassan Tower and visit one of the few holy places open to non-Muslims, the lavish Mausoleum of King Mohammed V. This site is both an architectural marvel and a monument to a great ruler. You'll be delighted with a superb Moroccan dinner in an ancient palace at the entrance to the Medina. A colourful array of meze plates, aromatic tagines, exotic fruits and wine will be laid before you whilst you are entertained with a traditional folklore show. (B) (D) (RS)

Hotel: Marriott Jnan Palace, Fes

DAY 3 | FES SIGHTSEEING

Join a MAKE TRAVEL MATTER® Experience to the non-profit American Fondouk. Led by your Local Expert, wander the maze of streets that make up the ancient Medina. Pass one of the world's oldest universities and see the hidden courtyards, mosques and workshops. Continue through the souks where an array of vendors sell food, clothes, leather goods and beautiful lights. (B) (D) (RS)

DAY 4 | THE ZIZ GORGES TO ERFOUD

Head for the spectacular snowcapped High Atlas Mountains. After stopping for lunch at Midelt, continue through the magnificent Ziz Gorges, past palm-fringed towns to Errachidia. Your destination is Erfoud, where the red sand buildings stand in stark contrast against the patches of greenery and surrounding desert. (B) (L) (D)

Hotel: Kasbah Xaluca Arfoud, Erfoud

DAY 5 | DESERT TOWN OF RISSANI

Today, discover the authentic desert town of Rissani. See the Tomb of Moulay Ali Cherif, one of the founders of the Alaouite family who reigned during the second half of the 17th century. Next, a visit to the quarries of marine fossils with an antiquity of 360 million years. Stop at the famous Ksar Oulad Abdelhalim. This afternoon experience a traditional lunch of Madfouna, also known as 'Berber Pizza', this dish is a delight for the senses with seasonal fillings and spices. The rest of the afternoon will be free time to relax and enjoy the hotel facilities. In the evening, there is an optional experience to marvel at the glorious Sahara

INCLUDED MEALS: Breakfast (B) Lunch (L) Dinner (D)

RELAXED STARTS: (RS)

HOTELS: On occasion, hotels of a similar standard and location may be used.

sunset on a four-wheel drive vehicle. Dinner will be served at the hotel. **(B) (L) (D) (RS)**

DAY 6 | SPECTACULAR OUARZAZATE

Venture towards the oasis of Tinehir and explore the Todra Gorge, known as the Grand Canyon of the Sahara. At Boumalne du Dadès you will encounter the dry and rugged Dades Valley, dotted with oases of figs, olives, date palms and castellated mud houses—hugging the slopes. Meet the locals of the region when you visit a traditional Nomad house and try authentic Berber tea. The Road of a Thousand Kasbahs concludes at Ouarzazate, also known as the film capital of Morocco. Many blockbusters have been filmed here, including Lawrence of Arabia and Star Wars. **(B) (L) (D)**

Hotel: Le Berbère Palace, Ouarzazate

DAY 7 | TO MARRAKESH

Marvel at and photograph the architectural wonder of Ksar of Aït Benhaddou, a UNESCO World Heritage Site that boasts one of Morocco's finest kasbahs. Your journey continues via the spectacular Tizi n'Tichka Pass, before descending to the ochre-coloured city of Marrakesh. With the rest of the day at your leisure, why not relax and enjoy the immaculate facilities of your hotel? **(B)**

Hotel: Mövenpick Mansour Eddahbi, Marrakesh

DAY 8 | MARRAKESH, PEARL OF THE SOUTH

In the morning, visit Dar El Bacha - an iconic landmark in the city of Marrakech. Meet your Local Expert and wander the maze of the Medina and see the Koutoubia Mosque, with its minaret dominating the Marrakesh skyline. Next, to the bustling Jemaa el-Fnaa Square, where you can take a moment to watch the dancers, snake charmers and storytellers. With time at leisure,

you are free to continue exploring: enjoy the sensorial experience of strolling through the souks or maybe visit a museum. In the evening, perhaps choose to join fellow guests at a vibrant restaurant on Jemaa el-Fnaa Square. Here, you will enjoy a slew of classic Moroccan dishes as you absorb the ambience and watch twirling belly dancers balance plates of lit candles on their heads. **(B) (RS)**

DAY 9 | ELEGANT ESSAOUIRA

Venture to the west coast of Africa to reach the laid-back fishing town of Essaouira. After an orientation with your Travel Director, explore the busy fishing port. Continue to El Jadida with its unique architectural mixture of Moorish-Portuguese-French influence. **(B) (D) (RS)**

Hotel: Pullman Mazagan Royal Golf and Spa, El Jadida

DAY 10 | RETURN TO CASABLANCA

Once you've experienced the traditional charms of the country, Casablanca is a fascinating place to return to and offers a unique insight into modern Morocco. Perhaps visit the magnificent Hassan II Mosque famous for its intricate Islamic architecture and one of the largest in the world. In the evening 'of all the gin joints, in all the towns, in all the world' there really is only one place to be. Join your Travel Director at Rick's Café, recreated from the famous movie. Enjoy a hearty dinner with drinks and no doubt a rendition of 'As Time Goes By'. Here's looking at you kid! **(B) (D) (RS)**

Hotel: Gray Suites, Casablanca

DAY 11 | AU REVOIR CASABLANCA

Today, bid farewell to your journey through Morocco as you transfer to the airport. **(B)**

TRANSFERS: Arrive at the airport at 05:00, 07:00, 10:00 and 12:00.



HIGHLIGHT INCLUSIONS

Premium Experiences

Fes | Wander the maze of streets that make up the ancient Medina. See one of the world's oldest universities and pass hidden courtyards, mosques and workshops.

Tinghir | Visit Todra Gorge to marvel at this fascinating ravine, created by a fault that split the orange-coloured limestone as deep as 300 metres.

Dades Valley | Stop at a traditional Nomad house and meet the locals as you sip Berber tea.

Marrakesh | Across from the Koutoubia Minaret, stroll past Jemaa el-Fnaa Square and through the entangled streets of the Medina.

Essaouira | See the beauty of this bohemian coastal town as you explore the many spice-scented streets of the medina.

Fes | Visit the American Fondouk, founded in 1927, and speak with passionate volunteer veterinarians who care for local animals and families. Your visit supports United Nations Global Sustainable Development Goal 15: Life on Land.

MAKE TRAVEL MATTER® EXPERIENCE



Premium Dining

Fes | Join in the fun at a colourful Moroccan feast, complete with music, belly dancers and an array of local delicacies.

Rissani | Enjoy Madfouna, known as Berber Pizza. Traditionally baked in the sands of the Sahara, this dish is a delight of seasonal fillings and spices.

Casablanca | Indulge in a four-course dinner with drinks at Rick's Café, made famous by the 1942 film.

For all inclusions see tour page online.



KEY

- Join/Leave Options
- UNESCO Heritage Site
- Hotels and Nights
- Place Visited
- Optional Place Visited