



## Best of Morocco - 11 Days 10 Nights

Day	Destination
1 Night	Casablanca
2 Nights	Fes
2 Nights	Erfoud
1 Night	Ouarzazate
2 Nights	Marrakesh
1 Night	El Jadida
1 Night	Casablanca

### Day 1: Day 1 Welcome to Casablanca

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

#### Arrival Transfer

Depart the airport at 09:00, 12:00, 15:00

#### Welcome

Meet your Travel Director at 18:00

Overnight Stay at Hotel.

## **Day 2: Day 2 Rabat, Imperial Meknes and Fes (Casablanca – Rabat – Meknes – Fes)**

During an exploration of the sights of Casablanca, view the magnificent Hassan II Mosque, the third largest in the world. Venture to the très chic seaside strip known as the Corniche, which stretches to the west and is lined with trendy restaurants and cafes. 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. Travel to Meknes, one of the kingdom's great imperial cities where little has changed since its founding in the 11th century. Stand before the Bab el-Mansour, the monumental entrance to the imperial city and focal point of Square El-Hedim, before continuing to Fes.

You'll be delighted with a superb Moroccan Highlight 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 while you are entertained with a traditional folklore show. Enjoy the carnival-like atmosphere of belly dancers, drums and authentic music.

Overnight Stay at Hotel

## **Day 3: Day 3 Fes Sightseeing**

Led by your Local Expert, join a MAKE TRAVEL MATTER® Experience to the non-profit American Fondouk, speak with the volunteer veterinarians who care so passionately for the welfare of the animals. Wander the maze of streets that make up one of the largest thriving ancient Medina's in the world, here you can admire traditional Moroccan handiwork during a visit to a carpet cooperative. Pass one of the world's oldest universities and visit Medersa El Attarine, founded in 1325 located at the heart of the medina. Continue through the souks where an array of vendors sell food, clothes, leather goods and beautiful lights.

Overnight Stay at Hotel

## **Day 4: Day 4 The Ziz Gorges to Erfoud (Fes – Midelt – Erfoud)**

Leave the bustle of the city behind and head for the spectacular snowcapped High Atlas Mountains. Pass through Ifrane before reaching the great cedar forests of Azrou. After stopping for lunch at Midelt, continue through the magnificent Ziz Gorges, past palm-fringed towns to Errachidia, built by the French at an important crossroads. Your destination is Erfoud, where the red sand buildings stand in stark contrast against the patches of greenery and surrounding desert.

Overnight Stay at Hotel

## **Day 5: Day 5 Desert Town of Rissani (Erfoud – Rissani – Erfoud)**

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 sunset on a four-wheel drive vehicle. Dinner will be served at the hotel.

Overnight Stay at Hotel

## **Day 6: Day 6 Spectacular Ouarzazate (Erfoud – Todra River – Dades Valley – 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 to 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.

Overnight Stay at Hotel

## **Day 7: Day 7 To Marrakesh (Ouarzazate – Marrakesh)**

### **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 past charming mountain villages, dense woods and green fields 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?

Overnight stay at Hotel

### **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.

Overnight Stay at Hotel

## **Day 8: 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 where you could sample the local seafood and wine at a waterside restaurant. Continue to the port city of El Jadida with its unique architectural mixture of Moorish-Portuguese-French influence.

Overnight Stay at Hotel

## **Day 9: Day 10 Return to Casablanca (El Jadida – 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!

Overnight stay at Hotel

## **Day 10: Day 11 Au revoir Casablanca**

Today, bid farewell to your journey through Morocco as you transfer to the airport.

### **Departure Transfer**

Arrive at the airport at 05:00, 07:00, 10:00, 12:00

### **Highlights**

Discover the spectacular sites of Morocco on this 11-day guided tour. View Morocco's largest mosque in Casablanca and indulge in a feast of aromatic tagines and exotic fruits inside the ancient palace in Fes. Then take time to watch the enticing art of belly dancing. Be awed by the rugged red mountains of Dades Valley, then sip wild-herb tea alongside local nomads. Before you reach Marrakesh, walk around one of Morocco's most impressive kasbahs at the gate of the Saraha, an earthen clay fortress and UNESCO World Heritage Site. And of course, you won't leave Morocco without seeing the snake charmers, storytellers and acrobats in Marrakesh's markets and souks, where you can buy anything from a cashmere scarf to a woven rug.

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INR 2,76,848 /- (USD 3146) (INR 88 ROE) PER PERSON ON TWIN BASIS

### **Included Sightseeings**

