



## Finding Morocco.

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**MOROCCO | 11DAYS / 10NIGHTS**

Route: Round-trip from Casablanca to Marrakech

Type of tour: Culture

## TOUR OVERVIEW

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Find the hidden gems of this country, with highlights including Casablanca - the economical capital of Morocco; the historic city of Meknes, which appears on the UNESCO World Heritage List; Zerhoun - the widest and the highest massif of the Prerif; in Fez with its memories of 12 centuries of history and Hispano-Moorish culture; the Middle Atlas - a rotation of imposing landscapes; the Tinerhir Oasis, famous for its canyons. In Marrakech, you will see the famous Koutoubia, the Palace of Bahia and its garden and the labyrinth of the Medina.

## DAY BY DAY

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### DAY 1 | ARRIVAL CASABLANCA

Welcome and pick-up from the Casablanca airport, transfer to the hotel.

- **Overnight stay in Casablanca. Dinner included.**

### DAY 2 | CASABLANCA - RABAT

After breakfast, visit Casablanca, the economical capital and its most eminent areas, the magnificent Hassan II Mosque (from the outside), the central market, the Mohamed V square, the Habous district and the Royal Palace (exterior).

- **Overnight stay in Rabat on a half-board basis.**

### DAY 3 | RABAT - MEKNES

After breakfast, visit the capital of the kingdom and seat of the government. Visit of its most principal monuments such as the Gates of the Royal Palace (Mechouar), the Mausoleum Mohamed V and Hassan Tower.

Departure to Meknes, visit this imperial city built on a hill, one can observe it by far with his innumerable minarets. Meknes lived its apogee under the reign of Sultan Moulay Ismaïl - its monumental doors, Bab El Mansour and Bab El Khamis; the Place El Hedim, the Moulay Ismaïl attics and Dar El Ma, where reserves of grains were stored and the hay intended for the 12,000 horses of the sultan.

- **Overnight stay in Meknes on a half-board basis.**

### DAY 4 | MEKNES - VOLUBILIS - MOULAY IDRIS - FEZ

After leaving Meknes, we approach now the first slopes of Zerhoun, the widest and the highest massif of the Prerif at 1,118m. Worn by erosion, it is a multitude of cliffs and pitons where water is plentiful and whose slopes are surprisingly green. Then the village of Moulay Idriss appears, noteworthy both for its site and fame as a holy city. The following stage is only a few kilometres from here, to discover all the most important Roman ruins in Morocco at Volubilis.

- **Overnight stay in Fez on a half-board basis.**

### DAY 5 | FEZ

Visit the city of Fez, a cradle of thousands of years of monarchy, Fez's history goes back 12 centuries of history and expresses the refined Hispano-Moorish culture. Fez is the spiritual and cultural Moroccan centre of tradition. It is a multifarious city, individual in its splendour, and is a network of winding alleys that can hardly be unravelled. Movement, noise, shouting, the smell of tanned leather, the delicate aromas of oriental perfumes, barbecues, sweet pastry... All this is the imperial city. And few steps further from the Nejjarine Fountain, you can detect a cedar smell from the carpenters' district. The alleys are also lined with places of study or prayer, just like the Moulay Idriss Zaouïa; the most important shrine in Morocco.

- **Overnight stay in Fez on a half-board basis.**

### DAY 6 | FEZ - MIDELT - ERFOUD - MERZOUGA

Today we depart to Erfoud via Midelt, crossing the Middle Atlas, a rotation of imposing landscapes: a calcareous plateau, streams, volcanic pitons, cedar and green oak forest. Continue to Erfoud, passing by the most desert plateau of the landscape before reaching the Sahara, valley of Ziz then Tizi n'Talrhemet to reach Midelt, located at the foot of Jbel Ayachi. Continue to Merzouga dunes, dinner and overnight in camp.

- **Overnight stay in Merzouga on a half-board basis.**

### DAY 7 | MERZOUGA - TINERHIR

After breakfast, route to Tinerhir Oasis, famous for its canyons and Todhra Gorge, able to reach 250m above sea level.

- **Overnight stay in Tinerhir on a half-board basis.**

## DAY 8 | TINERHIR - OUARZAZATE

Departure to Ouarzazate passing by Kelaâ M'gouna, known for its famous rose festival. Arrive at Ouarzazate, the gateway of the south, and visit Kasbah of Taourirt, ancient residence of Glaoui, last lord of Atlas.

- Overnight stay in Tinerhir on a half-board basis.

## DAY 9 | OUARZAZATE - MARRAKECH

Route to Marrakech, crossing the High Atlas Mountains and the Tizi n'Tichka pass (2,260m altitude). Enjoy the afternoon free to relax.

- Overnight stay in Marrakech on a half-board basis.

## DAY 10 | MARRAKECH

The historical visit of the city is a journey marked by stages reminiscent of its construction: the famous Koutoubia Mosque, example of Hispano-Moorish art, with a 70m high minaret; the Palace of Bahia and its garden lined with orange trees, cypress, jasmine, splendours of cedar tree domes and marble columns in the Sâadian Tombs.

In the afternoon, your visit continues in the labyrinth of the Medina. We will visit the most famous souks in Morocco which provides an occasion to admire all the richness of an immensely diversified craftsmanship. Enjoy the sunset at the square of Jemâa El Fna, acrobats, snake charmers, Gnawa musicians... This proves to be a unique moment to truly find Marrakech's heart and spirit.

- Overnight stay in Marrakech on a half-board basis.

## DAY 11 | MARRAKECH

Transfer to the airport and to finalise your fantastic trip of Morocco.

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### END OF SERVICES

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## INCLUDED

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### TOUR GUIDE:

- Local guides

### ACCOMMODATION:

- Half-board basis or depending on daily itinerary

### MEALS:

- Meals as specified in itinerary

### TRANSPORT:

- Bus transport

### ENTRANCE FEES AND ACTIVITIES:

- As mentioned in the itinerary

## NOT INCLUDED

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- Personal expenses
- Meals and drinks other than above
- Any optional activities