

#### INDEPENDENT TRIPS

# Morocco Explorer 8D/7N

Cultural 8 Days / 1 Country Morocco

Departure city: **Marrakech, Morocco**End city: **Marrakech, Morocco** 



#### **HIGHLIGHTS**

- Discover the cities of Marrakech, Fes and Casablanca
- Enjoy stargazing in a Berber Campsite in Erg Chebbi
- Explore Meknes, Volubilis & Moulay Idriss

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Discover the Moroccan desert on this fantastic 8-day tour from Marrakech to Casablanca. Explore the Red City, spend the night in the Gorges of the Sahara and sleep out in the desert beneath a starry sky in Merzouga Erg Chebbi sand-dunes. Explore the city of Fes and visit Meknes, Volubilis & Moulay Idriss on a fantastic day tour, before arriving to Casablanca, Morocco´s largest city.

MAP

■ Map

### What is included

### **Independent Trips**

Include all of your accommodation, transport and experiences on a pre-set trip that you can customize to perfectly suit your travel needs.

#### Accommodation: 7

• 1 Casablanca Double room

2 Marrakech Junior suite

& shower

• 2 Fes Junior suite

### Included in Merzouga Gorges & Deserts Adventure 3D/2N (Marrakech to Fes)

• Mixed accommodation

1 night in desert camp with private toilet

• 1 night in guesthouse



### Transport: 3

• Casablanca Airport Transfer

Marrakech Airport Transfer

• Fes to Casablanca



#### Meals: 2

• 1 Breakfast(s), 1 Lunch(es),



#### Experiences: 3

• Meknes, Volubilis & Moulay Idriss Day Tour

Marrakech Foodie Experience

• Merzouga Gorges & Deserts Adventure 3D/2N (Marrakech to Fes)

# What is not included

Guide throughout the trip

• Meals not mentioned in the itinerary

• Travel Insurance

Personal Expenses

Accommodation pick-up drop-off from Bus

Stations

\*Prices for optional activities are subject to change at any time without prior notice. Please confirm these prices before departing on your trip.

# **Experiences Included**

#### Marrakech Foodie Experience



Get a taste for the lively flavours and vibrant culture of Morocco during this small-group tour. You'll get the chance to shop for ingredients at the market, cook a traditional dish and enjoy your efforts for lunch inside a typical riad dwelling. This food-lover's tour is the perfect blend of cultural immersion along with a chance to explore the delicious flavours that characterise this North African country's culinary heritage.

#### INCLUDED

- Lunch
- Recipe sheet
- Local English-speaking guide

#### NOT INCLUDED

- Accommodation pickup/drop-off
- Other meals & drinks
- Tour guide
- Personal expenses
- Travel insurance

#### Merzouga Gorges & Deserts Adventure 3D/2N



Experience a 3-day tour in the stunning Sahara desert. Ride a camel into the towering dunes and sleep beneath a starry sky in Merzouga.

#### INCLUDED

- Mixed accommodation
- 1 night in guesthouse
- 1 night in desert camp with private toilet & Damp; shower
- Accommodation Pick Up, tour transport
- Marrakech accommodation pick-up
- All transportation as per itinerary
- Cultural adventure
- Merzouga Berber camp experience, including a Berber Dinner & Dinner & Samp; sunset/sunrise camel rides
- Visits to Aid Ben Haddou, Todra Gorge, Merzouga, & Erg Chebbi
- English speaking guides at Todra Gorge, Merzouga, & Erg Chebbi

#### NOT INCLUDED

- Airport transfers
- Optional English speaking guide in Ouarzazate/Ait Benhaddou
- Personal expenses
- Travel insurance
- Tips for guides
- Meals & drinks not stated above

#### Meknes, Volubilis & Moulay Idriss Day Tour



Discover Morocco's fascinating history on a full-day, small-group tour from Fez discovering Meknes, the former capital of Morocco; Volubilis, one of the most well preserved Roman ruins in Northern Africa; and Moulay Idriss, Morocco's first Islamic city.

#### INCLUDED

- Accommodation pickup/drop-off
- All Transportation in air-conditioned minivan
- Professional driver

### NOT INCLUDED

- Entrance fees
- Meals and drinks
- Optional Englishspeaking tour guide on request
- Tips (recommended)
- Personal expenses
- Travel insurance

## **Itinerary**

### Day 1: Marrakech, Morocco



#### Marrakech Airport Transfer

Type: **Transfer**DepartureTimes: **24h**Duration: **hrs.** 



Check-In Riad Jennah Rouge

#### Day 2: Marrakech, Morocco



#### Marrakech Foodie Experience

DepartureTimes: **09:00** Duration: **4 hrs.** 

Follow your guide through the winding city streets back to a riad to kick off your food experience. Pick up a few Arabic words that you'll put to use as you bargain for ingredients like vegetables, meat and, most importantly, spices at the local souq. During your shopping trip you'll be on the lookout for typical Moroccan ingredients including mint and olives from the city of Meknes, saffron from Taliouine and citrus from Fez.

Once you've finished your shopping, return to your riad to begin your hands-on cooking session. Follow your guide's instructions as you prepare a typical Moroccan dish such as tagine or the comparable tangia (composed of couscous with vegetables and meat), pastila (an apple-based dessert) or harira (a traditional North African soup served with dates). Afterwards, dig into your freshly-prepared meal set inside the beautiful courtyard of your riad. You'll also leave your session with a recipe sheet, allowing you to re-create your dish when you return home (and impress family and friends). Finish your culinary experience by returning to the city's Djemaa El Fna, where you can continue your day by shopping for spices and immersing yourself in the whirlwind of smells, sights and sounds that characterise this unique city.



Riad Jennah Rouge

#### Day 3: Dades Gorges, Morocco



#### Merzouga Gorges & Deserts Adventure 3D/2N (Marrakech to Fes)

DepartureTimes: 07:00

After being picked up from your accommodation in Marrakech, you will start travelling south through the beautiful Atlas Mountains over the Tishka Pass, at 2600m. Enjoy a winding, panoramic road which will allow you to experience breathtaking views, together with the opportunity to see the Berber villages of the Atlas, and the traditional houses and daily lives of the Berber people. Your first stop will be at the ancient Kasbah Ait Benhaddou, a bridge in between the mountains and the desert. Next, you will make a stopover in Ouarzazate - the door to the Sahara desert. In the past, the city was a crossroad for African traders travelling to the northern cities of Morocco and Europe. From here, you will make your way to your first night's stop in Dades Gorges where you can relax in the tranquility of the nature that surrounds you.

Approximately 8 hours total driving time.



#### Merzouga Gorges & Deserts Adventure 3D/2N (Marrakech to Fes)

DepartureTimes: 07:00

Today you will travel to another Gorge, the mighty Todra, recognized around the world as one of the most spectacular canyons. Spend some time here before heading down to the Sahara onto Erg Chebbi, the giant sand dunes that surround the Berber town of Merzouga. Local legend claims that the dunes were formed when a wealthy couple turned away a tired traveler and were thus punished by having thousands of tons of sand dropped over their house. The expanses of sand at Erg Chebbi shift daily in the wind to create spectacular dunes rising 150 meters in height over the rocky desert at their base. Here you will take the traditional method of transport - on a camel - to reach the Berber camp in time for sunset. Enjoy an evening of Berber hospitality under the stars of the Sahara. Overnight in Merzouga.

Approximately 3-4 hours total driving time

#### Day 5: Fes, Morocco



#### Merzouga Gorges & Deserts Adventure 3D/2N (Marrakech to Fes)

DepartureTimes: 07:00

Wake up early and experience the sunrise from the saddle of a camel before being transferred to Rissani to catch your north-bound bus to Fes, where this wonderful experience will come to an end.

Approximately 8 hours bus time Rissani - Fes



Check-In Funky Fes

#### Day 6: Fes, Morocco



#### Meknes, Volubilis & Moulay Idriss Day Tour

DepartureTimes: 09:00 Duration: 8 hrs.

Your driver will pick you up from your hotel or riad around 9am, and you will travel in a comfortable, climate-controlled vehicle, to visit Volubilis, Moulay Idriss and Meknes. First you will stop at the ancient Roman ruins Volubilis, where you will spend a some time exploring the 2000-year-old ruins and getting an idea of life during the Roman Empire. You will be fascinated by its well preserved mosaics, palaces, baths and soaring arches. Later, drive to Moulay Idriss, one of the country's most important spiritual sites and a place of pilgrimage, being the site of the Moulay Idriss tomb, a prominent 8th century Moroccan Saint and a great grandson of the prophet Mohammed. After lunch (not included), your journey continues to Meknes for a cultural visit of one of the Imperial cities and the former Capital of Morocco, home to many palaces and mosques, and beautiful gates such as Bab Mansour's. You'll return to Fes at the end of the afternoon.



**Funky Fes** 

#### Day 7: Fes - Casablanca, Morocco



#### Fes to Casablanca

Type: Transfer

DepartureTimes: Morning or Afternoon

Duration: 5 hrs.



Check-In Maamoura Hotel

### Day 8: Casablanca, Morocco



### ( Casablanca Airport Transfer

Type: **Transfer** DepartureTimes: 24hrs

Duration: hrs.

