

# HIGHLIGHTS OF MOROCCO



September 2026

18 days/17 nights, Casablanca to Casablanca

Small group - just four guests – ladies only

## HIGHLIGHTS

- See the highlights of Rabat, the capital of Morocco
- Wander the streets of the blue-painted town of Chefchaouen, known as 'The Blue Pearl'
- Immerse yourself in the history and culture of the ancient medina of Fes
- Have tea with the owner of a traditional Berber cave house
- Learn about Moroccan spices in the local market in Rissani
- Relax in a luxury camp in the Sahara, ride a camel and enjoy African drumming around the fire
- Explore the ancient kasbah of Ait Benhaddou, a UNESCO site and location of the Gladiator movie
- Shop for textiles, jewellery and other handicrafts in the many souks of Fes and Marrakech

Cost: €4455\*. Tour is priced in Euros and converted to Australian dollars, or other major currency, at time of final payment. Cost is per person, based on four guests travelling, twin share. Single supplement €1360. Non-refundable deposit of AU\$900 will secure your booking. \* Terms and conditions apply – see website for details.

Contact Heather + 61 448 739946 or [heather@moroccanescapes.com.au](mailto:heather@moroccanescapes.com.au)

<http://www.moroccanescapes.com.au/>

# HIGHLIGHTS OF MOROCCO



## **Inclusions**

- All land-based travel in Morocco
- 17 nights' accommodation in carefully chosen boutique riads and hotels, including 2 nights in a desert camp
- 17 breakfasts, 2 lunches, 6 dinners
- Local guides in Volubilis and Fes
- Entry to Hassan II Mosque, Volubilis Roman site, Le Jardin Majorelle and YSL Museum
- Tea in cave house, goat's cheese tasting, Marrakech evening food tour
- Private transport with a local English-speaking driver
- Casablanca airport pick up and drop off at scheduled arrival and departure times
- Transfers between Merzouga and desert camp by camel or 4x4
- Accompanied by Heather

## **Exclusions**

- International flights
- Transfers to and from your local airport in Australia or home country
- Travel insurance – mandatory
- Meals and activities, other than those specified in the itinerary as included
- Personal items such as drinks, laundry
- City tax, where charged separately by hotels/riads
- Tips (widely expected in Morocco – guidance will be provided)

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**Casablanca – Rabat –Chefchaouen – Fes – Erfoud – Merzouga – Dades Gorge –  
Ouarzazate – Ait Benhaddou – Marrakech – Essaouira – Casablanca**

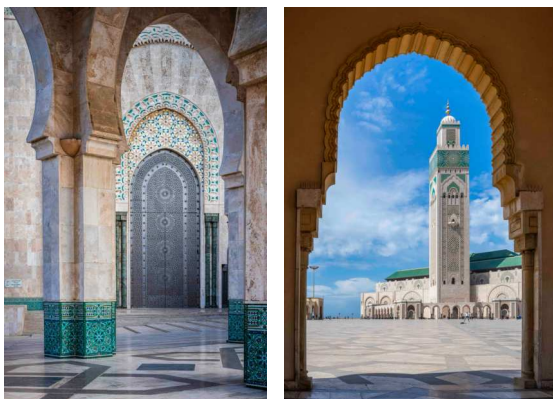
**Day 1: Casablanca**

Arrive into Casablanca international airport early afternoon, where you'll be met by our local driver for transfer to the hotel. Take time to relax at the hotel before our welcome dinner tonight. (B, D)

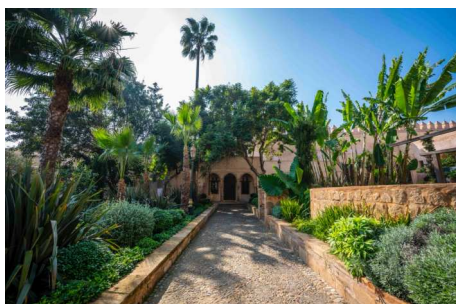
*o/n Casablanca*

**Day 2: Rabat**

Before leaving Casablanca, we'll visit the spectacular Hassan II Mosque, overlooking the Atlantic Ocean. This is one of the largest mosques in the world and the only functioning mosque in Morocco open to non-Muslims.



It's just over an hour's drive to Rabat, the capital of Morocco. We'll visit the Kasbah of the Udayas, with its Andalusian Garden, and other key sights, including the Hassan II tower and Mohamed V Mausoleum. (B)



*o/n Rabat*

**Day 3: Chefchaouen**

From Rabat, we drive through the Rif Mountains to Chefchaouen, 'the Blue Pearl', famous for its beautiful, blue-painted buildings in the medina. It's a small, friendly town, easy to explore: the perfect place to wander the pretty streets of the medina. (B)



*o/n Chefchaouen*

**Day 4: Chefchaouen**

A free day in Chefchaouen to explore the cafes and shops of Chefchaouen medina, Place el Haouta, the main square, the kasbah and several viewpoints above the town. This evening, before dinner, there is an optional 30-minute walk to the Spanish mosque outside Chefchaouen to watch sunset over the town. (B)



*o/n Chefchaouen*

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**Day 5: Volubilis, Fes**



Morocco was at the outer edge of the Roman Empire and today, on our drive south to Fes, we'll visit the Roman city of Volubilis, where a local guide will explain the history of the Romans in Morocco and bring to life the ancient ruins and wonderful mosaics. We'll have lunch nearby before continuing to Fes, our home for the next three nights. (B, D)

*o/n Fes*

**Day 6: Fes**

Fes is synonymous with ceramics and leather, so we start the day with a visit to a ceramics workshop and the famous Chouara tanneries, which are quite a sight (and smell!). Then a guided walking tour of the medina, with its labyrinth of lanes and alleyways, the Blue Gate, a secret tea shop, stunning architecture and, of course, the souks, jam-packed with anything you might want to buy. (B)



*o/n Fes*

**Day 7: Fes**

Enjoy a free day in Fes – there are lots of options today: learn how to prepare a classic Moroccan meal in a cooking class; have a hamman (traditional Moroccan spa); visit a local artist or do a photography walk with a street photographer (activities subject to availability and at extra cost); go shopping in the many souks, wander in the medina where there is something new around every corner or take time to relax at the riad. (B)



*o/n Fes*

**Day 8: Erfoud**

South towards the Sahara! We have a long drive today but with stops along the way, including a goat's cheese farm tour and tasting and tea with the Berber owner of a traditional cave house. Passing through Ifrane, known as the Switzerland of Morocco, we'll look out for the barbary apes that live in the nearby cedar forests.



Forested hills gradually give way to an arid, more barren landscape before we reach today's destination - the oasis town of Erfoud, famous for its date palms and the many fossils found in this area. Our overnight stop before the desert. (B)

*o/n Erfoud*

**Day 9: Merzouga and Sahara**

Today we visit Rissani, known for its authentic spice market. After trying the local speciality of 'Berber pizza' for lunch, we'll meet our camels on the edge of the dunes for the transfer to the desert camp. Or, if you prefer, you can go in a 4x4. And, in case you're wondering, the desert camp tents have aircon and en suite bathrooms.



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Tonight, after dinner, enjoy a performance of African drumming around the campfire. (B, L, D)



*o/n Sahara Luxury Camp*

**Day 10: Dades Gorge**

The early risers this morning can watch the sunrise over the vast expanse of Erg Chebbi, the 'Sea of Dunes'.



Back to Merzouga by camel or 4x4, to meet our transport for the drive along the 'Road of a Thousand Kasbahs.' We'll stop near Jorf to see some centuries-old irrigation systems and in Tinghir to visit a Berber weaving co-operative before continuing to Boumalne Dades.



Then we're in Dades Gorge, with spectacular views at every turn. Our hotel for the next two nights is in the gorge. (B, D)

*o/n Dades Gorge*

**Day 11: Dades Gorge**

We'll spend today in Dades Gorge, visiting the famous switchback road and walking in the gardens. It may be possible to do a breadmaking workshop in a local home in the gorge (small extra cost). (B, D)



*o/n Dades Gorge*

**Day 12: Ait Benhaddou**

Our destination today is Ait Benhaddou, an 11<sup>th</sup> century ksar (fortified village), UNESCO World Heritage Site and filming location for many famous movies, including Gladiator and Games of Thrones. We'll spend the afternoon exploring the kasbah, with its cute shops, art studios and cafes and a viewpoint at the top, overlooking the valley and mountains beyond. (B)



*o/n Ait Benhaddou*

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**Day 13: Marrakech**

After breakfast this morning, we have a scenic drive over the High Atlas Mountains to the 'red city' of Marrakech. The rest of the afternoon is free to explore. This evening, a visit to the main square, Jemaa el Fnaa, is a must, with snake charmers, entertainers and musicians - it truly comes alive after dusk (B).



*o/n Marrakech*

**Day 14: Marrakech**

We begin the day with a visit to Le Jardin Majorelle, a beautiful garden in the Ville Nouvelle that was bought and restored by Yves Saint Laurent.



Back in the medina, the afternoon is free before we meet again this evening, for a 'Ten Tastings of Marrakech' food tour with a local Marrakechi guide. It's a fun and informative evening that takes care of dinner. (B, D)



*o/n Marrakech*

**Day 15: Marrakech**

Today is a free day in Marrakech. You may want to do an early-morning hot-air balloon ride, go shopping or perhaps visit some of the city's landmarks, including the Bahia Palace, Sadian Tombs or Ben Youssef Madrasa. (B)



*o/n Marrakech*

**Day 16: Essaouira**

This morning, we leave Marrakech behind for the three-hour drive west, to the laidback coastal city of Essaouira. We'll stop on the way to visit an argan oil co-operative, arriving in Essaouira in time for lunch. Famous for its seafood, handicrafts and thriving arts scene, Essaouira is the perfect place to relax at the end of the tour. (B)



*o/n Essaouira*

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***Day 17: Essaouira***

Our last full day in Morocco is unstructured so there's plenty of time to explore the friendly medina of Essaouira. Spend the day doing last minute shopping, walk on the beach, have a last hamman or head down to the fishing post, which is always a hive of activity as the boats come and go.

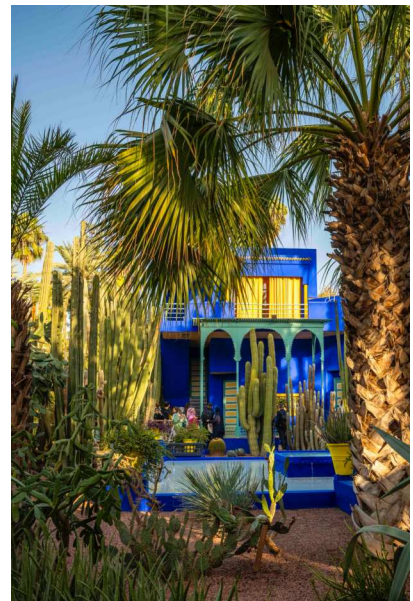


***Day 18: Depart***

All good things must come to an end and this morning we transfer back to Casablanca airport (4.5 hours), arriving in the early afternoon, in time for a late afternoon or evening flight. Please ensure you have at least three hours at the airport before your onward flight.



Tonight, we'll get together for a farewell dinner.  
(B, D)



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