

# TAKE ME TO MOROCCO



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14 September – 3 October 2025

20 days/19 nights, Casablanca to Casablanca

€3495\* per person

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## HIGHLIGHTS

- *Tour the Hassan II Mosque in Casablanca, one of the largest mosques in the world*
- *Wander the blue painted streets of beautiful Chefchaouen, known as the Blue Pearl*
- *Take a guided tour of the Roman ruins of Volubilis*
- *Explore the ancient medina of Fes, a UNESCO World Heritage Site, on a guided walk*
- *Relax in a luxury camp in the Sahara, ride a camel and eat dinner under the stars*
- *Optional half-day hike in Dades Gorge*
- *Visit the ancient kasbah of Ait Benhaddou, a UNESCO site and location of the Gladiator movie*
- *Sample a range of Moroccan delicacies on an evening food tour in Marrakech*
- *Shop for textiles, jewellery and other handicrafts in the many souks of Fes and Marrakech*

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*\*Terms and conditions apply – see website for details. Tour is priced in Euros and converted to Australian dollars, or other major currency, at time of final payment. Price is per person twin share, based on a minimum of eight guests travelling. Single supplement on request. Maximum ten guests. Non-refundable deposit of AU\$700 will secure your booking.*

Call Heather +61 448 739946

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

# TAKE ME TO MOROCCO

14 SEPTEMBER 2025



## **Inclusions**

- All land-based travel in Morocco
- 19 nights accommodation in carefully chosen boutique riads and hotels, twin share, including 2 nights in desert camp
- 19 breakfasts, 2 lunches, 9 dinners, including an evening food tour in Marrakech
- Transport in an air-conditioned minibus or Mercedes Vito, depending on numbers
- Airport pick up and drop off in Casablanca on scheduled arrival and departure dates
- Transfers between Merzouga and desert camp by camel or 4x4
- Local English-speaking guide/driver
- Entry to Hassan II Mosque, Cap Spartel lighthouse, Volubilis, Kasbah Amridil, Le Jardin Majorelle
- Local guides in Volubilis, Fes, Rissani and Dades Gorge
- 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
- Tips (widely expected in Morocco)
- City tax, where charged separately by hotels/riads

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**Casablanca – Rabat – Tangier – Chefchaouen – Volubilis – Fes – Midelt – Merzouga  
– Dades Gorge – Ouarzazate – Taroudant – Marrakech –Casablanca**

**Day 1: 14 September 2025, Casablanca**

Welcome to Morocco! Arrive into Casablanca international airport early afternoon, where you will be met by our local guide and driver. If there is time this afternoon, we will have a tour of the Hassan II Mosque, one of the largest mosques in the world. (D)



**Day 2: 15 September 2025, Rabat**

If for any reason we are unable to visit the mosque on arrival day, we will go there this morning. Then, from Casablanca, it's about an hour's drive to Rabat, the capital of Morocco. The afternoon is free to wander through the city at your leisure, perhaps visiting the Museum of Modern and Contemporary Art. Or, join us to see some of Rabat's key sights, including the Hassan II tower, the Kasbah of the Udayas and Mohamed V Mausoleum. (B)



**Day 3: 16 September 2025, Tangier**

We leave Rabat this morning for the drive north along the Atlantic coast, stopping to explore the small coastal town of Asilah, known for its street art and pretty medina. We'll have lunch in Asilah, before continuing to Tangier, overlooking the Straits of Gibraltar. Spend the rest of the afternoon in Tangier exploring the medina or visiting one of the city's several museums. (B)

**Day 4: 17 September 2025, Chefchaouen**

Leaving Tangier mid-morning, we have a short drive out of the city to the Cap Spartel lighthouse and the point where the Atlantic Ocean meets the Mediterranean Sea.



From there, we continue through the Rif Mountains to Chefchaouen. Known as 'The Blue Pearl', it is one of Morocco's prettiest towns with a small, laid-back medina. Enjoy wandering through the narrow streets of the medina. (B)



**Day 5: 18 September 2025, Chefchaouen**

Today is a free day to explore Chefchaouen, visit the main square, the old kasbah and the many shops and cafes. This evening, there is an optional 30-minute walk to the Spanish mosque on a small hill outside town, for sunset views. (B)



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**Day 6: 19 September 2025, Fes**

We leave Chefchaouen to drive to Fes, via the Roman ruins of Volubilis where a local guide will explain the highlights of the site. We'll have lunch nearby, before continuing to Fes, the cultural capital of Morocco.



If there is time this afternoon, we will stop at the gates of the royal palace and visit a ceramics workshop, before checking in to our riad for the next three nights. Dinner tonight is included (B, D)



**Day 7: 20 September 2025, Fes**

Fes medina, a UNESCO world heritage site, is the largest car-free urban area in the world. Spend the morning exploring the thousands of alleyways and key historical sites with a local guide. Or, if you prefer to explore on your own, you are free to do so. Hexagonal street signs denote dead ends! Make sure to see the famous Chouara Tannery where leather has been dyed in stone vats for hundreds of years. (B)



**Day 8: 21 September 2025, Fes**

Today is a free day in Fes where you can shop in the souks, do a cooking course (must be booked in advance) or perhaps try a traditional Moroccan bath (hamman). Extra costs apply for these activities. For anyone interested in architecture, the Bou Inania or Al Attarine Madrasa are well worth a visit.



This evening it's a short drive to the Merenid Tombs above the city for a sunset view over Fes before dinner in the medina (included). (B, D)



**Day 9: 22 September 2025, Midelt**

We say goodbye to Fes today. In the village of Imouzzer we'll stop for tea with the owners of a traditional cave house. We may also be able to visit a women's co-operative that makes buttons for jellabas, jewellery and other handicrafts in the nearby town of Sefrou (subject to the availability of the staff and at extra cost).



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On to Ifrane, known as the Switzerland of Morocco. In the cedar forests outside the town, we may see some barbary apes, native to this area. We'll stay overnight tonight in Midelt or Erfoud, on the way to the Sahara. (B)



**Day 10: 23 September 2025, Sahara**

We continue our drive south to the desert, stopping on the way to visit the market (held on a Tuesday) in the town of Rissani, famous for its spices and donkey 'parking lot'.



We'll have lunch here and sample the Rissani local speciality of 'Berber pizza' before we meet our camels for the one-hour transfer to our desert camp. Or, if you prefer, you can go to the camp in a 4x4. (B,L,D)



**Day 11: 24 September 2025, Sahara**

Today is a day to relax in the camp or walk in the dunes. You might also like to rent quad-bikes or take an optional trip to visit some desert nomads (at extra cost). This evening, enjoy African drumming around the camp fire and watch the sunset over the dunes (B,L,D)



**Day 12: 25 September 2025, Dades Gorge**

We return to Merzouga by camel or 4x4, to meet our transport for the drive to Dades Gorge, a gorge in the Atlas Mountains, where we'll stay for the next two nights. There are viewpoints along the side of the gorge, affording spectacular views up the valley and several Berber artisan shops, selling carpets, jewellery and other handicrafts. Relax at the hotel this afternoon or join us for a drive further up the gorge to a lookout over a famous switchback. (B, D)



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**Day 13: 26 September 2025, Dades Gorge**

Today we have an optional hike through Monkey Fingers Gorge, a stunning side gorge not far from our hotel. The hike takes us through some narrow passages before emerging into an open area with expansive views. (B, D)



**Day 14: 27 September 2025, Ouarzazate**

We leave Dades Gorge this morning, driving through the town of Boumalne Dades and on to the regional town of Ouarzazate. On the way, we'll visit the Kasbah Amridil, one of the best preserved kasbahs along the Route of One Thousand Kasbahs.



We'll arrive in Ouarzazate in the early afternoon. After lunch, the rest of the afternoon is free to explore the town, with its many handicraft shops, perhaps visit the Cinema Museum or relax at the hotel. (B)



**Day 15: 28 September 2025, Ait Benhaddou and Ouarzazate**

We have a short drive today of just half an hour to Ait Benhaddou, an 11<sup>th</sup> century Berber ksar (fortified village), UNESCO world heritage site and filming location for many famous movies, including Gladiator and Game of Thrones. This is a relaxed day to explore the kasbah, with its cute shops and cafes. We'll have lunch here and walk to the viewpoint at the top, overlooking the valley and mountains beyond. We return to Ouarzazate for the night. (B)



**Day 16: 29 September 2025, Taroudant**

Our destination for today is Taroudant in the Souss Valley. The drive takes us through small towns and across a spectacular rugged landscape, arriving for a late lunch in Taroudant. This afternoon, we have an optional visit to the former home of Claudio Bravo, a Chilean artist who built a grand home outside Taroudant. It is now a hotel and museum, displaying his artwork and vast collection of artefacts from Morocco and all over the world.

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If you prefer to relax at the hotel this afternoon, you are, of course, welcome to do so. (B)

**Day 17: 30 September 2025, Marrakech**

After breakfast this morning, we will drive north to Marrakech, the bustling city at the heart of Morocco, arriving by lunchtime. The rest of the afternoon is free to explore. This evening, a visit to the main square, Jemaa el Fnaa, is a must, with its snake charmers, musicians and entertainers - it truly comes alive after dusk. (B)



**Day 18: 1 October 2025, Marrakech**

We begin our first full day in Marrakech with a visit to le Jardin Majorelle, in the Ville Nouvelle.



We return to the medina and a free afternoon to explore or relax at the riad. This evening we have a food tour in the medina with a local Marrakechi guide (cost is included) where we'll have the opportunity to sample some traditional Moroccan food – a fun and informative evening that takes care of dinner! (B, D)



**Day 19: 2 October 2025, Marrakech**

Today is a free day in Marrakech. You may want to do a hot-air balloon ride this morning, take the opportunity for any last-minute shopping or perhaps visit some of the city's landmarks, including the Bahia Palace, Sadian Tombs or Ben Youssef Madrasa. Tonight we'll have a farewell dinner together. (B, D)



**Day 20: 3 October 2025, Depart**

All good things must come to an end. This morning we transfer back to Casablanca (3 hours) for the flight home, or, if you prefer to fly out of Marrakech, it is a short 20 minute taxi ride to the airport (at extra cost).

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