



MOROCCO

2018 fully escorted tours

Morocco is one of the most diverse countries in Africa, with high mountains, sweeping desert, rugged coastline, and the winding alleyways of ancient medina cities and souqs.



Single price \$2999 per person for own room.





\$2999 -Escorted Package Includes

16 October 2018. Call us for your preferred departure date

- Return airfares All Australian Capitals Cities to Casablanca.
- Airline taxes & fuel surcharges
- 11 nights First Class accommodations
 - 2 nights Rabat
 - 2 nights Fez
 - 2 nights Erfoud
 - 1 night Ouarzazate
 - 3 nights Marrakesh
 - 1 night Casablanca
- Hotel portorage
- All transfers
- 16 meals: 11 breakfasts, 5 dinners
- Sightseeing per itinerary in modern air-conditioned motor coach
- Services of English-speaking tour manager throughout
- Entrance fees per itinerary
- Farewell dinner with mineral water and wine

Special Features

- View Hassan II Mosque, build to commemorate the former king's 60th birthday
- Admire the 12th century Koutoubia Minaret, used as the prototype for Seville's La Giralda Tower
- Visit the ancient Roman ruins of Volubilis, a UNESCO World Heritage Site
- Join a Fez family in their home and enjoy a home hosted dinner
- Explore Ait Benhaddou, an ancient desert village on an old caravan route
- Take a short bus tour of the imperial city of Fez

DAY 1 - Depart for Morocco

Depart for Morocco

DAY 2 - Arrive in Casablanca & Travel to Rabat

Arrive in Casablanca and transfer to your hotel in Rabat where you have the rest of

the day at leisure to explore the capital city of Morocco. This evening, enjoy a complimentary welcome Moroccan mint tea with an orientation meeting with your Tour Manager

Overnight: Rabat

DAY 3 - Rabat Morning City Tour

This morning, take a city tour of Rabat, Morocco's capital and second largest city. Rabat, which means "Fortified Place" displays all of the fine architecture one might expect to see. View the Royal Palace and the ancient ruins of Chellah, a city that traces its origins to the Carthaginians and Phoenicians. Also visit the Oudaya Kasbah, and the Hassan Tower. Spend the afternoon at leisure

Overnight: Rabat

Meals: Breakfast

DAY 4 - Travel to Fez

Today, depart for Fez. En route, stop and visit the ancient ruins of the Roman city of Volubilis where you will get a chance to see the wonderfully preserved original mosaics, Roman Road, and city layout. As you travel through the Moroccan countryside, pass by the Holy City of Moulay Idriss for a photo opportunity. Upon your arrival in Fez, enjoy a breathtaking view of the ancient city of Fez from a hill overlooking the medina. Take a short bus tour of the imperial city conducted by your Tour Manager on the way to the hotel. This evening, enjoy a special dinner hosted by a local family and learn about Moroccan culture and traditions

Overnight: Fez

Meals: Breakfast, Dinner

DAY 5 - Full Day in Fez

Enjoy a full day at leisure to bravely wander the old medina yourself or, choose to take to guided *optional* tour where you will visit the many hidden treasures of the medina that only a Moroccan guide will know. Fez served as the capital of Morocco for more than 400 years and is home to the University of Al Karaouine, the oldest operating university in the world. It is particularly famous for its tanneries and the Fes el Bali Medina. A short visit to the surrounding leather shops gives you the best view of the tanneries. See the Attarine Medersa, Moulay Idriss mausoleum, and visit the Nejjarine Fountains and Museum. Opportunities for shopping for authentic Moroccan carpets will be provided. Finally, view the exterior of the Royal Palace and walk through the famed Jewish quarter of the medina. Though the city has endured periods of hardship, it has emerged more vibrant than ever, boasting its own distinctive culture, art, and even cuisine

Optional: Full Day Fez (AM)

Overnight: Fez

Meals: Breakfast

DAY 6 - Sightseeing en route to Erfoud

This will be a long and rewarding touring day. After breakfast, depart for Erfoud via the montane cedar woods of the middle Atlas Mountains, passing by Ifrane, a charming ski resort, and Azrou, an important handicraft center. Continue to Erfoud via Errachidia and the lush Ziz Valley. Arrive to your Erfoud hotel in the early

evening

Overnight: Erfoud

Meals: Breakfast, Dinner

DAY 7 - Rissani City Tour

This morning, depart to explore the small city of Rissani, on the edge of the Sahara. En route, stop at a fossil factory to learn more about this unique activity which is famous in the region. Time permitting, we will visit a local community center and learn about the community first hand. Upon arrival to Rissani, tour the lively souk and visit an 18th-century ksar. Next, discover the ancient ruins of Sijilmasa on the River Ziz, once a bustling Berber city and medieval trade depot. Return to Erfoud for an afternoon at leisure or, join the *optional* tour of the Sahara, including a camel ride into the desert. After sunset, return to your hotel for dinner and overnight

Optional: Full Day Sahara with Lunch

Overnight: Erfoud

Meals: Breakfast, Dinner

DAY 8 - Sightseeing en route to Ouarzazate

This morning, continue your journey to Tinghir via the Tinjdad Road. Stop to visit the magnificent Todgha canyons, which rise to a towering 800 feet. After a brief stop in the Dades Canyons, continue to Ouarzazate via the road of the thousand Kasbahs, and the Dades Valley, famous for its roses and the yearly Rose Festival. Arrive at the hotel in Ouarzazate later this evening

Overnight: Ouarzazate

Meals: Breakfast, Dinner

DAY 9 - Ouarzazate City Tour, Travel to Marrakesh

Enjoy a city tour of Ouarzazate, a desert city at the gates of the Sahara. Its strange name means "without noise" in the Berber language. Walk in the Taourirt village, which was constructed in the 12th century and still inhabited today. It was an important village located at the crossroads between the Sahara Desert and the north of Morocco. Your tour also includes the Kasbah Taourirt, an impressive structure that was built to house hundreds of people. Finally, visit Ait Ben Haddou, a UNESCO World Heritage Site. This afternoon travel to Marrakesh via the highest road point in Morocco, the Tichka Pass, offering an impressive landscape in the heart of the Atlas Mountain range

Overnight: Marrakesh

Meals: Breakfast

DAY 10 - Marrakesh City Tour

After breakfast, enjoy a morning tour of the city. Visit the Saadian Tombs, dating back to the 16th century, where Saadian royalty found their final resting place. Your tour also includes the Koutoubia Minaret, as well as the beautiful Bahia Palace. Finally, end the tour by walking through the medina, getting a chance to admire all of the different artisans performing their craft before arriving at the Djemaa el Fna Square. Spend the afternoon at leisure or, choose to take the *optional* tour where you will have a chance to watch couscous being made, while enjoying a traditional lunch, as well as visiting the Majorelle Gardens. Tonight, attend the *optional* dinner

with horse-drawn carriage ride. Take a ride through the lively streets of Marrakesh and delight in the tastes of typical Moroccan fare while live music and an elegant belly dancing performance cap off the night

Optional: Marrakesh Culinary Demonstration & Majorelle Gardens with Lunch (PM)

Optional: Dinner with Horse-Drawn Carriage Ride (PM)

Overnight: Marrakesh

Meals: Breakfast

DAY 11 - Full Day in Marrakesh

Enjoy a full day at leisure in Marrakesh. See the bustling Medina, a UNESCO World Heritage Site, and experience the vibrant street life of the city firsthand, or, perhaps join the *optional* tour to Essaouira, whose medina is a UNESCO World Heritage Site and an excellent example of a fortified North African town. Walk along the city's ramparts just north of Moulay Hassan Square where local artists sell their paintings. Continue on to the Skala de la Ville, which is a fortification built along the cliffs that defended the city from sea attacks, but now provides visitors with an unparalleled view of the port and its bright colored fishing boats. Explore the many souks in the medina, including the spice and jewelry souks

Optional: Full Day Essaouira (AM)

Overnight: Marrakesh

Meals: Breakfast

DAY 12 - Depart Marrakesh, Travel to Casablanca

This morning, travel to Casablanca, the commercial heart of Morocco. Upon arrival, enjoy a half day sightseeing tour of Casablanca, which includes the exterior of the Hassan II Mosque▲ and the Corniche seaside. Continue on a short drive through the residential areas of Casablanca to the city center to visit the Mohamed V Square, the Habous quarter and the Notre Dame de Lourdes Cathedral. Tonight, enjoy a Farewell Dinner at a local restaurant*

**Please note: The Farewell Dinner ends around 10:30 pm. Departure flights scheduled shortly after midnight may require missing part of the dinner*

Overnight: Casablanca

Meals: Breakfast, Dinner

DAY 13 - Depart Morocco

Transfer to the airport for your departure flight

Meals: Breakfast

Le Diwan Rabat, Rabat



This first class hotel is located in downtown Rabat near the Embassies.

Hotel Details

Palais Medina & Spa, Fez



This deluxe hotel is situated in a prime location in the center of Fes.

Hotel Details

Kasbah Xaluca Maadid, Erfoud



This first class hotel is a Kasbah-style property located on the edge of the desert near to Erfoud and its many attractions.

Hotel Details

Ibis Ouarzazate, Ouarzazate



This tourist class hotel is centrally located in Ouarzazate.

Hotel Details

Suite Novotel Marrakesh, Marrakesh



This first class hotel is situated in Marrakesh's Hivernage district.

Hotel Details

Novotel Casablanca City Center, Casablanca



This first class hotel is situated in the business district of Casablanca.

Full Day Fez with lunch

Join a day-long tour devoted to Fez, the oldest of the imperial cities, which is best known for its spiritual and educational contribution to the Moroccan culture. Your tour includes visits to the medieval Fez el Bali Medina (a UNESCO World Heritage Site), the Attarine Medersas, Nejjarine Fountains and Museum, and the exteriors of the Al Karaouine mosque and Moulay Idriss mausoleum. A short visit to the surrounding leather shops will provide the best view of the famous tanneries. After a light lunch is provided at a beautiful riad within the medina. You will also have the chance to explore the famous Souks, where craftsmen still practice their trades the traditional way. In the afternoon, visit Fes Jdid, the modern district of Fez, where the Royal Palace and Jewish Quarter are located.

Departs at 8:00 am. Approximate tour duration is 8 hours.

Day #5

11 Apr 2016 - 31 May 2019

AUD\$53.00



Full Day Sahara with lunch

Depart by 4x4 caravan into the desert, exploring numerous small villages before reaching Tisserdimine, an oasis village at the bottom of Erg Chebbi. Enjoy a picnic-style lunch before continuing the journey to the peak of Erg Chebbi. After taking in this splendid view of the surrounding desert, leave your man made transports behind and journey into the heart of the dunes as the local nomads do; by camel back. Return to your hotel after sunset.

Pick up details to be advised locally. Approximate tour duration is 6 hours in the winter season (Nov – Mar) and approximately 8 hours during the warmer months (April – October)

Maximum 4 passengers per vehicle.

Day #7

11 Apr 2016 - 31 May 2019

AUD\$133.00



Dinner with Horse-drawn Carriage Ride

This evening, enjoy a horse-drawn carriage ride through the lively streets of Marrakesh. Upon entering the restaurant, step back into the time of Arabian folklore and relax among the sound of classic Moroccan music. Delight in the tastes of typical Moroccan fare while live music and an elegant belly dancing performance cap off the night.

(The horse drawn carriage holds a maximum of four passengers. Please note that this is not a private carriage ride).

Pick up details to be advised locally. Approximate tour duration is 2.5 hours.

Day #10

11 Apr 2016 - 31 May 2019

AUD\$88.00



Marrakesh Culinary Demonstration & Majorelle Gardens with lunch

Your tour begins with an instructional cooking demonstration of how the traditional Berber dish, couscous, is made. In a beautiful authentic restaurant near Djeema el Fna Square, learn from a local chef how to successfully prepare the famous dish at home. After completing your cooking demonstration, continue on to the Majorelle Gardens. First created in the 1920s, these beautiful botanical gardens have been owned and maintained by French artists since their creation - first by painter Jacques Majorelle, then fashion designer Yves Saint-Laurent. Once on the grounds, also visit the Majorelle Museum which displays a collection of Berber objects such as art, jewelry, and clothing.

Departs at 12:00 pm. Approximate tour duration is 4 hours.

Day #10

01 Apr 2018 - 31 May 2019

AUD\$68.00



Full Day Essaouira

In the morning, travel to Essaouira, a seaside resort city on Morocco's Atlantic Coast. Along the way, stop at the Marjana Co-Operative to view traditional methods of extracting Argan Oil. The demand for the oil has grown drastically due to its heavy use in cosmetics and cuisine in the West. Continue on to Essaouira, whose medina is a UNESCO World Heritage Site and an excellent example of a fortified North African town. Spanish cannons still line the battlements while parasols dot the harbor's beaches, creating a remarkably picturesque setting. You will walk along the city's ramparts just north of Moulay Hassan Square where local artists sell their paintings. Continue on to the Skala de la Ville, which is a fortification built along the cliffs that defended the city from sea attacks, but now provides visitors with an unparalleled view. In the Medina, artisans, and craftsmen practice their trades as they have for hundreds of years. Explore the many souks in the medina, including the spice and jewelry souks. The city is also famed for hosting the Gnaoua World Music Festival, which draws musicians from across the world who come to play with the Gnaoua mystics.

Departs at 7:00 am. Approximate tour duration is 11 hours.

Day #11

11 Apr 2016 - 31 May 2019

AUD\$66.00

