

# Totally Morocco

9 days | Starts/Ends: Marrakech



Led by an expert local guide, this exciting 9 day group tour is an excellent way to see the country through the eyes of someone who calls it home. From Marrakech, travel by private vehicles to Ait Benhaddou and Ouarzazate, before camel trekking across the Sahara. Take in the Imperial Cities of Fes, Rabat and Meknes and uncover many of Morocco's key sites through the expertise of specialist guides. By night bed down in comfortable locally-owned 4-star hotels and enjoy many included meals.

## HIGHLIGHTS AND INCLUSIONS

### Trip Highlights

- Marrakech – Uncover the UNESCO-listed medina, mosque, palaces and souks. Majorelle Gardens - Yves Saint Laurent's famous blue gardens
- Casablanca - Explore Morocco's largest city and visit the famous Hassan II mosque
- Rabat - Enjoy a guided tour of the lively capital city
- Meknes - Discover this great Imperial city

- Volubilis – Marvel at UNESCO-listed Roman ruins
- Fes – Stroll through the oldest medieval city in the world and visit its medina, dye pits and tanneries
- Erg Chebbi sand dunes - Spend a night camping under the stars in the Sahara
- Todra Gorge - Admire the towering red canyon
- Ait Benhaddou - Explore the UNESCO Listed ancient kasbah

### What's Included

- 8 Breakfasts, 3 lunches and 3 dinners including a traditional Berber meal at our Sahara camp
- 7 nights 3 - 4 star hotels and riad, 1 night camping - Berber desert camp in the Sahara Desert (Hotel upgrade available)
- Airport arrival and departure transfers on day 1 and day 9
- Guided sightseeing of Casablanca, Rabat, Volubilis, Fes, Merzouga, Todra Gorge, Ait Benhaddou and Marrakech
- Escorted by a licensed English speaking Moroccan tour guide
- Specialist local guides at some sites
- Camel trek into the Sahara
- All transportation and transfers in private air-conditioned tourism vehicles
- All road taxes and tolls

### What's Not Included

- Tipping Kitty: USD\$40-50pp, paid in local currency
- Entrance Fees: USD\$70-90pp, paid in local currency
- International flights and visa
- Gratuity for your tour guide & driver. Budget approx USD\$2 - 3 per person per day. Tipping your tour guide and driver is an entirely personal gesture

## ITINERARY

### Day 1 : Welcome to Marrakech

Saturday. Welcome to Morocco! Upon arrival at Marrakech airport you'll be met and transferred to our hotel. This evening meet your fellow travellers and enjoy free time to explore the delights of Djemaa el Fna.

#### Overnight - Marrakech

### Day 2 : Majorelle Gardens & Marrakech City Tour



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After breakfast we head over to the beautiful Majorelle Gardens just a short drive from the hotel. These botanical gardens were designed by the French Artist Jacques Majorelle in the 1920s and 1930s. He used a distinctive shade of cobalt blue for the majority of the garden and although a lot of his other work has largely been forgotten – this garden is seen as his greatest master piece. The garden has been owned by Yves Saint Laurent since 1980 and his ashes were scattered here after his death in 2008. The garden contains an extensive collection of exotic plants and trees and is home to 15 species of bird. There is also a Berber Museum representing the various indigenous tribes of Morocco including over 600 artefacts. The newly opened Yves Saint Laurent museum nearby is also well worth a visit - this museum was opened in 2017 and is dedicated to the life and works of Yves Saint Laurent himself. Please note entrance into the YSL museum is not included and costs 100 MAD per person if you would like to go in.

This afternoon you will meet up with the rest of the group who are coming in from Casablanca before embarking on a guided tour of Marrakech. Inside the rose coloured medina walls is a tangle of winding streets and alleys that open onto verdant gardens and bustling souks. At the heart of the medina is Djemaa El Fna, the city's exuberant market place and towering over it, is the famous Koutoubia Mosque, the tallest building in the city.

**Overnight - Marrakech (B, D)**

## Day 3 : Ait Benhaddou - UNESCO World Heritage Listed



Marrakech - Ait Benhaddou - Ouarzazate. Departing the city this morning we travel across the plains of haouz and reach the great High Atlas mountains. Climbing over the pass of Tizi n Tichka, we stop for lunch and then continue onwards with great views over the Mountains and valleys to Ait Benhaddou. This incredible ancient fortified Kasbah was built for defence purposes high on a hill and is a stunningly well preserved medieval city which has famously featured in many blockbuster movies, including Gladiator and Laurence of Arabia as its beauty is unequal to any other fortified kasbah in south Morocco. Carrying on we continue south to the Hollywood of North Africa – Ouarzazate (pronounced war-zazat). Ouarzazate is famous for being the filming location for many other Hollywood blockbusters and famous TV shows including James Bond – The Living Daylights, The Mummy and more recently Game of Thrones.

**Overnight - Ouarzazate (B, L, D)**

## Day 4 : Camel trek into the Sahara



Ouarzazate - Todra Gorge - Merzouga (Sahara). This morning we begin our journey into the Sahara with a medley of palm trees, rose fields and magnificent gorges. Travelling from Ouarzazate, there is a possibility of visiting the kasbah Amherdhil in Skoura before seeing the rose fields and reaching scenic Todra Gorge. Surrounded by towering vertical limestone cliffs reaching heights of 1000ft, it is known as Morocco's Grand Canyon. The charm of Todra lies in its changing colours as the sun slowly moves from east to west. After time to wander through Todra we hit the road again for Merzouga – our base before we head into the Sahara. Depending on the time of year, spend the afternoon relaxing and swimming before climbing aboard our camels for an

incredible trek into the Sahara Desert to watch a beautiful sunset and spend the night at our remote Berber Camp, nestled amongst the towering dunes of Erg Chebbi. We enjoy local food, music and an amazing night camping in the Sahara.

If you would prefer the comfort of a hotel with en-suite facilities this evening, opt for our Sahara hotel alternative at no additional cost. Please do let us know your preferred option at the time of booking. **Overnight - Berber Camp (B, L, D)**

## Day 5 : Fes



Merzouga (Sahara) - Fes. Departing early, we climb back on our camels disembarking for a truly stunning sunrise. After freshening up and breakfast in Merzouga we're back on the road heading for Fes. It's a long drive today however there is a lot to see on the way. We'll pass through cedar forests full of Barbary Macaque monkeys on our way through the Moyen Atlas mountains. Just before Fes we stop at Ifrane – a beautiful town, often likened to a Swiss Alpine resort. Along the way we also start to see our first glimpse of Morocco's nomadic Berbers – travelling across the mountains and often staying in make shift tents as they head to their next destination. We arrive into Fes in the early evening. **Overnight - Fes (B, L)**

## Day 6 : UNESCO listed Fes el Bali, dye-pits & tanneries

Fes is the oldest and largest medieval city in the world and its medina is a cacophony of aromas, sights and sounds. This morning we enjoy a guided tour of Fes el Bali - the old walled city. This fascinating medina is a veritable rabbit warren of 9400 alleys that often finish with dead ends – so be sure to stay close to the group! We also visit the dye-

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pits and tanneries before lunch in the medina. The remainder of the day is at leisure – why not take part in an optional Tagine Making Class or a night of Moroccan entertainment and food at a restaurant in town (both payable locally). **Overnight - Fes (B)**

## Day 7 : Volubilis & Meknes



Fes - Volubilis - Meknes - Rabat. Departing Fes this morning we visit the fascinating UNESCO listed Roman ruins of Volubilis, which date back to AD40. Continuing on we stop at the Imperial City of Meknes, which became known as the Versailles of Morocco due to its impressive buildings and elaborate monuments. After lunch and some free time our final stop of the day is Rabat – Morocco’s capital where we overnight. **Overnight - Rabat (B)**

## Day 8 : Rabat & Casablanca



Rabat - Casablanca - Marrakech. This morning we take a guided tour of Rabat and visit some of the capital’s highlights, including the impressive Chellah - a necropolis and complex of ancient, medieval ruins, the Royal Palace and the Mausoleum of Mohammed V. After lunch we continue to Casablanca where we visit the Hassan II Mosque, which has the tallest minaret and is the third largest mosque in the world - it can hold 25,000 worshippers at any one time. After our visit to the mosque we say goodbye to our fellow passengers leaving us in Casablanca

and continue on to Marrakech for the night. **Overnight - Marrakech (B)**

## Day 9 : Marrakech



Sunday. Our amazing tour of Morocco ends today after hotel check out. An included onward departure transfer to the airport is provided. **(B)**

### HOTELS

Highlighted below are some of the hotels which we frequently use on this tour, though we reserve the right to substitute these hotels to ones of a similar standard.

**Please refer to your Tour Voucher for your confirmed arrival hotel and further arrival information.**

### Adam Park Hotel & Spa

Guests can expect a very comfortable stay at the Adam Park Hotel & Spa. Each of the elegant rooms feature a patio or balcony with views of the surrounding area. Guests are spoilt for choice when it comes to dining. Several restaurants offer a variety of options including Italian specialities, Moroccan favourites and international cuisine. There are also plenty of ways to unwind after a day exploring Marrakech, with an outdoor pool, fitness centre and a spa offering rejuvenating massage treatments.



### Riad dar Chamaa

In the classic kasbah style, Riad dar Chamaa is set within the Quarzazate palm grove with fantastic views of the surrounding Atlas mountains. All guest rooms are air conditioned with en suite facilities. They are designed in a classic Moroccan riad style with marble floors. The riad boasts a beautiful central courtyard and a refreshing outdoor pool complete with sun loungers for relaxing. The riad also boasts a tea lounge, restaurant and pool bar.



### Dar Amoudou

### Desert Camp

Set amongst the towering dunes of Erg Chebbi, the Berber camp is designed with a traditional Moroccan theme. The permanent tents include multiple beds and electricity (after night fall) Camping out in the desert is a wonderful experience, due to the lack of light pollution, the stars come out in abundance and really are a sight to behold.



### Kasbah Le Touareg

### Riad Al Makan

Situated inside the Fes medina, Riad Al Makan is designed in a beautiful Moroccan style. All of the en suite guest rooms are individually designed with beautiful mosaic patterns and marble floors. The riad also benefits from complimentary wi-fi, an onsite restaurant, 24 hour front desk assistance and a gift shop. There is also an outside terrace perfect for enjoying a cup of Moroccan tea on.

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## Riad Reda

Located in the heart of the animated souks of Fes, Riad Reda combines traditional Moroccan design with modern air-conditioned rooms. Each room has a private bathroom and free WiFi is provided throughout the property. In the evening guests can enjoy dinner in the exquisitely decorated restaurant or simply relax in one of the lounge rooms.

## Riad Dar Alia

Boasting a fantastic location, just a short walk from the entrance to the Kasbah of the Udayas, Riad Dar Alia is wonderful choice for a stay in the capital. It offers a number of uniquely decorated rooms in a traditional Moroccan style. Free WiFi is provided throughout the property and a restaurant serves a variety of Moroccan specialities.



## Le Pietri urban Hotel

In the heart of Rabat, Le Pietri Urban Hotel is a modern accommodation popular with business travellers and tourists alike. Guest rooms are tastefully furnished with excellent en suite facilities. The hotel also has a restaurant and a beautiful terrace so you can soak up the Moroccan sun whilst having your breakfast. Well located in the centre of Morocco's capital Rabat.



### PRICES / DATES INFO

Departure dates noted with a 'G' are guaranteed to operate. All other departure dates are guaranteed with a minimum of 2 persons. Prices shown are per person when there are 2 persons sharing a room. The 'Single supplement' applies for single travellers who require their own room and needs to be added to the per person price. If you are happy to be paired up with another single traveller of the same gender, this can be arranged, thus avoiding the single person supplement.

### PRICES / DATES 2020

Date	Twin Share	Single
07 Mar	USD 1,495	USD 1,945
21 Mar	USD 1,595	USD 2,045
04 Apr	USD 1,595	USD 2,045
11 Apr	USD 1,595	USD 2,045
25 Apr	USD 1,595	USD 2,045
02 May	USD 1,595	USD 2,045
16 May	USD 1,595	USD 2,045
23 May	USD 1,595	USD 2,045
06 Jun	USD 1,595	USD 2,045
20 Jun	USD 1,595	USD 2,045
04 Jul	USD 1,595	USD 2,045
18 Jul	USD 1,595	USD 2,045
25 Jul	USD 1,595	USD 2,045
01 Aug	USD 1,595	USD 2,045
08 Aug	USD 1,595	USD 2,045
15 Aug	USD 1,595	USD 2,045
22 Aug	USD 1,595	USD 2,045
05 Sep	USD 1,595	USD 2,045
12 Sep	USD 1,595	USD 2,045
19 Sep	USD 1,595	USD 2,045
26 Sep	USD 1,595	USD 2,045
03 Oct	USD 1,595	USD 2,045
10 Oct	USD 1,595	USD 2,045
17 Oct	USD 1,595	USD 2,045
24 Oct	USD 1,595	USD 2,045
31 Oct	USD 1,595	USD 2,045
07 Nov	USD 1,495	USD 1,495
14 Nov	USD 1,495	USD 1,495
28 Nov	USD 1,495	USD 1,495
10 Dec	USD 1,595	USD 2,045
19 Dec	USD 1,595	USD 2,045

### PRICES / DATES 2020

Date	Twin Share	Single
28 Dec	USD 1,595	USD 2,045

### PRICES / DATES 2021

Date	Twin Share	Single
02 Jan	USD 1,495	USD 1,945
16 Jan	USD 1,495	USD 1,945
06 Feb	USD 1,495	USD 1,945
27 Feb	USD 1,495	USD 1,945
13 Mar	USD 1,495	USD 1,945
27 Mar	USD 1,595	USD 2,045
03 Apr	USD 1,595	USD 2,045
17 Apr	USD 1,595	USD 2,045
01 May	USD 1,595	USD 2,045
15 May	USD 1,595	USD 2,045
29 May	USD 1,595	USD 2,045
12 Jun	USD 1,595	USD 2,045
26 Jun	USD 1,595	USD 2,045
10 Jul	USD 1,595	USD 2,045
24 Jul	USD 1,595	USD 2,045
31 Jul	USD 1,595	USD 2,045
07 Aug	USD 1,595	USD 2,045
14 Aug	USD 1,595	USD 2,045
21 Aug	USD 1,595	USD 2,045
04 Sep	USD 1,595	USD 2,045
11 Sep	USD 1,595	USD 2,045
18 Sep	USD 1,595	USD 2,045
02 Oct	USD 1,595	USD 2,045
09 Oct	USD 1,595	USD 2,045
16 Oct	USD 1,595	USD 2,045
23 Oct	USD 1,595	USD 2,045
30 Oct	USD 1,595	USD 2,045
06 Nov	USD 1,495	USD 1,945
13 Nov	USD 1,495	USD 1,945
27 Nov	USD 1,495	USD 1,945
10 Dec	USD 1,595	USD 2,045
18 Dec	USD 1,595	USD 2,045
27 Dec	USD 1,595	USD 2,045

### PRICES / DATES 2022

Date	Twin Share	Single
08 Jan	USD 1,495	USD 1,945

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