# KALEIDOSCOPE OF MOROCCO



www.mytravelxp.com hello@mytravelxp.com 1300 168 910





# Kaleidoscope of Morocco Escorted Coach Tour

Duration: 12 days

Stay: 11 nights hotels (3 to 5-star rating)

Travel style: Escorted coach tour

Booking code: MORKG12M

Call 1300 168 910 to speak to experts at My Travel Experience

Email hello@mytravelxp.com

# 12 Days Kaleidoscope of Morocco Escorted Tour

# About the holiday

Discover the Morocco that you've dreamed of on this escorted coach tour!

Imagine bustling bazaars, sweeping deserts, rugged mountains and the winding alleyways of ancient medina. Witness one of the most diverse countries in Africa, with the multi-colourful Moroccan culture as your backdrop.

Travel in comfort on this escorted group tour from the fascinating city of Rabat to the vibrant port of Casablanca. Discover imperial cities of Marrakech and Fez, decorated with beautiful palaces and gardens. Experience the Saharan lifestyle in the small city of Rissani and Ouarzazate. Explore the ancient desert village of Ait Benhaddou and much more, before drawing your Moroccan journey to a close in Casablanca.

Why you'll love this trip...

Enjoy the comfort of first class accommodation & ease of group travel
Discover Rabat's fine architecture, Atlas Mountains, desert fossils, canyons & kasbahs
Experience a home-hosted dinner in Fez, visit UNESCO World Heritage sites & more
Travel with an English-speaking tour guide to make the most of your trip

#### **Travel dates**

**Departs Rabat** 

2024 - regular departures on Mondays. Please contact us for dates.

Departures are subject to confirmation at time of booking. Price will vary depending on your travel date.

Want to stay longer or add international flights?

Call our office on 1300 168 910 for current rates & travel deals.



#### **Escorted tour includes:**

- 11 nights first class accommodations
  - 2 nights Rabat
  - 2 nights Fez
  - o 2 nights Erfoud
  - o 1 night Ouarzazate
  - 3 nights Marrakesh
  - o 1 night Casablanca
- Hotel taxes, fees & service charges
- Hotel porterage
- 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

## Package excludes:

International flights - please contact us for the latest airfare specials Airport transfers - can be pre-booked on request Meals & sightseeing not specified in the inclusions or itinerary Optional tours & activities Personal items, such as drinks, snacks, laundry etc. Gratuities for guides, representatives & drivers Travel insurance is essential

Prices are based on twin share, please contact us for single rates

Subject to confirmation by hotels, tour company & local operators.

Booking conditions & cancellation fees apply.

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# Experiences on tour & special features:

- · Visit the ancient Roman ruins of Volubilis, a UNESCO World Heritage Site
- · Take a short bus tour of the imperial city of Fez
- In Rissani, tour the lively souk and visit the 18th-century ksar
- · Explore Ait Benhaddou, an ancient desert village on an old caravan route
- Marvel at the circus atmosphere of Marrakesh's Djemaa el Fna Square, busy with acrobats, performers, and snake charmers
- Admire the 12th century Koutoubia Minaret, used as the prototype for Seville's La Giralda Tower
- View the exterior of Hassan II Mosque, built to commemorate the former king's 60th birthday

# **Itinerary:**

#### DAY 1, Tuesday - Travel to Rabat

Make your way to the hotel in Rabat where you have the rest of the day at leisure to explore the capital city of Morocco. This evening, enjoy an orientation meeting with your Tour Manager and fellow travellers at approximately 6 pm. We recommend that you select flights which arrive in your destination no later than 4 pm **Overnight:** Rabat

# DAY 3, Wednesday - 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 3, Thursday - 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, admire 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, dinner together with your fellow travellers

Overnight: Fez

Meals: Breakfast, Dinner

#### DAY 4, Friday - Full Day in Fez

Spend 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 cuisine

Optional: Full Day Fez (AM)

Overnight: Fez Meals: Breakfast

# DAY 5, Saturday - 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. 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 6, Sunday - 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. Upon arrival in Rissani, tour the lively souk and visit an 18th-century ksar. Next, pass by 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:** Sahara Excursion

Overnight: Erfoud

Meals: Breakfast, Dinner

# DAY 7, Monday - 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 in time for dinner

Overnight: Ouarzazate Meals: Breakfast, Dinner

#### DAY 8, Tuesday - Ouarzazate City Tour, Travel to Marrakesh

Take 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 Benhaddou, 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 9, Wednesday - Marrakesh City Tour

After breakfast, take 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, the lively centre of the city, a dazzling display of acrobats, story tellers, and snake charmers. Spend the afternoon at leisure or, perhaps, join the *optional* Cooking Class with Carriage Ride. Participate in a cooking class and learn how to prepare traditional Moroccan tajine as well as Moroccan flatbread. After dinner, take a horse-drawn carriage through Djemaa el Fna Square and the lively streets of Marrakesh by night

Optional: Cooking Class with Carriage Ride

Overnight: Marrakesh

Meals: Breakfast

# DAY 10, Thursday - 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 coloured fishing boats.

Explore the many souks in the medina, including the spice and jewellery souks. Visit a jewellery shop, renowned for its quality and design. Browse the extensive collection of uniquely handcrafted silver jewellery and watch artisans create beautiful silver pieces

Optional: Full Day Essaouira (AM)

Overnight: Marrakesh

Meals: Breakfast

#### DAY 11, Friday - Depart Marrakesh, Travel to Casablanca

This morning, travel to Casablanca, the commercial heart of Morocco. Upon arrival, join 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 centre 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

\*Hassan II Mosque is subject to unexpected closures for local religious observances. Details will be provided locally by your Tour Manager.

Overnight: Casablanca Meals: Breakfast, Dinner

#### DAY 12, Saturday - Depart Morocco

Make your way to the airport for your departure flight

Meals: Breakfast

Please note: The day by day descriptions are intended as an indicative guide only. Travel by nature is unpredictable. Weather patterns, road conditions, public holidays, travel restrictions and many other factors may necessitate itinerary changes that are ultimately for the client's benefit. It is essential that clients are flexible in this regard.

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Our full set of terms and conditions can be <u>viewed and downloaded on our website</u>, or supplied on request from our office. We highly recommend you read My Travel Experience booking conditions prior to making your holiday reservations. This is the contract under which both parties enter, therefore we request that you only make a booking if you agree with these conditions.

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- 1. Upon making a reservation with My Travel Experience you will receive a booking form, which needs to be filled out and signed to confirm that you agree to the terms and conditions.
  - 2. Your booking will then be confirmed to you in writing and you will be required to pay a deposit to hold your reservation.
- 3. At this time, you must take out travel insurance for your holiday to protect you against any unforeseen circumstances.
- 4. 90 days prior to departure you will be asked to make the balance payment for your trip (the exact due date for your travel supplier will be advised at the time of booking).
  - 5. 10 days prior to departure you will be sent your travel documents via email.
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If you wish to cancel you must notify us of your cancellation in writing. We will then write to the Suppliers to cancel your booking and request a refund (if applicable) for any elements of your holiday that are refundable. You will need to make an insurance claim for any travel arrangements that are non-refundable. If you have any issues during the refund or cancellation process, you have 30 days to contact our office in writing to lodge a complaint so an immediate resolution can be found for you.

Phone 1300 168 910
Kew VIC 3101, Australia
Email hello@mytravelxp.com
www.mytravelxp.com