ABSOLUTE MOROCCO ESCORTED TOUR



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



Absolute Morocco Escorted Coach Tour Duration: 17 days Stay: 16 nights first class hotels Travel style: Escorted coach tour Booking code: MORAG17M

Call 1300 168 910 to speak to experts at My Travel Experience Email hello@mytravelxp.com

17 Days Absolute Morocco Escorted Tour

About the holiday

Discover the mesmerising wonders of Morocco 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 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 Europe's gateway to Africa and the enchanting 'Blue City' of Chefchaouen. Experience the Saharan lifestyle in Rissani and the ancient desert village of Ait Benhaddou. Marvel at the circus atmosphere of Djemaa el Fna Square in Marrakech and much more, before drawing your Moroccan journey to a close in Casablanca.

Why you'll love this trip...

Enjoy the comfort of 4- to 5-star accommodation & the ease of group travel Discover historic architecture, Berber culture, imperial cities, canyons & kasbahs Experience an ancient desert village, visit UNESCO World Heritage sites & more Travel with an English-speaking tour guide to make the most of your trip

Travel dates

Departs Rabat, Morocco

2024 - departs select dates from February to December

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

Call our office on 1300 168 910 for current rates & to add flights

Or email hello@mytravelxp.com



Escorted tour includes:

- 16 nights First Class accommodation
 - 2 nights Rabat
 - 2 nights Tangier
 - 2 nights Fez
 - 2 nights Erfoud
 - 1 night Ouarzazate Region
 - 3 nights Marrakesh
 - 1 night Agadir
 - 2 nights Essaouira
 - 1 night Casablanca
- Hotel taxes, fees & service charges
- Hotel porterage
- 28 meals: 16 breakfasts, 5 lunches, 7 dinners
- Sightseeing per itinerary in modern air-conditioned motor coach
- Services of English-speaking tour manager throughout
- Entrance fees per itinerary

Package excludes:

Flights to Morocco - please contact us for the latest airfare deals Airport transfers - these 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.

See www.mytravelxp.com for more information or call 1300 168 910

Experiences on tour & special features:

- Enjoy a Rabat city tour; view the Royal Palace, Oudaya Kasbah & Hassan Tower
- Visit Tangier, a city that served as Europe's gateway to Africa for centuries
- Discover Chefchaouen, Morocco's enchanting "Blue City" dating back to 15th century
- 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
- View the hilltop ruins of the 16th century kasbah in Agadir
- Stroll the inviting medina in seaside Essaouira, bustling with crafts shops and fishmongers
- View Hassan II Mosque, built to commemorate the former king's 60th birthday

Itinerary:

DAY 1, Tuesday - Arrive Rabat

Arrive and make your own way to the hotel in Rabat where you have the rest of the day at leisure. Your tour begins with an orientation meeting with your Tour Manager at approximately 7 PM, followed by a light dinner. We recommend that you select flights which arrive in Casablanca no later than 3:40 PM **Overnight:** Rabat

Meals: Dinner

DAY 2, Wednesday - Rabat City Tour

This morning, take a city tour of Rabat, Morocco's capital. Rabat, which means "Fortified Place" displays all of the fine architecture one might expect to see. View the Royal Palace, then visit the Oudaya Kasbah, the Oudaya National Museum of Ornaments, and the Hassan Tower. Spend the afternoon at leisure **Overnight:** Rabat **Meals:** Breakfast, Lunch

DAY 3, Thursday - Travel to Tangier

Today, depart for Tangier, a fascinating Moroccan city guarding the Strait of Gibraltar. Take an orientation tour of Tangier, visiting the Cap Spartel and the Cave of Hercules. After free time for lunch, spend the rest of the day at leisure. Tonight for dinner, you might want to sample tajine pescado (fish stew) a regional specialty **Overnight:** Tangier

Meals: Breakfast

DAY 4, Friday - Explore Tangier

This morning, another opportunity to explore Tangier. The city has served as Europe's gateway to Africa for centuries. Its blend of international and cross-cultural influences is unique in Morocco. Visit the Tangier American Legation, a five-story mansion located in the medina. Walk through Perdicaris Parc, a lush natural landscape within the city. Experience the atmosphere of the Grand Soco, Tangier's largest market, as well as the legendary kasbah

Overnight: Tangier **Meals:** Breakfast, Lunch

DAY 5, Saturday - Chefchaouen en route to Fez

Depart Tangier and head south to Fez. Along the way stop at Chefchaouen, nestled in Morocco's Rif Mountains. The city is known as "The Blue Pearl" is painted in various shades of blue, a custom that dates back to the 15th century, when an influx of Jews escaping the Spanish Inquisition settled here. They brought along the tradition of painting buildings blue to mirror the sky and remind them of God. Afterward, continue to Fez. Take a short bus tour of the city, conducted by your Tour Manager, on the way to the hotel

Overnight: Fez **Meals:** Breakfast

DAY 6, Sunday - Full Day in Fez

Spend a full day at leisure to bravely wander the old medina yourself or, choose to take a guided *optional* tour where you will visit the many hidden treasures of the medina that only a Moroccan guide will know. Fez is 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. Finally, view the exterior of the Royal Palace and walk through the Jewish Quarter of the medina. This evening, have dinner together

Optional: Full Day Fez with lunch (AM) **Overnight:** Fez **Meals:** Breakfast, Dinner

DAY 7, Monday - Travel to Erfoud

This will be a long 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 early evening in time for dinner **Overnight:** Erfoud

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

DAY 8, Tuesday - Rissani City Tour

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 to 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 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 **Optional:** Sahara Excursion **Overnight:** Erfoud

Meals: Breakfast, Dinner

DAY 9, Wednesday - Travel to Ait Benhaddou

This morning, continue your journey to Tinghir via the Tinjdad Road. View the Todgha canyons, which rise to a towering 800 feet. After a brief stop in the Dades Canyons, proceed to Ait Benhaddou via the road of the thousand Kasbahs, and the Dades Valley, famous for its roses. Arrive at the hotel in the Ouarzazate Region later in the evening

Overnight: Ait Benhaddou **Meals:** Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

DAY 10, Thursday - Visit Ait Benhaddou, Travel to Marrakesh

After breakfast, visit the UNESCO World Heritage Site of Ait Benhaddou, a ksar along a former caravan route. Its desert-dusted Kasbah and maze-like warrens are sure to enthrall you. The ksar has served as a backdrop in film and TV productions from *Gladiator* to *Game of Thrones*. Next, make your way to the city of Marrakesh for overnight

Overnight: Marrakesh **Meals:** Breakfast, Lunch

DAY 11, Friday - Marrakesh City Tour

Take a morning tour of the city. Visit the Saadian Tombs, dating back to the 16th century. Your tour also includes the Koutoubia Minaret, as well as the beautiful Bahia Palace. Finally, end the tour by walking through the medina before arriving at the Djemaa el Fna Square. Spend the afternoon at leisure, or join the *optional* Cooking Class with Carriage Ride. Participate in a cooking class and learn how to prepare traditional Moroccan tajine and salads. 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 **Marrakesh Meals:** Breakfast

DAY 12, Saturday - Full Day in Marrakesh

Arise before dawn to participate in today's *optional* Hot Air Balloon Ride.* Take off in a hot air balloon as you watch the sunrise over Marrakesh. Drift above the beautiful landscape, before returning back to earth to enjoy a traditional Moroccan breakfast. Explore the city on your own today or perhaps join the morning *optional* Ourika Valley tour. * The Ourika Valley rises slowly to the first hills of the High Atlas, where typical Moroccan villages are scattered amidst the towering mountains. See the natural majesty of Morocco at its finest, a pristine and marvelous place where only the birds disturb the silence

*The Marrakesh Sunrise Hot Air Balloon Ride with Breakfast and Ourika Valley tour operate simultaneously. Passengers may opt to participate in only one of these tours Optional: Marrakesh Sunrise Hot Air Balloon Ride with Breakfast (AM) Optional: Ourika Valley tour (AM) Overnight: Marrakesh Meals: Breakfast

DAY 13, Sunday - Travel to Agadir

Today head south towards the resort town of Agadir, in the foothills of the Anti-Atlas Mountains. Upon arrival, check into your hotel and spend time at leisure. Tonight, make your way to the beachfront promenade lined with a wide variety of restaurants and cafes

Overnight: Agadir **Meals:** Breakfast

DAY 14, Monday - Agadir City Tour, Travel to Essaouira

Embark on a city tour of Agadir where you will have the chance to view the beaches of this former fishing village, as well as the hilltop ruins of the old kasbah. This afternoon, set out for the city of Essaouira. Along the way, stop at the Marjana Cooperative to view traditional methods of extracting Argan Oil, reputedly rich in nutrients and antioxidants, beneficial to skin and hair. Continue on to Essaouira, also known as Mogador. The modern city was not constructed until the late 18th century by Mohammed III. Upon arrival, check into your hotel. Free time this evening to explore the city before dinner **Overnight:** Essaouira

Meals: Breakfast, Dinner

DAY 15, Tuesday - Essaouira City Tour

This morning, take a guided tour through Essaouira's medina, a UNESCO World Heritage Site. Walk along the city's ramparts just north of Moulay Hassan Square. Continue on to the Skala de la Ville, which is a fortification built along the cliffs that defended the city from sea attacks. 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 jewellery souks. Visit a jewellery shop, renowned for its quality and design, and browse the collection of uniquely handcrafted silver jewellery. Spend the balance of the day at leisure **Overnight:** Essaouira **Meals:** Breakfast

DAY 16, Wednesday - Travel to Casablanca & City Tour

Today, travel to Casablanca. Along the way, stop for lunch on your own. Upon arrival, take a tour of the city including the exterior of the Hassan II Mosque* and the beautiful 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 during dinner, bid farewell to your Tour Manager

*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 17, Thursday - Depart Morocco

After breakfast the tour comes to an end. Make your own way from the hotel 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.

Hotels:

The accommodation is subject to confirmation in each destination and hotels may change at the discretion of the tour operator.

Sofitel Rabat Jardin des Roses, Rabat

This centrally located luxury hotel reflects classic Moroccan architecture and expansive colourful interior flower gardens. Sofitel Rabat Jardin des Roses offers large and comfortable rooms.

Hilton Tanger City Center, Tangier This deluxe hotel is located in the city centre of Tangier.

Riad El Yacout, Fez This 4-star hotel is set in the Fez Medina. 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.

Riad Ksar Ighnda, Ouarzazate

This first class hotel is located on the edge of the desert at Ouarzazate. Movenpick Hotel Mansour Eddahbi Marrakesh, Marrakesh This deluxe hotel is situated in the heart of Marrakesh's Hivernage district.

Movenpick Hotel Mansour Eddahbi Marrakech, Marrakesh This deluxe 5-star hotel is situated in the heart of Marrakesh's Hivernage district.

Iberostar Founty Beach, Agadir This first class 4-star hotel is located very close to a beach of fine sand.

Hotel Atlas Essaouira & Spa, Essaouira This first class hotel is located across the road from the beach in Essaouira.

Barcelo Anfa Casablanca, Casablanca This deluxe hotel is a ten-minute walk from the Casablanca Cathedral.

Is this trip right for you?

This program is active and involves walking over various surfaces. The pace is fast, as it includes visits to numerous sites. The longest day spent on the bus is between Fez and Erfoud, which is approximately nine hours. Please note, that a 4x4 vehicle and camels are used for transportation if participating in the Sahara excursion tour. Hotels in Essaouira reflect an authentic local style, and thus all rooms may not be of similar standard. Twin rooms cannot be guaranteed and therefore guests may be accommodated in double rooms.

Affordable Holidays - How do we do it?

With over 30 years' in the business, we know the travel industry better than anyone and have tracked down the best experiences around the world. We go directly to local suppliers to source the best price and holiday for you. Dealing directly with local operators is why our holidays are more affordable. We work with reputable travel professionals that offer exceptional service and safe travel policies. If you think you are paying too much for your travel arrangements, please give us a call, we will work hard to find the ideal holiday for you - that's My Travel Experience!

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MY TRAVEL EXPERIENCE BOOKING CONDITIONS

Please read the following information prior to making your reservation

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.

This is a summary in brief for our customers:

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 - 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.
- My Travel Experience manages a professional client operating account. All booking payments are held securely to pay for your travel services. We do not retain your money and funds are distributed promptly to travel service providers, including but not limited to, airlines, tour operators, cruise lines and hotels. We are required to pay the providers deposits and final payments and in some instances these items are non-refundable.

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.

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