

UGRA TRIP TO MOROCCO 2024

Morocco Tour DEPARTURE DATE: NOV. 21, 2024

DAY 01: Departure from Canada to Casablanca

DAY 02: ARRIVAL -> CASABLANCA.

Morning arrival to Casablanca airport. Welcome and transfer to Casablanca city center for city tour visit of the Economic Capital: the Habous district, the Royal Palace, the Mohamed V square, the residential area of Anfa and the inside of the Mosque Hassan II. Couscous lunch at a local restaurant. Afternoon, check in your hotel and free at leisure. dinner and overnight at hotel.

Meals: Lunch, Dinner

DAY 03: CASABLANCA -> RABAT -> ASSILAH -> CHEFCHAOUEN.

Departure towards Rabat for visit of the Administrative Capital, the Royal Palace (Mechouar), Ouadayas Garden & Kasbah, Mohamed V Mausoleum and Hassan Tower Mosque. Tagine lunch at a local restaurant. Continue towards Chefchaouen passing by Assilah. Late afternoon, check in your hotel for dinner and overnight.

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

DAY 04: CHEFCHAOUEN -> FES.

Departure for visit of Chefchaouen, one of the most beautiful cities in Rif mountainous massif, known by its Medina of shady alleys, whitewashed houses with blue turquoise doors wrought iron windows and tile covered roofs. Tagine lunch at a local restaurant. In the afternoon, direct departure to Fes passing by holy city of Moulay Driss. Arrive to Fes. Dinner and overnight at hotel.

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

DAY 05: FES

Departure for visit of the spiritual capital: the Medieval Medina and its souks, The Royal Palace, laced the balcony of Jewish quarter of Mellah, Attarine or Bou Anania Medersa, Nejjarine fountain and the outside of Moulay Idriss mausoleum and Karaouine Mosque. Fes is particularly famous for its tanneries, a visit of surrounding tanneries will prove the

best point of view over the middle-age charms of this sacred capital at old times.
Optional lunch at a local restaurant.

Meals: Breakfast, Dinner

DAY 06: Fes->Midelt

Departure to Benimellal via Immouzzar Kandar, the cedar woods of the middle Atlas passing by charming ski resort Ifrane then Azrou. You will enjoy snow-capped scenery of the Middle Atlas Mountains and the lush apples valley and agricultural part of the country. Today you will be fascinated by the hospitality on the national commercial route and hosts along the way. Dinner and Overnight at Midelt.

Meals: Breakfast, Dinner

DAY 07: Midelt → ERFOUD ZAGORA.

Depart to explore oasis at Eurrachidia and the Ziz Valley. You might never imagine Sahara was just the sea bed where now uncountable fossils buried become already beautiful marble stone. If curious enough, just go have a stop at medieval trade depot and Berber city there, all those incredible desert roses and fossils just made into interior decorations. Arrive to Erfoud on the edge of the desert. You may join the **optional half-day Sahara Explore Tour(4x4 Jeep tour + camel tour US\$119)**. Depart by 4x4 Jeep into the desert. With a backdrop of the orange-coloured Erg Chigaga sand dunes, the charming Saharan village feels wonderfully isolated, like the modern world has left it behind. The Erg Chigaga dunes are the most stunning in the country and an essential part of any visit to Morocco. An erg is a vast sea of shifting wind-swept sand that's formed into picturesque, undulating crests and valleys. Camel ride: it is a must when we are in Sahara, with beautiful scenery accentuated with different lights. **Spend the night in a hotel or choose to upgrade to the luxury Sahara tent camp with private toilets and shower and sleep under the stars (US\$169)**. Our local friends will prepare a hearty feast, so all you need to do is sit back and relax.

Meals: Breakfast, Dinner

DAY 08: ERFOUD-> AIT BENHADDOU, OUARZAZATE

Departure towards Zagora passing by **optional visit of nomad family with lunch at inhabitant's. (Local Saharan family visit with lunch USD \$40)** Crossing the Draa valley. Stop at Tamgroute village known for its pottery Center. Arrive to Ouarzazate for city tour visit including a panoramic photo stop at Kasbah Taourirt as well as the Cinema studio.

Late afternoon, departure towards Ait Benhaddou which classed as UNESCVO world heritage, check in your hotel for dinner and overnight.

Meals: Breakfast, Dinner

DAY 09: AIT BENHADDOU -> MARRAKECH.

Depart for a visit to Kasbah Ait Benhaddou, an awe-inspiring UNESCO World Heritage fortress in southern Morocco. Known for its appearance in renowned films like Lawrence of Arabia, Troy, Gladiator, and Game of Thrones, this Berber village showcases towered and crenulated Kasbahs that once protected valuable trade routes. Journey to Marrakech via the scenic Tizi Ntichka pass and the rest of the day is free to explore further or shop in the bazaar. Perhaps head into the medina, where every step brings a new smell, a new sight or a new gift to buy. Watch skilled artisans perfect their craft, practice your haggling skills or take a break from the hustle to sip on tea or share a tajine, filled with the pure scent of Morocco. **This evening, an optional horse-drawn carriage takes you through the lively streets of Marrakesh followed by the famed Jemaa el-Fna square (US\$50)**, which is included in UNESCO's list of sites of Intangible Cultural Heritage of Humanity. When night falls it transforms into a hive of activity. Henna-painters, performers and storytellers share the square with a street food bazaar, packed with stalls loaded with Moroccan delicacies.

Meals: Breakfast, Dinner

DAY 10: MARRAKECH.

This morning begin your tour at Majorelle Gardens, a botanical marvel set in the heart of Marrakesh and Museum Yves Saint Laurent. These 2 places represent the continuity of Andalusian art of the Moorish Dynasty over 1000 years. Then, you will find an exquisite artwork of Bahia Palace, where 360 rooms were once adorned with Italian marble and Sudanese gold. For a more recent archaeological find, you'll see the richly decorated tombs of the Saadi Dynasty. Dinner and overnight at hotel.

Meals: Breakfast, Dinner

DAY 11: MARRAKECH -> CASABLANCA.

This morning you may join the **optional Morocco Cooking Class** to gain a newfound appreciation for Moroccan cuisine. The small group class includes shopping at the market, preparation of a traditional dish and lunch. Then create a traditional Moroccan meal such as couscous or 'tagine'. Finish by enjoying lunch with fellow students in a traditional Moroccan dwelling. This afternoon you will be transferred to Casablanca.

Meals: Breakfast, Dinner

DAY 12: CASABLANCA -> DEPARTURE

Transfer to Casablanca airport with assistance during the check-in. Meals: Breakfast

HOTEL: (or similar)

Casablanca: Hotel Suiss

Chefchaouen: Hotel Parador

Fes: Hôtel Palais Medina & SPA Fès (upgraded)

Midelt: Villa Pomme d'Or

Zagora: Kasbah Hotel Xaluca Erfoud

Ait Benhaddou Ouarzazate: Ksar Ighnda Hotel (upgraded) Marrakech: Hotel Kenzi

PACKAGE Quotation: (prices in CAD unless specified)

Package price \$3729 per person in double occupancy - Single supplement: \$899 (taxes included)

Price Include:

International airfare from Toronto in economy class with taxes

4 Star hotel accommodation

Entrance fees to scenic attractions as indicated

Air-conditioned Modern Coaches