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Inclusive Morocco



# Echoes of the Atlas: A Memory Quest in Morocco

DARE TO VENTURE

## Day 1: Marrakech Arrival and Transfer to Royal Mansour



Welcome to Morocco, enjoy an afternoon of relaxation and exploration at your stunning hotel. The Royal Mansour can be counted amongst the few establishments in the world that defy hotel excellence. Just a few steps away from the famous Jemaa El Fna square beats the heart of the Marrakesh Palace, offering travellers the unique concept of a medina within a medina. Each area has been designed to intuitively take guests on a sensory journey. Take a step into the secret and sumptuous history of one of the most beautiful hotels in the world.

Traditional architecture, lush gardens and outstandingly sophisticated riads await you. The design of this luxury hotel in Marrakesh incorporates the elements of an authentic medina, where guests can stroll around and discover sensual delights. The rooms and suites have been replaced by luxurious riads, and the corridors by winding alleyways. The Royal Mansour Marrakech is the only hotel establishment in the world to offer this unique concept.

Overnight : Marrakech Accommodation: Royal Mansour Marrakech Rooms: Superior Riad Drive Duration: 15 min approx. Day 2: Historical Sites Tour in Marrakech and Exclusive Visit to Villa Oasis



Today, start your day with a private guided tour through some of the stunning landmarks of the city including the intricate Bahia Palace and the architectural marvels of the Medrassa Ben Youssef. Other sites that can be visited include the Saadian Tombs, El Badi Palace, the historic UNESCO World heritage medina, and the Koutoubia Mosque.

In the afternoon, head for an exclusive visit to Villa Oasis: the previous private home of Yves Saint Laurent. The villa is known for its stunning architecture and lavish amenities. The Jardin Majorelle itself is a beautiful garden designed by French painter Jacques Majorelle. The Villa's visit a great opportunity to delve deeper into the secrets of Yves Saint Laurent and his life companion Pierre Bergé. After the tour, return to your palatial retreat to relax for the evening.

Overnight: Marrakech Accommodation: Royal Mansour Marrakech Rooms: Superior Riad Activity Duration: 5 hours approx. Day 3: Royal Hot Air Ballooning & Design Tour



Romantic and exclusive for an exceptional time in the outskirts of Marrakech, this private flight seated at the table and not standing offers you a unique experience in the world: enjoy a gourmet breakfast prepared the same day by the famous Bacha Coffee. Exclusive transport, Steward providing on-board service, dedicated pilot and ground crew. Drift over Berber villages with the majestic snow-peaked High Atlas Mountains in the horizon, watch the sunrise as you enjoy your gourmet breakfast for a truly memorable time.

The afternoon is for those interested in a learning more about the crafts of Morocco and what the future holds for them. This tour is the perfect experience for you. Join a personal shopper for a tour that reflects opposites starting in the medina and learning about the local crafts like leather work, weaving and metal work before heading out of the old town to Sidi Ghanem: an industrial quarter turned into Marrakech's own take on SoHo where designers and artists have taken over some of the warehouses to create their own space of creative output. A real treat to those most interested in shopping for unique pieces as well.

Overnight: Marrakech Accommodation: Royal Mansour Marrakech Rooms: Superior Riad Activity Duration: 7 hours approx.



## Day 4: Transfer to Skoura via Ait Ben Haddou

Departing from Marrakech, the road winds through the majestic High Atlas Mountains, leading to Kasbah Ait Ben Haddou. The ancient mud-brick structures and narrow alleys of this ksar provide a glimpse into traditional Moroccan architecture. Embar on an exclusive behind-the-scenes tour of Ait Ben Haddou into the heart of Morocco's cultural and cinematic heritage. Led by our knowledgeable guide, gain access to areas not typically open to the public, unlocking the secrets of this UNESCO World Heritage site. Explore the intricate mud-brick architecture, hidden corners, and labyrinthine alleys that have served as the backdrop for numerous iconic films and TV series. Delve into the history of Ait Ben Haddou, learning about its Berber origins and the significance of each structure. Witness the preservation efforts and restoration work underway, gaining insights into the ongoing commitment to safeguarding this architectural gem.

Continuing through Ouarzazate and the Draa Valley, the route unveils lush palm groves and historic kasbahs, culminating in the tranquil oasis town of Skoura. The journey is a fusion of natural beauty and cultural richness, offering a memorable experience of Morocco's heritage.

Overnight: Skoura Accommodation: Dar Ahlam Rooms: Junior Suite Drive Duration: 6 hours approx. including stops Day 5: Day at Leisure or Activity Option at Dar Ahlam



Beyond its stunning accommodations, Dar Ahlam is renowned for its personalized and exclusive service. Guests are treated to a bespoke experience, with each day unfolding in a series of surprises tailored to individual preferences. The culinary offerings are a highlight, showcasing the richness of Moroccan cuisine with fresh, locally sourced ingredients.

The surrounding gardens and outdoor spaces at Dar Ahlam provide a tranquil oasis where guests can relax and enjoy the serenity of the surroundings. The property also offers activities such as guided walks through the palm groves, visits to nearby kasbahs, and opportunities to experience the local culture.

Today, choose to relax on the vast spaces of the property or head for a unique adventure tailored just for you.

Overnight: Skoura Accommodation: Dar Ahlam Rooms: Junior Suite

#### Day 6: Skoura – Sahara Desert Transfer



This morning, head for on a once-in-a-lifetime glamping adventure in the Sahara Desert in a transformative experience that etches itself into memory. Nestled in the golden sands, Your private camp adorned with rich Berber textiles offer a blend of comfort and authenticity. As the sun dips below the dunes, the vast desert transforms into a celestial canvas, with the night sky ablaze with stars.

The rhythmic beats of traditional music accompany a gournet dinner by the flickering light of lanterns. With the absence of city lights, the brilliance of the Milky Way becomes a breathtaking spectacle overhead. Slumbering in the heart of the Sahara, under a canopy of stars, creates an intimate connection with the vastness of the desert, making this glamping experience a celestial journey that transcends the ordinary and remains eternally etched in the soul.

Overnight: Sahara Desert Accommodation: Dar Ahlam's Private Camp Rooms: Luxury Tent Drive Duration: 5 hours approx. including stops

## Day 7: Sahara Desert – Tiskmoudine :



Continuing our once in a lifetime journey, we head today to the nearby village of Tizkmoudine located in the southern part of Morocco, bordering the desert. Its population, organized in an association, decided to preserve the ancient village, abandoned half a century ago, and bring it back to life. To achieve this, the village association came up with the idea of a hospitality project, offering more than just a stopover for travelers, rather an experience of discovery, exchange and authentic sharing between travellers and the local community.

This initiative complements the safeguarding of the village's collective granary, which was initiated by the local authorities with the help of a Moroccan association "Les Gardiens de la Mémoire", and an American NGO, the Global Heritage Fund.

Today promises an emotional journey of human connection and meditation on the positive impact of travel and how transformative it can be.

Overnight: Tizkmoudine

Accommodation: Tizmoudine (700000 Heures Impact) on private basis Drive Duration: 2,5 hours approx. including stops

### Day 8: Tizkmoudine to La Maison Rouge



Surrounded by mountains at the bottom of the Awju valley, the Red House is not within reach of the disoriented tourist. From the village of Tizkmoudine, it takes 1.5 hours to reach it. A fabulous journey through the foothills of the Anti-Atlas, to the hot water source marking the heart of the old part of the village where the building stands. Where trees are scarce, the rock plays with the sun, enveloping itself in a palette ranging from black to bright orange.

Take the afternoon at leisure to rest and absorb the stunning scenary of the anti-Atlas Mountains or head on an exploratory walk in the surrounding village to learn more about the region and its people.

Overnight: La Maison Rouge Accommodation: La Maison Rouge on private basis Drive Duration: 2 hours approx. including stops

## Day 9: La Maison Rouge to The Oasis House:

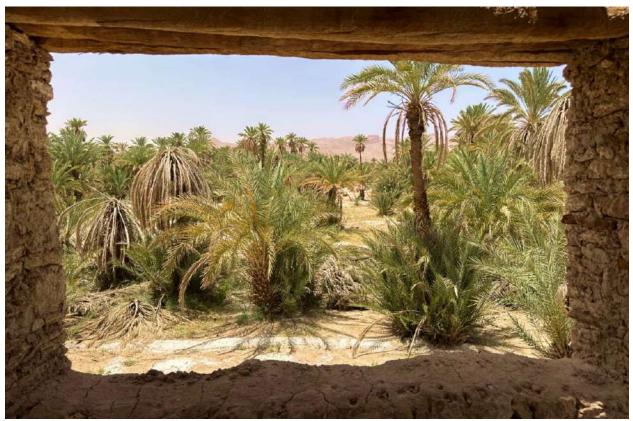


After thirty minutes on the track and an hour's drive, lunch awaits you in the heart of the millennia-old granary of Amtoudi. Then, rejoin the camel route towards Assa and Fask to discover your new abode, surrounded by palm trees.

In the Oasis House, the mood is languid. The two small villas, inspired by the Berber culture, showcase local materials and craftsmanship. Moucharabiehs, cream-colored lounges, precious fabrics, and carved wooden stools: A Sahara tea meets Out of Africa.

Here again, you are the masters of the program. Enjoy your earthen house topped with a Bedouin tent or go with a guide for a crossing, on foot or by bike, of the palm grove.

*Overnight: The Oasis House Accommodation: The Oasis House on private basis Drive Duration: 3,5 hours approx. including stops*  Day 10: 4x4 Excursion in the Oasis



Today, head on a thrilling 4x4 excursion into the heart of the oasis. This will not just be an adventure through the mesmerizing landscapes but also a captivating journey into the rich tapestry of the Berber culture. The rugged desert terrain revealed secrets of the resilient Berber communities, their ancient traditions, and the symbiotic relationship they share with the oasis. Amidst the palm groves and ancient villages, the nomadic Berber way of life unfolded, offering glimpses into their traditions, crafts, and warm hospitality.

However, the stark reality of environmental challenges became apparent as well. The impact of drought and climate change on the oasis was palpable, with dwindling water sources and struggling vegetation. Conversations with the locals unveiled the struggles they face in preserving their cultural heritage amidst the harsh ecological shifts. This 4x4 excursion served as an eye-opening exploration, blending adventure with a deeper understanding of the urgent environmental issues faced by the oasis and the resilient Berber communities navigating a changing landscape.

Overnight: The Oasis House Accommodation: The Oasis House on private basis Activity Duration: 4 hours approx. Day 11: Transfer to Maison des Arganiers:



Leaving the Oasis house, we'll head closer to the water to La Maison des Arganiers: the last stop on our memory quest. On the way, stop to enjoy the magnificent Lagzira beach with its stunning arches into the Atlantic Ocean. After that continue the journey to the House of Argan Trees.

Perched like an eagle's nest in a hamlet of three shepherd families, living to the rhythm of pastures, it unveils breathtaking views of the valley from its hillside terraces. A few kilometers from Agadir, the House of Argan Trees will be your last stop. Take the time to acclimate yourself to this splendid two-level stone building, with its lounge, terraces, and three bedrooms.

Overnight: The House of Agran Trees Accommodation: The House of Agran Trees on private basis Activity Duration: 4 hours approx. Day 12: Walk in the Azragag Village and Visit to the Argan Cooperative:



This morning, take a leisurely stroll through the enchanting Azragag village in Souss Massa. A sensory delight, as the air is infused with the fragrance of blooming argan trees and the vibrant colors of traditional Berber architecture adorned the landscape. The cobblestone streets led to a hidden gem - the local argan cooperative, where the ancient tradition of argan oil production unfolds before your eyes.

Welcomed by the warm smiles of Berber women, witness the meticulous process of extracting oil from the argan nuts, a technique passed down through generations. Engaging in conversations with the cooperative members, gain insight into the significance of argan oil in their daily lives and the sustainable practices employed to protect the argan forest. This is a highlight to the communal efforts to sustainably harness the benefits of the argan tree while promoting economic empowerment in the heart of Souss Massa.

The afternoon is at leisure to explore more or relax in the privacy of your home to meditate over the lifechanging experiences of the last 2 weeks.

Overnight: The House of Agran Trees Accommodation: The House of Agran Trees on private basis Activity Duration: 3 hours approx.

# Day 13: Marrakech departure



Unfortunately, our adventure comes an end today. Your driver will pick you for a transfer to Marrakech Menara Airport. Thank you for trusting Inclusive Morocco as the custodian of your Moroccan dream, we hope we have made it a reality!