

7-DAY MOROCCO DESERT ESCAPADE

PRESENTED BY LAMYAA, YOUR LOCAL TRAVEL AGENT

OVERVIEW

On this week-long itinerary around Morocco, you'll spend time in stunning imperial cities, go camping in the Merzouga desert and see the finest of Moroccan architecture.

Your journey will begin in the vibrant city of Marrakesh, where you'll roam through local souks and visit the ornate Bahia Palace. You'll continue driving through the scenic High Atlas Mountains before enjoying a dramatic sunset overlooking the golden sand dunes. On your way back to Marrakesh you'll pass by the famous Todra Gorge and the Dades Valley, known for their rugged landscapes.

This is the perfect trip for those looking to experience rich Moroccan culture and incredible landscapes all in one place.

Day 1: Welcome to Morocco!
Day 2: Sightseeing in Marrakesh
Day 3: Drive Through High Atlas Mountains
Day 4: Cross the Merzouga Desert
Day 5: Drive Back to Ouarzazate
Day 6: Taourirt Kasbah and Travel to Marrakesh
Day 7: Departure From Marrakesh

INCLUDED

- 6 nights accommodation
- 11 activities
- 6 breakfasts and 3 dinners
- Airport transfer
- Entrance fees
- Ground transportation
- Licensed English speaking guides

EXCLUDED

- Domestic flights
- Travel insurance
- International flights
- Entry visas / airport departure tax
- Alcohol beverages

DURATION

7 days, 6 nights

DESTINATIONS

Morocco: Marrakesh-Safi, Marrakesh, Drâa-Tafilalet, Zagora, Aït Benhaddou, Ouarzazate, Merzouga, Rissani, Hassilabied, Tarmigte

TRAVELLERS

2 travellers

PRICE

US$1,860.00
for 2 travellers

- Gratuities
- Personal expenses
- Laundry

DAY 1: WELCOME TO MOROCCO!



Upon arrival at Marrakesh airport, you'll be met by your private driver and transferred to your hotel in the city centre. Depending on your arrival time, you may have some free time in the afternoon to get acquainted with Marrakesh.

Private Driver
12:00 to 13:00

From: Marrakesh Menara Airport
To: Tempoo Hôtel Marrakech

Tempoo Hôtel Marrakech
13:00 check-in
09:00 check-out (Day 3)
2 nights

Enjoying a privileged location in the exclusive neighbourhood of Hivernage, the Tempoo Urban & Business Hotel is located in the heart of the red city and yet very quiet. The property is just 10 minutes from the airport of Marrakech and the Jemaa El Fna Square. Whether you are in Marrakech for business or leisure, for one night or an extended stay, the Tempoo Hotel is the perfect place to stay.

The hotel will charm you with the quality and sober decoration, a fine and very comfortable contemporary furnishings, and its high-tech state of the art equipment. Only a 5-minute walk from the convention centre and the Marrakech train station, the hotel has spacious and air-conditioned rooms with free wifi and balconies.

The property has also a trendy bar, a café terrace where you can enjoy a hearty breakfast before you start exploring Marrakech or simply soak up the sun by the pool on the property.

Address: Tempoo Hôtel Marrakech, Rue Abou Bakr Seddiq, Marrakesh, Morocco

DAY 2: SIGHTSEEING IN MARRAKESH



Today is dedicated to the discovery of the imperial city of Marrakesh with a local guide. Begin by visiting the Koutoubia and the Bahia Palace. Continue with the Saadian Tombs and the Menara Gardens. After lunch, continue to the famous square, Jema El Fna, and enjoy a walk through the various souks (markets) to see all kinds of things for sale. In the evening you have the option of enjoying a traditional Moroccan dinner followed by a show at Chez Ali.

Marrakesh
10:00 to 17:00
7 hours

A city like no other, Marrakesh exceeds all expectations. From ancient architecture and markets to charming restaurants and ornate artworks, the city is a treasure trove of secrets waiting to be discovered.

Take a walk through the Medina to discover the gardens, religious sites and mosaics that the city is famous for.

Wondering around the streets you can sample some local delicacies from street vendors and try your hand at haggling for trinkets. In the evening, you can head to Jamaa el-Fna for some entertainment that is only found in Marrakesh.

guided

Address: Marrakesh, Morocco

Koutoubia Mosque
10:45 to 11:45
1 hour

The largest mosque in Marrakesh, Koutoubia Mosque is also known by several other names, such as Jami' al-Kutubiyah, Kutubiya Mosque, Kutubiyyin Mosque, and Mosque of the Booksellers.

Found in the southwest medina quarter of Marrakesh, the mosque is ornamented with curved windows, a band of ceramic inlay, pointed merlons, and decorative arches; it has a large plaza with gardens and is floodlit at night, casting a dramatic light over the mosque.

The most notable, and essential feature for all mosques, is the minaret, where you will hear the sound of the call to prayer echoing throughout the city 5 times per day. The design is particularly magnificent, its facade is undoubtedly one of the most photographed motifs of the city.

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Address: Koutoubia Mosque, Marrakesh, Morocco

Bahia Palace
12:00 to 13:00
1 hour

Surrounded by gardens, the Bahia Palace was built in the late 19th century. Intended to be the greatest palace of its time, its name translates to 'brillance palace' in English.

As with other buildings of the period in Morocco, it was intended to capture the essence of the Islamic and Moroccan style. Today, it stands as one of the most beautiful and extensive structures in Morocco.

The palace expands over eight hectares of land and is one of the largest and most luxurious palaces of its time. Standing as a fine example of Morrocan architecture, it is one of the major monuments of the Morroco's cultural heritage and top tourist spot.

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Address: 38 masira 2 Bloc -C, Marrakesh 40000, Morocco

Tombs of Saadian
13:00 to 14:00
1 hour

Located next to the mosque of the Kasbah, the Saadian tombs are one of the only remains of the Saadian dynasty that reigned over the Golden Age of Marrakesh between 1524 to 1659.

In the early 18th century, Sultan Moulay Ismail decided to remove all traces of the magnificence of this dynasty by demanding the destruction of all remaining vestiges. He dared not, however, commit the sacrilege of destroying their burials and ordered that the entrance to the necropolis be completed.

The Royal necropolis was used from the beginning of the 14th century, however its splendour came at a later date. In 1557, the burial of Prince Mohamed Sheikh took place. His son Ahmed El Mansour, also known as Ahmed “the Walleye”, had the mausoleum enlarged and embellished the site with the koubba “Lalla Mesouada” from his mother’s name. Lalla Messaouda was buried there in 1591 as well as the 3 successors of the sultan.

guided

Address: Rue de La Kasbah, Marrakesh 40000, Morocco

Menara Gardens
14:15 to 15:15
1 hour

Looking out onto peaceful waters, with the dramatic backdrop of the Atlas Mountains, the Menara Gardens are surrounded by orchards and groves. The centre of the gardens is marked by a pavilion to which lends its name, Menara, translating to 'lighthouse', suggesting the lookout point from which it creates.

The gardens were created during the 12th-century Berber movement, however, the pavilion was not created until the 16th century, when it was built to be used as a summer residence for the Sultan of the Saadi dynasty.

The artificial lake which compliments its dramatic setting greatly is man-made, with hopes of creating an irrigation system using a complex network of channels, the lake is maintained using a hydraulic system that connects to the Atlas Mountains, an impressive 30 kilometres away.

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Address: Menara Gardens, Marrakesh, Morocco

Jemaa el-Fna
15:30 to 16:30
1 hour

There is nowhere in Morocco like the Jemaa el Fna Square – a surprise on every corner, you'll want to keep coming back for more.

By day, most of the souk is a large open space, where a

handful of snake charmers bewitched their cobras with flutes, traditional pharmacists in the north-east of the square display cures and elixirs, and dentists, with fearsome claws, release the pain from sufferers. Not a pleasant sight, but a spectacle, nonetheless!

As dusk approaches the scene begins to change, people come out for a walk and the place fills up little-by-little - it becomes a carnival all of the storytellers, acrobats, musicians and artists.

Wandering down row-upon-row of performers and you will soon be immersed in the ritual: crouching in the midst of spectator circles, giving a dirham or two as thanks for their performance, you'll find hours pass by so quickly.

If you want a break, you can walk to the rooftop terraces, such as the Grand Balcon Café, for a view of the square and a birdseye view of the action.

guided

Address: Jemaa el-Fna, Marrakesh, Morocco

Chez Ali Marrakesh
20:00 to 22:00
2 hours

You will be welcomed by the Berber tribes who will accompany you to your table under a caidal tent. For more than four hours, let yourself go to the rhythm of the Berber parades, musicians, acrobats and oriental dancers.

Chez Ali Restaurant is the place of 1001 nights with Moroccan hospitality. They offer guests a sumptuous dinner and a memorable show in Berber tents. It is an enchanting wonderland of belly dancers, fireworks, and folk music all with special surprises.

Bewitched by the songs and dances of folk groups, you'll eat, listen and see something truly exceptional.

+ optional (not included in price)

Address: Medina Marrakech, BP9797، Marrakesh 40000, Morocco

DAY 3: DRIVE THROUGH HIGH ATLAS MOUNTAINS



After breakfast, depart to Ouarzazate, through the high Atlas Mountains, passing by Tiz'n Tichka, located at 2260 metres. Stop in Kasbah d'Ait Benhaddou, classified as a UNESCO world heritage site to take some unique pictures. Continue towards Zagora, via Draa Valley. Pay a visit to Zagora and Amzrou, two ancient Jewish villages. Enjoy dinner in the evening at your hotel.

Private Driver
09:00 to 15:00

From: Marrakesh
To: Ouarzazate

On your way to Ouarzazate pass through the High Atlas Mountains and Tiz'n Tichka, at 2,260 metres high. On the way, you'll stop to visit Kasbah d'Ait Benhaddou and Zagora and Amzrou, ancient Jewish villages.

Ait Ben Haddou
11:00 to 12:00
1 hour

A vast complex of kasbahs, Ait Ben Haddou is an Ighrem - meaning fortified village which makes up the finest example of Moroccan earthen clay architecture that still stands today.

The fortified village is more or less uninhabited, with those looking to work in the tourist trade living on the other side of the river. The oldest structure in the fortified town doesn't seem to be older than the 17th century, although the technique suggests a much earlier date that is deeply rooted in the southern Moroccan tradition that can be traced as far back as the pre-Saharan age.

Aït Ben Haddou was essential to the sustainability of the trading route between Sudan and Marrakesh; a bustling, yet compact trading village.

This UNESCO World Heritage Site has appeared in several films and tv series, including The Mummy, Gladiator and Game of Thrones - gaining international recognition, and instigating great interest in its origins, despite generally acting as a replacement for Jerusalem.

Address: Aït Benhaddou, Morocco

Hotel Le Tinsouline
15:00 check-in
09:00 check-out (Day 4)
1 night

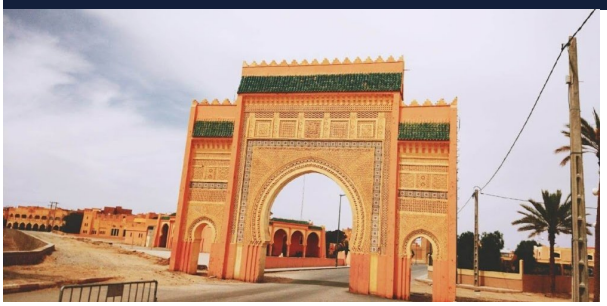
This guest house sits in the Draa Valley, next to the peaceful Zagora palm grove. Set in a Moorish palace, it offers views of the desert landscape and large outdoor pool.

Guest rooms at the Ksar Tinsouline are individually decorated, air-conditioned and equipped with satellite TV. They each have an en suite bathroom and private balconies. The Tinsouline's restaurant serves international cuisine and authentic Moroccan dishes. There is also a snack bar which opens on the palm tree garden and an outdoor pool.

Free private parking is available at the Ksar Tinsouline. The residence also provides Turkish baths, hammam, a 24-hour reception with a tour desk and free Wi-Fi access.

Address: HOTEL Le TINSOULINE, Avenue Hassan 2، Zagora, Morocco

DAY 4: CROSS THE MERZOUGA DESERT



After breakfast, drive to Erfoud. Stop in Rissani, Tafilalt's ancient capital and for a visit of a Kasbah from the 17th century. After your free time for lunch, proceed to Erfoud. Once you reach Erfoud, you will cross the sand dunes on a 4x4 vehicle towards Merzouga. Enjoy a camel ride where you will learn about a Bedouin's lifestyle. Following that, enjoy a guided visit of the surroundings and admire the beautiful sunset. Stay overnight at a desert camp in nomad tents.

Private Driver
09:00 to 14:00

From: Ouarzazate
To: Erfoud

Rissani
11:00 to 12:00
1 hour

Located in the Errachidia Province in eastern Morocco, Rissani is a town that once was a thriving desert capital. Here, fortunes including gold and slaves were traded between caravans during its heyday between the 14th and 18th centuries.

It was also home to the epic battle between the Filali, the ancestors of the ruling Alawite dynasty, and the Saadians, due to its strategic location.

On the outskirts of town, you'll find the mausoleum of Moulay Ali Cherif, third great-grandfather of Moulay Cherif, founder of the Alaouite Dynasty of Morocco.

Today, the town consists of a single street and a square with a small percentage of the popular living in the 17th-century ksar. On Sunday, Tuesday and Thursday, there are souks where you can see locals trading birds, sheep and desert jewellery.

Address: Rissani, Morocco

Off-Road
15:00 to 16:00

From: Erfoud
To: Merzouga

Cross majestic sand dunes on a 4x4 vehicle to reach the Merzouga Desert.

Camel Ride in the Merzouga Desert
16:00 to 18:00
2 hours

Crossing the vast expanse of dunes, the Sahara is an unbelievable sight formed by the wind.

On your camel, you'll be guided through the sands of Erg Chebbi, said to be created as a punishment from God to the people of Merzouga for refusing to house a woman and her child during a local festival. The sand-filled land creates a deafening silence and otherworldly experience that will make you surprised to see another human being.

Interestingly, the Ergs are not technically part of the Sahara, as it is part of the Pre-Saharan Steppes, where shrublands once were.

Address: Erg Chebbi, Merzouga, Morocco

Riad Azawad
18:00 check-in
09:00 check-out (Day 5)
1 night

Travellers from all over the world are warmly welcomed to Merzouga as solo wanderers or accompanied by family and friends.

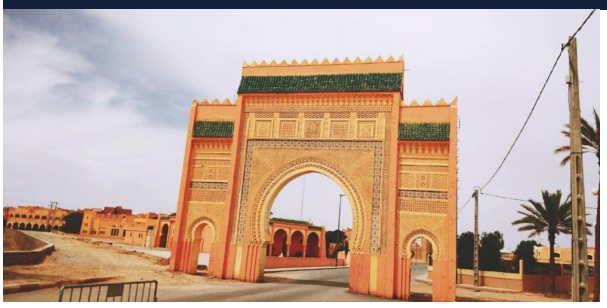
Riad Azawadlies less than two kilometres away from the town centre and is constructed on the foot of the Erg Chebbi, a broad area of sand dunes that attracts hundreds of visitors every day. The destination is known for its exotic desert life and the several activities one can take, like camel trekking, sandboarding, quad riding, camping and even walking barefoot on the calm sandy hills.

Not only is Azawad a luxury accommodation that considers all measures of comfort, but it is also perfectly designed to maintain the traditional architecture of the area and is accordingly decorated to give its guests the authentic impression they seek.

The riad offers spacious rooms and suites beautifully embellished with the local craft to exert extra fascination. A swimming pool is also available to freshen up during warm days and enjoy sunbathing. All this and more make of it the ideal location to live tranquillity and get a closer insight into the Saharan authenticity.

Address: Riad Azawad, Merzouga, Morocco

DAY 5: DRIVE BACK TO OUARZAZATE



After breakfast, return to Erfoud in a 4x4 vehicle and depart to Ouarzazate via Rissani. On the way, you'll stop at a fossil museum with a collection of well-preserved artefacts from the region. Continue towards Tinghir, a charming town known for its magnificent palm-grove and its famous Todra Gorge. You'll then cross Dades valley, Kelaa M'gouna (the city of roses) and Skoura. Enjoy dinner at your hotel and stay overnight in Ouarzazate.

Off-Road
09:00 to 10:00

From: Merzouga
To: Erfoud

Private Driver
10:00 to 17:00

From: Erfoud
To: Ouarzazate

Rissani
11:15 to 12:15
1 hour

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Address: Rissani, Morocco

Tahiri Museum of Fossils
14:00 to 15:00
1 hour

Located 11 kilometres from Erfoud, this fossil museum displays artefacts that were excavated in the region - an area that boasts hundreds of fossils that date back 500 million years ago.

Tahiri is a privately owned museum by palaeontologist Brahim Tahiri that present an incredible well-preserved collection of bones, fossils, crystals, flints and minerals. The museum raises awareness of Morocco’s vast and rich geological legacy.

As well as a museum, you’ll find a shop attached for any archaeological souvenirs that may be of interest to visitors.

Address: N13, Morocco

Riad Dar Chamaa
17:00 check-in
10:00 check-out (Day 6)
1 night

Located in a privileged environment inside Ouarzazate's palm grove, guests at Riad Dar Chamaa will enjoy magnificent views of the Atlas mountains.

Built in a similar way to a former Kasbah, constructed with mud and with towers in the corners, the interior design displays a central court with a fountain surrounded by an archway.

Surrounded by palm groves and with views of the Atlas Mountains, this relaxed hotel is 4 kilometres from the Cinema Museum and Taourirt Kasbah.

There's a bright restaurant, a cosy tea lounge, and a bar in the lush garden with an outdoor pool.

Address: Tajdar B-P 701, Ouarzazate 45000, Morocco

DAY 6: TAOURIRT KASBAH AND TRAVEL TO MARRAKESH



After breakfast, stop at the Taourirt Kasbah, a citadel set against the backdrop of the Atlas Mountains and the former Kasbah of the Caid, El Glaoui, the leading trade commanders who had complete control of trades with West Africa. After the visit, depart for Marrakesh passing through Tizi N'Tichkra, the highest mountain in Nothern Africa. Stay overnight in Marrakesh.

Taourirt Kasbah
10:00 to 11:00
1 hour

Forming the high walls of an earthen Berber village, Taourirt was the former Kasbah of the Caid, El Glaoui, the leading trade commanders who had complete control of trades with West Africa.

During French colonial period the El Glaoui, as chiefs of the tribes, were given more powers in an effort to keep the tribes of the south at bay.

Today, most of the Kasbah lies in ruins, although tours of a small part are still possible. With some assistance from UNESCO, this part of the Kasbah has been restored; visitors are shown around the kitchens, a harem and some reception rooms - be sure to look out the tiny windows of the fortified walls for some beautiful views looking out in Ouarzazate.

Address: Avenue Mohammed V, Ouarzazate 45000, Morocco

Private Driver
11:00 to 15:00

From: Ouarzazate
To: Marrakesh

On your way to Marrakesh, pass by Tizi N'Tichkra, the highest mountain in Northern Africa.

Tempoo Hôtel Marrakech
15:00 check-in
10:00 check-out (Day 7)
1 night

Enjoying a privileged location in the exclusive neighbourhood of Hivernage, the Tempoo Urban & Business Hotel is located in the heart of the red city and yet very quiet. The property is just 10 minutes from the airport of Marrakech and the Jemaa El Fna Square. Whether you are in Marrakech for business or leisure, for one night or an extended stay, the Tempoo Hotel is the perfect place to stay.

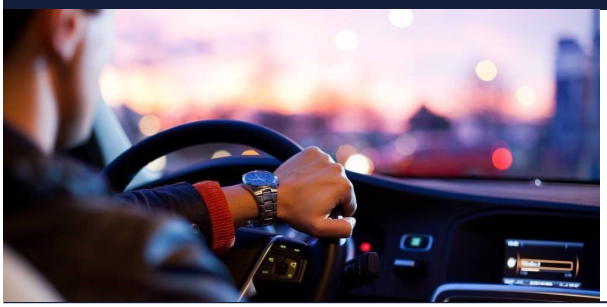
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The property has also a trendy bar, a café terrace where you

can enjoy a hearty breakfast before you start exploring Marrakech or simply soak up the sun by the pool on the property.

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DAY 7: DEPARTURE FROM MARRAKESH



After one last breakfast today, you will leave your hotel and head towards the airport of Marrakesh in time to catch your departing flight home.

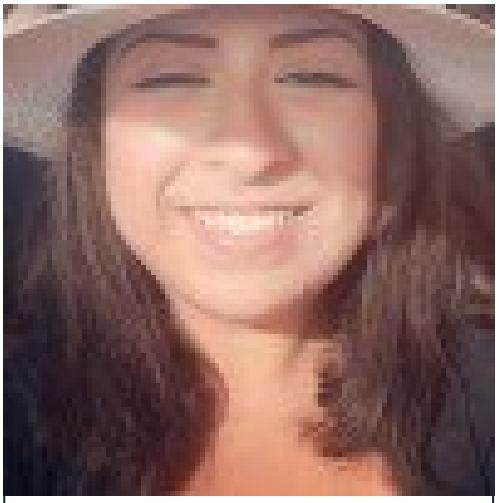
Private Driver
10:00 to 11:00

From: Marrakesh
To: Marrakesh Menara Airport

LAMYAA, THE LOCAL AGENT

"After return from Germany and Turkey, I feel in love with my country “Morocco” so I decided to become a Travel Agent :
My passion is to share wonderful experiences with my clients by planning authentic personalized itineraries unique to them"

I have been helping my clients travel to Morocco for nearly 4 years !



COVERAGE

Morocco

BASED IN

Casablanca, Morocco

EXPERTISE

Adventure, Culture & Arts, Outdoors & Nature, Sightseeing

LANGUAGES

English, German, French