



WOMEN'S TRAVEL GROUP ENCHANTING MOROCCO

2019 Tour Prices (per person)

MAIN TOUR

Based on minimum 11 passengers

Land price based on double occupancy:

\$3,700 Per Person

Single Room Supplement:

\$999 Per Person

Based on 16 passengers minimum

Land price based on double occupancy:

\$3,495 Per Person

Single Room Supplement:

\$999 Per Person

OPTIONAL - GOLD SAND DESERT CAMP UPGRADE

Land price based on double occupancy:

\$325 per person additional

Single \$425 per person additional

Inclusions

- 12 nights accommodation – as per itinerary
- Meals as indicated (12 breakfasts, 1 lunch & 8 dinners)
- Private transport in 27 seat coach
- Sightseeing with entrance fees – as per itinerary

- Porterage at airports and hotels
- Gratuities at included meals
- English speaking national guide at disposal throughout

April 8 - 20, 2019

Morocco combines truly exotic sights, customs and people. Our trip touches ancient crossroads from the 'Blue City' of Chefchaouen through the Roman North to the Berber Atlas Mountains and ends in the thrilling desert oasis of Marrakech. We travel in April, when the weather is ideal and there is still snow on the mountains. Some nights are spent in authentic Riads: Classic Moroccan homes built around a courtyard and fountain. Special experiences include an optional night in a luxurious Berber tent in the desert. Other options: In Fes, a Hammam (A hammam is a dedicated Turkish style steam experience. You will be soaped and scrubbed to perfection) or in Marrakech an excursion to the port city of Essaouira. Join us for an African adventure with markets, minarets, and muezzins.

Day 1: Monday, April 8 - Arrive Casablanca / Rabat

Upon arrival at Casablanca Airport, you will be met and transferred to your hotel. This evening meet your guide for a full tour briefing followed by a welcome dinner at the hotel. **Overnight Kenzi Basma or similar. (D)**

Day 2: Tuesday, April 9 - Casablanca/Rabat

This morning tour "The White City": and drive through the wide avenues. Later walk through the narrow streets of the Medina. The tour also features visits to United Nations Square, Habous district, Hassan II Mosque (outside viewing), Corniche Boulevard and Morocco Mall. Have a light lunch at Rick's Café before we travel to Rabat. Overnight **Le Diwan by M Gallery or similar (BL)**

Day 3: Wednesday, April 10 - Rabat/ Chefchaouen

Morning panoramic city tour of Rabat. Sightseeing of the "Imperial Garden City" begins with the Kasbah of Oudayas, Hassan Tower and walls of the Mechouar surrounding the Royal Palace. Afternoon travel to Chefchaouen. "Chefchaouen" Hanging like a crescent from twin mountains, the town is a 15th century relic of the Muslim civilization of Andalusia. Check in at your Riad. Overnight at Riad Lina or similar. (BD)

Day 4: Thursday, April 11 - Chefchaouen - City Sightseeing

Full day city tour of Chefchaouen, known for the blue-washed buildings of its old town. Founded in 1471 by Moulay Ali Ben Moussa Ben Rached El Alami, Chefchaouen served as a Moorish fortress for exiles from Spain. Over the centuries, the city grew welcoming Jews and Christian converts alike. The alleyways climb to little squares often crossed by Andalusian arches. Visit "Rass El Ma" a waterfall, located on the top hill where local women gather to wash clothes. Then walk to the famous square in the Medina. Overnight at Riad Lina or similar. (BD)

Day 5: Friday, April 12 Chefchaouen / Moulay Idriss / Volubilis / Meknes / Fes

Discover Volubilis, the amazing Roman archaeological site excavated in the early 20th century revealing the Roman Empire's most remote city. Admire the beautiful, well-preserved mosaics, different Roman monuments such as the capitol and triumphal arch.



Not Included:

- Meals not mentioned
- Beverages with meals
- Tours not mentioned
- International Air & Airport taxes
- Insurance
- Tipping/gratuities-guides/drivers
- Items of a personal nature such as telephone, laundry, beverages

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Meknes is one of the Imperial Cities Moulay Ismail with tireless passion created a capital with palaces, mosques, fountains, terraces, gardens, stables, and shops. Arrive Fes in the late afternoon. Overnight **Riad Yacout or similar.** (B)

Day 6: Saturday, April 13- Fes - City Sightseeing

Full day exploratory journey of Fes: the oldest cultural and spiritual Imperial City in Morocco. Begin with the Medina where you visit the many hidden treasures that only the inhabitants know about. Fes is home to the University of Al Karaouine, the oldest operating university in the world. Your guided tour will take you to the Nejjarine Fountains. Visit the Women's Embroidery Cooperative where you can see how women make traditional indigenous Fasis designs of reds and blues woven together in seamless intricate patterns. Visit countless Souks, including food/spice souks and a communal bakery. (OPTIONAL: Luxury hammam experience). Overnight **Riad Yacout or similar.** (B)

Day 7: Sunday, April 14 - Fes / Ifrane / Azrou / Midelt / Erfoud

Depart by way of the Atlas Mountains, Berber villages and the ski towns of Ifrane and Azrou which look more like Bavaria than Morocco! to Erfoud, with a stop in Midelt and Errachidia along the way. Visit the Blue Meski, an oasis in the desert. Continue to Erfoud. Overnight at **Kasbah Chergui or similar.** (BD)

Day 8: Monday, April 15 - Erfoud / Rissani / Merzouga

Enjoy the morning at leisure. This afternoon travel to Rissani: The capital of the Tafilalet where the Alaouites dynasty ancestors are buried. Visit the 17th century Kasbah and the imposing ruins of KsarAbbar. Proceed to the golden sand dunes of Merzouga, one of the unforgettable sights in Morocco. Switching to camels, trek into the vast and silent Sahara to watch the sunset. We then return to Erfoud, **or**

OPTIONAL overnight at a deluxe Berber-style camp: Luxury Gold Sand Desert Camp-those that do not wish to overnight in tents will stay in the hotel in Erfoud. (BD)

Day 9: Tuesday, April 16 - Merzouga / Todra Gorge / Ouarzazate

Early in the morning, witness the unique sunrise: watch the pink disc of the sun appearing over the gigantic dunes of Merzouga. Mid-morning departure via Tinejdad and Tinghir, on the "Road of 1,000 Kasbahs". Stop at Todra Gorge - the highest, narrowest gorge in Morocco. We will meet locals and learn about the culture and geography. Continue to Ouarzazate via El Kelaa and M'Gouna. Overnight at **Berberie Palace Hotel or similar.** (BD)

Day 10: Wednesday, April 17 - Ouarzazate / Marrakech

Morning visit to Kasbah Taourirt, which was the capital of the local dynasty in the early 20th century when the French foreign legion built their base here. Travel to Kasbah Ait Benhaddou, listed as a UNESCO World Heritage site, and served as a backdrop for filming international movies. This afternoon continue to Marrakech traveling across the Tichka Pass (7,730 ft.). Along the way we will visit a local women's run Aragon oil cooperative. Dinner at the hotel Overnight **Riad Bahia Salam or similar.** (BD)

Day 11: Thursday, April 18 - Marrakech - City Sightseeing

Today we will start exploring Marrakech "the red city of Morocco". Your guide will ensure that you see the sites of historical and cultural interest. Begin the city tour with a visit to the garden and the pool of Menara, a famous summer residence of Sultan Abderrahmane. The area is surrounded by orchards and olive groves, some of which are more than 100 years old. View Koutoubia Tower, landmark of the city, then visit the Saadiens Tombs dating from the 16th century, a necropolis richly decorated and discovered in 1917. Bahia Palace built in the 19th century, consisting of rooms decorated with stunning paintings and mosaics. This afternoon, explore the botanical treasures of Marrakech. Visit the famous Majorelle Gardens, designed by the French Artist, Jacques Majorelle in 1924, and purchased by Yves St Laurent in 1980. Afternoon visit Al Kawtar Women's Cooperative, primarily handmade linens, clothing. Also visit a local pharmacy to learn about traditional remedies and purchase quality oils, herbs and spices. This evening visit Jemaa Al Fina Square. Overnight **Riad Bahia Salam or similar.** (B)

Day 12: Friday, April 19 - Marrakech - (Optional Essaouria Day Tour)

OPTIONAL Full day excursion to Essaouria on the Atlantic Coast (approx 2 ½ hour drive each way). Tour of the Medina, the ramparts, the Skala, the marquetry craftsmen carving "Thuja" wood inlaid with ivory; the fishermen's port, the silver jewelers, the Mellah Jewish quarter, the art galleries and Sidi Mohamed Ben Abdullah museum. Enjoy some time by the golden beach before returning to Marrakech in late afternoon.

The farewell dinner will be at the authentic Moroccan restaurant, DAR YACOUT, including select wine and soft drinks Overnight **Riad Bahia Salam or similar.** (BD)

Day 13 Saturday, April 20 - Depart Marrakech

Transfer to Marrakech Airport for your departure flight. (B)