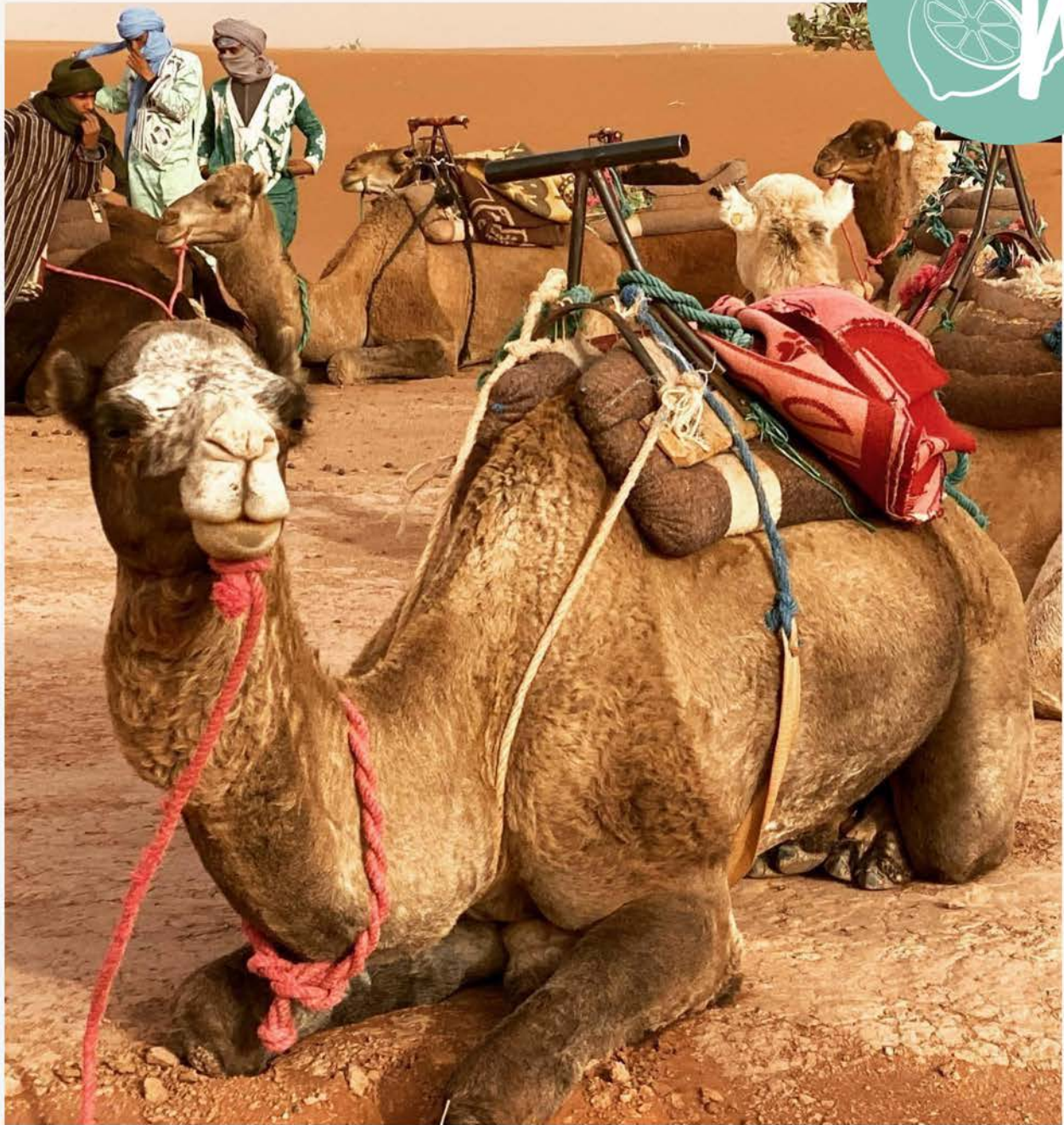


MOROCCO ENCOMPASSED

12TH- 27TH OCTOBER 2024



THIS EXHILARATING 15-DAY JOURNEY IS THE ULTIMATE WAY
TO DISCOVER MOROCCO.



kellie@wildlimemarketing.com.au



+61 0422 165 271

MOROCCO ENCOMPASSED

12TH- 27TH OCTOBER 2024

FROM \$3995 TWIN SHARE

Single rate available*



Sparkling coastlines, soaring mountains, lush valleys, and the vast, unforgettable Sahara Desert – this is Morocco Encompassed.

Travel in the footsteps of pirates, sultans, and nomadic people, exploring the colonial architecture of Casablanca, the medieval city of Fes and the intricate clay architecture of the Ait Benhaddou Kasbah.

Enjoy the warm local hospitality and embark on exotic adventures like riding a camel over Saharan dunes, hiking in the High Atlas Mountains, and haggling for treasures in bustling souqs.



INCLUSIONS

- 15 nights' twin share accommodation
- Daily breakfasts + welcome and farewell dinner
- All transfers as indicated (using mix of public and private transport)
- Experienced guide along the whole trip complemented by local guides
- Casablanca - Religious Urban Adventure
- Fes - Medina walking tour
- Fes - Funduk Nejjarine
- Fes - Medresse el Attarine
- Around - High Atlas Mountains guided hike
- Ait Benhaddou - Leader-led ksar walk
- Ait Benhaddou Cooking Demonstration & Dinner
- Tamegroute - Ancient Library
- chefchaouen Desert - Camel Ride
- Sahara Desert - 4WD to Erg Chigaga dunes
- Sahara Desert - camp overnight stay
- Tamegroute - Underground Kasbah guided tour

- Sahara Desert - 4WD to Erg Chigaga dunes
- Sahara Desert - camp overnight stay
- Tamegroute - Underground Kasbah guided
- Essaouira - Guided walking tour
- Overnight sleeper train to Marrakesh
- Dinner overlooking the Djemaa el Fna
- Casablanca Airport transfer
- Wildlime Director, Kellie Kadaoui, with you every step of the way

EXCLUSIONS

- International Flights
- Any visas required
- Services not mentioned in the itinerary
- Late check-out at hotels
- Meals and drinks not mentioned in the itinerary
- Drinks with included lunches and dinners
- Tips for leaders, guides and driver
- Expenditure of personal nature
- Personal Insurance
- Optional activities



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MOROCCO ENCOMPASSED

TRAVEL ITINERARY

SATURDAY 12TH CASABLANCA

Salaam Aleikum! Welcome to Morocco - where multiple religions have co-existed side-by-side for centuries, sometimes even overlapping traditions and beliefs.

We start our tour this morning with a Religious Casablanca Urban Adventure. Get an overview of the region's religions on this tour that takes you to some of Casablanca's holiest sites and shows how Islam, Judaism, Christianity and other faiths have lived in harmony for hundreds of years. Starting our tour with this knowledge will give us more insight over the next 15 days. Tonight, we will dine on a classic Moroccan family feast.

Accommodation - Hotel

SUNDAY 13TH FES

Today we take a morning train to Fes, where you'll spend the next two nights. Fes is the most complete medieval city in the Arab world and the most ancient of Morocco's imperial cities.

Upon arrival, we have a local guided group walking tour of the Old City, known locally as Fes el Bali. Step back into the Middle Ages in the labyrinth of the Medina, which is alive with craftsmen, markets, tanneries, and mosques.

Pass donkeys piled high with goods (this is one of the largest car-free urban zones in the world) and explore the specialty sections that divide the souk.

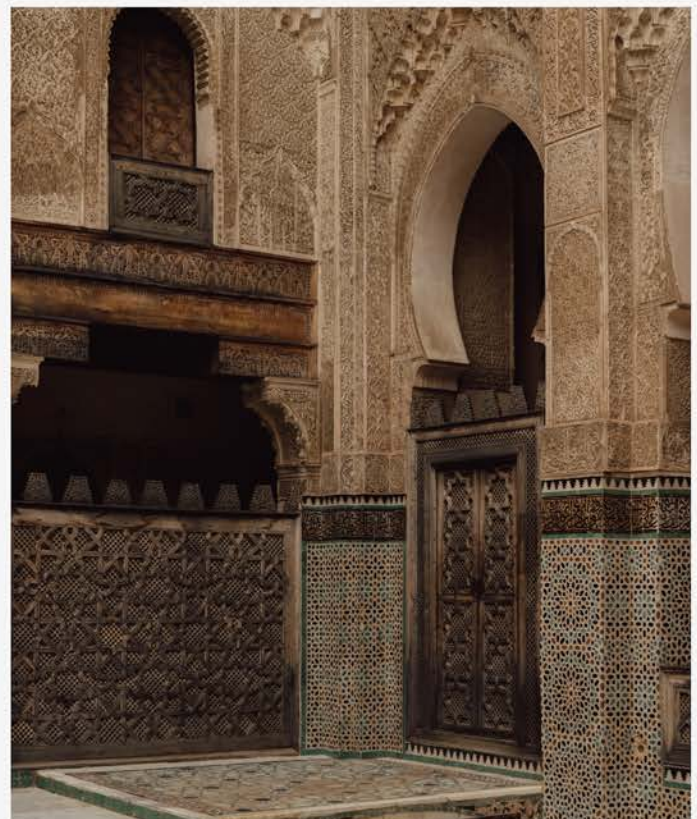
Look out for the Medersa Bou Inania: one of the city's most beautiful buildings recently restored and now open to tourists.

Visit Medresse el Attarine and the splendid Funduk Nejjarine: a beautifully restored 18th-century inn. You'll also see the famous tannery, known for the iconic view overlooking its dye pits, and a ceramics factory where you can see potters working traditionally.

Accommodation - Riad

Included Activities - Medina walking tour + Funduk Nejjarine + Medresse el Attarine

- *Special Information - Please note that today's experience will include shopping in carefully selected places. As the receipt of commissions or kickbacks in exchange for recommending shops, services or activities is ingrained in the culture of the Moroccan tourism industry, we are using a provider who has established a centralised system of receiving and distributing payments from these recommended suppliers. If you do not wish to participate, you can sit it out and meet your group after they have finished.*



MONDAY 14TH FES

Today is a free day to explore this amazing walled city. Consider booking a unique experience – an ancient Moroccan Hamman.

Hammams are traditional steam baths, incorporating elements of massage and scrubbing, that originated during the Roman Empire and have been in use ever since.

In Morocco, people from all social classes go to hammams to remove their dead skin cells and to maintain this long tradition. They are either female or male, and sessions are booked based on this.



TUESDAY 15TH CHEFCHAOUEN

Take a local 4-hour bus to Chefchaouen today. Set against a wide valley and nestled between two peaks in the stunning Rif Mountains, much of Chefchaouen was recreated by Andalusian refugees escaping the Reconquista, so you might feel like you're in the hills of Spain.

Your day is free. Perhaps stroll through the ancient medina and shop for handicrafts, go hiking in the Rif mountains, or sit at a cafe and enjoy the pleasure of time passing by. If you're feeling peckish, the local goat's cheese is a popular treat enjoyed by many visitors.

Accommodation – Hotel

WEDNESDAY 16TH CHEFCHAOUEN

Today is another free day to explore 'the blue pearl' as you wish. Perhaps take a guided tour of the medina's sights, sounds, and smells, or sample the delicious local specialties at a cafe in the Plaza Uta el-Hammam. Alternatively, you might prefer to get out of town, enjoy a hike, and picnic in the surrounding hills. In the evening, how about tucking into a tagine at a local restaurant or visiting a hammam, a traditional Moroccan spa?

Accommodation - Hotel



THURSDAY 17TH TANGIER

Take a 3-hour private minibus journey to the coastal town of Tangier – a place of strategic importance to the Mediterranean as a gateway to Africa. Your afternoon here is free. Perhaps visit the American Legation Museum, the former palace of Dar el-Makhzen or the Caves of Hercules. You could also enjoy a fresh seafood dinner by the port, watching the sunset over the Atlantic. Later tonight, board an overnight sleeper train bound for Marrakech.

Accommodation - Overnight sleeper train

Special Information - Please note the overnight train between Tangier and Marrakech. Should the train still be cancelled at the time of your trip, you will travel from Tangier to Marrakech by day train today instead, arriving at Marrakech in the afternoon.

FRIDAY 18TH MARRAKECH

Arrive early into Marrakech and then the day is free for you to explore. Perhaps visit the well-known Koutoubia Mosque and its 12th-century minaret, which was the famous prototype for the Giralda tower in Seville. Or, you could take a wander through the tropical gardens of the French painter Jacques Majorelle (now owned by Yves Saint Laurent).

In the evening, join the thronging crowds for dinner in the Djemaa el Fna: the city's main square. 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.

Accommodation - Riad





Use the rest of the day to explore the village and the surrounding farmlands.

If the group is up for it and the weather permits, there will be a chance to hike around eight km to the pilgrimage shrine of Sidi Chamharouch (approximately 4 hours return). Regardless of your fitness levels, the gentle pace of Around makes it a special place to explore beyond the reach of the modern world.

Accommodation - Gite

- *Facilities at the homestay are shared (both the bathroom and sleeping arrangements) but cozy, comfortable, and definitely a unique experience*

Included Activities -High Atlas Mountains guided hike.

- *The optional hike to the Sidi Chamharouch shrine requires appropriate footwear. A pair of good walking shoes with rigid and grippy soles will be sufficient. You will walk over well-trodden paths that may be muddy and unstable.*

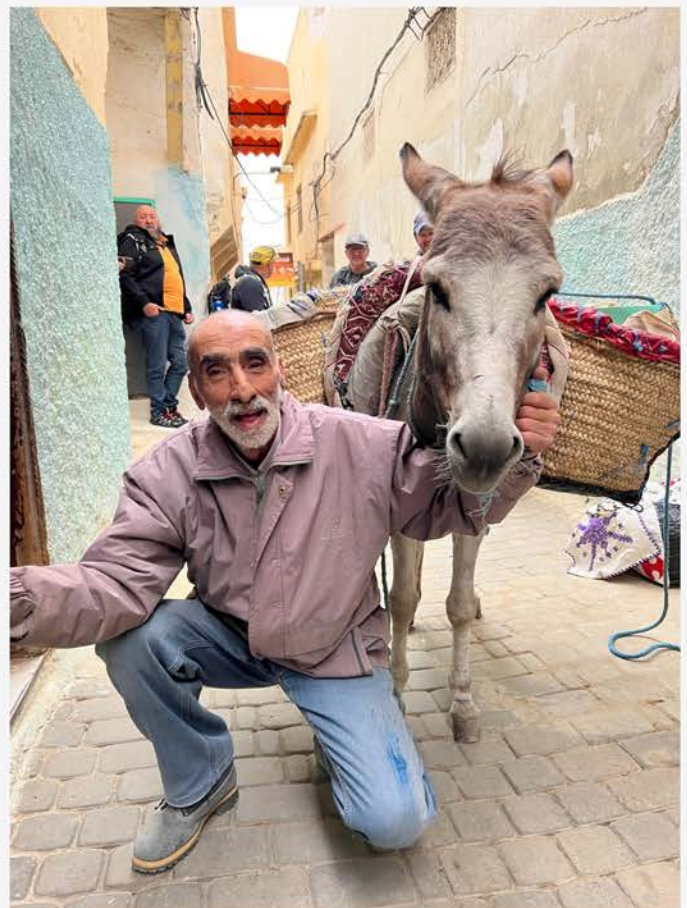
SATURDAY 19TH MARRAKECH

Today is a free day for you to discover Marrakech further – consider one of the optional activities (to be provided)

SUNDAY 20TH AROUND

Take a short drive into the High Atlas Mountains to the village of Imlil (approximately 2 hours). On arrival, store your main luggage and load your overnight bags onto pack mules. Make the 1-hour trek to the peaceful village of Around. Perched on a rocky outcrop, the remote village of Around offers stunning views across the High Atlas Mountains and a unique opportunity to experience traditional Berber (Amazigh) culture.

We spend the night in a family-run mountain gite where, surrounded by the smell of woodstoves and bread, enjoy traditional hospitality and food.





We have the chance to see how it is prepared, which will surprise a lot of you as it takes longer than just 5 min! It starts from Semolina which is treated to become round balls. Semolina is cooked by the steam from the pot, where vegetables and meat are cooked separately.

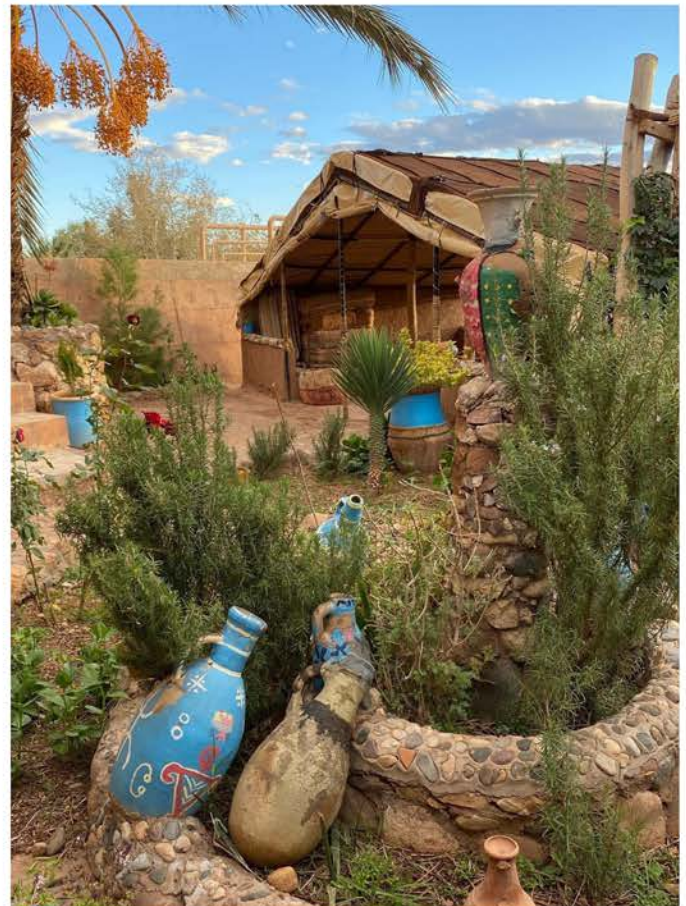
Accommodation - Guesthouse

TUESDAY 22ND OUARZAZATE - ZAGORA

This morning you will journey south towards the Sahara, stopping in the regularly used film location of Ouarzazate along the way (approximately 5 hours in total). Continue to travel through the lush Draa Valley to Zagora, a small oasis town on the Sahara fringe that is perfect for an overnight stop.

On arrival, take a stroll through the palm groves, explore the ksars and wander around the surrounding countryside.

Accommodation - Riad



MONDAY 21ST AIT BENHADDOU

This morning, journey along mountain roads and over Morocco's highest pass, Tizi n'Tichka (2260m), to Ait Benhaddou on the edges of the Sahara (approximately 6 hours). Perched on a hilltop and almost unchanged since the 11th century, Ait Benhaddou is one of Morocco's most iconic sites.

It was once an important stop for caravans passing through as they carried salt across the Sahara, returning with gold, ivory, and enslaved people. The town has a long list of film and TV credits, including Lawrence of Arabia, Game of Thrones and Gladiator.

Enjoy a leader-led walk through the winding streets of the Old Town, making your way to the top of the hill, from where you can enjoy the views across the surrounding plains.

We are partaking in a local cooking demonstration and meal of Morocco's most famous dish - couscous.

WEDNESDAY 23RD

TAMEGROUTE - ERG CHIGAGA

Drive along the rugged and desolate Jbel Tadrart ranges and through seas of sand, and past the occasional desert oasis of date palms to the township of Tamegroute. On arrival, visit an intriguing library filled with ancient scripts of science, literature, the Koran, and stories of the prophet Mohammed (subject to unregulated opening times).

Afterwards, join a local guide to uncover the underground Kasbah then carry on driving to the frontier town of M'Hamid (approximately 1 hour).

From here, take a short camel ride through the dunes, then jump into 4WD vehicles and drive to the massive Erg Chigaga dunes. Arrive in the late afternoon. Enjoy a night under the stars at your desert camp.

Accommodation - Desert camp

Included Activities: Ancient Library + Camel Ride + 4WD to Erg Chigaga dunes + Underground Kasbah guided tour

Special Information - The camel trek through the Sahara is a highlight for many.

If you're uncomfortable with this, walking alongside the camels for about an hour to the camp is possible. You would need to walk back the same distance the following morning, but it's a gentle and relaxing walk. The camp itself is a simple affair, with bedding and basic toilet facilities provided. Electricity is not available in the camp. Therefore it's important to come prepared with fully charged phones, cameras, and everything else you may need.

THURSDAY 24TH

OULAD BERHIL

Travel to the market town of Oulad Berhil by minivan. The journey should take around 8 hours in total, including several stops. This drive goes through desert scenery and along a route that's a reserve for the indigenous argan trees. If you're lucky, the group might come across the famous image of goats climbing these trees in search of nuts.

Accommodation – Riad.

Please note that this is a long travel day, and you won't arrive at tonight's accommodation until late afternoon/early evening. The riad (house) tonight is 45 kilometres outside of Taroudant and offers the chance to relax by the pool or take a steam bath.



FRIDAY 25TH TAROUDANT - ESSAOUIRA

In the morning, take to the souqs of Taroudant and haggle with local traders for silver jewellery or colourful Moroccan ceramics and mosaics. Afterwards, head west to the coastal town of Essaouira (approximately 5 hours).

The name Essaouira means image, which is appropriate since it's such a picturesque town. Its charm is undeniable; within the stone ramparts, you'll find whitewashed houses with bright blue shutters, art galleries and wood workshops. You'll arrive in the early evening, so there won't be much time to look around today – we will head straight to dinner.

Accommodation - Riad



SATURDAY 26TH ESSAOUIRA

Today, join a local guide for a walking tour through the old medina, Jewish mellah, port, and skala (sea wall). Afterward, enjoy free time for the rest of the day. Maybe grab a freshly cooked plate of the day's catch at the port or browse the plentiful shops and intriguing art galleries.

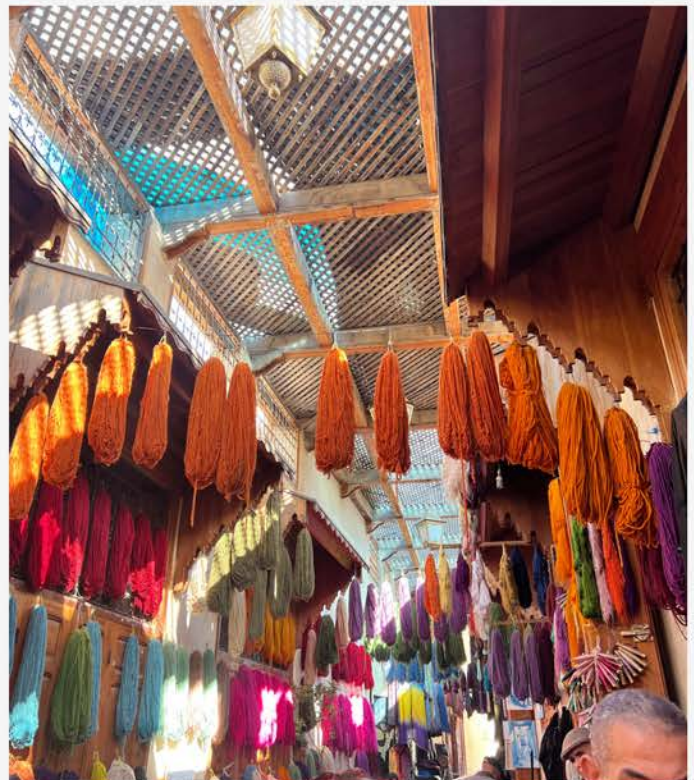
Accommodation - Riad

Included Activities - Guided walking tour

SUNDAY 27TH TOUR ENDS

Your adventure ends after breakfast. We make our way to the airport to catch your onward flight.

Meals – Breakfast



PROGRAM DETAILS

Start Location - Casablanca

Finish Location - Essaouira

Accommodation

- Hotel (12 nights)
- Overnight train (1 night)
- Gite (1 night)
- Camp (1 night)

Rooming Requirements

- Twin/Double Share
- Single supplement additional \$595

Included Meals

- Breakfast (15)
- Lunch (1)
- Dinner (4)

Transport

- Air-conditioned private vehicle
- Overnight train

Leader and Guides

- 1 X Wildlife
- 1 x English-speaking Moroccan guide
- Local Guides throughout

TOUR PRICE

\$3995 per person twin share based on indicated number of passengers travelling together as one movement. No arrangements are being held at this point and the cost is subject to availability at the time of booking. In order to proceed, a deposit of \$950 per person is required and the remaining balance will need to be supplied 90 days prior to departure.

KITTY (OPTIONAL)

I suggest we all put \$30 a day into a kitty (\$450) to cover group costs, such as tips for local guides + group meals to make it easy for group payments. I do this quite often for my groups, and it works a treat. You are not reaching into your pockets all the time, and whatever is left over goes onto our last night, if we run out, we work out what extra we need – it's simple and easy.

For personal tips, I suggest \$ 1 USD bills work best in remote areas.

TRAVEL INSURANCE

We strongly advise you to take out an extensive travel insurance policy that includes Covid-19 coverage. Our travel manager Susanne Sharp can help you with quotes.

ACCOMMODATION

Desert Camp, Gite, Homestay, Hotel, Overnight Sleeper Train + Riads

Please note this is labelled an adventure not luxury tour and the price reflects that. Accommodation will be traditional and basic, but Wildlme ensure safety and cleanliness along with cultural experiences above all else.

Most accommodation will be twin share. Single rate is additional. In the remote areas this may be more challenging, but we will make it work the best way we can – we just need to be flexible.

TRANSPORT

Planes, trains & automobiles!

4x4, overnight sleeper train, private bus, private vehicle, public bus, taxi, train and camel - we do it all – it will be a fantastic experience!

PRE-ARRIVAL

We suggest we all arrive at Casablanca on the evening of the 11th, and we can arrange any pre-arrival requirements.

SAFETY

Morocco is a relatively safe place to travel as long as you understand its laws and cultural customs and adhere to the status quo. Tourist hotspots, like Marrakech, Fes and Essaouira, are considered safer than rural and remote regions like the Atlas Mountains as they see tourists regularly, but unique challenges and threats are present for many people across the country.

Morocco is a conservative Islamic country, so it is important, whoever you are, to be extra diligent when travelling through Morocco to understand the risks you may face and know how to avoid or deal with them.

Much of Morocco's economy is dependent on tourism. Petty crime and pickpocketing is a common problem in Morocco, especially around Souqs and Medinas. Keep your valuables safe by carrying small amounts of cash, not wearing expensive jewellery, and keeping money or valuables out of sight and out of easy-to-reach pockets.

When purchasing goods at markets, be prepared for aggressive begging and selling tactics from vendors, especially if they know you have a lot of cash on you. An aggressive approach to begging is also quite common around ATMs in tourist hotspots. Above all, leave your passport and spare cash locked securely in your hotel safe.

Note – this is where we will have local guides with us to help us navigate these areas safely and without hassle

We will have our group or local guide with us most of the time, but if you get approached on the streets, be firm and direct in declining their offer.

Tips for staying safe in Morocco

- Travel as a small group when walking and sightseeing, especially at night
- Lock away your valuables
- Respect local dress codes and customs
- Avoid drinking the tap water



DRINKING WATER

Generally speaking, it's probably best to drink filtered or bottled water when travelling in Morocco. Most locals will drink tap water, and many travellers may take the risk, but you wouldn't want a stomach bug to stop you from having a good time in a new country.

In the major cities in Morocco, the tap water is chlorinated and will usually cause no harm, but it's still wise to either purify this water yourself or choose another water source, as your body may react to unfamiliar bacteria in the water, causing sickness or diarrhea.

Brushing your teeth with this water should be fine. In remote or rural areas, stick to treated water by filtering or purifying it yourself or purchasing a large bottle. It's also advisable to avoid raw vegetables, fruits with edible skins, salads and drinks with ice. Opt for cooked foods and fruits that need to be peeled instead.

Hot beverages in Morocco are usually fine to drink, as boiling water should kill off any harmful bacteria in the tap water. If you wish to drink iced tea, however, it is best to check if this has been made using filtered water.

For environmental reasons, try to avoid buying bottled water. Bring a reusable bottle or canteen (we recommend at least a 1-litre capacity) that can be refilled and filtered as needed. A filtered drink bottle once we get out of the cities is advisable.

Some hotels you will stay at will have drinking water available. Our guide can tell you where to find filtered water, or you can bring purification tablets.

DRESS CODE

Morocco's dress code is not strict, but the country is a conservative nation, with 99% of its population identifying as Muslims. Therefore, the first rule for dressing in Morocco is to respect Islam's emphasis on modesty.

Clothes and accessories are not meant to attract attention or excessively reveal the body. Women should ensure that their clothes do not expose the décolletage, shoulders, or thighs. This same principle applies to menswear.

Furthermore, because of Islam's emphasis on modesty, brand names are not often seen on Moroccan streets. Most households tend to live prudently and value giving to the community over materialism. So unless you want to attract attention, it's best to limit the display of ostentatious jewellery, luxury handbags, and high-end electronics.

A woman travelling to Morocco should wear long skirts and dresses, jeans or pants that cover the knees. Women generally wear sandals or sneakers; rarely do they wear heels. Many younger women who wear jeans, they tend to wear a top that is long enough to cover their bum. A loose maxi dress with a light sweater or scarf over the shoulders is a brilliant way to stay cool and blend in with women who wear jabadors and kaftans.

In general, men should wear long pants with a shirt, ideally a collared one. Men can wear sandals or sneakers - whatever is appropriate for the context of the visit. While some boys and young men wear shorts in public, it is less common, particularly among adult men.



THINGS TO PACK

- Sleeping bag
- Pillowcase
- Small towel
- Drink bottle (filter advisable)
- Sturdy boots (like hiking boots) for mountains and trekking sandals or light sneakers for the desert
- Wide-brimmed hat
- Sunscreen
- Ladies – a large scarf to cover up your head and shoulders
- Tissues/wet wipes/hand sanitiser
- Sealable pouches or plastic bags to protect your devices from desert sand and dust
- Small torch



WILDLIFE BOOKING + CONDITIONS

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

- The quote and accommodation will be subject to availability at the time of booking
- Accommodation on this trip includes a desert camp, homestays, and basic hotels
- Transport on this trip includes an overnight train journey. Details on this experience can be found in the Transport section.

You will be required to pay the following:

- This trip requires ten people for it to go ahead.
- \$950 per head deposit to secure your trip by 1st October 2023. This allows us to go and confirm the arrangements.
- Final payment will be due no later than 1st May 2024. This will include any optional activities you have selected to do.

Why book with us?

Flexible payment - Lock in your trip with a deposit and then pay the rest in instalments whenever you like, with no interest or fees. Just make sure you've paid in full by 120 days before your trip is scheduled to depart.

Please refer to the registration form for further details.

REGISTRATION FORM

PLEASE PROVIDE A COPY OF YOUR PASSPORT WITH YOUR REGISTRATION FORM (IF APPLICABLE)

Full name (as per passport): _____

Passport number: _____

Exp date: ____/____/____

D.O.B ____/____/____ Mobile: _____

Email: _____

Address: _____

Suburb: _____ State: _____ P/C: _____

PASSENGER TWO (IF APPLICABLE)

Full name (as per passport): _____

Passport number: _____

Exp date: ____/____/____

D.O.B ____/____/____ Mobile: _____

Email: _____

Address: _____

Suburb: _____ State: _____ P/C: _____

PREFERRED ROOM CONFIGURATIONS:

- Double*
- Twin*
- Upgrade to single (rate tba)

I WOULD LIKE ASSISTANCE WITH:

- Assistance with flights
- Assistance with travel insurance
- Pre and post-tour options

MEDICAL & DIETARY INFORMATION

Special dietary requirements: _____

Significant illness or hospitalisation: _____

Allergies or reactions: _____

High blood pressure/condition: _____

Other: _____

I AGREE TO THE FOLLOWING CONDITIONS FROM WILDLIME EVENTS

By booking this Wildlime tailor-made adventure, you agree to our standard booking conditions and any deviations specified below that apply as set out below.

- \$950 deposit required to secure your spot. Deposit is non-refundable but all payments are fully transferable up to 4 weeks before departure.
- Program is subject to change at our discretion.
- Price is based on the current exchange rate as of 1/06/23, and any fluctuation beyond this may be additional. Program to be paid in full by 1st May 2024. , and payment schedules must be strictly adhered.
- The tour is based on twin share; single rate is additional.
- Cancellation Policy -Individual passengers cancelling may be charged the following max % of the tour price 50% before 01/02/24, 80% before 1/3/24 100% before 1/4/24. In the event that the cancelling passenger is replaced by another, an administration fee of \$350 applies after 1st February 2024.
- Travel Insurance is mandatory, and Wildlime strongly advises that it is taken out upon deposit payment.
- All rates are per person, based on indicated numbers travelling together as one movement. Any changes to the group size at any time before or after confirmation of services will require the trip to be repriced.
- The details set out in your proposal are a quotation only. The pricing and itinerary are subject to the availability of accommodation, transport, leaders, and other suppliers at the time of booking. We reserve the right to amend and requote itinerary if such suppliers are unavailable.
- By making your payment, you are agreeing to the most recent itinerary and price quote. All revisions will be subject to requote and additional approval.
- Contract will exist when we accept your deposit.
- If we, or a third-party operator, is required to make amendments to your original proposal, subsequent pricing may become applicable to your booking
- Any changes to the itinerary made by you AFTER services have been confirmed will require a revised quote and may be subject to an additional charge (as levied by hotels, ground operators or airlines). No additional changes are permitted within 30 days prior to departure.
- Hotels listed in the quote are indicative only and are subject to change. If the hotel listed in the quote is unavailable, we will confirm an alternative hotel of similar standard.

- If transfers are included, (on a group basis) they are only applicable if going to accommodation booked through us. Please advise flight arrival details (flight number and arrival time) at least 30 days prior to departure if you wish to have this transfer provided. There is no guarantee we can arrange this transfer if we receive these details within 30 days of departure.
- You acknowledge that you are choosing to travel at a time where you may be exposed to the COVID-19 virus. We will take all reasonable steps to ensure your safety and may require you to follow additional safety protocols before and during your trip.
- Depending on the most recent health information available to us, we may require you to comply with mandatory health policies, including the need for proof of vaccination or medical tests. Please note that these policy requirements are subject to change following advice from relevant authorities.
- Before travel, ensure you check the latest government travel requirements, which may include mandatory health declarations, vaccinations, use of face masks, entry permits, pre-approval and quarantine (possibly at your own expense), or you could be denied entry.

Signed Date...../...../.....