

Imperial cities & golden dunes



Marrakech, Merzouga, Ouarzazate & High Atlas Mountains

Travel from April
to November

- > 4 nights luxury accommodations at your choice of hotel in Marrakech
- > 2 nights luxury accommodations at your choice of hotel in Merzouga
- > 1 night luxury accommodations at your choice of hotel in Ouarzazate
- > 2 nights luxury accommodations at your choice of hotel in High Atlas Mountains

Experiences in Marrakech

- > Marrakech sightseeing
- > Majorelle Gardens & YSL Museum visit
- > Afternoon shopping tour

Experiences in Merzouga

- > Full day desert excursion with lunch & dinner

Experiences in Ouarzazate

- > Ouarzazate discovery tour

Experiences in High Atlas Mountains

- > Kasbah Bab Tamadot visit
- > Soft trekking & visit of Berber family



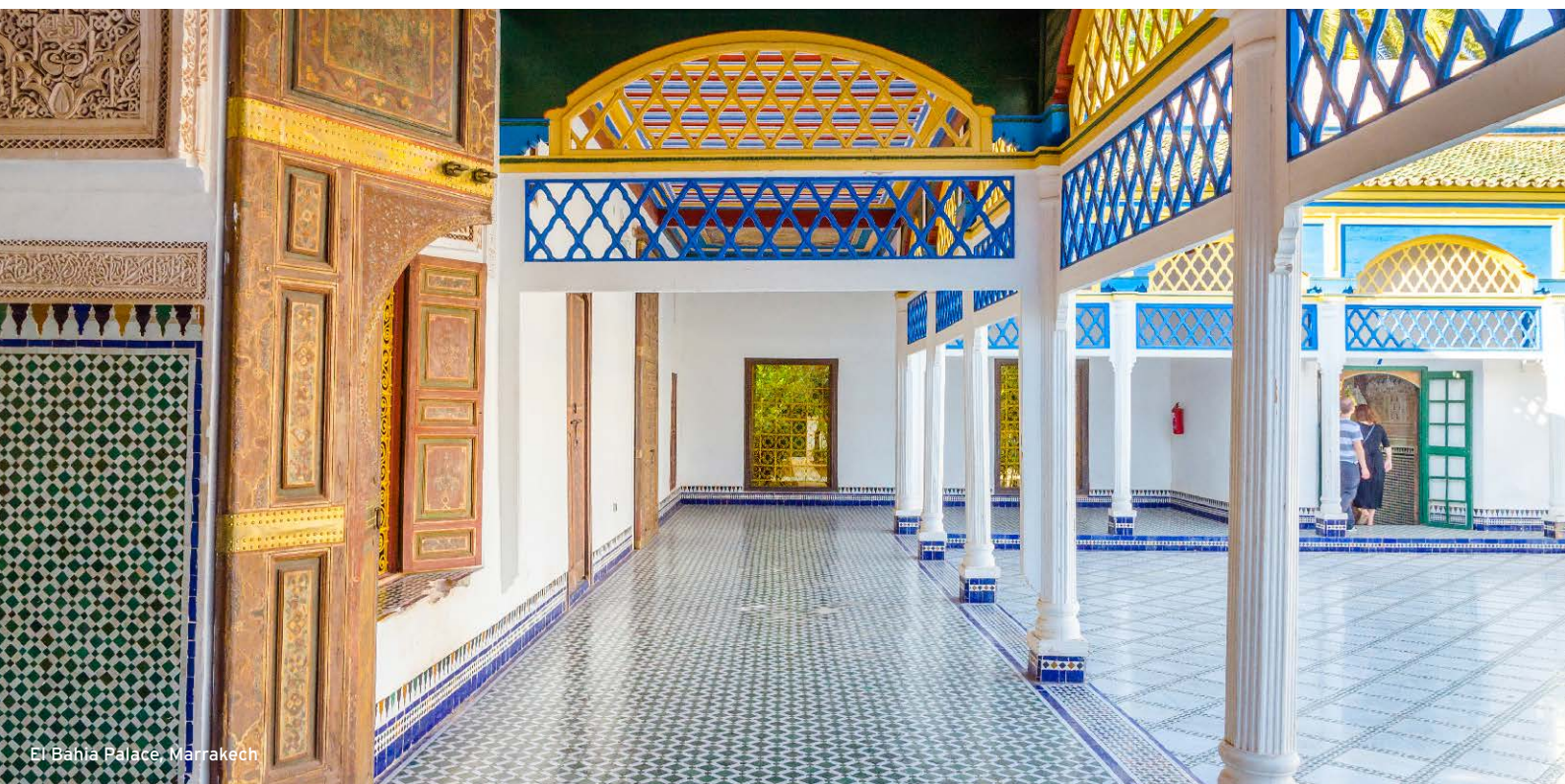
DURATION

9 nights

Itinerary details

DAY 1 / Marrakech

Upon arriving at Marrakesh airport, you will meet your driver and guide and be transferred to your hotel. Enjoy an orientation tour with your guide. You will enjoy your first tour around the town. No longer the secret of the travel elite that it was fifteen years ago, Marrakech is now recognized as one of the world's great cities. With the design flair of Paris, the ethnic diversity of New York, the commercial heartbeat of Hong Kong, and a history to rival any city in Europe, Marrakech is above all a city of heart and soul—a city of sunlight on rough pink walls, of fragrant, richly-hued spices, and of rose petals floating in slowly trickling fountains.



El Bahia Palace, Marrakech

DAY 2 / Marrakech sightseeing

After enjoying breakfast (included) you will meet your experienced guide and driver and start exploring. Your visit will consist of The Bahia Palace, which was built at the end of the 19th century by Si Moussa, the grand vizier of the sultan, for his personal use. It was intended to be the most grandiose palace of its time, and it remains a remarkable masterpiece showcasing the expertise of local artisans during the 19th century, as well as the lifestyle of the privileged. You will enjoy your lunch at Le Jardin Restaurant (family style, including soft drinks). As you continue your tour, you will walk through the frenetic Djemaa el Fnaa, the greatest square in all of Africa—and perhaps in the entire world. It was once the ultimate destination for traders from diverse places, including Venice, sub-Saharan Africa, and Asia. Today, it offers ever-changing entertainment for Moroccans and foreigners alike, reaching its climax at sunset when the square comes alive with storytellers, healers, snake charmers, acrobats, and numerous food stalls. Walk through the square to experience its intensity and then, if you wish, enjoy the view from the terrace of a rooftop café. In the evening, you will savor your dinner at Le Comptoir Darna (Beverage not included). Back to your hotel for a rest.



Majorelle gardens

DAY 3 / Majorelle Gardens & YSL Museum visit in the morning & Shopping tour in the afternoon

Today you will depart early to visit the tropical Majorelle Gardens, lovingly restored under the patronage of the late Yves St. Laurent. A visit to the small but excellent Berber culture museum, located in the home of painter Jacques Majorelle, is highly recommended. Don't miss the visit to the newly opened Yves Saint Laurent Museum, just a short walk from the Majorelle Gardens and the designer's former residence. The museum is ideal for both longtime fans of Saint Laurent's work and people encountering it for the first time. There is a beautifully curated exhibit of his work permanently on display, as well as a research library containing many of the designer's archives. Later you will enjoy your lunch "Buffet" at Le Pavillion Piscine of La Mamounia hotel (Soft beverage included). After lunch, you will enjoy your shopping tour with a specialized shopping assistant, while exploring the colorful souks (marketplaces) of Marrakech. Each trade of spices, carpets, jewelry, enamel, copper, brass, and cedar is situated in its own unique quarter. You might see villagers bringing in their handmade rugs to sell to merchants, or you might observe artisans' hand-tooling crafts as they have done for centuries. If you would like to shop, your Special shopping assistant can, of course, help you to bargain just like a local! In the evening, you will enjoy your dinner at Dar Yacout with Gnaoua & Duo Andalous (Including Table & Mineral water).

DAY 4 / Optional activities in Marrakech

Today, you can spend the day at leisure and enjoy the hotel's amenities. Alternatively, there are numerous options available for you to choose from. From a cooking lesson, where you can experience and learn the secrets of Moroccan cuisine, to some shopping and touring the Souk. There is also an option to have a professional photographer with you and keep the memories of your trip forever! If you feel tired from the previous day's excursion, you can also have a spa day and relax by the pool. In the evening, you will enjoy your dinner at leisure (to be paid for directly)

DAY 5 / Marrakech to Merzouga

Today, you will travel towards Merzouga through the stunning Atlas Mountains and the Tizi n'Tichka Pass, the highest pass in the region at 2,260 meters. You will cross Ouarzazate, which was first and foremost a trading center for camel caravans from sub-Saharan Africa en route to Marrakech and Fez. You will enjoy your lunch at the Ksar Ighnda hotel restaurant (including soft beverages). Then, you will drive toward the Dades Valley, also known as the 1000 Kasbahs Valley & continue to Erfoud, where you will be transferred by 4x4 vehicle to reach your desert camp. Enjoy your drive and assist in the spectacular sunset over the dunes. Check in and enjoy your dinner at the camp.

DAY 6 / Full day desert excursion with lunch & dinner

After breakfast, you will leave in a 4x4 for a full morning discovery of the desert, tea with the Nomads' families, a visit to the gnaouas village, and lunch depending on the season. Enjoy your lunch at Maison Acacias (set menu including soft beverages). Return to the camp, Enjoy your camel trek, and assist to the spectacular sunset over the dunes. Enjoy your dinner at the camp with local entertainment (Gnawas music group).



Merzouga, Sahara

DAY 7 / Merzouga to Ouarzazate

After breakfast, you will leave in a 4x4 to reach Erfoud then you will travel overland to Ouarzazate, driving towards the Dades Valley named 1000 Kasbahs Valley. Stop to visit the Todra Gorges and the spectacular hidden oases. Enjoy your lunch at Chez Michelle restaurant in Tinghir. As you continue your trip, marveling at the magical scenery, you will visit one of the highlights of the south, the marvelous Kasbah Ait Benhaddou. The earliest of its buildings (a granary standing on the hilltop) dates to the 11th century. The village has gradually grown up around it, adding more houses, granaries, cowsheds, and protective surrounding walls. You will then head towards your hotel, which is nestled in Ouarzazate. Check in and time for rest. Enjoy dinner at your hotel.



Majestic Taourirt Kasbah, Ouarzazate

DAY 8 / Ouarzazate to Kasbah Bab Tamadot

The city of Ouarzazate was first and foremost a trading center for camel caravans from sub-Saharan Africa en route to Marrakech and Fez. Your sightseeing will include a visit to the majestic Taourirt Kasbah, which was built in the 19th century and served as the largest residence of the Pasha of Marrakech. Another attraction of the city is the magical scenery and the museum of Cinematography where many masterpieces of the Cinema were filmed, such as «The Kingdom of Heaven », «Lawrence of Arabia », and the Mummy ». You will then enjoy your lunch on the road at a local restaurant (Soft beverage included). Continue on to Ourika, where you will be transferred by 4x4 vehicles to reach Kasbah Bab Ourika. Check-in at your hotel and enjoy your dinner.



Ouarzazate Atlas Film studios



The berber village of Asni

DAY 9 / Soft trekking & visit of Berber family

After meeting your local guide, you will be transferred by 4x4 vehicle to reach the village of Asni and Imlil, where you will enjoy a gentle road trek to a Berber house. Here, you will discover the fascinating Berber culture and their way of life. While savoring a local mint tea, you can ask the Berber family any questions with the help of the guide, who will translate them for you. You will then return to Kasbah Bab Ourika for lunch and rest, or have lunch at Kasbah Toubkal in Imlil Village (note that a 20-minute trek is required to reach this location, and it does not serve alcohol). In the evening, you will enjoy your dinner at Kasbah Bab Ourika (including soft drinks).

DAY 10 / Back home

After breakfast, you will be transferred to the international airport for your flight back home.