

Marrakech, Sahara and Surf 11 days



Discover Morocco in all its magnificence from colourful Marrakech and Todra Gorge to camping in the Sahara and amazing Ait Benhaddou with its fortified Kasbah, then to top it all off riding the waves in laid back Taghazoute.

TOUR DETAILS:

- Starts in: Marrakech / Ends in: Marrakech
- Departs: Saturdays - Year round
- No local payment required
- Breakfast: 10, Lunch: 7, Dinner: 8
- Hotel Rating: 2 - 3 star
- Tour Guide: Yes

ONLINE RESOURCES:

- For a detailed GO GUIDE - [click here](#)
- To book this trip - [click here](#)
- To enquire about this trip - [click here](#)

TOUR MAP:



QUICK WEB LINKS

[Morocco Prices](#) ::: [Morocco - Why Us?](#) ::: [Morocco Reviews](#) ::: [Our Morocco Blog](#) ::: [Morocco Top Spots](#) ::: [Hotels in Morocco](#) ::: [Festivals & Events](#) ::: [Morocco Visas](#) ::: [Useful Info](#) ::: [FAQs on Morocco](#) ::: [Morocco Gallery](#)

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Day 1: Marrakech

Saturday. Welcome to Morocco! A country steeped in history and culture. Arrival transfer from Marrakech airport to our hotel. Be sure to arrive in time for our welcome meeting at 18:00. The rest of the day is free, if time permits explore the rambling souk, local sights and Djemaa el Fna (the main square). Overnight - [Marrakech](#)

Day 2: Gorge du Dades

Marrakech - Dades Gorge. Leaving Marrakech we drive through the Dades Gorge, an awe-inspiring valley which extends from the High Atlas to the Jebel Sarhro range in the south.

The Atlas Mountains span some 2,090km covering vast regions of Morocco, Algeria, and Tunisia. The mountain chain comprise of a series of parallel ranges running west to east including the Anti-Atlas, High Atlas and Middle Atlas. With an average elevation of 3350 metres, the Atlas claims the highest peak of North Africa. The Berbers (original inhabitants of North Africa) built many impressive kasbahs on the mountain steep and in the valley gorges for defence purposes. En route to Dades Gorge we pass many of these medieval kasbahs and stop at one of the highest vantage points to enjoy a cup of sweet minted tea and take in panoramic views of the impressive snow capped mountain vista. Overnight - [Gorge du Dades](#)

Day 3: Todra Gorge

Dades Gorge - Todra Gorge. The morning is spent at Dades Gorge where you can choose to partake in a leisurely walk/hike through the simple local villages and foothills of the gorge or spend the morning at leisure.

After a hearty lunch we drive onward to Todra Gorge. The gorge is one of the most dramatic sights to be seen anywhere in Morocco. Created millions of years ago, the striking gorge snakes its way through the rugged mountain range. The final 600 m of the Todra gorge are spectacular as the canyon narrows to a flat stony track as little as 10m wide in places with sheer and smooth rock walls up to 160m high on each side.

It's an easy walk through the rosy red gorge and often we have the opportunity to partake in an afternoon session of rock climbing or (in summer) horse riding (book/pay locally). With such spectacular scenery, ever changing colours of the rock face and the hubbub of locals passing through herding camels or selling their wares, it's the perfect place to stop a while. Late this afternoon we visit the village co-operative where hundreds of hand made Berber rugs, kilims and carpets are displayed are offered for sale. Overnight - [Todra Gorge](#)



Day 4:

Todra Gorge - Erg Chebbi sand dunes. Crossing Jebel Sarhro, we enjoy lunch and a swim before travelling down to Erg Chebbi sand dunes, the start point of the mighty Sahara Desert. The Erg Chebbi dunes located near the remote frontier town of Merzouga are renowned for their incredible height and size. In parts the vast sand pile reaches skyward to heights of 150 metres!

The desert winds ensure this astonishing landscape is forever changing and no two days offer the same panorama. Mounting our subservient camels, they relaxedly glide across the desert sands as we happily photograph and take in the breathtaking scenery. Arriving at our simple Berber camp, we enjoy dinner and a night under the Saharan stars. Overnight - Berber Camp

Day 5: Ouarzazate

Erg Chebbi - Ouarzazate. After a stunning sunrise and a tranquil and ambient ride back to our frontier post (camel HQ) there is time to freshen up before driving to the verdant Draa valley. Besides the natural, historical and architectural wonders that the Draa Valley offers, there are also small villages along the valley where time seems to stand still, so little is the effect of modernity on them. Here, women are fully and always veiled while washing their clothes on the riverbanks and the watchful men seem distant, unaccustomed to foreign visitors. These people, besides speaking Arabic also speak their own dialect of the Berber vernacular, called Tashelhiyt.

Along the route of 1000 Kasbahs, we continue on to Ouarzazate, (pronounced as wazza-zat). Sitting at an altitude of 1160 metres in the middle of a barren plateau, Ouarzazate lies at the cross roads of all routes going north, south, east, and west. Its geographical position has made it a key trading post in both ancient and modern times. Capital of a large province, the towns' northern limits run along the southern aspect of the High Atlas and its southern boundary disappears back into the ever present and mysterious Saharan Desert. Today, the area is still essentially populated by Berber people, who were constructors of the numerous fortified kasbahs and dwellings for which the region is famous. After hotel check in, consider a late afternoon swim.

Marrakech, Sahara and Surf 11 days

Overnight - [Ouarzazate](#)



Day 6: Ait Benhaddou

Ouarzazate - Ait Benhaddou - Marrakech. This morning you can opt to go quad bike riding or visit the film studio that produced Lawrence of Arabia, Alexander the Great, The Last Temptation of Christ and The Living Daylights.

Arriving at nearby fortified city of Ait Benhaddou - built for defence purposes high on a hill with a bubbling steam within its shadows, the stunningly well preserved medieval city is a true highlight of our tour. Famously used as a backdrop in the film 'Gladiator', its beauty is unequal to any other fortified village in south Morocco. Overnight - [Marrakech](#)

Day 7:

This morning we enjoy a guided tour of old Marrakech. Set within the rose-coloured walls of the medina and a tangle of winding streets lead to bustling souks, the focal point is the central square, the Djemaa el Fna, an extraordinary gathering and market place. Full of colour, spicy aromas and traders it is best seen in the evening when overflowing with food stalls, dancers, acrobats, fortune tellers, musicians and henna artists. Towering over all this is the Koutoubia mosque, the tallest building in the city and a reminder of the importance of Islam to the lives of the city's residents.

Spend the afternoon at leisure, pamper yourself at the local hammam or further explore the city your own way. Overnight - [Marrakech](#)



Day 8: Taghazoute

Marrakech - Taghazoute. After breakfast at the hotel in Marrakech, you will be taken to Marrakech Bus Station by your tour leader, who will collect your bus tickets and guide you onto the public bus. Departing Marrakech, you will arrive at Agadir bus station at roughly 12pm, where a representative will be waiting to transfer you to Taghazoute. Upon arrival have a quick tour of the lodge before walking into town for lunch in a local restaurant. After lunch, grab your boards and wetsuits, and head out for an afternoon surf session in the beautiful Atlantic Ocean. Dinner will later be served on the lodge rooftop terrace overlooking the ocean. Overnight - [Taghazoute](#)

Day 9: Surf's up

Taghazoute. Enjoy a leisurely breakfast on the lodge terrace before an action packed day of surfing! Head out to catch the early morning surf, then be rewarded with a packed lunch on the beach. Once revitalised, it's time for another surf lesson with the team. A well-earned dinner will be served at the lodge this evening, so relax and absorb the breathtaking views. Overnight - [Taghazoute](#)



Day 10: Back to Marrakech

Taghazoute - Marrakech. How you spend this morning is up to you! After breakfast at the lodge, choose from one of our optional activities or just chill out on the beach. If you just can't get enough

Marrakech, Sahara and Surf 11 days

of surfing, why not take an optional surfing session in the morning? Or if you'd rather stay on land, you can choose to go horse riding down the Atlantic coast! Head back to the lodge to shower and checkout, before taking your departure transfer to Agadir bus station. You will be provided with a packed lunch for the journey to Marrakech. Upon arrival at Marrakech, make your own way back to the hotel to check in, and then why not explore the Djemma el Fna? With hundreds of food stands and entertainment, this is the perfect location to spend your final night on tour! Overnight - [Marrakech](#)



Day 11: Marrakech

Marrakech. Tour arrangements finish after breakfast and hotel checkout.

WHAT YOU SEE AND WHAT YOU GET:

Below is a list of key highlights and what is included on this tour. Further, where appropriate, we have listed the items that are not included in the tour price.

Trip Highlights

- 2 nights in laid back coastal Taghazoute
- 1.5 days of surf lessons
- Marrakech - UNESCO-listed Place Djemaa el Fna, (medina, souks and market place)
- Bahia Palace - 19th Century palatial residence of the grand vizier Sidi Moussa
- High Atlas Mountains and views of Mt Toubkal - North Africa's highest peak
- Dades Gorge - imposing valley & stream cut within the mountain range
- Erg Chebbi sand dunes - reaching some 250m high
- Merzouga - Berber village and start point for our camel trek into the great Sahara
- Todra Gorge - towering red canyon
- Ouarzazate - opt to visit the film studio
- Ait Benhaddou - UNESCO-listed fortified kasbah city

What's Included

- 10 breakfasts, 7 lunches, 8 dinners including Berber camp dinner
- 7 nights 2 - 3 star hotel, 1 night camping - Berber desert camp in the Sahara and 2 nights Taghazoute surf lodge
- Arrival transfer from Marrakech airport on day 1
- Todra Gorge walk
- Camel trek into the great Sahara
- Guided tour of Marrakech
- 1.5 days of surf lessons
- All surfing equipment
- Escorted by and English speaking tour leader **Please note:** You will not be accompanied by a tour leader on the public bus transfer to/from Marrakech to Taghazoute.
- Specialist local guides at some sites
- All transportation and transfers in private 4x4 or mini van/touring vehicle
- Public bus from Marrakech to Agadir (return) and onward transfer to Taghazoute (return)
- Entrance fees to all included sites
- All road taxes and tolls

What's Not Included

- International flights and visa
- Note: On some road journeys, the tour leader may not be in your particular vehicle

PRICES AND DATES: from USD \$1,729

Prices shown are per person travelling. 'Twin/Double' prices per person apply when there are 2 people travelling, sharing a room. The 'Single supplement' applies for single travellers who require their own room and needs to be added to the 'Twin/Double' price. If you are happy to be paired up with another single traveller of the same sex on your tour, this can be arranged, (if another solo traveller of the same sex is already booked upon the tour), thus avoiding the single person supplement. All our scheduled tour departures are guaranteed subject to a minimum of 2 travellers.

2012

Date	Price/Person	Single Supp.
02 JUN - 12 JUN	USD \$1,729	USD \$259
16 JUN - 26 JUN	USD \$1,729	USD \$259
30 JUN - 10 JUL	USD \$1,729	USD \$259
14 JUL - 24 JUL	USD \$1,729	USD \$259
18 AUG - 28 AUG	USD \$1,729	USD \$259
25 AUG - 04 SEP	USD \$1,729	USD \$259
08 SEP - 18 SEP	USD \$1,729	USD \$259
22 SEP - 02 OCT	USD \$1,729	USD \$259

Marrakech, Sahara and Surf 11 days

06 OCT - 16 OCT	USD \$1,729	USD \$259	28 SEP - 08 OCT	USD \$1,729	USD \$259
13 OCT - 23 OCT	USD \$1,729	USD \$259	05 OCT - 15 OCT	USD \$1,729	USD \$259
20 OCT - 30 OCT	USD \$1,729	USD \$259	12 OCT - 22 OCT	USD \$1,729	USD \$259
27 OCT - 06 NOV	USD \$1,729	USD \$259	19 OCT - 29 OCT	USD \$1,729	USD \$259
10 NOV - 20 NOV	USD \$1,729	USD \$259	26 OCT - 05 NOV	USD \$1,729	USD \$259
17 NOV - 27 NOV	USD \$1,729	USD \$259	09 NOV - 19 NOV	USD \$1,729	USD \$259
24 NOV - 04 DEC	USD \$1,729	USD \$259	23 NOV - 03 DEC	USD \$1,729	USD \$259
08 DEC - 18 DEC	USD \$1,729	USD \$259	07 DEC - 17 DEC	USD \$1,729	USD \$259
23 DEC - 02 JAN	USD \$1,729	USD \$259	23 DEC - 02 JAN	USD \$1,729	USD \$259

2013

Date	Price/Person	Single Supp.
05 JAN - 15 JAN	USD \$1,729	USD \$259
19 JAN - 29 JAN	USD \$1,729	USD \$259
02 FEB - 12 FEB	USD \$1,729	USD \$259
09 FEB - 19 FEB	USD \$1,729	USD \$259
16 FEB - 26 FEB	USD \$1,729	USD \$259
02 MAR - 12 MAR	USD \$1,729	USD \$259
09 MAR - 19 MAR	USD \$1,729	USD \$259
23 MAR - 02 APR	USD \$1,729	USD \$259
30 MAR - 09 APR	USD \$1,729	USD \$259
06 APR - 16 APR	USD \$1,729	USD \$259
13 APR - 23 APR	USD \$1,729	USD \$259
20 APR - 30 APR	USD \$1,729	USD \$259
27 APR - 07 MAY	USD \$1,729	USD \$259
04 MAY - 14 MAY	USD \$1,729	USD \$259
11 MAY - 21 MAY	USD \$1,729	USD \$259
18 MAY - 28 MAY	USD \$1,729	USD \$259
25 MAY - 04 JUN	USD \$1,729	USD \$259
01 JUN - 11 JUN	USD \$1,729	USD \$259
15 JUN - 25 JUN	USD \$1,729	USD \$259
29 JUN - 09 JUL	USD \$1,729	USD \$259
13 JUL - 23 JUL	USD \$1,729	USD \$259
20 JUL - 30 JUL	USD \$1,729	USD \$259
27 JUL - 06 AUG	USD \$1,729	USD \$259
03 AUG - 13 AUG	USD \$1,729	USD \$259
10 AUG - 20 AUG	USD \$1,729	USD \$259
17 AUG - 27 AUG	USD \$1,729	USD \$259
24 AUG - 03 SEP	USD \$1,729	USD \$259
31 AUG - 10 SEP	USD \$1,729	USD \$259
14 SEP - 24 SEP	USD \$1,729	USD \$259
21 SEP - 01 OCT	USD \$1,729	USD \$259