

# Magical Morocco

## 13 Days | Casablanca to Marrakech



Discover Morocco's highlights and hidden gems on this 13 day tour. Wander through the labyrinth like medinas and souks of Marrakech & Fes, discover the imperial city of Rabat and the charming blue city Chefchaouen, soak up the dramatic landscapes of the Rif & Atlas Mountains and sleep under the stars in the Sahara.

### HIGHLIGHTS AND INCLUSIONS

#### Trip Highlights

- Marrakech - see the UNESCO-listed Djemaa el Fna, medina and market place
- Casablanca - independently explore the city and visit the famous Hassan II mosque
- Rabat - take a stroll through the lively capital city
- Chefchaouen - wander around the beautiful blue city nestled in the Rif Mountains
- Talasemtane National Park - soak up the relaxing scenery of the waterfalls and God's Bridge
- Fes - get lost in the world's oldest city's maze-like medina
- Ifrane - independently visit the observation deck carved into the

mountains for incredible views of the ravines and valleys

- Sahara Desert - spend a night camping under the stars in the Sahara
- Todra Gorge - admire the towering red canyon
- Valley of Roses - take in the intoxicating aroma and vibrant colours of the valleys and visit a local womens cooperative
- Ouarzazate - follow the footsteps of famous stars at the world's largest film studio
- Telouet - marvel at the intricate zellige tiled interior and panoramic views of the mountains at Kasbah Telouet
- Ait Benhaddou - discover the UNESCO listed fortified village

#### What's Included

- 11 nights 3 - 4 star accommodation and 1 night camping - Berber desert camp in the Sahara Desert (Hotel upgrade available)
- Breakfast daily, 1 picnic lunch & 1 dinner
- Airport arrival and departure transfers on day 1 and day 13
- Guided sightseeing in Volubilis, Fes, Ait Benhaddou & Marrakech
- Escorted by a licensed English speaking Moroccan tour guide
- All transportation and transfers in private air-conditioned tourism vehicles
- Camel trek into the Sahara
- Visit to local women's cooperative in Rose Valley

- All road taxes and tolls

#### What's Not Included

- Tipping Kitty: USD\$40-50pp, paid in local currency
- Entrance Fees: USD\$70-90pp, paid in local currency
- International flights and visa
- Gratuity for your tour guide & driver. Budget approx USD\$2 - 3 per person per day. Tipping your tour guide and driver is an entirely personal gesture

### DETAILED ITINERARY

#### Day 1 : Welcome to Morocco!

Sunday. Welcome to Morocco! Upon arrival at Casablanca airport, you'll be met and transferred to our hotel where you have the remainder of the day at leisure. Perhaps visit the old medina or sit back and watch the world go by with a pot of tea at Rick's cafe.

#### Overnight - Casablanca

### Magical Morocco - 13 Days

www.onthegotours.com  
 UK 020 7371 1113 info@onthegotours.com  
 AUS 1300 855 684 aus-info@onthegotours.com  
 NZ 0800 44 77 69 CAN 1 866 890 7038  
 USA 1 866 606 2960 SA 0800 990 311

updated on 04-04-2020 06:40:21

This information has been compiled with care and good faith. They give an accurate illustration of the proposed arrangements for this holiday. Circumstances beyond our control such as changes in local conditions, inclement weather or other reasons could force us to make changes to this itinerary. Any costs shown are subject to change, though are an accurate reflection of costs at time of writing. Please also note that visa requirements are subject to change and are the responsibility of the traveller and not that of On The Go Tours.

# Magical Morocco

## Day 2 : Casablanca & Rabat



Casablanca - Rabat. This morning after breakfast, we visit the incredible Hassan II Mosque, rising 210 meters into the air, the third largest mosque in the world is covered in ornate traditional tile work.

After exploring we make our way to Rabat, Morocco's charming capital is ours to explore this afternoon. Take a stroll along the long stretch of beach that starts behind the medina, or just up the hill from the medina is the well-preserved Kasbah of the Udayas, dating back to the 12th century.

Please note: For those who have opted to start in Marrakech you will be transferred to Casablanca on the morning of day 2 to meet the rest of the group. **Overnight - Rabat (B)**

## Day 3 : Volubilis & The Blue City

Rabat - Chefchaouen. Departing Rabat this morning we visit the Roman ruins of Volubilis. Dating back to 40AD we take time to explore the triple arched Tingis gate, the columns of the Capitoline temple, the Basilica, the courthouse and much more. We'll then continue to Chefchaouen, nestled in the heart of the Rif Mountains, the city boasts incredible blue-washed buildings and majestic views of the surrounding landscape. The rest of the afternoon is ours to independently wander round the Plaza Uta el-Hammam in the heart of the Medina, or perhaps try some of the local street food and watch the sun set. **Overnight - Chefchaouen (B)**

## Day 4 : Rif Mountains & Talassemtane National Park

After some free time to relax or continue exploring the city this morning, we make

our way to Talassemtane National Park. Located on the eastern side of the Rif Mountains, Talassemtane boasts a wide range of landscapes, as well as housing a number of plant species and mammals including the Barbary macaques and the otter. We make our way to the Akchour Falls and God's Bridge where we relax with a picnic lunch while soaking up the breath-taking views. Return to Chefchaouen for an evening at leisure.

**Overnight - Chefchaouen (B, L)**

## Day 5 : Chefchaouen



Today is yours to enjoy some free time exploring Morocco's Blue City. The medina is the heart of the city and never disappoints, with souks selling everything from leather bags to spices - be prepared to haggle!

For anyone looking to explore the Rif mountains, there are several guided excursions that can be arranged, perhaps plan a hike to the abandoned Spanish mosque which offers great views of the landscape.

**Overnight - Chefchaouen (B)**

## Day 6 : Fes el Bali medina



Chefchaouen - Fes. Bordered on the foothills of the Atlas Mountains lies the imperial city of Fes, the oldest and largest medieval city in the world. On arrival we enjoy a guided tour

of Fes el Bali - the old walled city, absorbing the chaos of the souks and getting lost in the medina's labyrinth layout. The remainder of the day is at leisure - why not take part in an optional Tagine Making Class or a night of Moroccan entertainment and food at a restaurant in town (both payable locally).

**Overnight - Fes (B)**

## Day 7 : Atlas Mountains & Ifrane

Fes - Ifrane. After breakfast, we have the morning at leisure to relax at the hotel or further explore Fes. We then make our way through the cedar forests full of Barbary Macaque monkeys on our way through the Atlas Mountains to the French built "swiss" village of Ifrane, our home for the night. We have free time here to enjoy the tranquility of the lakes and waterfalls that flow into the valleys that surround the world's biggest cedar forest in the Mediterranean. **Overnight - Ifrane (B)**

## Day 8 : Camel trek in the Sahara

Ifrane - Merzouga (Sahara). Departing early, we leave the cool air of the mountains and make our way to the Sahara Desert. It's a long drive, however there's a lot to see on the way. We'll travel through the Middle Atlas Mountains to the plateau that lies between the Sahara and Tell Atlas range. We'll soak up the spectacular and dramatic scenery of the Gorges du Ziz as we make our way onwards through the High Atlas, stopping to have tea with a berber family en route. We'll continue to Merzouga - our base before we head into the Sahara. Depending on the time of year, spend the afternoon relaxing and swimming before climbing aboard our camels for an incredible trek into the Sahara Desert to watch a beautiful sunset and spend the night at our remote Berber Camp, nestled amongst the towering dunes of Erg Chebbi. We enjoy local food, music and an amazing night camping in the Sahara.

For our trip into the desert you'll need to prepare an overnight pack for the essentials you will need for the night. The remainder of your luggage will stay in Merzouga this evening and we will collect it in the morning.

## Magical Morocco - 13 Days

www.onthegotours.com  
 UK 020 7371 1113 info@onthegotours.com  
 AUS 1300 855 684 aus-info@onthegotours.com  
 NZ 0800 44 77 69 CAN 1 866 890 7038  
 USA 1 866 606 2960 SA 0800 990 311

updated on 04-04-2020 06:40:21

This information has been compiled with care and good faith. They give an accurate illustration of the proposed arrangements for this holiday. Circumstances beyond our control such as changes in local conditions, inclement weather or other reasons could force us to make changes to this itinerary. Any costs shown are subject to change, though are an accurate reflection of costs at time of writing. Please also note that visa requirements are subject to change and are the responsibility of the traveller and not that of On The Go Tours.

# Magical Morocco

If you would prefer the comfort of a hotel with en-suite facilities this evening, opt for our Sahara hotel alternative at no additional cost. Please do let us know your preferred option at the time of booking.

Sahara Hotel Alternative:

If you have opted for our Sahara Hotel Alternative you will not need to pack an overnight bag as all your luggage will remain with you this evening. Hotel Alternative travellers will be transferred to their auberge (simple hotel) with en-suite facilities located in the shadows of the Erg Chebbi sand dunes mid afternoon. Your tour guide will not escort you to the hotel as he will be accompanying the camel trekking group to the Berber Camp. After check-in and time to freshen up (for those who are interested) please re-group prior to sunset at reception to depart for your camel trek into the desert. The safari runs for approx 1 hour, with short stops along the way for photos. Dinner is included at the hotel this evening as is breakfast in the morning. Your guide will inform you of the time you will be picked up in the morning.

Please note: Should you wish to opt for the hotel alternative at no additional cost, please let us know at the time of booking.

**Camel Trek:** approx 1.5 hours  
**Overnight - Merzouga (B, D)**

## Day 9 : Sunrise camel trek & Valley of Roses

Merzouga (Sahara) - Todra Gorge - Dades Gorge. Departing early, we climb back on our camels disembarking for a truly stunning sunrise. After freshening up and breakfast in Merzouga we're back on the road heading for Todra Gorge. Known as Morocco's Grand Canyon, the charm of Todra lies in its changing colours as the sun slowly moves from east to west over the towering vertical limestone cliffs that reach heights of 1000ft.

We continue to the perfumed Valley of Roses, famous for the miles and miles of rose hedgerows that colour the landscape pink. As we travel through the valley, we stop at the women's cooperative where we learn how the rose products are made. Continue to Tinghir,

home to the largest silver mine in Africa, and our final stop of the day, where we have the evening at leisure to relax and unwind in our former kasbah hotel. **Overnight - Dades Gorge (B)**

## Day 10 : UNESCO World Heritage Listed Ouarzazate

Dades Gorge - Skoura - Ouarzazate. Leaving the rose fields behind, our morning begins with a visit to the 300 year old Kasbah Amherdhil in Skoura where we gain a fascinating insight into the ancient traditions of kasbah life. We then continue along the Road of 1000 Kasbahs to Ouarzazate.

Famous for being a prime filming location for many Hollywood TV shows and Blockbusters, we have the opportunity to explore the World's largest film studio. Be sure to explore the iconic Colosseum used in 'Gladiator' and the prop jet used in 'Jewel of the Nile'. Evening at leisure. **Overnight - Ouarzazate (B)**

## Day 11 : Ait Benhaddou & Marrakech

Ouarzazate - Ait Benhaddou - Marrakech. Travelling over the High Atlas Mountains we stop along the old caravan route where to explore Ait Benhaddou. This incredible ancient fortified Kasbah was built for defence purposes high on a hill and is a stunningly well-preserved medieval city which has famously featured in many blockbuster movies, including Gladiator and Laurence of Arabia as its beauty is unequal to any other fortified kasbah in south Morocco. Carrying on we continue to Kasbah Telouet. Built in 1860 this kasbah was once home to the very wealthy Thami El Glaoui until he conspired with French Colonialists to delay Morocco's fight for independence.

Descending into the city of Marrakech, Morocco's pink city. We have the rest of the day at leisure to explore the Medina and the delights of Djemaa el Fna, the exuberant market place, which is a hive of activity, sights and smells at both day and night. **Overnight - Marrakech (B)**

## Day 12 : Djemaa El Fna

After breakfast, we set out to explore this fascinating city on a guided tour. Inside the rose coloured medina walls is a tangle of winding streets and alleys that open onto verdant gardens and bustling souks. At the heart of the medina is Djemaa El Fna, the city's exuberant market place and towering over it, is the famous Koutoubia Mosque, the tallest building in the city. We have the afternoon at leisure to purchase any last minute souvenirs or get lost in the medina and see where it takes you. **Overnight - Marrakech (B)**

## Day 13 : Goodbye Morocco!

Our amazing tour of Morocco ends today after hotel check out. An included onward departure transfer to airport will be provided. Passengers who have opted to end their tour in Casablanca will depart early this morning.(B)

## HOTELS

Highlighted below are some of the hotels which we frequently use on this tour, though we reserve the right to substitute these hotels to ones of a similar standard.

**Please refer to your Tour Voucher for your confirmed arrival hotel and further arrival information.**

### Kenzi Basma Hotel

Offering an excellent location right in the heart of the city, this recently-renovated hotel is nestled between Casablanca's cosmopolitan business district and the amazing architecture of the Art Deco neighborhood. You'll find the guestrooms to be spacious and fully-equipped with modern amenities including high-speed WiFi. The hotel's on-site restaurant, Bloom, offers tasty Moroccan and international cuisine, whereas in the Torero bar you can enjoy a buzzing atmosphere with live music and delicious Spanish tapas.

## Magical Morocco - 13 Days

www.onthegotours.com  
UK 020 7371 1113 info@onthegotours.com  
AUS 1300 855 684 aus-info@onthegotours.com  
NZ 0800 44 77 69 CAN 1 866 890 7038  
USA 1 866 606 2960 SA 0800 990 311

This information has been compiled with care and good faith. They give an accurate illustration of the proposed arrangements for this holiday. Circumstances beyond our control such as changes in local conditions, inclement weather or other reasons could force us to make changes to this itinerary. Any costs shown are subject to change, though are an accurate reflection of costs at time of writing. Please also note that visa requirements are subject to change and are the responsibility of the traveller and not that of On The Go Tours.

# Magical Morocco



## Riad Dar Alia

Boasting a fantastic location, just a short walk from the entrance to the Kasbah of the Udayas, Riad Dar Alia is a wonderful choice for a stay in the capital. It offers a number of uniquely decorated rooms in a traditional Moroccan style. Free WiFi is provided throughout the property and a restaurant serves a variety of Moroccan specialities.



## Riad Sidi Fateh

The beautiful Riad Sidi Fateh offers guests a very comfortable stay in the heart of the Moroccan capital. Located in the heart of the bustling medina, you'll have no shortage of choices for your evening meal. All rooms are equipped with free WiFi and air conditioning.



## Dar Ba Sidi & Spa

Surrounded by nature, with a large swimming pool, Dar Ba Sidi offers a quiet oasis for guests to relax. Bright spacious rooms are decorated in the traditional Riad style with ornate architecture and mosaics. You can also sample some Moroccan cuisine at the Moulay Ismail restaurant.



## Riad Al Pacha

Just a stones throw away from the bustling Medina, Riad Al Pacha is a fantastic example of Moroccan architecture and hospitality. Centred around a beautiful mosaic courtyard, all rooms have air conditioning and WiFi. A rooftop terrace offers panoramic views across the city, whilst the restaurant serves up delicious Moroccan fare at dinner time.



## L'empreinte D'ifrane

L'empreinte D'ifrane belies its Moroccan location with its European chalet style wooden architecture. The spacious rooms are decorated in the same style, with warming wooden interiors, and private bathrooms. Free WiFi is offered throughout the hotel.



## Desert Camp

Set amongst the towering dunes of Erg Chebbi, the Berber camp is designed with a traditional Moroccan theme. The permanent tents include multiple beds and electricity (after night fall) Camping out in the desert is a wonderful experience, due to the lack of light pollution, the stars come out in abundance and really are a sight to behold.



## Kasbah Tizzaourine

Overlooking Oued Dades, Kasbah Tizzarouine offers rustic Moroccan accommodation. Guest rooms vary from the quirky cave rooms to the more palatial Berber suites. The hotel also includes an outdoor pool and seating on a beautiful terrace giving great panoramic views of the surrounding hills and valley. Staff at the Kasbah are very helpful and the restaurant comes with great recommendations. Those who are in to local music can enjoy and join in with drumming sessions that take place each night.



## Ksar Sultan Dades

## Hotel La Perle Du Sud

A comfortable hotel emanating authenticity from its show of modern art to traditional features and furniture. La Perle Du Sud is located in the heart of the city, close to a number of local restaurants and bars. Bright guest rooms offer air-conditioning and free WiFi access throughout. A swimming pool allows guests to relax and bask in the Moroccan sunshine.



## Adam Park Hotel & Spa

Guests can expect a very comfortable stay at the Adam Park Hotel & Spa. Each of the elegant rooms feature a patio or balcony

## Magical Morocco - 13 Days

www.onthegotours.com  
 UK 020 7371 1113 info@onthegotours.com  
 AUS 1300 855 684 aus-info@onthegotours.com  
 NZ 0800 44 77 69 CAN 1 866 890 7038  
 USA 1 866 606 2960 SA 0800 990 311

This information has been compiled with care and good faith. They give an accurate illustration of the proposed arrangements for this holiday. Circumstances beyond our control such as changes in local conditions, inclement weather or other reasons could force us to make changes to this itinerary. Any costs shown are subject to change, though are an accurate reflection of costs at time of writing. Please also note that visa requirements are subject to change and are the responsibility of the traveller and not that of On The Go Tours.

# Magical Morocco

with views of the surrounding area. Guests are spoilt for choice when it comes to dining. Several restaurants offer a variety of options including Italian specialities, Moroccan favourites and international cuisine. There are also plenty of ways to unwind after a day exploring Marrakech, with an outdoor pool, fitness centre and a spa offering rejuvenating massage treatments.



## KNOW BEFORE YOU GO

### Group Tour Tip Kitty & Entrance Fees

A tipping kitty (the amount is noted under 'what is not included' on page one of this document), will be collected by your guide at the welcome meeting on day 1. This is payable in Moroccan Dirhams. USD, Euro or GBP can also be accepted, at the current exchange rate. The tipping kitty is used for the following; hotel porters, hotel waiters, local guides for city tours, airport transfer drivers, Berber camel herders and local restaurant tips.

#### On our Signature tours:

The tipping kitty does not include a tip for your tour leader or driver and as a guideline we recommend you budget approx USD\$2-3 per day for the tour guide and USD\$1-2 for the driver for a job well done (payable in local currency). Naturally the amount is up to you though, this is simply a suggestion.

Entrance fees are not included on our Signature tours. Entrance fees are payable locally on your tour, the amount will be noted under 'what is not included' and this amount will also be collected by your guide at the welcome meeting on day 1. This is payable in Moroccan Dirhams. Again USD, Euro or GBP are accepted at the current exchange rate.

#### On our Essential tours:

The tipping kitty does not include a tip for your tour leader (your driver will be included in the tipping kitty). Naturally the amount is up to you though, however we recommend budgeting approx USD\$2-3 per day.

Entrance fees are included. So no need to worry about paying for this.

### Guides & Groups

Some of our group tours are sectors of a larger tour. Some travellers on your tour may only travel with you for part of your tour. It also might be that you end your holiday part way through a longer tour and others in the group continue on.

Please note: if there is only one passenger on the Imperial Morocco & The Blue City tour returning to Marrakech on day 7, then instead of driving, we will arrange a flight from Fes – Marrakech and airport transfers to and from each airport while passengers on the Magical Morocco tour will continue their touring arrangements. For groups of 2+ passengers on the Imperial Morocco & The Blue City sector, we will return to Marrakech in our air-conditioned vehicle.

### Time Keeping

In order that we show the best of Morocco in a non-hurried fashion to you, it is imperative you are ready for departure each day. Please do not delay and inconvenience fellow travellers. It is your responsibility to be at the proposed meeting point for the group in time. We will depart at our specified times.

### Essential Packing

- A sleeping bag for the Sahara Desert camp if travelling between Oct - Apr if travelling on our Essential tour range (anyone on our signature group tours will not need this, as bedding is provided)
- Lightweight cotton garments in summer, warm clothing for winter (temperatures can get quite low at night)
- Comfortable walking shoes or hiking shoes
- Electrical adapter. Standard voltage is 220V, 50Hz AC. Sockets require a Continental or European style plug (two round pins)
- DEET based mosquito repellent and antihistamine cream
- Personal first aid kit including Dioralyte

- 2 spare passport photos & a photocopy of your passport
- A small daypack for your day-to-day needs
- Sunglasses, hat, sunscreen, swim costume, torch, money belt
- Either a rucksack or suitcase is suitable
- A towel for swimming

## Morocco Country Guide

### Morocco Visas

Please be advised that visa requirements are subject to change and that visa procurement is the responsibility of the traveller and not On The Go Tours. Please also ensure that your passport is valid for at least 6 months from your planned date of departure from Morocco.

UK, EU, Australian, New Zealand, Canadian and USA nationals do not require a visa at present to enter Morocco. Please check if you are from another country.

RSA (South African) passport holders need to obtain visas in advance of arrival. Please check your personal visa requirements with the embassy.

### Tipping In Morocco

In Morocco it is customary to tip and on our group tours a tipping kitty (the amount is noted under 'what is not included' on page one of this document) will be collected by your guide at the welcome meeting on the day you arrive. This is payable in Moroccan Dirhams. USD, Euro or GBP can also be accepted, at the current exchange rate. The tipping kitty is used for the following; hotel porters, hotel waiters, local guides for city tours, airport transfer drivers, Berber camel herders and local restaurant tips.

The tipping kitty does not include a tip for your Moroccan tour leader or driver and as a guideline we recommend you budget approx Euro 2-3 per day for your tour guide and Euro 1-2 for the driver for a job well done (payable in Moroccan Dirhams. Naturally the amount is up to you though, this is simply a suggestion.

### Climate In Morocco

Morocco is a great year round destination, blessed with lots of sunshine and a temperate climate. It can become incredibly hot in the

## Magical Morocco - 13 Days

www.onthegotours.com  
 UK 020 7371 1113 info@onthegotours.com  
 AUS 1300 855 684 aus-info@onthegotours.com  
 NZ 0800 44 77 69 CAN 1 866 890 7038  
 USA 1 866 606 2960 SA 0800 990 311

This information has been compiled with care and good faith. They give an accurate illustration of the proposed arrangements for this holiday. Circumstances beyond our control such as changes in local conditions, inclement weather or other reasons could force us to make changes to this itinerary. Any costs shown are subject to change, though are an accurate reflection of costs at time of writing. Please also note that visa requirements are subject to change and are the responsibility of the traveller and not that of On The Go Tours.

# Magical Morocco

summer months with temperatures 38°C or higher, particularly in July and August so use plenty of sun screen, cover up and drink plenty of water. The nights can be cooler especially in the mountains or in the desert and it is windy along the coast throughout the year.

During the winter months (November to February), temperatures usually remain pleasant in the cities, averaging around 20°C, but it is very cold at nights, in the desert and in the Atlas Mountains. There is often snow in the Atlas Mountains from November through until March and temperatures can drop to below freezing - so take plenty of warm clothes including jacket, long-sleeved tops, jumper, gloves and trousers.

## Sleeping Bag & Torch

### On our Signature tours:

On our Signature tour range (Totally Morocco, Road to Casablanca, Best of Morocco, Magical Morocco & Casablanca to Essaouira tours) sleeping bags will not be required and bed coverings will be provided. You will need to bring a torch for your night in the Sahara.

### On our Essential tours:

A lightweight sleeping bag is required for the Sahara Desert camp or a cotton sleep sheet will be adequate if travelling from May to September. You will also need to bring a torch for your night in the Sahara.

## Time & Voltage

Morocco is on Greenwich Mean Time (GMT). Daylight Savings is currently being observed; however, it changes frequently and is not observed during the holy month of Ramadan. Standard voltage is 220 volts. Primary sockets require the European, 2 pronged variety. We recommend that you pack a universal travel adaptor. You will need a voltage converter, and plug adaptor in order to use U.S. appliances.

## Currency & Holiday Money

The currency of Morocco is the Moroccan Dirham.

Pound Sterling, US Dollars and Euro can be exchanged in Morocco at various bureau de

changes in major cities and towns (please note Australian and New Zealand Dollars as well as South African Rand are often tricky to exchange and often not accepted so we advise against bringing them for exchange), and most banks have ATMs. Credit cards are virtually useless outside main cities and towns. It's advisable to request bank notes in smaller denominations, as it can sometimes be hard to get change from large notes and smaller notes are handy for smaller purchases and gratuities. Traveller's Cheques are not recommended as they're often difficult to exchange and incur high fees.

How much you spend depends largely on individual tastes and often how much you eat, drink or shop. We currently recommend an average of Euro 20 - 30 per day on top of optional excursions.

## Shopping

Morocco is a shoppers' paradise. The souks of Fes, Marrakech and Meknes are full of pottery, carpets and kilims, leather goods, spices and cloth. Keep space in your backpack for your purchases! Our best buys are: carpets – from the High Atlas mountains or a woven and embroidered Kilim; the burnoose, an elegant hooded cape; spices; or traditional pottery and leather from Fes.

**IMPORTANT:** Set your budget and don't be swayed, remember the caveat – 'Let the buyer beware'. Any purchases made whilst on holiday with us, irrespective of whether the store is recommended by us or other, are at your own discretion. Please make sure that you are completely happy with the product you are purchasing and the delivery arrangements (we would recommend you take away with you any purchases rather than rely on shipping services). On The Go cannot be held responsible or accountable for items bought in country or shipping arrangements. Proceed with caution.

## Hotels in Morocco

The hotels on our group tours in Morocco are simple, clean, comfortable and centrally located. We try to use local and traditional hotels with plenty of character wherever possible. In smaller towns, the choice of

accommodation may be limited, but we will always book the best accommodation available for our groups. Please be aware that hotels in Morocco are not of the same standard as Western hotels and facilities are often basic.

## It's Not Like Home

Travel to far-flung corners of the earth involves lifestyles and conditions that are sometimes very different from what you are used to back home. You must come prepared to cope with unusual situations, local inadequacies and unpredictable events as and when they occur. Foreign travel is definitely not suitable for people who expect or demand everything to go exactly as planned. With the greatest respect and in the interest of your ultimate enjoyment you must understand this. Things can and do change in foreign countries.

## Mosques & Religion

Although freedom of religious faith is permitted by the Moroccan law, about 99% of people are Sunni Muslim. About 1% of the population is Christian, and less than 0.2 percent is Jewish. With the exception of the Hassan II mosque in Casablanca, it is not permitted for non-Muslims to enter mosques in Morocco. If you are entering the Hassan II mosque, please remember to dress conservatively. Ensure limbs are covered and shoes removed when entering any mosque. Men must refrain from wearing shorts, as must women.

## RAMADAN

Ramadan is a month of fasting observed by Muslims throughout the world and adherents of the Muslim faith fast during daylight hours and break their fast with lavish meals and lively celebrations in the evening. Ramadan culminates a month later in a 3 day celebration called Eid al - Fitr. Many shops (excluding those which cater mainly to tourists) and attractions close earlier during Ramadan. As such we will start our tour earlier during this period to make the best use of time and itineraries will be slightly altered to ensure we visit all attractions, leisure time will be offered in the late afternoon. Non-Muslims are not expected to fast over Ramadan, but it is

## Magical Morocco - 13 Days

www.onthegotours.com  
 UK 020 7371 1113 info@onthegotours.com  
 AUS 1300 855 684 aus-info@onthegotours.com  
 NZ 0800 44 77 69 CAN 1 866 890 7038  
 USA 1 866 606 2960 SA 0800 990 311

This information has been compiled with care and good faith. They give an accurate illustration of the proposed arrangements for this holiday. Circumstances beyond our control such as changes in local conditions, inclement weather or other reasons could force us to make changes to this itinerary. Any costs shown are subject to change, though are an accurate reflection of costs at time of writing. Please also note that visa requirements are subject to change and are the responsibility of the traveller and not that of On The Go Tours.

# Magical Morocco

considered impolite to eat food or drink on the street.

Note: Traffic is exceptionally heavy during Ramadan, especially toward the time of breaking the fast. Forthcoming Ramadan dates are as follows, (approximate) -

23 April – 23 May 2020

12 April – 11 May 2021

## Etiquette

Despite the inevitable ups and downs of travelling abroad, you will generally be shown great hospitality in Morocco. In return, please demonstrate sensitivity and respect for the local customs. Morocco is a Muslim country; so care should be taken to dress respectfully in local towns or villages.

- Ladies should avoid wearing 'clingy, tight or suggestive' attire, and stick to cool, flowing, cottons in small towns, local villages and in rural areas
- Take care to dress conservatively and ensure that limbs are covered and remove footwear prior to entering a mosque
- Ex-military style clothing should not be worn
- Ask permission before taking photographs of people
- The standard form of greeting is a handshake. Men and women do not kiss at any time as a form of greeting

## Calling Home From Morocco

It is currently not always possible to use VoIP (voice over internet protocol) services like Whatsapp, Viber, Skype and Facebook Messenger in Morocco. The text options on these services are still fine to use but the calling functions might not always work. It is understood that the Moroccan telecom providers have done this in order to push as much voice calls onto their networks rather than people being able to use these free services.

## Trouble Shooting

These things will most likely never happen, but it's good to be prepared if they ever do. Here are a few tips to keep your trip hassle-free. Morocco is no worse than anywhere else when it comes to crime. The biggest problem seems to be petty theft, including

pick-pocketing and bag snatching. Minimise your chances of being robbed with these tips:

- Leave valuables in the hotel safe deposit or better still, at home
- Carry your passport on your person or a photocopy as ID
- Carry your bag close to your person rather than over your shoulder
- Travel in a group or pair, especially if you are female
- Don't catch cabs late at night on your own
- Never drink anything offered to you in the street, unless you opened it yourself

Please note On The Go Tours will not be held liable for loss or damage to personal property under any circumstances

## Health Requirements

You should seek medical advice before travelling to Morocco from your local health practitioner and ensure that you receive all of the appropriate vaccinations. As a guide, Tetanus and Hepatitis A are strongly recommended. While tap water in Morocco is generally considered safe to drink in main cities, it is not advisable in smaller towns and remote areas. It's recommended to only drink bottled mineral water, which is readily available in hotels, shops and restaurants.

## Drones Not Permitted

It is forbidden to bring drones into Morocco (even small ones that might fit in hand luggage), a special permit has to be arranged with the appropriate department in Rabat and this can take months to arrange.

## Magical Morocco - 13 Days

www.onthegotours.com  
 UK 020 7371 1113 info@onthegotours.com  
 AUS 1300 855 684 aus-info@onthegotours.com  
 NZ 0800 44 77 69 CAN 1 866 890 7038  
 USA 1 866 606 2960 SA 0800 990 311

updated on 04-04-2020 06:40:21

This information has been compiled with care and good faith. They give an accurate illustration of the proposed arrangements for this holiday. Circumstances beyond our control such as changes in local conditions, inclement weather or other reasons could force us to make changes to this itinerary. Any costs shown are subject to change, though are an accurate reflection of costs at time of writing. Please also note that visa requirements are subject to change and are the responsibility of the traveller and not that of On The Go Tours.