



Essential Marrakesh: Marrakesh

With its proximity to major European countries like Spain and Portugal, the desert Kingdom of Morocco presents a fantastic opportunity to experience the stark and fascinating contrasts between Africa and Europe. Moroccan cities are exotic and vibrant; each of them offering a unique cornucopia of sensory delights. This select itinerary lets you explore western Morocco's former imperial city - Marrakesh. If Casablanca effortlessly wears its French influence on its sleeves, Marrakesh is a living and breathing remnant of Morocco's medieval past. The 'Red City' is home to a rich artisan heritage, marvelous Moorish architecture, and bustling souks packed inside the labyrinthine cobbled lanes of the world-famous Medina. If you only have a short time to visit Morocco, or if it's your first chance to explore this amazing country, then Marrakesh is the perfect place to start your adventure.

ACCOMMODATIONS

- 4 Nights Marrakesh

INCLUSIONS

- Private Hidden Sides of Marrakesh Tour
- Private Majorelle Garden Tour
- Private Arrival & Departure Airport Transfers
- Daily Breakfast



MARRAKESH:

Arrive at Marrakesh Airport and meet your driver for a private transfer to your hotel. After checking in, the remainder of the day is open, and you are free to relax or explore the city on your own.

(Accommodations, Marrakesh)



MARRAKESH:

After breakfast at your hotel, your knowledgeable English-speaking guide will meet you and begin a riveting deep dive into the hidden and authentic facets of Marrakesh.

The experience will start at one of the gates of the Medina of Marrakesh - the old fortified citadel that's now designated as a UNESCO World Heritage Site. Teeming with artisans, merchants, snake charmers, folk dancers, and street food vendors, the Medina is the perfect place to officially start getting to know more about rich Moroccan history and culture.

Marrakesh was once the medieval capital of Morocco, and it's not hard to see why. Yes, the 'Red City' has its fair share of elaborate Moorish structures and famous historic landmarks. But as you make your way through the oldest quarters of the Medina, you'll definitely get a sense of the city's age while you immerse yourself in an environment that reflects how everything used to be. Along the way, you'll hear children from the Koranic schools reciting verses, learn about the social relevance of public steam baths, try out local bread at a very old bakery, and more - essentially experiencing traditional activities and daily life similar to how the locals did many centuries ago.

You'll also visit the palatial home of a late 19th-century Moroccan minister to admire its Moorish design and to see its interesting collection of antique embroidery, jewelry, and pottery. The final stop of this tour lets you discover hidden quarters and historical caravanserais called 'Fondouks' that were essentially roadside inns for caravan traders back in the day. They have since been converted into artisan workshops and are still being used to this day to produce a variety of traditional local crafts.

(Breakfast & Accommodations, Marrakesh)



MARRAKESH:

After breakfast, get ready to enjoy a delightfully charming horse-drawn carriage ride around the towering ramparts of Marrakesh and through the crowded streets of the Medina on your way towards the enchanting Jardin Majorelle. It's an excellent and relaxing way to take in the sights and sounds of the city.

Jardin Majorelle is a 2.5-acre botanical and artist's landscape garden created in the 1920's by the French Orientalist painter Jacques Majorelle. Take a stroll through its lovely confines and take in the beauty of the well-manicured surroundings. The garden houses a collection of plants gathered from all over the world and features elegant ornamental ponds and a striking Cubist villa, designed by French architect Paul Sinoir, which is coated with a special shade of bold cobalt blue.

Famous fashion icons Yves Saint Laurent and Pierre Bergé once resided in Jardin Majorelle after purchasing the property to restore it, and it still houses Saint Laurent's collection of Berber antiques and artifacts as well as a museum dedicated to Islamic Art.

(Breakfast & Accommodations, Marrakesh)



MARRAKESH:

Take your sweet time enjoying your breakfast at the hotel because the rest of the day is open!

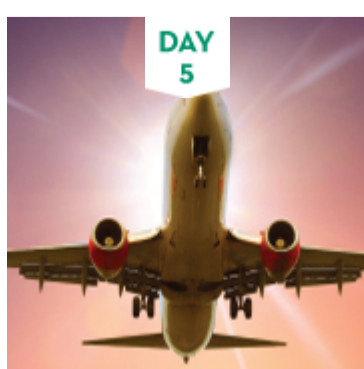
Marrakesh has plenty to offer and makes for a superb introduction to Morocco, so staying within the city limits to explore is a great option especially for visitors who only have a limited amount of time to spend. But Marrakesh is a great starting point if you wish to take a day trip to explore a nearby destination. You are free to choose if you want to take some optional tours or if you prefer to explore Marrakesh on your own.

For optional travel experiences, you can try visiting Essaouira - a beautiful port city on Morocco's Atlantic Coast. It features a medina that's protected by 18th-century seafront ramparts called the Skala de la Kasbah.

You can also head south towards the foothills of the majestic Atlas Mountains, a mountain range that spans Morocco, Algeria, and Tunisia. It separates the Atlantic and Mediterranean coastline from the Sahara Desert and is notably populated by Berber villages.

Lastly, for the adventurous at heart, you can even try a private hot air balloon ride that offers an unforgettable perspective of the Moroccan countryside and its stunning desert landscape. Cap this amazing adventure by enjoying a traditional meal in one of the Berber homes that you've just flown over.

(Breakfast & Accommodations, Marrakesh)



DEPART MARRAKESH:

After breakfast, meet your driver for a private transfer to Marrakesh Airport for your flight home or to proceed to your next Avanti Destination!

(Breakfast, Marrakesh)

*** Itinerary and inclusions are subject to change*