



## **Hiking Morocco: The High Atlas Mountains**

9 days, Marrakech to Marrakech

Trip code DCMZ

### **What's included**

- Your G for Good Moment: Zarbiat Achbarou Cooperative Visit, Marrakech
- Your Welcome Moment: Meet Your CEO and Group

- Your Foodie Moment: Cooking Demonstration and Lunch, Zagora
- Souk El Had Visit
- Tiznit Silver Market Visit
- Hike outside of Icht
- Icht Locally Guided Underground Village Visit
- Zagora Desert Stay Experience with Camel Ride
- Aït Ben Haddou Kasbah Tour
- Iminifri Natural Bridge Hike
- Aït Bouguemez Valley Hike & Granaries Visit
- All transport between destinations and to/from included activities

The information in this trip details document has been compiled with care and is provided in good faith. However it is subject to change, and does not form part of the contract between the client and G Adventures. The itinerary featured is correct at time of printing. It may differ slightly to the one in the brochure. Occasionally our itineraries change as we make improvements that stem from past travellers, comments and our own research. Sometimes it can be a small change like adding an extra meal along the itinerary. Sometimes the change may result in us altering the tour for the coming year. Ultimately, our goal is to provide you with the most rewarding experience. Please note that our brochure is usually released in November each year. If you have booked from the previous brochure you may find there have been some changes to the itinerary.

**VERY IMPORTANT:** Please ensure that you print a final copy of your Trip Details to review a couple of days prior to travel, in case there have been changes that affect your plans.

**VALIDITY:** Valid for all trips departing August 15th, 2024 and onwards

# Itinerary



**NOTE:** Accommodations vary per departure and are subject to change until tour start date; they are not final and should be used as examples only. Travellers may login to the G Adventures App to view accommodations specific to their departure.

Day 1

## Marrakech

Arrive at any time. Attend a welcome meeting at the joining hotel in the evening before an optional group dinner to get to know your fellow travellers.



### Accommodation

Hotel Oudaya Marrakech (or similar)

Hotel



### Today's Activities

#### ACTIVITY

Your opportunity to meet your CEO and fellow travellers, and learn more about your tour. Opt to join the group for a local meal afterwards. Don't forget to see the notice in the lobby (or ask reception) for the official time and place to meet up with the group.

Day 2

## Marrakech/Tiznit

Travel to Tiznit today, a town on the west coast of Morocco known for its silver jewelry, and mint daggers and sabres. Along the way stop for a visit to Souk EL Had and have lunch there on your own before continuing on. Visit the local silver market upon arrival and the historic medina in Tiznit. Spend the remainder of the day on your own to explore the narrow alleys and enjoy the town's gorgeous natural landscapes surrounded by mountains.



### Meals included

Breakfast



### Accommodation

Idou Tiznit (or similar)

Hotel



### Today's Activities

Private Vehicle

Marrakech – Tiznit

4h-4h30m

Settle in and scan the scenery from the convenience of a private vehicle. There will be a lunch stop along the way at a souk where there will be many options to choose from.

Souk El Had Visit

Agadir

Souk Lhad is the biggest souk (market) in Morocco's city of Agadir. A popular place with locals and tourists alike. There are about 6,000 different stalls with vendors selling a wide assortment of Moroccan items from clothing and rugs to fresh fruits and vegetable. Wander the stalls, find some delicious treats to try, and soak in the beautiful atmosphere of a bustling market in Morocco.

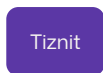
Tiznit Silver Market Visit

Tiznit

1h30m

Enjoy a visit to the local Silver Market in the town of Tiznit, on Morocco's western coast. This bustling market feature artisans crafting detailed jewelry pieces using traditional methods. Watch the process and ask questions to your CEO as the demonstration continues. Tiznit is also home to a historic medina enclosed by 19th-century ramparts and the town is full of narrow alleys and traditional Moroccan houses adorned with colourful tiles and ornate doors.

Free Time



Spend time on your own in Tiznit and explore the nature-lover's paradise. Gain a true sense of the western Moroccan countryside where it just about meets the ocean.

Day 3

## Tiznit/Icht

Leave Tiznit behind and visit the Granaries of Tigida before travelling to the remote Berber oasis of Amtoudi. Here, the group will have lunch with a local family in the village. Stop by more granaries for a visit en route to Icht, a small town on the edge of the Sahara desert. Enjoy an optional group dinner tonight at the hotel.



### Meals included

Breakfast | Lunch



### Accommodation

Borj Biramane (or similar)

Hostel



### Today's Activities

Private Vehicle

Tiznit - Icht

2h45m

Travel inland today via private vehicle between Tiznit and Icht. There will be stops along the way.

Guided Granaries visit

Amtoudi

Visit the Granaries of Tigida before travelling to Amtoudi Village. Many granaries are abandoned throughout Morocco and they are an important part of the region's culture and heritage. They were used throughout history to store goods and defend communities. Their structures today are symbols of harmonious tribal organization. Later, after the lunch and before travelling to Icht, the group will spend time visiting more granaries in the area to gain a sense of their important components and differences.

Hike in the Area & Travel to Amtoudi Village for a Local Family Lunch

Amtoudi

3h-4h

Take in the serene environment of the Anti-Atlas Mountains during a short hike in the area to stretch those legs. Then travel to the Amtoudi granaries and village itself to experience the Berber ways of storage. Sit down with a local family for lunch during your time here.

Day 4

## Icht/Zagora

Travel to Zagora today and visit Icht Village along the way for your underground tour. Your local guide will lead you on a walk around the area concluding with tea at their home in the village. Enjoy free time for lunch on your own in the town of Tata, and arrive in the desert landscape of Zagora in time to walk with your local guide to the comfortable desert camp. Enjoy welcome tea and pastries while you watch the sunset. Dinner will be served tonight at camp. Make sure you do some night sky gazing in a place with very little light pollution.



### Meals included

Breakfast | Dinner



### Accommodation

Hotel Zagour - Camp (or similar)

Campground



### Today's Activities

Private Vehicle

Icht - Zagora

5h-6h

Sit back and relax as you enjoy the ride by private bus from Icht to the desert landscape of Zagora. There will be stops along the way and plenty of time to find a place to eat lunch on your own in the charming town of Fom Zguid.

Icht Guided Tour

Icht

Hidden at the foot of Jbel Beni, the oasis of Icht is a beautiful green spot amid the severe terrain of the Anti-Atlas foothills. Home to the incredible architectural marvel of the underground village, Icht offers travellers the chance to explore its unique alleys and small doors on a guided tour of the area. Finish up with tea at your guide's home here and gain a deeper sense of life away from the city.

Desert Stay Experience - Zagora

Zagora

After arriving to Zagora the group will walk through the desert landscape for about 2 hrs before having some welcome tea while enjoying a Moroccan sunset. Dinner will be had back at camp with the whole group and then you'll have a bonfire under the stars.

Day 5

## Zagora

Witness sunrise in the desert then have breakfast before departing camp via a camel ride through the dunes. Arrive to a local family's oasis and enjoy a traditional welcome before a cooking experience hand in hand with members of the family. Learn about their culture and lifestyle, as the group waits for lunch to be ready. Before heading back to Zagora, the group will visit an old library to learn about ancient books from The Middle East and Africa that are a thousand years old. Then, spend time at a pottery workshop in the village, and discover a unique and preserved way of shaping clay. Return to the dunes nearby for an epic sunset (if the weather allows).



### Meals included

Breakfast | Lunch | Dinner



### Accommodation

Hotel Zagour (or similar)

Hotel



### Today's Activities

Camel Ride

Erg Chigaga

Hold on and enjoy a ride on this even-toed ungulate, also known as the desert horse. Bring your camera for some fantastic photos of this once-in-a-lifetime opportunity.

#### ACTIVITY

Enjoy a welcome with dates, milk, and learn more about Moroccan sweets and dry fruits over tea. Afterwards, begin the cooking demonstration featuring regional specialties, and take part in the steps to create a delicious traditional meal for everyone to enjoy together.

Tamegroute Library Visit & Pottery Workshop

Tamegroute

Drive to Tamegroute Village and visit the Old Nasiriya Library here to learn about the ancient books from The Middle East and Africa. Some are a thousand years old. Afterwards, attend a pottery workshop to discover the unique and preserved art of throwing clay in this village.

Day 6

## Zagora/Aït Ben Haddou

In the morning begin your travels to Aït Ben Haddou. Stop along the way in Ouarzazate where the Atlas Film Studio is and take some free time for lunch on your own. Arrive at Aït Ben Haddou in the late afternoon and visit the Ksar, a group of earthen buildings surrounded by high walls. Enjoy the sunset at this spot before having dinner at the hotel with the group.



### Meals included

Breakfast | Dinner



### Accommodation

Rose Du Sable (HB) (or similar)

Hotel



### Today's Activities

Private Vehicle

Zagora - Aït Ben Haddou

3h-3h30m

Sit back and scan the scenery from the comfort of your private vehicle between Zagora and Aït Ben Haddou. There will be a stop in Ouarzazate along the way where you will have time for lunch on your own.

Aït Ben Haddou Kasbah Tour

Aït Ben Haddou

2h-3h

Explore the UNESCO World Heritage site and kasbah of Aït Ben Haddou, the most famous ksar in the Ounila Valley, located in the foothills of the southern slopes of the High Atlas Mountains. Of all the remaining kasbahs in Morocco, the walls and interior of this area are the most intact. It's a collective grouping of dwellings inside defensive walls and was once one of the many trading posts on the route linking Sudan to Marrakech. The kasbah still houses a few families, but many now live in the adjacent village. Like many of the earthen built fortresses in Ouarzazate, Aït Ben Haddou has been used in many film and television productions like *Gladiator*, *Babel*, and *Game of Thrones*.

Day 7

## Aït Ben Haddou/Aït Bouguemez

Transfer to the town of Demnat this morning and embark on a hike from this cultural crossroads to the Imi nifri Waterfalls and impressive natural bridge. Arrive at Aït Bouguemez in the late afternoon and enjoy this beautiful part of Morocco in the High Atlas Mountains with its strong ties to Berber culture and traditions.



### Meals included

Breakfast | Dinner



### Accommodation

Ecolodge Dar Itrane (or similar)

Hotel



### Today's Activities

Private Vehicle

Aït Ben Haddou – Aït Bouguemez

6h-7h

Sit back and enjoy the drive between Aït Ben Haddou and Aït Bouguemez with a stop along the way for a hike.

Iminifri Natural Bridge Hike

2h-3h

Hike to the “door to the cave” or Imi n’fri in the local Berber dialect. This natural rock bridge was formed by the collapse of an underground cave system. Hike for about an hour and half total and take in this impressive natural phenomenon from above and below, where the Wadi Méhasseur flows between the sheer, vertical rock walls. Walk down the steps to the cave and perhaps take a dip in the cold waters for a quick refreshing swim.

Day 8

## Aït Bouguemez

Begin today's hike around the valley and to the Granary of Tabat in the morning. Then have lunch with a local family before a free evening to enjoy the area on your own. Dinner is included at the hotel tonight.



### Meals included

Breakfast | Lunch | Dinner



### Accommodation

Ecolodge Dar Itrane (or similar)

Hotel



### Today's Activities

Free Time

Aït Bouguemez

Enjoy free time in the beautiful valley setting of Aït Bouguemez on your own in the late afternoon and evening.

Aït Bouguemez Valley Hike & Granaries Visit

Aït Bouguemez

4h

12km

The Aït Bouguemez valley is enclosed by the towering High Atlas Mountains and a beautiful patchwork of fields stretched across the banks of a river. All throughout those fields are Berber villages continuing a traditional way of life. Walk through the valley on this hike and climb a nearby hill to visit the collective granary and learn a bit about the history of the structure and how the local villages utilized it to protect their harvests.

Head back to Marrakech today stopping by a G for Good project along the way for an introduction to the work being done in the local community. The tour ends upon arrival in Marrakech.

Please do not book onward travel prior to 6pm.



## Meals included

Breakfast | Lunch



## Today's Activities

Private Vehicle

Aït Bouguemez - Marrakech

4h30m-5h

Settle in and scan the scenery from the convenience of a private vehicle.

### ACTIVITY

Head to the Zarbiat Achbarou Cooperative for a visit and to learn more about the work this G Adventures-supported initiative is doing to support the local community and preserve cultural heritage. First see the organic tree nursery started alongside a historic Jewish cemetery, and learn more about the project while having lunch and talking with the women who are gaining financial independence here as part of the community.

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## What are the main highlights of this trip?

Travel to some of Morocco's unique locally favorite destinations like Icht and Tiznit for village tours and local market visits, Enjoy a cooking demonstration of Madfouna and Tajin while in the desert of Zagora, Visit the historic ksar of Ait Ben Haddou along the former caravan route between the Sahara and Marrakech, Hike along trails in the High Atlas Mountain area of the country

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## Is there a disclaimer I should read before booking this trip?

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## Is there an itinerary Disclaimer?

While it is our intention to adhere to the route described below, there is a certain amount of flexibility built into the itinerary and on occasion it may be necessary, or desirable to make alterations. The itinerary is brief, as we never know exactly where our journey will take us. Due to our style of travel and the regions we visit, travel can be unpredictable. The Trip Details document is a general guide to the tour and region and any mention of specific destinations or wildlife is by no means a guarantee that they will be visited or encountered. Aboard expedition trips visits to research stations depend on final permission.

Additionally, any travel times listed are approximations only and subject to vary due to local circumstances.

## What important notes should I be aware of before the trip?

### 1. ACCOMMODATION NOTE:

Please be aware that properties we stay in with only two stories may not have elevators installed and climbing the stairs with your luggage will be necessary.

### 2. WEATHER

Please note that the climate in Morocco can be both very hot during the day in summer months (up to 50°C) and cold at night in the mountains in autumn, early spring and winter (down to -6°C). Summer months, from April to September are very hot throughout Morocco. Winter months November to March can be cool to cold, especially in the Atlas Mountains, with high probability of snowfall. Most Moroccan buildings are not equipped with heating, so without proper layers you will be cold at night. Please bring appropriate clothing for the months in which you are travelling and check temperatures before you leave. Bedding is provided in the desert camp and the gîte, but in winter months if you feel the cold you may wish to bring a sleeping bag too.

### 3. RAMADAN

According to the lunar cycle, Ramadan will fall between Feb 7<sup>th</sup> - Mar 8<sup>th</sup> 2027, and Jan 27<sup>th</sup> - Feb 25<sup>th</sup> 2028. Please note that Ramadan is a month of fasting observed by Muslims throughout the world, during which time the followers of Islam should not eat or drink between sunrise and sunset. There may be some limitations to services and disruptions to schedules during Ramadan, but generally our tours still operate effectively during this period and food is available to non-Muslims throughout the day. It is very important to display increased cultural sensitivity during Ramadan. Please wear loose fitting clothes, that cover knees and shoulders, and try to avoid eating, drinking or smoking in public out of respect for those who can't at that time.

### 4. AID AL-ADHA

During your visit to this country, we would like to inform you about an important celebration called Aid Al-Adha. This holiday may impact your travel experience, as most shops and restaurants are closed during the celebration. Some of the historical places we visit might also be closed during this time. There will be a shorter number of staff at the hotels and less crowded streets on the day of the celebration. Aid Al-Adha will fall between May 16-20<sup>th</sup> 2027, and May 4-7<sup>th</sup> 2028.

### 5. COMBO TRIP

Please note that this tour combines with other G Adventures tours. As such, the staff and some travel companions on your tour may have previously been traveling together with G Adventures, prior to Day 1 of your tour. Likewise, some staff and travel companions may be continuing together on another G Adventures tour, after your trip concludes.

## What is the group leader like?

This G Adventures group trip is accompanied by one of our group leaders, otherwise known as a Chief Experience Officer (CEO). As the group coordinator and manager, the aim of the CEO is to take the hassle out of your travels and to help you have the best trip possible. You can expect them to have a broad general knowledge of Morocco, including historical, cultural, religious and social aspects. They will also offer suggestions for things to do and to see, recommend great local eating venues and introduce you to our local friends.

We also use certified local city guides where we think more specific knowledge will add to the enjoyment of the places we are visiting - we think it's the best of both worlds.

## How large will the group be?

Max 14, avg 10.

## What meals are included in this trip?

8 breakfasts, 4 lunches, 5 dinners

## What are the meals like on this trip?

Generally meals are not included in the trip price when there is a choice of eating options, to give you the maximum flexibility in deciding where, what and with whom to eat. It also gives you more budgeting flexibility, though generally food is cheap. Our groups tend to eat together to enable you to taste a larger variety of dishes and enjoy each other's company. There is no obligation to do this though. Your CEO will be able to suggest favourite restaurants during your trip. For all trips please refer to the meals included and budget information for included meals and meal budgets.

### Breakfasts

Moroccan breakfasts tend to be different from your usual cereal and toast morning fare – most will be very simple - a croissant or sweet roll with jam and instant coffee and some hotels will have buffets where you will have more variety. While you are experiencing what a Moroccan family would eat, some travellers do find the provided breakfasts a bit “bread heavy” and enjoy buying fruit the day before to supplement their breakfast.

### Lunches and Dinners

Moroccan cuisine is world famous and your CEO will be taking the chance to show you the best of it. Staples include cous cous, a type of grain topped with stew, tagine which is actually the name of the pot this tasty dish is cooked in, and brochette, bbq skewers of meat. These meals will generally cost between 10-15 USD per meal depending on the type of restaurant and which part of the country you are in. Other tastes not to be missed include pastilla, a sweet pasty with a savoury filling which is traditionally pigeon and harira, a delicious soup based on chick peas and filling enough when teamed with fresh bread to be a whole lunch. If you are heading to the coast the fresh seafood cooked at one of the local markets is a must eat!

### Snacks

Morocco's fresh orange juice is highly recommended and you should not leave without trying a glass. The brave can try the tiny snails which are perhaps the local's favourite snack but you might prefer a cone of piping hot bite-size fried cake donuts.

## What are the modes of transportation on my trip?

Private vehicle, camels, walking

## Where will we stay during the trip?

Hotels (7 nts), Desert Camp (1 nt).

## What kind of accommodation can I expect on this trip?

On this trip you can expect to stay in local hotels or pensions (with the exception of the start and finish hotels, which are often larger city hotels), which will vary a little in standard and facilities: some may not have elevators, air-conditioning or English-speaking staff, but most importantly all are locally-run, with some traditional character, and in excellent central locations to give you maximum time for exploring the sights. Where a town has both an ancient medina and a "ville nouvelle" we generally stay in the ville nouvelle, both because the standard of hotels is higher, and because travellers (especially women) often find the medinas at night a little confronting.

Please note that Morocco is a developing country and as such the infrastructure is not as reliable as you would expect at home. Expect quirky plumbing and the odd cold shower!

## What are the joining instructions?

For details of your joining hotel please refer to your tour voucher, G Account, the G Adventures App or contact your travel agent.

If you would like to book an airport Arrival transfer for your tour, please contact our Sales Team or your Travel Agent in advance of travel.

If you have paid in advance for an arrival transfer, a G Adventures representative will be at the airport (outside of Terminal 2) to meet you. If for any reason you are not met at the airport, please call our local support line. If you are unable to make contact for whatever reason, please make your way to the joining point hotel via taxi.

Please note that day 1 is an arrival day and no activities have been planned on this day.

Upon arrival to your Joining Hotel (note that check-in time will be in the afternoon), look for a note or bulletin board in the reception with a note from your CEO. This note will give the details of your Welcome Meeting on day 1 (usually between 5pm and 7pm), where you will get a chance to meet your CEO and other travellers, as well as learn more about how the tour will run. If you don't see a note, please ask reception for details!

If you are arriving later and will miss the Welcome Meeting, your CEO will leave a note at reception for you with any information you may need, and with morning instructions for the next day.

## What happens if I experience problems when arriving?

We don't expect any problems, and nor should you, but if for any reason you are unable to commence your trip as scheduled, please refer to the emergency contact details provided in this dossier and contact us as soon as possible. If you have a pre-booked transfer, and you have not made contact with our representative within 30 minutes of clearing customs and immigration, we recommend that you make your own way to the Starting Point hotel, following the Joining Instructions. Please apply to your travel agent on your return for a refund of the transfer cost if this occurs.

## Who should I contact in case of an emergency?

Should you need to contact us during a situation of dire need, it is best to first call either the G Adventures Local Representative (if one is listed below) or our G Adventures Local Office. If for any reason you do not receive an immediate answer, please leave a detailed message and contact information, so they may return your call and assist you as soon as possible.

### AIRPORT TRANSFER

If you have purchased an arrival through G Adventures or if an arrival transfer is included in the cost of your tour, please note that:

Your arrival transfer has been arranged based on flight information provided to us. If you are advised of a flight schedule change or flight cancellation within 48 hours of your scheduled arrival time, please call the emergency contact number to advise of your new arrival flight information. If you do not, we will not be able to rearrange your arrival transfer and you will need to make your own way to the starting hotel at your own expense. If your arrival transfer does not arrive within 30 minutes after you have exited the arrivals area please take a taxi to your start point hotel.

### EMERGENCY CONTACT NUMBERS

Regional Office Emergency Contact Number: +212 662 312 072

Arrival or Departure Transfer Emergency Phone Number: +212 661 861 950

If you are unable for any reason to contact our local office, please call the numbers listed below which will connect you directly with our Sales team who will happily assist you. Hours of operation by region can be found [here](#).

Toll-free, North America only: 1 888 800 4100

Calls from UK: 0344 272 0000

Calls from Germany: 0800 365 1000

Calls from Australia: 1 300 796 618

Calls from New Zealand: 0800 333 307

Outside North America, Australia, New Zealand, Germany and the UK: +1 416 260 0999

## What instructions should I follow at the finishing point?

Your flight must depart no earlier than: 18:00 on Day 9

# What should be on my packing list?

## Cold weather:

- Long-sleeved shirts or sweater
- Scarf
- Warm gloves
- Warm hat
- Warm layers

## Documents:

- Flight info (required) (Printouts of e-tickets may be required at the border)
- Insurance info (required) (With photocopies)
- Passport (required) (With photocopies)
- Vouchers and pre-departure information (required)
- Visas or vaccination certificates (With photocopies)

## Essentials:

- Toiletries (required) (Shampoo, bodywash, soap, etc.)
- Binoculars (optional)
- Camera (With extra memory cards and batteries)
- Cash, credit and debit cards
- Day pack (Used for daily excursions or short overnights)
- Ear plugs
- First-aid kit (should contain lip balm with sunscreen, sunscreen, whistle, Aspirin, Ibuprofen, bandaids/plasters, tape, anti-histamines, antibacterial gel/wipes, antiseptic cream, Imodium or similar tablets for mild cases of diarrhea, rehydration powder, water purification tablets or drops, insect repellent, sewing kit, extra prescription drugs you may be taking)
- Flashlight/torch (Headlamps are ideal)
- Fleece top/sweater
- Footwear
- Hat
- Headphones (Noise-cancelling recommended)
- Locks for bags
- Long pants/jeans
- Moneybelt
- Outlet adapter
- Personal entertainment (Reading and writing materials, cards, music player, etc.)
- Reusable water bottle
- Shirts/t-shirts
- Sleepwear
- Small travel towel
- Sunglasses
- Swimwear
- Watch and alarm clock
- Waterproof backpack cover
- Windproof rain jacket

**Health & Safety:**

- Face masks (Clients will be only be required to wear a face mask where it is mandated by local regulations.)
- Hand sanitizer
- Pen (Please bring your own pen for filling out documents.)

**Warm Weather:**

- Sandals/flip-flops
- Sturdy water shoes/sandals
- Shorts/skirts (Longer shorts/skirts are recommended)
- Sun hat/bandana
- Swimwear

## When can I do my laundry on this trip?

Laundry facilities are offered by some of our hotels for a charge. There will be times when you may want to or have to do your own laundry so we suggest you bring non-polluting/biodegradable soap.

## What the visas and entry requirements for my trip?

All countries require a valid passport (with a minimum 6 months validity). Contact your local embassy or consulate for the most up-to-date visa requirements, or see your travel agent. It is your own responsibility to have the correct travel documentation. Visa requirements for your trip will vary depending on where you are from and where you are going. We keep the following information up to date as far as possible, but rules do change and sometimes without warning. While we provide the following information in good faith, it is vital that you check the information yourself and understand that you are fully responsible for your own visa requirements.

Please be aware that visa requirements vary by nationality; citizens of certain countries, such as South Africa, may be subject to additional documentation requests. Since these official requirements are determined on a case-by-case basis and can be unpredictable, we strongly recommend applying for your visa well in advance. Should the embassy or consulate request further supporting documents, please contact us immediately for assistance.

Visa information specific to your destination and nationality can be found in our Important Pre-Departure Information page [here](#)

## Where can I read detailed notes about this trip?

### Climate:

The climate in Morocco is Mediterranean along the coast, becoming more extreme towards the interior of the country. The winter months are from October to March and are characterized by cold nights and pleasant days. Summer is from April to September and starts off very pleasantly with moderate temperatures until mid-June when temperatures get extremely hot, to return to more moderate heat in late September. Inland, the climate is very dry and high temperatures predominate during the day for most of the year, except in the higher mountain areas. It rains generally only in short bursts in the period from the beginning of November until March.

### Electricity:

Morocco uses 220V, 50Hz and plugs are two prong rounded (as for Europe).

### Languages:

Arabic is the official language of Morocco, spoken in the distinctive Moroccan dialect. Approximately 40% of the population (mainly in rural areas) speak Amazigh in one of its three different dialects (Tarafit, Tashelhiyt and Tamazight). French is Morocco's unofficial second language and is taught universally, serving as the country's primary language in economics and commerce, as well as being widely used in education and government. Many Moroccans in the north of the country speak Spanish and English is widely spoken in tourist areas.

### Capital city: Rabat

Principal ethnic groups: 30% Arab, 60% Amazigh

Religion: Islam is the official state religion with almost the entire population being Sunni Muslim. 1% are Christian and about 0.2% are Jewish.

## What should I know about currency, credit cards, and exchanging money while on this tour?

The local currency in Morocco is the Moroccan Dirham (MAD).

ATMs are very common in Morocco with Cirrus and Plus system cards are the most widely accepted debit cards. While ATMs are commonly available, there are no guarantees that your credit or debit cards will actually work - it is important you check with your bank before departure and advisable to travel with more than one type of card.

Visa cards are the most widely accepted credit cards, but are generally only useful for larger/expensive purchases. You should be aware when purchasing products or services on a credit card, that a fee usually applies.

The foreign currency most commonly accepted in Morocco is the Euro. You will be able to exchange Euros, as well as GBP and USD at money exchange offices in major cities.

Do not rely on credit or debit cards as your only source of money. A combination of cash (Euro/GBP or USD) and cards is best.

As currency exchange rates can fluctuate often we ask that you refer to the following website for daily exchange rates:

[www.xe.com](http://www.xe.com)

## How much emergency money should I bring on this trip?

Please also make sure you have access to at least an additional USD \$200 (or equivalent) as an 'emergency' fund, to be used when circumstances outside our control (ex. a natural disaster) require a change to our planned route. This is a rare occurrence!

## Should I be tipping on my trip?

Tipping is a way of life in Morocco. Locals themselves will usually tip anyone who provides them with services. In many cases, people depend on the tips they receive to supplement the low salary and wages of Morocco.

While on tour in Morocco, it is customary and even expected to tip small service providers such as restaurant and bar waiters, hotel staff, reception, cleaning personnel, bell boys, taxis and van drivers. Tips are regarded as an essential means of supplementing income for those working in the tourism industry.

To make things as easy as possible and avoid embarrassing situations, G Adventures has developed a tipping kitty system where your CEO will collect a contribution from everybody at the start of your tour and use this kitty to tip anybody who has provided services to the group as a whole. On Day 1 of your tour, your CEO will be able to advise on the amount required from everybody to form the tipping kitty for your trip. (this does not include your G Adventures CEO). You can pay in USD or the equivalent local currency (preferably local currency MAD). The CEO will be able to advise you on the exchange rate and the total required in either currency.

If at any time you feel that any service provider failed in maintaining or delivering good service, please bring it immediately to the attention of your CEO so a deduction of tips can take place.

At the end of your trip if you felt that your G Adventures CEO did an outstanding job, tipping is also expected and appreciated. The precise amount is entirely a personal preference, however \$8-11 USD per person per day can be used as a general guideline.

## What activities are optional on this trip?

- No optional activities

## **Are there any health considerations I should know before travelling?**

Please note inoculations may be required for the country visited. It is your responsibility to consult with your travel doctor for up to date medical travel information well before departure.

There are no specific health requirements for this trip. However, you should consult your doctor for up-to-date medical travel information before departure. We recommend that you carry a First Aid kit, hand sanitizers / antibacterial wipes as well as any personal medical requirements. Please be aware that we are in remote areas and away from medical facilities for some time during this trip, and for legal reasons our leaders are prohibited from administering any type of drug including headache tablets, antibiotics, etc.

When selecting your trip please carefully read the G Adventures brochure and itinerary and assess your ability to cope with our style of travel. Please contact us at [travel@gadventures.com](mailto:travel@gadventures.com) should you require any clarification on what is involved on your itinerary. G Adventures reserves the right to exclude any traveller from all or part of a trip without refund if in the reasonable opinion of our CEO they are unable to complete the itinerary without undue risk to themselves and/or the rest of the group.

## **What are the trip specific safety considerations?**

Like anywhere in the world, major cities have areas safer than others, use common sense, be aware of your surroundings and mind your personal belongings.

## **What rules should I know before joining this trip?**

Illegal drugs will not be tolerated on any trips. Possessing or using drugs not only contravenes the laws of the land but also puts the rest of the group at risk. Smoking marijuana and opium is a part of local culture in some parts of the world but is not acceptable for our travellers. Our philosophy of travel is one of respect towards everyone we encounter and in particular the local people who make the world the special place it is. The exploitation of people in the sex trade is completely contrary to this philosophy. Our CEOs have the right to expel any member of the group if drugs are found in their possession or if they utilize the services of paid sex workers, in any capacity.

## **Is travel insurance required for my trip?**

Travel insurance is compulsory in order to participate on any of our trips. When travelling on a group trip, you will not be permitted to join the group until evidence of travel insurance has been sighted by your leader, who will take note of your insurance details. When selecting a travel insurance policy we require that at a minimum you are covered for medical expenses including emergency evacuation and repatriation. A minimum coverage of USD200,000 is required. We strongly recommend that the policy also covers personal liability, cancellation, curtailment and loss of luggage and personal effects. Some tours include adventure activities that require extra coverage (e.g. crampon use); please review your itinerary and make sure that you are covered for all included activities. If you have credit card insurance we require proof of purchase of the trip (a receipt of credit card statement) with a credit card in your name. Contact your bank for details of their participating insurer, the level of coverage and emergency contact telephone number.

## **How should I dress to respect local customs during the tour?**

While visiting mosques and other religious monuments you should dress modestly, cover your shoulders and you shouldn't wear short shorts or skirts. Outside of capital cities and the more touristic centres, local dress is often more conservative and as a matter of respect we ask that both men and women are aware of this and recommend loose-fitting clothes with your shoulders covered. Ask your CEO for more specific advice.

## **How can I share feedback about my trip experience?**

After your travels, we want to hear from you! Your feedback information is so important to us that we'll give you 5% off the price of your next G Adventures trip if your feedback is completed on-line within 30 days of finishing your trip. Your tour evaluation will be e-mailed to you 24 hours after the conclusion of your trip. If you do not receive the tour evaluation link in the days after your tour has finished, please drop us a line at [customersolutions@gadventures.com](mailto:customersolutions@gadventures.com) and we will send it on to you.

## **How old must I be to join this trip?**

You must be 18 to travel unaccompanied on a G Adventures tour. For minors travelling with a guardian over 21 years old, the minimum age is 12.

## **Are international flights included in this trip?**

No, international flights are generally not included in the price of your tour.

However, on some combo tours travelling between two different countries, international flights are included as part of the itinerary and price of the tour. Please speak to your GCO or booking agent for further details.

In addition, check-in times and baggage allowances/restrictions vary by airline and can change at any time. For the most up-to-date information for your flight, please contact your airline. We recommend checking in online in advance to avoid potential delays at the airport.

## **What should LGBTQ+ travellers know about safety and travel considerations on this trip?**

The safety and well-being of all of our travelers is a priority at G Adventures and that includes our travelers who identify as part of the LGBTQ+ community. We recognize that there are specific concerns and questions you may have about your adventure in terms of safety and security. We encourage you to visit our [LGBTQ+ page](#) for useful resources to ensure you feel safe and comfortable throughout the duration of your trip. The Equaldex tool linked on this page can be of particular help when deciding where you may want to visit next.

## Dossier Disclaimer

The information in this trip details document has been compiled with care and is provided in good faith. However it is subject to change, and does not form part of the contract between the client and the operator. The itinerary featured is correct at time of printing. It may differ slightly to the one in the brochure. Occasionally our itineraries change as we make improvements that stem from past travellers, comments and our own research. Sometimes it can be a small change like adding an extra meal along the itinerary. Sometimes the change may result in us altering the tour for the coming year. Ultimately, our goal is to provide you with the most rewarding experience. Please note that our brochure is usually released in November each year. If you have booked from the previous brochure you may find there have been some changes to the itinerary.

**VERY IMPORTANT:** Please ensure that you print a final copy of your Trip Details to review a couple of days prior to travel, in case there have been changes that affect your plans.

## Itinerary Disclaimer

While it is our intention to adhere to the route described below, there is a certain amount of flexibility built into the itinerary and on occasion it may be necessary, or desirable to make alterations. The itinerary is brief, as we never know exactly where our journey will take us. Due to our style of travel and the regions we visit, travel can be unpredictable. The Trip Details document is a general guide to the tour and region and any mention of specific destinations or wildlife is by no means a guarantee that they will be visited or encountered. Aboard expedition trips visits to research stations depend on final permission.

Additionally, any travel times listed are approximations only and subject to vary due to local circumstances.