



Morocco: Historic Cities & Sand Dunes of the Sahara

12 days, Casablanca to Marrakech

Trip code DCBM

What's included

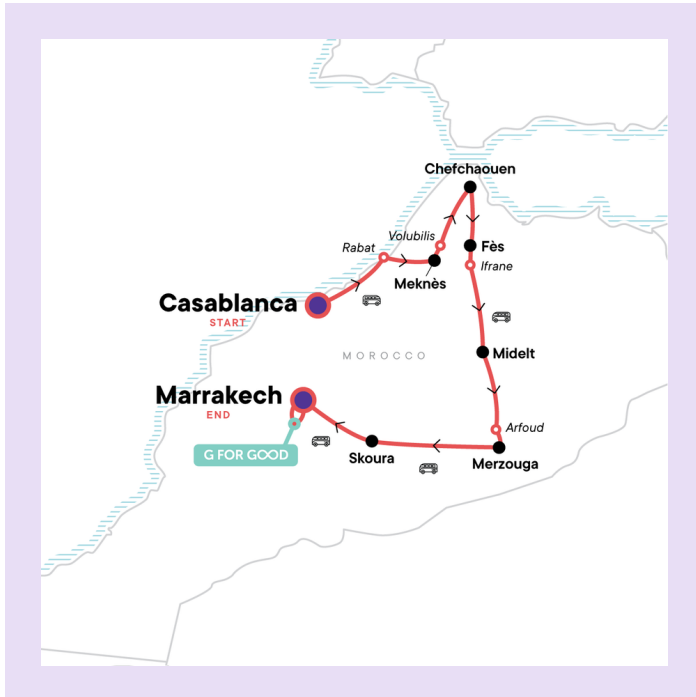
- Your G for Good Moment: Zarbiat Achbarou Cooperative Visit, Marrakech
- Your Welcome Moment: Meet Your CEO and Group
- Your Foodie Moment: Traditional Dinner in Fés, Fès
- Your Foodie Moment: Lunch with a Local Family Midelt, Midelt
- Visit to Hassan II Mosque
- City visit of Rabat
- Meknes medina walking tour
- Volubilis guided visit
- CEO-led walk of Chefchaouen
- Guided tour of Fes medina
- Lunch inside a traditional Riad
- Stop in Ifrane for tea
- Learn about the art of Henna from local women
- Hike through Berber Villages in the foothills of the Atlas Mountains
- Visit the town of Arfoud and learn about the production of dates
- Ride on camels to the desert camp
- Watch sunset atop a sand dune
- Enjoy a Berber dance performance and dinner by firelight
- 4x4 ride through Erg Chebbi's dunes
- Medfouna cooking class in Taous village
- Guided city tour to the Valley of One Thousand Kasbahs
- Ait Ben Haddou visit
- Cross Tishka pass en route to Marrakech
- Optional CEO-led walk of Marrakech's city centre
- City tour with Bahia Palace, the Ben Youssef Madrasa, Koutoubia Mosque, and Marrakech medina
- All transport between destinations and to/from included activities

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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 October 25th, 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

Casablanca

Arrive at any time. Attend a welcome meeting in the evening to get to know your fellow travellers and CEO. Then, choose to attend an optional group dinner to close out the evening.

If you're looking for more time in Casablanca, we recommend booking a pre-night and exploring some of the many amazing sites in the city.



Accommodation

Kyriad Residence Casablanca Centre Ville (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

Casablanca/Meknès

Enjoy some breakfast at the hotel and then visit the Hassan II Mosque, which is one of the largest in the world and can accommodate up to 25,000 worshippers inside and 80,000 in the courtyards. Travel northwest towards Rabat and tour the city with a local guide to learn about the history as a Roman settlement and home to pirates. Visit Kasbah des Oudaias, a walled quarter with gardens and pretty views of the Atlantic Ocean. Stroll through the city's medina and souks with a stop at one of the stalls for mint tea and Moroccan sweets. From there the group will walk to the Mohamed the 5th Mausoleum and the iconic 12th-century minaret known as the Hassan Tower. Lunch will be had on your own at a spot in Rabat before travelling onwards to Meknès, the former capital of the country. Enjoy some time to rest and relax at the hotel, or maybe choose to find a nearby restaurant for dinner.



Meals included

Breakfast



Accommodation

Hotel Swani (or similar)

Hotel



Today's Activities

Private Vehicle

Casablanca - Meknès

4h30m

240km

Settle in and scan the scenery from the comfort of your private vehicle between Casablanca and Meknès. Along the way there will be a stop in Rabat for a city tour.

Rabat City Tour

Rabat

2h

Meet your local guide for a tour of Rabat. Learn about the city's history as you walk the streets and visit the Kasbah des Oudaias, a walled quarter with beautiful gardens and views of the Atlantic Ocean. Then wander through the Medina and Souks for a true sense of the local atmosphere daily crowd. Once inside the group will make a stop for mint tea and a few Moroccan sweets. Cap off the visit with Hassan Tower after going to the Mohamed V Mausoleum. A well-rounded experience in a unique place.

Day 3

Meknès/Chefchaouen

Start the day on the streets of Meknes' old medina and vibrant market stalls with loads of handicrafts. Then spend time visiting various historical sites before travelling to ancient Volubilis for an inside look at Morocco's culture at the partly-excavated Berber-Roman city. Walk along the ancient hilltop ruins with a local expert guide and see the town's mosaics for yourself. Head onwards to Chefchaouen, or the 'Blue City' as it is so fondly known. The evening will be spent free at the hotel for downtime.



Meals included

Breakfast



Accommodation

Torre Hadra (or similar)

Guesthouse



Today's Activities

Meknes Visit & Tour

Meknès

2h

Arrive to Meknes and set off on a tour of the city with a local guide. Visit historical landmarks like Bab Mansour, Bab El Khmiss, and the bustling souk area of Meknes with stalls selling spices, handicrafts, clothes, and food in a lively, fast-paced atmosphere. Make a stop by Dar Jamai, the National Museum of Music and learn about Morocco's musical heritage and traditions. Finish up at the Mausoleum of Moulay Ismail. Have lunch on your own at one of the local spots nearby.

Private Vehicle

Meknès - Volubilis

45m

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

Volubilis Guided Tour

Volubilis

1h30m-2h

Listen to a certified local guide explain life in the Roman Empire at this UNESCO World Heritage site. Visit the impressive, well-preserved Roman ruins. Peer into old bathhouses, marvel at the still-present mosaic floors, and gaze up at towering marble pillars. Hear stories about life in this Roman city that will leave you in awe of just how far their empire stretched.

Private Vehicle

Volubilis - Chefchaouen

4h

160km

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

Day 4

Chefchaouen/Fès

In the morning, set off on a CEO-led walking tour of Chefchaouen and witness the beautiful blue alleys and charm of this place for yourself. Stop by the medina and the Kasbah of Chefchaouen. Free time will be given for lunch in the area before the drive to Fes. The group will arrive in the early evening and enjoy a traditional dinner experience together featuring staples of Moroccan cuisine.



Meals included

Breakfast | Dinner



Accommodation

Hotel Zahrat Al Jabal (or similar)

Hotel



Today's Activities

Chefchaouen CEO-led Orientation Walk

Chefchaouen

2h

Join your CEO guided visit of the blue city. Begin at the hotel and then climb up the stairs to explore the incredible blue streets. Pass by the historic Kasbah dating back to the 15th century and get to know this unique Moroccan city. Finish the walk at Rass Elma and climb to the Spanish Mosque to take in the expansive view of the Rif Mountains.

Private Vehicle

Chefchaouen - Fès

5h

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

ACTIVITY

After arriving to the hotel in Fés in the late afternoon, you will join the group for a delicious dinner of city's culinary delights like the sweet and salty pastilla. In Fés it's typical for it to be served as a dessert and known as Jowhara, or "Pastilla with milk" This pie is a staple of the region and definitely a must-try while in Morocco.

Day 5

Fès

Discover the fascinating city of Fes in the cultural heart of the country. Join an expert guide and head into the vibrant, noisy, and sensory overwhelming city medina. Enter through one of the great gates into the chaos. Spend time exploring the artisans' quarters as well as the many carpenters, bakers, butchers, and spice sellers that you pass along the way. Arrive back at the hotel in the late afternoon for a free evening in Fes.



Meals included

Breakfast



Accommodation

Hotel Zahrat Al Jabal (or similar)

Hotel



Today's Activities

Fez Medina Guided Tour

Fez

Follow a local guide through the Fez medina, one of the world's largest medinas with more than 9000 winding streets lying within 365 hectares. See buildings in the medina that date back to the 9th century; there are 350 mosques in the medina that are still in use today. Enter through one of the great gates into the chaos. Explore the artisans' quarters as well as the many carpenters, bakers, butchers, and spice sellers. Visit the mausoleum and the Al Qarawiyn University. A highlight of the tour is the view of the famous Fez tannery from the balcony of a leather shop, where you can observe the men hard at work treating and dyeing the different hides. Take some time to shop for leather goods before returning to your hotel.

Free Time

Fès

Immerse yourself in this new city. Where to go, what to eat, the choice is all yours.



Optional Activities - Day 5

Ville Nouvelle Exploration

Fez

Free

30m-1h

Hit the newer part of Fez to see life in action. Find a sidewalk café to sip mint tea and watch everyday life go by.

Day 6

Fès/Midelt

Travel towards the simplistic nature of the High Atlas Mountains and drive south and inland through fertile valleys and rocky landscapes to the off-the-beaten path town of Midelt. There will be a stop along the way to Ifrane for tea and to learn more about this tiny Switzerland town of Morocco. In the market town of Midelt, lunch will be had with a local family in the area featuring a traditional home-cooked meal highlighting the authentic flavours of Berber cuisine. Stretch those legs with a walk through the lovely Berber villages in the foothills of the Atlas Mountains near town before an introduction to the ancient art of henna from a group of local women. Check-in to the hotel in the late afternoon and opt to swim in the pool before dinner this evening.



Meals included

Breakfast | Lunch | Dinner



Accommodation

Hotel Kasbah Asmaa Midelt (or similar)

Hotel



Today's Activities

Private Vehicle

Fès - Midelt

4h-6h

Sit back and scan the scenery from the comfort of your private vehicle between Fes and Midelt. There will be a stop along the way in Ifrane to break up the journey.

ACTIVITY

Upon arrival to Midelt the group will sit down for lunch at the home of a local family and have a traditional home-cooked meal. Savour the delicious flavours of Berber cuisine and enjoy the hospitality of local women using the cooking methods passed down through generations. Learn more about the region's culinary heritage while getting a taste of it for yourself.

Berber Village Walk in the Foothills of the Atlas Mountains

Midelt

2h

Set off on a peaceful and scenic walk through the lovely Berber villages in the foothills of the Atlas Mountains. As you walk through apple orchards and farmland, you'll be treated to beautiful mountain views. Along the way, you may meet friendly locals and smell the apple blossoms in the air. Get a closer

look at rural life while enjoying the fresh air, scenic landscape, and witness the daily goings-on of the locals. The flat, well-marked path is easy to follow, making it perfect for all skill levels. As you walk through apple orchards and farmland, you'll be treated to beautiful mountain views. Along the way, you may meet friendly locals and experience the calm of village life. The fresh smell of apple blossoms fills the air, making this an easy, relaxing, and memorable experience.

Ancient Art of Henna with Local Women

Midelt

1h

After today's rewarding walk/hike, sit down and experience the ancient art of henna from skilled local women. They will adorn your hands with intricate designs which are cherished among the Berber community.

Day 7

Midelt/Merzouga

Travel through the changing scenery on the journey to the towering dunes of Erg Chebbi outside of Merzouga and just across the border from Algeria. Stop along the way to visit the town of Arfoud. It's here that you'll learn about date production and you can buy a desert scarf. Upon arrival to Merzouga the group will climb atop the camels and ride to the desert camp where a cup of tea will be served. Hike up the nearest dune for sunset before a delicious dinner by firelight at the camp accompanied by the melodies of Berber musicians. Fall asleep peacefully under the stars.



Meals included

Breakfast | Dinner



Accommodation

Camp- Auberge Dunes D'Or Camp (or similar)

Campground



Today's Activities

Private Vehicle

Midelt - Merzouga

5h-6h

Sit back and scan the scenery from the comfort of your private vehicle between Midelt and Merzouga. Stop along the way in the town of Arfoud.

Arfoud Visit

Arfoud

Pause along the journey to Merzouga in the picturesque town of Arfoud. Often celebrated as the, "Fossil Capital of Morocco" there are plenty of cultural and natural wonders of the Sahara region to discover during your time here. Arfoud is nestled within the heart of Morocco's southeastern expanse and also boasts some of the friendliest people you will ever meet.

Camel Ride

Merzouga

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. Local guides will teach you how to mount and dismount and other handy camel-related safety tips.

Sunset Dune Climb

Erg Chebbi

After getting settled at camp the group will meet back up and climb to the top of the nearest dune to watch an amazing sunset over the rolling hills of sand.

Day 8

Merzouga

Wake with the sun and have breakfast at camp surrounded by dunes. Hop on 4x4s for an adventurous journey through Erg Chebbi's captivating landscape and learn more about the secrets of kohl at a nearby mine. Deeper in the region the group will encounter the welcoming Amazigh nomads and learn about their fascinating ways of life amid the harsh realities of the desert. Share in the warmth of their hospitality as you savour some refreshing mint tea in one of their traditional dwellings. At the nearby charming village of Khamlia the group will learn the rich history of Gnaoua music and be treated to a performance, which holds a special place in the Sahara's cultural tapestry. Travel to Taous village for today's Medfouna class and discover the steps to making this traditional dish. Sample your creations before travelling back to Merzouga in the 4x4 for some free time and a bonfire with dinner and music to cap off the night.



Meals included

Breakfast | Lunch | Dinner



Accommodation

Auberge Dunes D'Or (or similar)

Hotel



Today's Activities

Desert Immersion Experience in Erg Chebbi

Erg Chebbi

8h

Board a 4x4 and cruise into the breathtaking panorama of Erg Chebbi's sand dunes and stop at a Kohl mine to learn about this ancient mineral. Deeper in the region you will encounter the welcoming Amazigh nomads and be able to immerse yourself in their ways of life. Sip some mint tea in the heart of their traditional dwellings before continuing on to the village of Khamlia where you'll learn about Gnaoua music. Later, delight in a Medfouna cooking demonstration in Taous village and savor the delicious traditional dish after your lesson.

Merzouga Traditional Dinner Experience

Merzouga

After arriving to your accommodation for the night, slip into the traditional attire laying on your bed and indulge in a desert-infused dinner at the camp's restaurant by the warm glow of a fire. Local Amazigh musicians will play enchanting melodies for you beneath the sprawling desert sky.

Day 9

Merzouga/Skoura

Travel to Skoura, an oasis city famed for its date palms and imagine discovering this haven after days or months travelling through the desert. Enjoy the views of the snowcapped Atlas Mountains in the distance and listen as your guide offers commentary on Skoura's significance, and provides an overview of the landscape and its defining features. The rest of the day will be spent back at the hotel with free time to enjoy the pool and cool town after a day in the heat. Dinner will be had at the hotel this evening as a group.



Meals included

Breakfast | Lunch | Dinner



Accommodation

Dar Panorama Skoura (or similar)

Hotel



Today's Activities

Private Vehicle

Merzouga - Skoura

6h

Sit back and scan the scenery from the comfort of your private vehicle. There will be a stop along the way to the town of Tinghir to break up the journey.

Valley of One Thousand Kasbahs Guided Visit

Skoura

1h

Skoura is a fertile oasis lined with large palm groves and this is where the group will set off on a guided city tour of the Valley of One Thousand Kasbahs. Enjoy the views of the snowcapped Atlas Mountains in the distance alongside a desert landscape. Along the way your guide will offer commentary on Skoura's significance, and provide an overview of the landscape and its defining features. There will be stops along the way at key interest points so that photos can be taken. The walk will start and end at the hotel.

Free Time

Skoura

Spend a relaxing evening at the hotel enjoying the many amenities on the property.

Drive along the winding roads of the Atlas crossing Tishka pass with unforgettable views of the countryside and surrounding mountains en route to Marrakech, a city steeped in both history and modernity. Along the way pay a visit to the iconic Ait Ben Haddou, perched on a hilltop and almost unchanged since the 11th century. You may recognize it from a long list of film and TV credits, including Lawrence of Arabia, Game of Thrones and Gladiator. Enjoy a walk through the winding streets of the old town, make your way to the top of the hill, and stare at the views across the surrounding plains. Later, for anyone interested, your CEO will be leading a guided walk to explore the city centre of Marrakech known as Gueliz. Head to the public square and finish out your day at a local spot for dinner on your own.



Meals included

Breakfast



Accommodation

YAAD Hotel Marrakech (or similar)

Hotel



Today's Activities

Private Vehicle

Skoura - Marrakech

4h-4h30m

235km

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

Ait Ben Haddou Kasbah Tour

Ait Ben Haddou

2h-3h

Explore the UNESCO World Heritage site and kasbah of Ait 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, Ait Ben Haddou has been used in many film and television productions like Gladiator, Babel, and Game of Thrones.

Gueliz Walk With CEO

Marrakech

2h-2h30m

Your CEO will be leading a guided walk to explore Gueliz and you are welcome to join or stay behind at the hotel. This city centre of Marrakech is a great place to learn more about the local history and see evidence of it as you walk. The route will end at Menara Gardens, built in the 12th century by the Almohad ruler Abd al-Mu'min.

Visit the Zarbiat Achbarou Cooperative today outside of Marrakech starting with the tree nursery and the ancient Jewish Cemetery with a local caretaker. Then, hear more about the project details at the women's cooperative where women who have been challenged by social norms can create a hopeful future for themselves and their families. Sit down for a hands-on weaving experience and an early lunch made by the women of Zarbiat Achbarou.

Back in Marrakech the group will explore the tranquil courtyards, and the many salons and chambers that make up Bahia Palace. This splendid mansion was built in 1866 for a former slave who rose to power within the government. Then, see the Ben Youssef Madrasa, a 14th-century Islamic college known for its beautiful Moorish architecture and intricate tilework. Start the guided visit of Marrakech's medina and prepare for a fully immersive experience of the sights, sounds, smells, and tastes of this incredible market. The optional farewell dinner tonight will be at a local food stall within the Djemaa el-Fnaa square.



Meals included

Breakfast | Lunch



Accommodation

YAAD Hotel Marrakech (or similar)

Hotel



Today's Activities

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.

Bahia Palace Visit

Marrakech

1h-2h

The name "Bahia," translates to "brilliance," and reflect the palace's beauty and the ambition behind its creation. The palace showcases a blend of Islamic and Moroccan architectural styles, featuring

intricate marquetry, stunning tile work, and ornate ceilings. Its design includes several riads (traditional Moroccan houses with interior gardens), a harem section, and a grand courtyard, which was used for entertaining distinguished guests.

Ali Ben Youssef Medersa

Marrakech

Visit the Ben Youssef Madrasa, an Islamic college in Marrakech built in the 14th-century and reconstructed in the 16th-century. Rebuilt by the Saadian Sultan Abdallah al-Ghalib in 1564, it housed up to 800 students across 130 small dormitory cells. Explore the fine example of Moroccan craftsmanship, featuring a central marble courtyard with a reflective pool, elaborate Zellij tilework, and intricate carvings in cedar wood and stucco.

Marrakech Medina Guided Tour

Marrakech

Enjoy a guided visit of Marrakech's mighty medina starting by Koutibia mosque. Standing as the city's largest mosque, this structure was a prime example of the 12th-century Almohad architecture and its defining feature is the towering 77-meter minaret, visible throughout the city. Head into the maze of tiny streets and alleyways of the ancient medina to really get a taste of everyday life in Marrakech. Shop to your heart's content in the souk and seek out spices, traditional jalabas and slippers, or the famous Moroccan lanterns.

Day 12

Marrakech

Depart at any time.

Opt to get up early and catch the sunrise over Marrakech by pre-booking the Hot Air Balloon excursion. Please ensure you allow enough time to return from the activity when planning your onward journey.



Meals included

Breakfast



Today's Activities

Departure Day

Not ready to leave? Your CEO can help with travel arrangements to extend your adventure.



Optional Activities - Day 12

Hot Air Balloon Marrakech

Marrakech

Get an early start and watch the sunrise over the red dust, palm groves, and majestic open landscapes of Marrakech from a hot air balloon. After soaking up the sights, refuel with an authentic Amazigh breakfast in a Moroccan tent.

*Please note if you purchase the Marrakech Hot Air Balloon ride on the final day of your tour you will not finish until 10am. We recommend booking your departing flight no earlier than 1pm to ensure you have enough time to make it to the airport.

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What are the main highlights of this trip?

See the impressive ruins of Volubilis on a guided visit, Explore Morocco's Blue City with a CEO-led tour through Chefchaouen's vibrant streets and colourful alleys, Immerse yourself in the Fés medina on a guided tour and end with a delicious meal in a traditional riad, Ride a camel across the Sahara's red dunes to a desert camp, Join local women for a homemade lunch at a community cooperative near Marrakech

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

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Is there a travel disclaimer for my itinerary I should review before booking this trip?

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 is the role of the group leader during this trip?

All G Adventures group trips are accompanied by one of our Chief Experience Officer's (CEO). The aim of the CEO is to take the hassle out of your travels and to help you have the best trip possible. They will provide information on the places you are traveling through, offer suggestions for things to do and see, recommend great local eating venues and introduce you to our local friends. While not being guides in the traditional sense you can expect them to have a broad general knowledge of the countries visited on the trip, including historical, cultural, religious and social aspects. We also use local 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?

11 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, 4x4, walking, camels.

What transportation will we take on this trip?

Please note that there is a lot of fast paced travel on this itinerary which necessitates some long travel days in our mini van. We feel that if you enter this trip with this knowledge and expectation, you will appreciate even more the variety of locations we are able to include in this itinerary.

We use a 16-seater minivan and with a full group every seat will be used. The legroom in the minivan is possibly smaller than you may be used to and taller passengers may find space a little cramped. The minivans have air conditioning, however please note that summer temperatures in Morocco can easily reach 50 celsius. When the outside temperature is so hot, a minibus air conditioning system will not be able to cool the bus to the temperatures you are used to enjoying at home. Please bear in mind that travelling in Morocco in summer will inevitably involve very hot temperatures and some discomfort may be experienced when travelling.

Is there an extra cost for travelling solo?

We believe solo travellers should not have to pay more to travel so our group trips are designed for shared accommodation and do not involve a single supplement. Single travellers joining group trips are paired in twin or multi-share accommodation with someone of the same sex for the duration of the trip. Some of our Independent trips are designed differently and solo travellers on these itineraries must pay the single trip price.

Where will we stay during the trip?

Hotels (9 nts), Desert Camp (1 nt), Lodge (1 nt)

Will I get my own room?

Please note that if you have booked the "My Own Room" option for this tour, you will receive your own single room for all night stops

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 information should I be aware of as the itinerary draws to a close?

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

Are there any additional packing suggestions I should consider?

We recommend using a backpack for your convenience, or a medium-sized suitcase if you prefer. A daypack is also essential for carrying everyday items. Space is limited on transportation, so there is a limit of one main piece of luggage per person. You will be responsible for carrying and handling your own luggage.

What should be on my packing list?

Conservative Dress:

- Modest clothing that covers knees and shoulders (Long pants, long skirts, shirts that cover shoulders)
- Shawl or scarf (for temple visits)

Documents:

- Flight info (required) (Printouts of e-tickets may be required at the border)
- Insurance info (required) (With photocopies)
- Vouchers and pre-departure information (required)
- Passport (required) (With photocopies)
- 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
- Shorts/skirts (Longer shorts/skirts are recommended)
- Sturdy water shoes/sandals
- Sun hat/bandana
- Swimwear Note: The weather conditions and temperature in Morocco can vary greatly from region to region, especially during the winter months (Nov-March). During these months, we recommend packing layers for insulation, as well as a waterproof layer.

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 are 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](#)

What should I consider when planning my personal expenses and discretionary spending for this itinerary?

Every traveller is different and therefore spending money requirements will vary. Some travellers may drink more than others while other travellers like to purchase more souvenirs than most. Please consider your own spending habits when it comes to allowing for drinks, shopping and tipping. Please also remember the following specific recommendations when planning your trip.

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

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?

Fez

- Ville Nouvelle Exploration (Free)

Marrakech

- Hot Air Balloon Marrakech

Are there any health considerations I should know before travelling?

DRINKING WATER It is advisable to drink bottled water in Morocco.

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 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 do I need to know to about safety and security on my trip?

Many national governments provide a regularly updated advice service on safety issues involved with international travel. We recommend that you check your government's advice for their latest travel information before departure. We strongly recommend the use of a neck wallet or money belt while travelling, for the safe keeping of your passport, air tickets, travellers' cheques, cash and other valuable items. Leave your valuable jewellery at home - you won't need it while travelling. Many of the hotels we use have safety deposit boxes, which is the most secure way of storing your valuables. A lock is recommended for securing your luggage. When travelling on a group trip, please note that your group leader has the authority to amend or cancel any part of the trip itinerary if it deemed necessary, due to safety concerns. Your Chief Experience Officer (CEO) will accompany you on all included activities. During your trip you will have some free time to pursue your own interests, relax and take it easy and explore at your leisure. While your CEO will assist you with options available in a given location, please note that any optional activities you undertake are not part of your itinerary, and we offer no representations about the safety of the activity or the standard of the operators running them. Please use your own good judgement when selecting an activity in your free time. Although the cities visited on tour are generally safe during the day, there can be risks to wandering throughout any major city at night. It is our recommendation to stay in small groups and to take taxis to and from restaurants, or during night time excursions.

Water based activities have an element of danger and excitement built into them. We recommend only participating in water based activities when accompanied by a guide(s). We make every reasonable effort to ensure the fun and adventurous element of any water based activities (in countries with varying degrees of operating standards), have a balanced approach to safety. It is our policy not to allow our CEOs to make arrangements on your behalf for water based activities that are not accompanied by guide(s).

Swimming, including snorkeling, is always at your own risk. [Read more about travel safety](#) for ways to further enhance your personal safety while traveling.

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.

What is Planeterra?

Planeterra International Foundation is a non-profit organization committed to turning travel into impact by helping local communities earn an income from tourism. Planeterra connects underserved local communities to the benefits of tourism by developing and supporting small community-owned businesses. These businesses support Indigenous people, empower women, grant youth access to employment opportunities, and protect the environment. Planeterra also works to ensure these businesses have a thriving customer base by integrating their projects into G Adventures' itineraries globally.

G Adventures is Planeterra's largest corporate donor, covering all operating costs, so 100% of your donation will bring opportunity to people in need.

G Adventures Dollar-a-day Program - Make Every Day Count - Turn your travel into impact with [Planeterra Foundation](#).

Did you know? Most communities around the world do not benefit from tourism. Give back to the places you visit on your travels by creating opportunities for local people to earn an income, and protect the environment.

Make every day count by donating \$1/day for the length of your trip, and join us in empowering the communities you will visit when you travel. 100% of your donation goes directly to Planeterra projects.

How can I share feedback about my trip experience?

Earn 5% off your next G Adventures Tour (up to \$100 USD)*

After your travels, we want to hear from you! Your feedback information is so important to us and to thank you for your time, we are pleased to offer a 5% discount (up to a maximum of \$100 USD) off your next G Adventures holiday. All you need to do is submit the form within 4 weeks of the completion of your tour, and you'll be able to join the thousands of travellers who have taken 2, 3, 4 or even 10 or more tours with us!

Discount cannot be combined with other offers or applied to 'Independent' style trips. Maximum discount value is \$100 USD (or equivalent currency). Valid for new bookings only. G Adventures reserves the right to withdraw or modify this offer at any time without notice. Limited to one discount per person.

Does G Adventures have an email newsletter I can subscribe to?

Our adventure travel e-newsletter is full of travel news, trip information, interesting stories and contests. To avoid missing out on special offers and updates from G Adventures, subscribe at www.gadventures.com/newsletters/

Stay current on how our company invests in our global community through our foundation – Planeterra. Sign up for [Planeterra's monthly news](#) to learn more about how to give back and support the people and places we love to visit.

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.