

MOROCCO

Day 1: JOHANNESBURG

Depart from O.R. Tambo International Airport. Meet at the Turkish Airline check-In counter. Please ensure that you arrive at least 3 hours prior to the departure time.

Overnight on board your flight

DAY 2: CASABLANCA

Arrive at Casablanca Airport, meet your driver and transfer to your hotel. Dine at a local restaurant and check in to your accommodation in Casablanca.

Dinner and overnight in Casablanca

DAY 3: CASABLANCA / RABAT / MEKNES

After breakfast, check out of the accommodation and depart for a city tour and enter into the medina to arrive at the Hassan II Mosque, the largest in the whole of Maghreb and the only one open inside. Depart to Rabat, capital of Morocco's political and old imperial city. Visit the capital where you will discover the ochre-red, 5 km long walls, built by order of Sultan Yacoub el-Mansour, which imparts the city with a very special character. Pass the medina and its souks, more authentic than other stores because the products are targeted to local customers and therefore less tourist orientated. Visit the Kasbah of Oudaia, erected by a terrible tribe of predators in the twelfth century. Continue to Meknes.

Dinner and overnight in Meknes

DAY 4: MEKNES / VOLUBILIS / FES

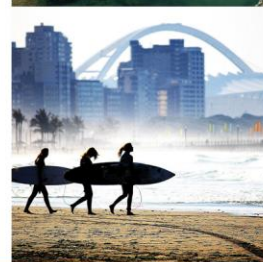
After breakfast, check out of your accommodation before you pay a visit to Meknes, the smallest of the imperial cities, crossing the Bab Mansour, the most important and significant gate of Meknes. Visit the Mausoleum of Moulay Ismail where you need to dress appropriately. Visit the granaries of Moulay Ismail Hri; this grain store is the most important monument of the imperial city, built with walls of beaten clay mixed with stones and straw. Enter into the heart of the medina across the square El-Hedim by visiting the market and souk. From Meknes reach Fes and visit the old city (Fes el-Bali) and its medina, the greatest and most famous throughout the Arab world. Entering from Bab Boujloud, the most famous door, head towards Dar Batha, a Hispanic-Moorish building home to a fine museum of folk art, continuing with the visit of the Medersa mosque, the Koranic school in Fez, where boys studied the Koran between rooms, oratory and a magnificent patio. Dine at a local restaurant.

Dinner and overnight in Fes

DAY 5: FEZ / IFRAN / MIDELT / VALLEY ZIZ / MERZOUGA

After breakfast, check out of your accommodation and depart for Ifrane, a remarkable site 1650 metres above sea level, also known as the Switzerland of Morocco, where you can see the storks nesting on the rooftops of the houses. After a walking tour of Ifrane, continue to Merzouga, in the Sahara Desert. The first village you meet is Azrou, of Berber origin, located in the heart of a 53,000 acre natural park on a limestone plateau surrounded by forests of cedar and oaks trees in the midst of ancient volcanoes. Azrou is also famous for the presence of a large number of monkeys in the forest that surround it. Our road ascends now to the Middle Atlas to the place of Zad and the town of Midelt at 1488 m altitude. Lunch break in Midelt, where the geologic features offer unique and wonderful crystal coloured structures and views. From Midelt the road goes through the beautiful gorges of Ziz until you get to Er-Rachidia, in the Southern Province. Arrive in Rissani, the gateway to the desert, and from there to Merzouga. Arrive in the afternoon at the hotel and get the chance to take a ride on the dunes and district near the hotel. Enjoy a typical dinner in the pool area accompanied by the rhythm of drums and songs of the Berber people, Tuareg and the south of Morocco.

Dinner and overnight in Merzouga



DAY 6: MERZOUGA / GORGES OF TODRA / DADES VALLEY

Arise at dawn to see the sunrise and the colourful dunes caught between light and shade. Return to the hotel on your camel for a shower and breakfast. Check out of your accommodation and continue to the south for a tour to the caves where you can find fossils of the natural desert, pass, from the village of Tissrdmin where many movies were filmed and along the road where the Paris-Dakar rally takes place. Arrive at the village of Kamlia, famous for its inhabitants from Africa and their music. This village is also famous for the festival of music and dance that takes place every year during the first week of August. See Lake Dayet Srji with its pink flamingos. Return to Rissani where and taste Berber pizza with its 44 spices with a Tuareg family, from whom you will learn about traditions and customs. See items that arrive here with the caravans. Rissani was once the economic capital of Morocco and the centre of the caravans leaving for the desert. Continue to the Todra Gorge, where the film Lawrence of Arabia was shot. Enjoy time at leisure for lunch thereafter, continue to the Todra Gorges, and walk through the lush green vegetation that contrasts with the red rock and where buildings mimic this colour. Along this valley is a whole succession of ksours in the heart of cultivated fields and fruits.

Dinner and overnight in a typical Dade Valley

DAY 7: DADES VALLEY OF ROSES / SKOURA / OUARZATE / MARRAKECH

After breakfast, check out of your accommodation and make your way to the Valley of Roses, lined with a thousand Kasbahs, a typical sight in the south of Morocco. Stop in the main town of the valley, El-Kalaa M'gouna famous only for the blossoming flowers from where many body care products are derived. Visit a laboratory for the extraction of this valuable essence. Continue to Skoura to visit the Kasbah of this area and take a lunch break. Visit Ouarzazate film studios, the largest and most famous in the whole of Africa, the Atlas Studios, the Kasbah of Ouarzazate Taourirt and Ait Benhaddou, a UNESCO world heritage site. Scenes of films like Gladiator, Babel, Lawrence of Arabia, The Legionary, Tea in the Desert and many others were filmed here. Continue to Marrakech.

Dinner and overnight in Marrakech

DAY 8: MARRAKECH

After breakfast, begin your tour of Marrakech, the imperial city through its various Suk, each one dedicated to a different local product. Visit the Ben Youssef Madrasa, the largest and most beautiful Koranic schools in the city, the Bahia palace, the Palazzo of the rich Visir of Ba Ahmed, built around 1880. Return to your hotel for dinner. After dinner, walk to the big square Jamaa el-Fna Square where you will find its characteristic street vendors that guarantee a continuous show, with fortune tellers, snake charmers, small groups of music and tattooists.

Dinner and overnight in Marrakech

DAY 9: MARRAKECH / JOHANNESBURG

After breakfast, enjoy some time at leisure before you transfer to the airport. Board your flight to Johannesburg via Istanbul.

DAY 9: MARRAKECH / CASABLANCA AIRPORT

Arrive O.R. Tambo International Airport.

