

Morocco Express

Country(ies): Morocco

Tour type: Small Group

Transport: AC Minivan, Minibus or 4WD

Group size: Min: 2 | Max: 16

Days: 5 days

Start Location: Marrakech, Morocco

End Location: Marrakech, Morocco

Meals: Breakfasts - 4, Lunches - 0, Dinners - 2

Highlights:

Marrakech - Djemaa-el-Fna square, UNESCO-listed medina
Tafraoute - Town in the Anti-Atlas Mountains with diverse landscapes,
Essaouira - Colourful fishing town and beautiful beaches.
Agafay Desert – Rocky and sandy desert near Marrakech



Itinerary

Day 1: Arrive in Marrakech & Transfer to hotel. Optional city tour

After arriving in Marrakech we'll whisk you away to your comfortable hotel. At 12:00 pm, gather with your fellow travelers and friendly guide for a warm welcome and introductions.

Afterward, you're free to grab a bite to eat before embarking on an optional (not included) exciting afternoon tour of Marrakech around 2:00 pm. We'll admire the majestic Koutoubia Mosque from the outside and delve into the rich history of Ben Youssef Madrassa.

Prepare to be enchanted as we explore the vibrant souks, overflowing with unique treasures and local craftsmanship. Our journey culminates in the legendary Jemaa El Fna square, where you can soak up the bustling atmosphere and vibrant energy of Marrakech. Take some time to discover its hidden gems before we regroup for a delicious dinner at the hotel.

OVERNIGHT: Marrakech hotel

MEALS: Dinner

EXTRAS: Extra day in Marrakech - pre-tour

Day 2: Exploring Tafraoute and the Ait Mansour Valley

After enjoying breakfast at the hotel, we'll hit the road and head west, stopping for a coffee break along the way. During the drive, you'll get a glimpse of local life as we pass through Berber villages in the Massa region. Our destination is Tafraoute, a charming town nestled in the Anti-Atlas Mountains.

Once we've settled into our hotel, we'll savor a delicious lunch at a local eatery, giving you a taste of authentic Moroccan cuisine. If time permits, we can even take a refreshing dip before venturing to the breathtaking Ait Mansour Valley.

This tranquil oasis is renowned for its stunning landscapes, pleasant climate, and fertile valleys that wind through the mountains. As we stroll through this peaceful paradise, you'll be surrounded by the soothing sounds of water, historic monuments, lush palm groves, and blossoming almond trees. We'll take a leisurely walk through the oasis, learning about the crops cultivated by local farmers.

On our way back to Tafraoute in the late afternoon, we'll make a special stop at the iconic blue-painted rocks, a unique and photogenic landmark of the region.

OVERNIGHT: Tafraoute hotel

MEALS: Breakfast

EXTRAS:

Day 3: Coastal city of Essaouira

We will begin the day with an early breakfast before travelling through the Anti-Atlas Mountains. On our way to Morocco's Atlantic coast, we will pass through Tiznit, Agadir, and Taghazout.

You will have lunch in Agadir, with plenty of opportunities to take in the beautiful views of the Atlantic Ocean and the Berber towns. We will arrive in Essaouira in the late afternoon, where you can check into your hotel and refresh.

The rest of the evening is yours to spend as you wish. You can explore the beautiful fishing town, its souks, cafés, and terraces, or add an adventure such as quad biking, kite surfing, horse riding, or a cooking class. If you prefer to relax, you can sit by the beach or harbour and enjoy some local mint tea.

OVERNIGHT: Essaouira hotel

MEALS: Breakfast

EXTRAS:

Day 4: Overnight in the Agafay Desert, optional camel ride

Feel free to explore the coastal town at your own pace this morning. Later, we'll gather at the hotel and embark on a journey to the serene Agafay Desert. This hidden gem, with its lunar-like landscape and striking rock formations, offers a unique desert experience without the need to venture all the way to the Sahara.

Upon arrival, we'll settle into our comfortable tents and you'll have the option to relax by the pool or embark on a memorable camel ride as you witness the breathtaking sunset.

Please note that to ensure the well being of camels used on this tour, we have the following policies in place:

- Our camels are only used for approximately 1 hour, once per day.
- Camels are free to roam throughout the day and have access to food and water.
- No camels younger than 4 years old are used for camel rides.
- We have a policy of only 1 rider per camel.
- All camels are regularly vet checked.

OVERNIGHT: Agafay Camp

MEALS: Breakfast, Dinner

EXTRAS:

Day 5: Return to Marrakech

We return to Marrakech this morning where the tour will come to an end upon arrival. Extra nights can be arranged for those planning to spend longer exploring Marrakech

OVERNIGHT: N/A

MEALS: Breakfast

EXTRAS:

Included:

- 24hr arrival airport transfer service
- Accommodation in 3-4 star hotels
- 1 night in desert camp in Agafay
- Transport in AC Minivan or land cruiser
- Meals: 4 breakfasts, 2 dinners
- Entrance fees for included sightseeing
- English speaking tour guide, plus driver

Excluded:

- International flights
- Travel insurance (mandatory)
- Visas
- Tipping kitty - 2025 - USD 30, 2026 - USD 40
- Tour guide tips
- Meals not indicated in the itinerary
- Drinks, snacks & personal expenses
- Optional activities (such as Marrakech Tour and Camel Ride)
- Departure airport transfer

Options

Our tours are designed to include all that you need to enjoy a really special time in the destination you're visiting. However, we do also offer some extra options to complement the tour and add some additional sightseeing or activities, or some extra time at either end of the tour.

All accommodation based options (e.g. Single supplements, extra nights, cruise upgrades) should be booked and paid for in advance so that we can make the appropriate arrangements. Other options may either be booked and paid for in advance or while you are on the tour, though we recommend booking in advance to ensure there are no issues with availability.

Many options are priced the same throughout the year, but some may incur single or high season supplements - full details are given on the tour reservation form or on request.

Single room supplement (MME5M)

Min numbers: 1

This tour is based on twin-share accommodation, with single bookers paired up with another traveller of the same sex in the group. If the final group make-up means that no room share is available, you do not need to pay this supplement. However, if you would like to guarantee yourself a single room throughout the tour, then please add this option to your booking.

Note: Single supplement prices may vary seasonally.

Extra day in Morocco - pre-tour (EXSGMO)

Min numbers: 1

This option adds an extra day to the start of your tour, staying in the same hotel as the main tour itself (subject to availability). Your airport arrival transfer is still included. Prices shown are per person and based on two people sharing.

Note: Single room and peak season supplements apply.

Extra day in Morocco - post-tour (EXSGMO)

Min numbers: 1

This option adds an extra day to the end of your tour, staying in the same hotel as the main tour itself (subject to availability). Your airport departure transfer is not included, but can be easily arranged through your hotel or with the help of your tour guide. Prices shown are per person and based on two people sharing.

Note: Single room and peak season supplements apply.

Locally Available Options

Min numbers: 1

We offer a range of locally available options on this tour, these can be booked via your tour guide once you are in Morocco. Prices are per person, quoted in Moroccan Dirhams and may be subject to change.

1. Accommodation

We use good quality hotels rated at the Moroccan 3 and 4-star level on this tour, plus a night in the Agafay Desert where you'll be accommodated in comfortable permanent tents, which have shared bathroom facilities. Local hotel star ratings may vary slightly from international standards. Accommodation is based on double or twin en-suite rooms with air conditioning. All couples will be given a private double room. Please check the Single Room Supplement option for details on room sharing and optional single supplement charges for solo travellers on this tour.

2. Transport

Our trips can feature a mix of different transport options. We want you to feel like you're really experiencing the country you're travelling through, but at the same time we want you to finish journeys refreshed enough to enjoy the next stage of the tour. The terrain, route taken and public transport options in Morocco mean that we use air conditioned private vehicles throughout this tour. These include AC minivans, minibuses or small coaches, appropriate to the size of the group. We always aim to leave a few spare seats to ensure it is comfortable for everyone.

3. Group Makeup / Tour Leader / Guides

We are committed to maintaining small groups wherever possible as we feel this gives everyone in the group the best chance to get to know their fellow travellers and to hear and make the most of their guide. This tour therefore has a maximum size of 16 people.

The minimum number of travellers required for the tour to run is 2.

This is not a Family tour, and we therefore set the minimum age for travellers to join the tour at 16. There is no maximum age limit, but travellers need to be moderately fit and mobile.

An English speaking guide will accompany the group throughout the tour, along with the driver. We may also use specialist local guides to give extra information at some of the sites visited during the tour.

At Encounters Travel we aim to only use local Moroccan guides and drivers. We feel this gives you the best experience of the country and the sites you are seeing and many people describe our Moroccan guides as one of the highlights of their holiday.

We may share this tour with travellers booking through other operators.

Note: Please [download an up-to-date copy](#) of these tour notes shortly before you travel as itineraries and information does change from time to time.
