# LIVE A Larger Life

Memories in Morocco 2023



# Morocco Fully Covered - A Small Group Tour

17 Days/16 nights from \$4560\*pp I Departs 5 March 2023 \*Extensions to Spain and Portugal available.

## **PACKAGE INCLUDES**

- All land arrangements as per itinerary, extensions available for Spain and Portugal
- 16 nights boutique Riad accommodation and hand-picked hotels
- Breakfast daily, 4 specialty evening meals
- Transport via private bus, camel
- Incredible sightseeing, walking tours of Rabat, Volubilis, Fes, Berrem Village.
- Local English speaking guide and Nat Miller as your escort.
- Transfer from Newcastle to Sydney airport

## **HIGHLIGHTS**

- A tailored tour including ALL you should see at a slower pace allowing you to enjoy every moment to have your time.
- Explore the blue washed town of Chefchouen and lunch at the Kasbah
- Ride camels across the rolling dunes and stay under the stars in the desert.
- Experience Ait Benhaddou like a true Gladiator
- Kick back in the coastal town of Essaouira and discover at your own pace
- Understand the unchanged culture of the local people living in the Atlas Mountains and Berber Villages.

\*\*Conditions apply. Secure your spot with a non-refundable deposit of \$600. Pay a 2nd instalment of \$2000 within 30 days. Balance due 01 Jan 2023. Price is based on per person double / twin share. Single supplement available. Prices are correct at time of publication. The package is based on minimum of 14 people. If the minimum is not reached the price will be recalculated based on the number of participants. Cancellation fees will apply. Check for full terms and conditions. https://www.travelmanagers.com.au/terms-and-conditions



#Live\_A\_Larger\_Life call Natalie Miller your personal travel manager 0402 370 371

NatalieMiller@travelmanagers.com.au facebook.com/NatalieMillerTravelManager travelmanagers.com.au/NatalieMiller

travelmanagers.com.au/NatalieMiller

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# Your itinerary

# Live A Larger Life Tour – Morocco 2023 17 Days- Small group adventure

Casablanca – Meknes – Chefchaouen – Fes - Medilt – Desert Merzouga – Dades Valley – Ait Benhaddou – Taroudante – Essaouira – Marrakech \*Optional extensions to Spain and Portugal

Day 1: Arrive Casablanca: We will be met at the airport and transferred to our hotel. Explore and wonder the old medina and city walls.

Day 2: Casablanca - Rabat - Meknes: After breakfast we begin our day with a visit to the famous for its art deco building and a modern-day masterpiece, the Hassan II Mosque. Later we drive north along the coast to the historical town of Rabat, to visit the Oudaya Kasbah en route, and then continue to the Mohammed V Mausoleum, we will have lunch before arriving in Meknes the former capital of Morocco. Here we visit the historical prison of the medina of Meknes. Free time to explore and walk and explore the main square of Lahdim.

Day 3: Meknes – Volubilis – Moulay Idriss – Chefchaouen: This morning we will discover the charming streets of Meknes medina – the old walled section of the city. Walking to the shrine of Moulay Idriss and visit the historic an impressive UNESCO World Heritage city – Volubilis. Later on travel to the isolated town of Chefchaouen, or the 'blue city'.

**Day 4: Chefchaouen**: One of the prettiest places in Morocco. Set against a wide valley and nestled between two peaks of the Rif Mountains. We will explore the streets and the kasbah, have lunch at a local restaurant, admire the panoramic view of the valley and the village. In the afternoon there's time to meander through the streets and alley ways to shop for handicrafts woven by local women, hike the Rif mountains to simply sit at a café and enjoy.

Day 5: Chefchaouen – Fes: After breakfast we drive for approx 5 hours, (with a lunch stop on the way) to Fes. Here we will spend the next two nights. Fes is the spiritual and cultural heart of Morocco – vibrant, noisy, fascinating and overwhelming. It is feast for the senses, with a huge well-preserved medieval old city that is the mother of all medinas.

Day 6: Fes: After breakfast we will do a walk with our guide through the twisting streets and alleyway, passing donkeys piled high with goods and explore the specialty sections alive with craftsmen, markets, tanneries and mosques that divide the souk. See the famous tannery overlooking the dye pits and a ceramic factory where you will see potters working in the traditional way.

Day 7: Fes – Ifran – Azrou – Medilt: We head towards Medilt via the Middle Atlas Mountains. We pass by the little Swiss town of Morocco Ifran. Heading south and inland through some spectacular scenery including the cedar forest, home to the Barbary apes. There will be a short stop to stretch the legs with a walk around the city of Timahidt before arriving into Midelt – the apple town in the afternoon. Take a closer look at the local farming life.

Day 8: Medilt– Errachidia – Ziz Valley – Desert Merzouga - Erg Chebbi : An early start this morning as we head to the mighty Sahara. We will get into the flat Atlas Mountains we'll enjoy a stop at Errachidia to take in the greatest view of the Ziz Valley – what the Moroccans call the 'green canyon'. We'll arrive in the afternoon to Merzouga. Store your main baggage in the bus (take a small overnight backpack) and head out on camels to our camp in the Sahara Desert. Check out the Erg Chebbi dunes – a vast sea of shifting wind-swept sand that's formed into picturesque, undulating crests and valleys. We will admire the most magic sunset and our local friends will prepare a hearty feast dinner so all you'll need to do is sit back and relax finally sleeping the night in a luxury tent in the Sahara.

Day 9: Merzouga: Wake up and walk up the nearest dune for a spectacular sunrise over the Sahara, break your fast with traditional food and begin a 4 x 4 Desert tour, enjoying the beautiful landscapes, we pass though the gravestones of Taouz and then head to discover the Gnawa music of Khamilia where we will have lunch in a small restaurant. It's then a short drive to a nearby hotel – the afternoon is free.





# Your itinerary

## Live A Larger Life Tour – Morocco 2023

Day 10: Merzouga – Erfoud – Tinghir – Gorge of Dades: After breakfast we leave for Dades Valley through Rissani town well known for its authentic market followed by Erfoud known for its fossils and geology. We'll cross the beautiful palm groves before a lunch stop and short walk in the incredible gorges of Todra and see the cultivated spice fields. After a walk we had to the Dades Valley where we have the opportunity to take walks passing brilliant rock formations, visiting Berber villages- a fantastic opportunity to see how people live in this largely unchanged culture. Finally spending the night with dinner in the gorges of Dades.

Day 11: Dedes Gorge – Rose Valley – Skoura - Ouarzazate – Ait Benhaddou: This morning we'll take an hour walk in the gorges of Dades before our departure for Marrakech. Enroute head through El Kelaa Magona, the valley of roses, we continue to Skoura to visit kasbah Amridil. We will stop as well in Ouzarzazate the cinema city where movies such as Lawrence of Arabia, The Sheltering Sky and Black Hawk Down were filmed. Afterwards, continue to Kasbah Ait Ben Haddou, a UNESCO World Heritage Site perched on a hilltop and almost unchanged since the 11th century. Ait Benhaddou is one of Morocco's most iconic sites. Its grand kasbah is one of the most beautiful in Morocco. An evening meal is given by our hosts at our riad.

Day 12: Ait Benhaddou – Tznakhte – Taliouine – Taroudante : Morning departure for the beautiful oasis towns of Taliouine and Taroudante, the latter surrounded by old, fortified city walls and towers. Once a former regional capital, Taroudante is famous for its stone cutters. Visit the remarkably picturesque souk. Afternoon at leisure and an evening specialty meal here with our hosts from our Riad.

Day 13: Taroudante – Agadir – Essaouira: Morning city visit of Taroudante and then departure for Agadir. Afternoon panoramic tour of Agadir and its beautiful beaches, souks and kasbah. Set on a crescent of sand, the wide shallow beach of Agadir stretches as far as the eye can see. Departure from Agadir and head towards Essaouira.

Day 14: Essaouira: Formerly known as Mogador, an historic Portuguese port, Essaouira boasts a beautiful Medina and fine local crafts. Today you have a free day to enjoy the beach and port area at your leisure. You find narrow, freshly whitewashed streets, painted blinds, tranquil squares, artisans in tiny workshops working away at fragrant thuja wood and friendly cafes.

Day 15: Essaouira – Marrakesh: After breakfast in your Riad, we'll depart for Marrakech. On our way- since this is the land of Argan culture- there's an opportunity to visit the women's co-operative of Argan oil where they extract the oil that is famous for its culinary, cosmetic and medical properties. After several stops to take photographs, you will continue your travel to Marrakech before checking in to our riad. After dinner you will enjoy walking in the famous square of Jemaa El fna, entertained with magicians, story tellers, musicians and snake charmers.

Day 16: Marrakesh: A full day sightseeing of the historical sites of this impressive southern capital, called the 'pearl of the South'. The tour visits the Koutoubia Mosque, the Saadian Tombs, the Bahia Palace and the famous Djermas El Fna Square.

Day 17: Marrakesh: Free time this morning and then a transfer to the airport for an optional extension to Spain and Portugal (see extension itinerary) or return to Sydney





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#### **ADDITIONAL INFO**

#### **INCLUSIONS:**

- Accommodation on a twin/double share basis
- Breakfast daily
- 4 Specialty dinners
- Sightseeing as per tour itinerary
- English speaking local guide
- Air-conditioned private bus
- Transfers from Newcastle to Sydney airport

#### **EXCLUSIONS**

- International airfares-special group rates available, ask me for details.
- Transfer from Sydney airport to your home.
   Can be arranged to match your return flight from Morocco or Portugal.
- Travel insurance is mandatory-I can assist
- Tips for baggage at hotel, airport driver & guide
- Personal items as laundry, internet, drinks etc.

## WHERE YOU WILL STAY

- CASABLACA -Vale D'land
- MEKES Riad D'or
- CHEFCHAOUEN Dar Chaouen
- FEZ Raid Mazar
- MERZOUGA Kasbah Tombouctou
- DADES VALLEY Xaluca
- AIT BENHADDOU Riad Maktoub
- TAROUDANTE Riad Amnay
- ESSAOUIRA Riad Rayhane
- MARRAKECH Riad Nesma

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NatalieMiller@travelmanagers.com.au facebook.com/NatalieMillerTravelManager travelmanagers.com.au/NatalieMiller

