

LIVE A Larger Life

Memories in Morocco 2024



Unveiling Treasures of a Morocco Adventure

19 Days/18 nights from \$4,680*pp | Departs 9 April 2024
Extensions to Spain and Portugal available

PACKAGE INCLUDES

- All land arrangements as per itinerary, extensions available for Spain and Portugal
- 18 nights boutique Riad accommodation and hand-picked properties
- Breakfast daily, 8 specialty evening meals
- Transport via private bus, camel & 4-wheel drive vehicles
- Incredible sightseeing, walking tours by local guides at Chefchouen, Volibulis, Fez, Meknes, Marrakesh and Essaouira.
- 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 in Morocco experiencing local hospitality.
- Explore the blue washed town of Chefchouen
- 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.
- Explore the local markets and street shops, the medinas and atmosphere.

*Conditions apply. Secure your spot with a non-refundable deposit of \$600. Pay a 2nd instalment of \$2000 within 30 days. Balance due 1 Feb 24. Price is based on per person double / twin share. Single supplement available \$2000. 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. Itinerary and properties subject to change. Cancellation fees will apply. Check for full terms and conditions at travelmanagers.com.au/terms-and-conditions



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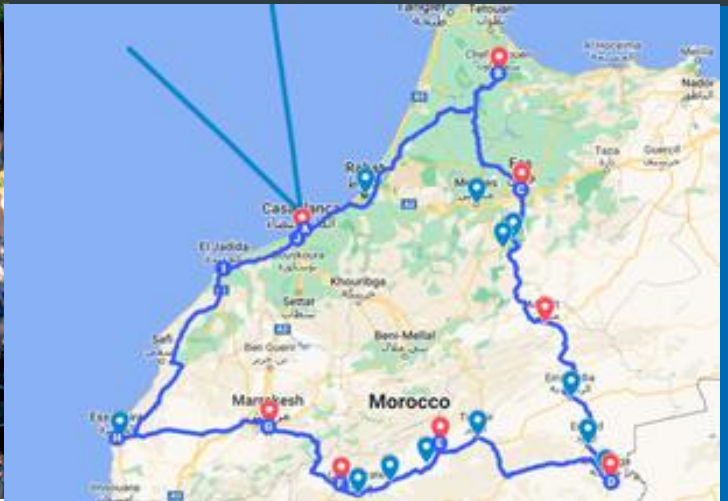
Part of the House of Travel Group ACN: 113 085 626 Member: IATA, AFTA, CLIA



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ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Inclusions:

- Accommodation on a twin/double share basis
- Breakfast daily and 8 Specialty dinners
- Sightseeing as per tour itinerary
- English speaking local guide
- Air-conditioned private bus with room to move
- Transfers from Newcastle to Sydney airport

Exclusions:

- International flights - ask me for details
- Transfer from Sydney airport to your home (can be arranged)
- 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

- **Casablanca** – Hotel Club Vale D'anfa
- **Chefchaouen** – Riad Cherifa
- **Fez** – Raid Zamane
- **Midelt** – Villa Midelt
- **Merzouga** – Hassilabiad
- **Sahara** – Sahara Sky Luxury Camp
- **Dades Valley** – Chez Ichou
- **Ait Benhaddou** – Kasbah Ellouz
- **Marrakech** – Riad Chergui
- **Essaouira** – Riad Rayhane

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Your itinerary

Live A Larger Life Tour – Morocco 2024

19-day small group adventure

**Casablanca – Chefchaouen – Meknes – Fes – Midelt – Erg Chebbi – Desert
Merzouga – Dades Valley – Ait Benhaddou – Marrakech – Essaouira**

Day 1: Arrive Casablanca: We will be met at the airport and transferred to our hotel located on the beach in Casablanca. Free time to wander the Ain Diab Corniche lined with restaurants, beach & swimming pools. Perhaps in the evening, mingle with your fellow travelers', our hotel lends itself to the sunset of Morocco.

Day 2: Casablanca - Rabat – Chefchaouen: After breakfast we begin our Moroccan journey with a visit to the famous Hassan II Mosque with its ornate rooms, masterfully tiled floors and intricately carved wooden ceilings. This is one of the most awe-inspiring mosques ever seen. Later we drive north along the coast to the historical town of Rabat, to visit the Oudaya Kasbah on route, and then continue north to the city of Chefchaouen, locally known as the blue pearl. Hidden high up in the Rif Mountains of northeastern Morocco, Chefchaouen is a historical town known for the striking, variously hued blue-washed buildings of its picturesque medina and views.

Day 3: Chefchaouen: One of the prettiest places in Morocco.. We will explore the streets and the kasbah, have lunch at a local restaurant and admire the panoramic view. In the afternoon there's time to shop for handicrafts woven by local women, hike the Rif mountains or simply sit at a café and enjoy. In the afternoon perhaps hike to the Spanish mosque for a spectacular sunset.

Day 4: Chefchaouen – Volubilis - Fes : This morning get into your comfy shoes and get ready for an outdoorsy day full of exciting historical sites. We head to the city of the ruins of the historic and impressive Heritage city – Volubilis. In the afternoon making our way to discover the charming streets of Fes. Our home for the next three nights so you can enjoy the local cuisine, night market of the Blue Arch, have a hammam (bath and massage) treatment or kick back on the rooftop with fellow travellers.

Day 5: Fes: After breakfast a walk with our local guide visiting the Quaraouine Mosque founded by Fatima el Fihria in 859 and the Andalussian Mosque dating back to 860. We will encounter the Attarine Medrassa a historic religious school located in Fes showcasing the exquisite craftsmanship of the period. Followed by the Carpenters Museum where we see the exhibits of wooden artifacts. We discover the twisting streets and alleyways, 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. 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: Fez -Meknes - Fez: Today we will do a day trip to Meknes (the city is still under restoration, but hopefully by next year the highlights will be open to us). Meknes medina – the old walled section of the city. Meknes was the former capital of Morocco. Here we will visit the historical prison of the Medina of Meknes and explore and walk the main square of Lahdim. We will then discover inside the Medina, wander through the compact narrow alley ways of the food souk -abound with bees! Later returning to Fez and free time.

Day 7: Fes - Midelt: Midelt nestles in the foothills of the High Atlas Mountains. This small town and it's majestic setting. We will do a short hike in the region, see the nearby Canyon and spend time in the village. Midelt was in the past known for the caravans used to leave loaded with food, for Timbuktu. Kick back enjoy time, perhaps a game of soccer as the sun sets with the kiddies. **Our meal is included tonight.**

Day 8: Medilt - Merzouga: We drive across the Eastern part of the high Atlas Mountains. Scenic landscapes along the way, including the Ziz Valley and gorges. We'll make a stop in Erfoud, known for its fossil workshops and desert surroundings. Continue the journey to arrive in Merzouga on the edge of the Sahara Desert. Time to relax by the pool and perhaps pop your toes into the Sahara sands while **preparations are made for our evening meal**

Day 9: Exploring Sahara desert of Merzouga: Today we will begin a 4 x 4 Desert tour, enjoying the beautiful landscapes, we pass through the gravestones of Taouz and then head to discover the Gnawa music of Khamilia. Later we will head to the heart of the Sahara desert where we will be met by the nomads and discover the authentic Sahara desert life by camel riding 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 our evening meal** so all you'll need to do is sit back and relax enjoy the stars, reflect on the experience you will never forget and finally fall asleep for the night in a luxury tent in the Sahara.



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Your itinerary

Live A Larger Life Tour – Morocco 2024

19-day small group adventure

Casablanca – Chefchaouen – Meknes – Fes – Midelt – Erg Chebbi – Desert Merzouga – Dades Valley – Ait Benhaddou – Marrakech – Essaouira

Day 10: Merzouga - Dades Valley: Wake up to a spectacular sunrise over the golden sand dunes of the Sahara. We then ride our camels back and then it is onwards to the Dades Valley.

Day 14: Marrakech: A leisure day - Shop, bargain, taste, have a massage and enjoy your free time in this vibrant city which is just a short stroll away from our riad.

On today's journey we will learn about the underground irrigation system known as "Khetara" which consists of an intricate network of underground canals that provide water to the agricultural fields in the valley. This area has two extremes. Upstream is the arid mountainous Boumalne Dades, while downstream is the fertile valleys of Ouarzazate. We'll take a short walk in the famous gorges of Todra, known for its towering canyon walls and limestone cliffs. Finally, spending the night **with dinner** in the gorges ambience.

Day 11: Gorge of Dades – Ait Benhaddou Continuing the journey to Ait Benhaddou along the "Road of a Thousand Kasbahs". This scenic route is dotted with traditional fortified villages, ancient kasbahs, and crumbling mud-brick structure showcasing the heritage of the region. We have **dinner included prepared by our hosts** with our stay in the kasbah tonight.

Day 12: Ait Benhaddou - Marrakech : Ait Ben Haddou, the famous Kasbah a UNESCO World Heritage Site perched on a hilltop and almost unchanged since the 11th century. Its grand kasbah is one of the most beautiful in Morocco and features in many movies such as Gladiator, The Mummy, Lawrence of Arabia, Jewell of the Nile to name a few. We will have a guided tour of this magnificent Kasbah before our onward journey to Marrakech via the High Atlas Mountains, this time crossing the breath-taking Tizin Tichka Pass. In the early evening arrive at Marrakech, one of Morocco's most vibrant and culturally rich cities. It is known for its bustling medina a UNESCO World Heritage site, vibrant, captivating with a blend of history, with bustling markets and vibrant culture, snake charmers, magicians, jugglers and just so much more.

Day 13: Marrakech: Today a local guide will show us the historical sites of this impressive southern capital- 'pearl of the South'. The tour visits the Bahia Palace, Ben Youssef Medrassa and the Yves Saint-Laurent gardens finishing with a walking tour to immerse yourself in the vibrant atmosphere of the famous Jemaa el-Fnaa square. This is Marrakech's main medina which you can explore at your leisure.

Day 15: Marrakesh – Essaouira: Formerly known as Mogador, an historic Portuguese port, Essaouira boasts a beautiful Medina and fine local crafts. We head for the coastal town of a cobblestone medina which has a really laidback hippie Kathmandu feel. Houses of white and blue with a Portuguese, French & Berber feel –unique and boutique. This coastal town has been visited by musicians such as Cath Stevens, Rolling Stones, Paul Simon and Bob Dylan, amongst others. Enjoy your time at the beach or sit back in a lay back café and watch the world. Shop till you drop, dine on tasty cuisine and listen to a live band as the sun sets. We have three leisurely nights here to take it all in. Find a narrow freshly whitewashed street, with tranquil squares, artisans in tiny workshops, musicians playing away and enjoy your time with leisure.

Day 16: Essaouira: This morning our local guide will take us to explore the charming streets of the medina, observing the local way of life and taking in the unique architecture. We will see the fishermen bringing in their catches, experience the bustling fish market and admire the colourful boats dotting the harbour. We will learn about the historical Jewish Presence in the city and the city's defensive history. The afternoon and evening is free to explore and do the best in picking up that last momento or gift.

Day 17: Essaouira: Free time to walk along fortified ramparts that surround the medina, enjoy the breathtaking views of the ocean or take a leisurely stroll along Essaouira's beautiful sandy beach. Experience Hammam and its beachside activities.

Day 18: Essaouira - Casablanca : We bid farewell from the beaches and medina of Essaouira and follow Morocco's Atlantic coastline with a stop at El Jadida a coastal town renowned for its Portuguese heritage. Tonight we will gather together for a memorable farewell dinner, our group sharing laughter, stories and a sense of camaraderie that only travel can give.

Day 19: Casablanca : 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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