



MOROCCAN EXTENSIONS



Why not extend your trip by treating yourself to a special time in the sand dunes of the Sahara, trekking with camels and watching the spectacle of the Saharan sunset and sunrise.

Choose from either the

Merzouga Camels & Sahara Camp Extension

4 nights / 5 days starts/ends Marrakech

or the

Zagora Camels & Desert Extension

3 nights / 4 days starts/ends Marrakech

A different exploration into the desert for those on a more limited budget or with less time.



Alternatively, why not explore a totally different side of Morocco by going to the coast, to the old fortified coastal town of Essaouira. This relaxed fishing village offers beaches, shopping, coastal walking and a host of tempting restaurants and fish stands offering with the latest catch.

Essaouira Extension

3 nights / 4 days starts/ends Marrakech

- Additional nights can be added to any of these extensions.
- Extra nights in Marrakech can also be arranged.



Prices are available online at <http://trekmountains.com/trek-faqs/dates-prices> or from the trekMountains office

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Merzouga Camels & Sahara Camp Extension

4 nights / 5 days starts/ends Marrakech

Outline Itinerary

Day 1 From Marrakech we drive in jeeps or minibus over the Atlas mountains to the fortified village (*ksar*) of Ait Benhaddou. This fine example of Kasbah architecture has been designated a UNESCO World Heritage Site. It is popular with filmmakers, and was famously used for filming *Gladiator*. The enchanting maze of alleyways inside the ksar is truly Moroccan! En route from here to the impressive Todra Gorge we pass through Berber villages and palmeries. It is good to walk along the gorge, which rises 300m above you at its narrowest point. We overnight in a hotel at Todra Gorge. (B, D)

Day 2 From Todra we drive out to Merzouga – the easiest part of the Sahara to access with sand dunes which we all associate with the Saharan desert. The desert is magical – we trek out with camels enjoying the magnificence of the scale of the Sahara. We bivouac overnight in the desert with our chameliers and enjoy the sunset and the night sky stars. These are magical memories, not to be missed! (B, D)

Day 3 An early rise is a must to make the most of the desert sunrise before we trek and drive from our desert bivouac to the attractive village of Nkob where we stay in a delightful Kasbah for a typical Moroccan night. (B, D)

Day 4 Today we drive back to Marrakech where we overnight in our hotel (B)

Day 5 Depart Morocco: transfer to the airport at Marrakech for your international flight. (B)



Important Note: Whilst we expect that the trek will run as per the itinerary, participants should accept that there is a possibility of changes being necessary subject to local conditions.

Minimum numbers and our pricing policy:

This trip is advertised based on a 4 person price based on twin sharing rooms. It can, however, be run with just 1 person. If the 4 person twin share price is not relevant to your party, we will quote according to the number of participants and the number of single / shared rooms that you require.

The Price Includes:

- Travel by jeep or minibus with private driver for 4 days from Marrakech and Merzouga, and back to Marrakech
- Accommodation for 3 nights in hotels and 1 night in Berber tent camp
- Meals: meals that are included are indicated in the itinerary above (B=breakfast, L=lunch, D=dinner)
- One camel per person for camel trek days 2 & 3, accompanied by chamelier.
- Airport transfers from Marrakech hotel to airport at end of extension

Not Included:

- Any entrance fees
- Meals not shown in the itinerary above.
- Travel Insurance
- Tips – see “Preparing for your trek” for our guidance on tipping
- Items of a personal nature such as drinks, laundry, telephone calls and souvenirs
- Sleeping bag – this is recommended for the desert bivouac. Blankets are provided, but if you prefer you should bring your own sleeping bag and/or sheet sleeping bag. In winter, the desert can be particularly cold and you may want extra warmth

Please note: You are recommended to bring a fleece or similar as evenings can be cool.

Options:

- The basic trip includes a driver and a chamelier (days 2-3). You can also choose to have a local english-speaking mountain/desert guide to accompany you for 4 days.
- Extra nights in the desert or in Marrakech possible upon request.

Zagora Camels & Desert Extension

3 nights / 4 days starts/ends Marrakech

Outline Itinerary



Day 1 From Marrakech we drive for about 4½ hours in jeeps or minibus over the Atlas mountains to the fortified village (*ksar*) of Ait Benhaddou. This fine example of Kasbah architecture has been designated a UNESCO World Heritage Site. It is popular with filmmakers, and was

famously used for filming *Gladiator*. We stay near here in a hotel for the night, allowing us plenty of opportunity to explore the Kasbah. (B, D)

Day 2 From Ait Benhaddou we drive for about 3½ hours down past huge palmeries to the town of Zagora. A further 1½ hours takes us to our rendezvous with the chameliers where we meet our camels. It is around a 2 hour trek with the camels to our desert camp where we can take in the wonderful surroundings and the stillness of the desert. (B, D)

Day 3 We trek back out in the morning after a memorable Saharan sunrise. It is an all-day drive back to Marrakech via Ouarzazate. We overnight in our hotel in Marrakech, where you can enjoy the souks and the life of the Djema el Fna for a final evening. (B)

Day 4 Depart Morocco: transfer to the airport at Marrakech for your international flight. (B)

Important Note: Whilst we expect that the trek will run as per the itinerary, participants should accept that there is a possibility of changes being necessary subject to local conditions.

Minimum numbers and our pricing policy:

This trip is advertised based on a 4 person price based on twin sharing rooms. It can, however, be run with just 1 person. If the 4 person twin share price is not relevant to your party, we will quote according to the number of participants and the number of single / shared rooms that you require.

The Price Includes:

- Travel by jeep or minibus with private driver for 3 days from Marrakech to Zagora, and back to Marrakech
- Accommodation for 2 nights in hotels and 1 night in Berber tent camp
- Meals: meals that are included are indicated in the itinerary above (B=breakfast, L=lunch, D=dinner)
- One camel per person for camel trek days 2 & 3, accompanied by chamelier.
- Airport transfers from Marrakech hotel to airport at end of extension

Not Included:

- Any entrance fees
- Meals not shown in the itinerary above.
- Travel Insurance
- Tips – see “Preparing for your trek” for our guidance on tipping
- Items of a personal nature such as drinks, laundry, telephone calls and souvenirs
- Sleeping bag – this is recommended for the desert bivouac. Blankets are provided, but if you prefer you should bring your own sleeping bag and/or sheet sleeping bag. In winter, the desert can be particularly cold and you may want extra warmth

Please note: You are recommended to bring a fleece or similar as evenings can be cool.

Options:

- The basic trip includes a driver and a chamelier (days 2-3). You can also choose to have a local english-speaking mountain/desert guide to accompany you for 4 days.
- Extra nights in the desert or in Marrakech possible upon request.

Essaouira Extension

3 nights / 4 days starts/ends Marrakech

Essaouira is the perfect place to relax after a trek. The coastal village is very relaxed – wander along the fishing harbour, enjoy the beaches, walk along the coast, or indulge in some shopping and sample the catch of the day from one of the many restaurants.



Outline Itinerary

Day 1 From Marrakech it is approximately just 2½ hours (not including rest stops) travelling time by road to the delightful resort of Essaouira

Day 2 Free day in Essaouira. Why not walk along the coastal paths, laze on the beaches and then enjoy the evening catch in one of the many restaurants?

Day 3 Return to Marrakech. Chance to explore the souks of Marrakech, overnight in hotel.

Day 4 Depart Morocco: transfer to airport for your international flight.

Important Note: Whilst we expect that the trek will run as per the itinerary, participants should accept that there is a possibility of changes being necessary subject to local conditions.

Minimum numbers and our pricing policy:

This trip is advertised based on a 3 person price based on twin sharing rooms. It can, however, be run with just 1 person. If the 3 person price is not relevant to your party, we will quote according to the number of participants and the number of single / shared rooms that you require.

The Price Includes:

- Journeys by road between Marrakech and Essaouira.
- Accommodation for 2 nights Essaouira – choose either a hotel or a mid-range riad hotel with shower and wc and inclusive of breakfast
- 1 night accommodation in Marrakech
- Airport transfers from Marrakech hotel to airport at end of extension

Not Included:

- Any local guide and entrance fees
- Local taxis between hotels and public bus stations, where applicable.
- Meals other than breakfasts in Essaouira
- Travel Insurance
- Tips – see “Preparing for your trek” for our guidance on tipping
- Items of a personal nature such as drinks, laundry, telephone calls and souvenirs

Options:

Accommodation: You can either stay in a hotel or a treat yourself to a mid-range riad in Essaouira. Single rooms are also possible for a supplement.

Travel: You can either travel by public coach or private transfer (private tourist taxi or minibus).

Length of stay: Extra time in Essaouira or Marrakech can also be arranged.