


The Sahara & High Atlas

Hotel-to-hotel  guided walking and sightseeing

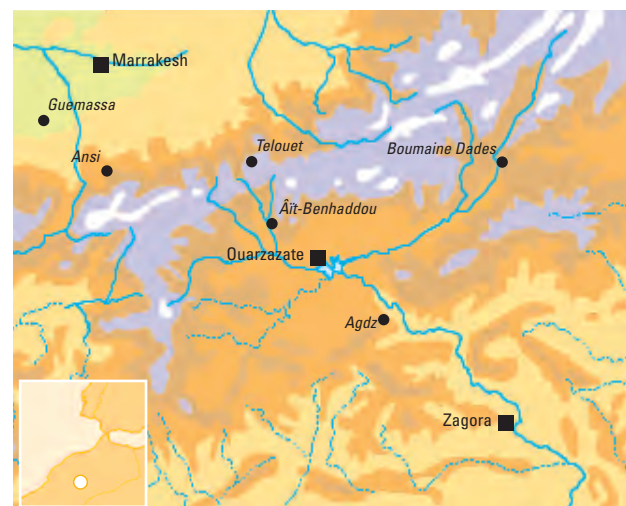
- All the best bits of central and southern Morocco – one of the world's most exotic countries
- ★★★★★ and ★★★★★★ hotels, swimming pools throughout
- Exciting mix of rambles and sightseeing
- Mountain passes, palm-frilled oases, magnificent Dades Gorge
- Imperial Marrakesh; stunning Ouarzazate; views over the Sahara



This holiday covers the best parts of central and southern Morocco. You'll explore the High Atlas, the edge of the Sahara, the oases, desert towns, and mountains between.

It's a mix of sightseeing and walking in groups of up to twelve, using a minibus to get you about and up to altitude, led by a knowledgeable English speaking guide. None of the walking is strenuous (about 1-hour), and we'll adapt the itineraries depending on how people get on with the temperature and altitude changes.

The emphasis is very much on adventure by day and comfort by night. We use ★★★★★ and ★★★★★★ hotels throughout with swimming pools and extensive gardens. We include dinner, bed and breakfast in Ouarzazate and Zagora, and a mixture of half board and bed and breakfast in Marrakesh (which has many good and inexpensive restaurants). You pay locally for all other meals: budget around \$13 for lunch or dinner in Berber inns.



THE SAHARA & HIGH ATLAS | DAY BY DAY

Day 1 Arrive in Marrakesh

We meet you at Marrakesh airport and take you to your hotel (20 mins).

Day 2 Marrakesh to Ouarzazate

This morning we drive through the High Atlas, crossing the Tichka Pass (2,260m) to Ouarzazate stopping en-route at the cream and chocolate kasbahs of Ait Benhaddou.

Day 3 Ouarzazate & Gorges du Dades

Gentle pottering today as we set off in the minibus, via Skoura, to explore part of the 'Road of 1000 Kasbahs' and the rose-growing oases of Dades Valley. In the afternoon we visit the magnificent Gorges du Dades around Boumaine before heading back to Ouarzazate.

Day 4 Ouarzazate to Sahara Desert

South-east today, through the extraordinary lunar landscape of the Drâa valley. Our destination is Zagora, an oasis on the edge of the desert. From here camel caravans set off for Timbuktu (52 days). Walk up to the 11C fortress nearby for great views over the Sahara desert. We overnight in Zagora.

Day 5 Sahara Desert to Ouarzazate

We descend to Tamegroute to see the C12 Vellum Scrolls then back along the Drâa Valley stopping off at Agdz to see the kasbah tucked up against the cliff face of the Djebel Kissane. Back to Ouarzazate through the Tiz'n Tiniffit.

Day 6 Ouarzazate to Marrakesh

Back through the High Atlas for the Red City. En route a visit to Telouët, power base of the Glaoui, Lords of the Atlas. Nowadays it's occupied by former slaves, their families, and many nesting storks.

Day 7 Exploring Marrakesh

In the morning we take a guided tour of Marrakesh and the Great Souk, one of Africa's busiest markets. The afternoon is free to 'do' the city's palaces and museums, or simply relax by the hotel pool.

Day 8 Marrakesh / Asni / Marrakesh

A short drive through Asni and up into the mountains. Then spend the day walking the mule paths through the high valleys around Mt Toubkal, North Africa's highest peak (alt 4,176m). It's beautiful, verdant countryside, with many magnificent views.

Day 9 The Foothills of the High Atlas

A drive to Guemassa or Amizmiz for a day's walking amongst the foothills of the High Atlas. En route visit a Berber village and bustling market to select fresh local produce for lunch, which may be eaten on the escarpment, where there are breathtaking views over the plains and reservoir. We return to Marrakesh in time for dinner.

Day 10 Free day

A free day to wander around Marrakesh's atmospheric souks and stock up on local spices. For a complete contrast why not take a peaceful walk around the Majorelle Gardens (dedicated to its late owner, Yves St Laurent) and visit the *Palmerie* (palm plantation) for an hour or two of peace and tranquility. Or simply relax around the hotel pool.

Day 11 Leave Marrakesh



"A memorable and enjoyable holiday: well planned, well varied and well executed. Thanks to an outstanding local leader!"

Mr D Bythell

Dates and Prices

Departs selected Fridays

2012 departures	Tour Only
Dec 7	\$3,298
Jan 13	\$3,298
Feb 3, Nov 9	\$3,298
Oct 12	\$3,298
Mar 2	\$3,298
Apr 6	\$3,298

2013 departures	Tour Only
Jan 18	\$3,298
Feb 15	\$3,298
Apr 12	\$3,554
Mar 22	\$3,623

Singles: Add \$57 per night except Apr 6 2012 and Mar 22 2013 when \$89 per night.

Child: This holiday is unsuitable for children under 12.

Room upgrade: Prices from \$26 per person, per night, based on 2 sharing.

Holiday type: Guided walking and sightseeing, hotel-to-hotel, groups of typically 4-12 people on each tour.

Departs: Selected Fridays from Jan 13 2012 to Apr 12 2013.

Duration: 11 days (10 nights).

Meals: Continental breakfast and 8 evening meals.

Other details: For "What your holiday price includes," see "Holiday Planning" section pp 48-51.

Tailor-made travel choices

Nearest Arrival Airport: Marrakesh Menara Airport

Flights can be arranged from most US/CANADA airports, with connecting transfers as required, prices and details on request.

The above prices include our standard transfers: Marrakesh Menara Airport at 12:40, (transfer to hotel, 20 mins, provided).

Return: Marrakesh Menara Airport by 11:30 (transfer provided).

Tour only: Transfers included from Marrakesh Menara airport at 12:40, and back to Marrakesh Menara airport departing hotel at 11:00.

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THE SAHARA & HIGH ATLAS | WHERE YOU STAY



Hotel Es Saadi
★★★★★

Marrakesh Days 1+6+7+8+9+10



Hotel Karam Palace
★★★★

Ouarzazate



Hotel Palais Asmaa
★★★★

Zagora

Day 4

For extra nights we recommend Marrakesh.

THE SAHARA & HIGH ATLAS | WALKING DETAILS

This holiday is a mix of gentle walking and sightseeing, transfers provided throughout. There are no major ascents, or descents, and a head for heights is not necessary. Most of the walking is on off-road sandy tracks (occasional stony paths). On the days when you are travelling to and from Marrakesh, we break the journey every 45 minutes or so, in order that you can enjoy short local strolls in the various places en-route.



Average daytime temperature (°C):

19 FEB 20 MAR 21 APR 25 MAY 26 SEP 21 OCT 20 NOV



Average monthly rainfall (mm):

61 FEB 90 MAR 57 APR 41 MAY 19 SEP 70 OCT 67 NOV

Note: The above temperatures reflect the cities - you should expect it to be considerably cooler in the mountains.

Further details at www.breakaway-adventures.com