



MOROCCO

May 5-15, 2022

**Casablanca - Rabat - Fes - Meknes - Volubilis -
Sahara Desert - Atlas Mountains - Marrakech**



Marrakech



Beth-El synagogue in Casablanca

MAP OF MOROCCO



DATE	DESCRIPTION	ACCOMMODATION	MEALS
Thursday May 5, 2022	Arrive Casablanca	Barcelo Casablanca	D
Friday May 6, 2022	Casablanca – Fes	Ryad Myra Fez	B L D
Saturday May 7, 2022	Fes	Ryad Myra Fes	B L
Sunday May 8, 2022	Fes	Ryad Myra Fez	B L
Monday May 9, 2022	Fes - Erfoud	Chergui Hotel	B L D
Tuesday May 10, 2022	Erfoud - Merzouga	Private Luxury Camp	B L D
Wednesday May 11, 2022	Merzouga - Ouarzazate	Kenzi Azghor	B L D
Thursday May 12, 2022	Ouarzazate – Marrakech	Atlas Medina & SPA	B L D
Friday May 13, 2022	Marrakech	Atlas Medina & SPA	B D
Saturday May 14, 2022	Marrakech	Atlas Medina & SPA	B L D
Sunday May 15, 2022	Depart Marrakech		B

B = Breakfast L = Lunch D = Dinner

Day-1

Thursday May 5, 2022

Arrival to Casablanca

Morning: Group arrival to Casablanca airport

After clearing completing customs and immigration procedures you will be met by your guide and transferred to your hotel.

Casablanca is Morocco's largest metropolis and its industrial hub. Discover the city's rich architectural heritage made from a blend of French-colonial design and traditional Moroccan style which is known as Moresque architecture. Developed back in the 1930s and heavily influenced by Art Deco, it embraced decorative details such as intricate tile work and ornate iron balconies. You will notice that some of the era's gems have been magnificently restored, whilst others lie in disrepair.

Today's morning is to explore Casablanca. Drive through Place Mohammed V is a grand centerpiece of the French revival scheme. The vast square is surrounded by an impressive array of facades and colonial buildings lining many of the neighboring streets.

Continue to pass the Habbous Quarter and Casablanca's humble medina that gives an idea of how small the city used to be before the French embarked with their immense building agenda.

The landmark and the highlight of the city must be *Hassan II Mosque*, this phenomenal building is one of the world's largest mosques. It was built to commemorate the former king's (Hassan II) 60th birthday and opened in 1993. Built on reclaimed land, half of the surface of the mosque lies over the Atlantic Ocean; taking the verse from the Quran that states: God's throne was built upon the water.

01.00pm: Lunch in a local restaurant

And the **Mohammed V mausoleum**, it is one of the greatest monuments of modern Morocco, which was inaugurated in 1967. The deceased king lies entombed in white onyx, surrounded by royal guards.

Your city tour of Rabat includes the visit of **Kasbah des Oudayas**, A pleasant place to take a stroll, see some sights and admire some interesting scenery. The Kasbah was the Almohad citadel of medieval Rabat and is guarded by an impressive arched gate built around 1195. Inside the Kasbah is a Palace and Andalusian gardens, as well as a broad terrace, where you can enjoy the beautiful views of the river and sea.

1:00 PM - Lunch in Rabat –

Afterwards, you will continue your trip overland to Fes, the country's intellectual center for centuries. Fez is one of the most complete medieval cities in the world.

Approx. 6:00 PM - Arrive to your hotel in the early evening.

Check-in and time at leisure.

8:00 PM - Shabbat dinner at the hotel with Jewish Community members

Overnight: Ryad Myra Fez **3 Nights**
Meal Plan: Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner

Day-3
Saturday May 7,2022

Fes Sightseeing

Enjoy breakfast at hotel.

Pick up time: 09:30

Today you will take a step back in time to the Middle Ages when you will visit Fes El Bali, the largest living medieval medina-city and the cultural heart of Morocco.

You will explore some of the nine thousand narrow lanes, alleys, and souks that make-up the labyrinth of the city's old quarter, originally founded in the eighth century AD by Moulay Idriss I. The medieval Medina is a UNESCO World Heritage Site.

Enjoy a walking tour through **the medina** will start from Bab Boujloud down to the former house of Maimounid to see the water clock. The route continues via Talaa El Kebira & down to the Nejjarine Square, with its beautiful fountain made up of mosaic and elaborate tilework. The nearby Funduk (caravan serial) has been converted to a museum of carpentry artifacts.

The promenade in the souks will be highlighted by specific **Culinary Encounters** and **Gastronomic Wonders** such as preserved lemon, Bissara - dried fava beans soup - or Lham Ras - a cooked sheep head. One of the many specialties Fes is renowned for is Khlea - a preserved beef - the strips of meat are marinated with cumin, coriander and garlic and then dried in the sun for days before being cooked in a mixture of animal fat. The meat, once cooled, will keep for a couple of years when packed in its own fat. Moroccans use it to make fried eggs and usually eat it for breakfast.

Unchanged for thousands of years, Moroccan bread is still cooked in a traditional furnace, commonly called Farnatchi. Taste some hot freshly baked bread, made of whole-wheat or barley, both of which have a unique flavor.

From fresh vegetable and fruits to diverse herbs, passing by the olive's stand and intriguing spices, marvel, smell, touch, taste to discover the basis of Moroccan cuisine. On your way, stop to sample some honey. Mixed with distinctive herbs, each is a cure for a special disease.

The Imperial capital was a renowned centre of medieval learning and at its heart lies the Karaouine, one of the oldest, still-functioning universities in the world.

In the neighbouring building is the Attarine Medersa (Koranic college), a jewel of Hispano-Moorish architecture, built in the 14th century.

1:00 PM - Lunch during the tour in a Moroccan restaurant

After lunch, will head to **Fez Jdid** (the new Fez), an extension to Fez El Bali (the old medina). Fez Jdid was the first new town developed by the Merinids from the 13th century! The quarter also includes the Mellah, former Jewish quarter, with its cemetery and the Royal Palace which is not open to the public but whose impressive main gate can be admired on the Southern side (Place Des Alaouite).

Afterwards, you will drive to **“El Fekhara”** (pottery workshop) to learn about the famous Moroccan pottery. For over 6 centuries Fez has been proud to produce the finest Moroccan pottery.

The beauty of this pottery comes from complex knowledge passed from father to son. All pottery is hand crafted in the century’s old traditional way.

Approx. 5:30 PM – Return to Hotel.

Dinner at leisure

Overnight: Barcelo Fez

Meal Plan: Breakfast &

DAY-4

Sunday May 8, 2022

MEKNES & VOLUBILIS

(65km/1hr each way)

Pick up time: 09:00

After breakfast you head towards Meknes; one of the Imperial Cities of Morocco where the monuments reflect the splendor of this 17th century. You will begin with a visit to the Bab Mansour gateway one of the best known and admired of Meknes' grand gates. The Gate leads

from the Imperial City and Lalla Aouda esplanade to El-Hdim Square. The city was subscribed as a UNESCO patrimonial in 1996.

You will also visit the granaries and stables of the great Moulay Ismail. The city walls of Meknes stretch for 25 kilometers interspersed with ceremonial fortress-style and utilitarian gates. The most spectacular gate is Bab Mansour named after the architect a Christian slave converted to Islam. Also, peer into his lavish mausoleum.

01:00pm: Lunch in a local restaurant in Meknes

After lunch, drive towards Volubilis which was originally inhabited by the Phoenicians, this was a key Roman outpost looking over the valleys and mountains. The evocative ruins include a Roman olive factory with storage facilities and foundations of the luxurious house of Orpheus showing sophisticated plumbing and heating systems as well as finely preserved mosaics.

The Forum was the center of life in Volubilis with the arches of the Basilica and the columned Capitol still standing. Visit the stately landmark of the Triumphal Arch and the main street lined by the remains of houses and palaces. The mosaics at Volubilis are what make this site so spectacular. Even if several the monuments were dismantled for their marble which was used in the construction of the palaces at Meknes the mosaics were left intact. The city was subscribed as a UNESCO patrimonial in 1997.

Drive back to Fes in the late afternoon and time at leisure.

Overnight: Barcelo Fez

Meal Plan: Breakfast & Lunch

Day-5

**Monday May 9,
2022**

Fez to Midelt (185km/3h15 drive)

Midelt to Erfoud (225km/3h30 drive)

TOTAL: FEZ – ERFOUD (410km/6hrs45mn)

Enjoy breakfast at hotel.

Pick up time: 08:00

Today, enjoy a long drive through the Middle Atlas into the south. Morning break in the quiet French built alpine resort of Ifrane. Continue your drive crossing the verdant cedar forests that give way to volcanic mountains and wind-swept plains as you drive across the Middle Atlas range to Midelt.

1:00 PM - Lunch at KASBAH TADDART

Then, descend into the spectacular Ziz Gorges and arrive in Errachidia, an important crossroad once controlled by the French Foreign Legion.

Afterwards, the landscape becomes progressively more arid as you enter a stony desert. On your last stretch to Erfoud, an unexpected and breathtaking change of scenery the astonishing and peaceful oasis of the Ziz Valley.

Approx. 5:00 PM - Arrive to Erfoud in the early evening.

A small town on the edge of the desert, and discover its quarry, where fossils have been discovered. More than four hundred million years ago, the desert area of Morocco was a sea. When the sea receded, the marine life died and later became fossilised. Today the mining of these fossilised rocks is a growing and popular industry in this part of Morocco. You will have the opportunity to admire how these Goniatitida and Trilobites are used to produce beautiful decorative objects ranging from a plate to a table.

Check-in at your hotel and time at leisure.

08:00 PM - Dinner at the hotel's Main Restaurant.

Overnight: Chergui Hotel

1 Night

Standard Room
Meal Plan: Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner

Day-6
Tuesday May 10, 2022

Erfoud to Merzouga
(60km/45min)

Please Note:

This morning check-out from your room and keep your hand luggage for overnight stay at the luxury Camp in Merzouga. Please handover your big luggage to your guide who will manage it to the bus driver to be kept in the bus.

Enjoy breakfast at hotel.

Pick up time: 10:30

Today you will discover the Tafilalet region, famous for its savoury dates and gorgeous scenery. Your sightseeing will include a visit to Rissani, the last visible point of the Ziz River, which from the 8th to the 14th century was the site of the first independent kingdom of the south.

While in Rissani you will stroll in the centuries-old palm grove and discover beautiful Ksars. An amusing highlight of this visit will be the fascinating donkey parking area.

You will also see Erfoud's quarry, where fossils have been discovered. More than four hundred million years ago, the desert area of Morocco was a sea. When the sea receded, the marine life died and later became fossilised. Today the mining of these fossilised rocks is a growing and popular industry in this part of Morocco.

You will have the opportunity to admire how these Goniatitida and Trilobites are used to produce beautiful decorative objects ranging from plates to tables.

1:00 PM - Lunch at the hotel's Main Restaurant.

In the late afternoon, travel by 4-Wheel Drive vehicles amongst the desert dunes of Erg Chebbi en route to your tented-camp site.

The desert is rocky to begin with, like a drum roll preparing you for the upcoming Sahara dunes that you can distinguish in the distance. Then comes the sand, warm and mysterious, never knowing what is hidden behind a dune. One of the hills will reveal your magical tented camp, settled in the middle of nowhere.

On arrival, you enjoy a reception with mint tea, before starting off via camelback to begin your exploration of the desert sand dunes of Erg Chebbi.

Individual tents with a warm and cosy decoration will welcome you for the night, while the sounds of the Sahara lull you to sleep.

08:00 PM - In the evening savour a mouth-watering dinner – complete with campfire and traditional entertainment (*Gnaoua Band – fifteen minutes performance*).

Overnight: **Luxury Private Camp** **1 Night**
 Deluxe Tent
Meal Plan: **Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner**

Day-7 Wed May 11, 2022	Camp to Erfoud (60km/45min,1h drive)
	Erfoud to Tinghir (142km/2h30 drive with 1 stop)
	Tinghir to Ouarzazate (169km/3h drive with 1 stop)
	TOTAL: MERZOUGA - OUARZAZATE (371km/6hrs)

Enjoy breakfast at Camp.

Pick up time: 09:00

Today you will travel overland to Ouarzazate. The city was once a stopping point for African traders on route to the cities of Morocco and Europe.

On route, enjoy a scenic drive through the Todra Gorges and the even more impressive, picturesque oases that they hide.

You will travel through the southern slopes of the High Atlas range, following the Dades Valley and passing flourishing crops, irrigation canals and palm trees.

Following the 1000 Kasbahs Road, you will marvel at the breath-taking vistas of impressive, ancient Kasbahs nestled in lush palm groves.

Along the way you will make a stop to visit an amazing, small private museum in a Ksar near Tingherir, which houses exhibits that display the local art, culture, and history.

12:30 PM - Lunch in Tinghir

Your journey will cross the little city of Skoura, nestled in a gorgeous palm grove and continue to your hotel in Ouarzazate.

Approx. 5:30 PM - Arrive to your hotel in the late afternoon, check-in, and time at leisure.

The city of Ouarzazate was built as a French garrison in the 1920s. Today it is a regional trade centre known for pottery and carpets. The town is chiefly inhabited by Berbers, who constructed many of the prominent kasbahs and buildings for which the area is famous for.

08:00 PM - Dinner at the hotel's Main Restaurant.

Overnight:	Kenzi Azghor Superior Room	1 Night
Meal Plan:	Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner	

Day-8
Thu May 12, 2022

**Ouarzazate to Ait Benhaddou (45min
drive)**
**Ait Benhaddou to Marrakech (4h drive
with 1 stop)**
**TOTAL: OUARZAZATE – MARRAKECH
(204km/4hrs)**

This morning check-out from your room and handover your luggage to your guide for being transferred to your next hotel by a separate luggage van.

Enjoy breakfast at hotel.

Pick up time: 09:00

Start today's journey with a visit to the Glaoui Kasbah of Taourirt.

The Glaoui brothers were the most powerful tribal leaders at the turn of the century and the Kasbah of Taourirt is one of the most beautiful Kasbahs in all of Morocco. It consists of a network of luxury apartments, simple clay houses and crenelated towers which are beautifully decorated with geometric motifs. Then, you will continue to a location that has played a leading role in motion picture history - the fortified village of Ait Benhaddou - the most exotic and best-preserved Kasbah in the whole of the Atlas region.

The village has starred in many masterpieces of the cinema such as "Lawrence of Arabia," "Jesus of Nazareth," "Gladiator" and "The Mummy."

1:00 PM - Lunch at LA KASBAH restaurant

Afterwards you will travel to Marrakech; known as the Pearl of the South, Marrakech highlights all the magic and diversity that Morocco

has to offer. It is also the Ochre City that gave the country its name, this exotic and friendly gem of the south is a complete change of scenery.

As you drive over the Tizi N'Tichka Pass, the highest in the region at 2,260 metres (7,415 ft), you will stop to marvel at the views and take some pictures.

Approx. 6:00 PM - Arrive to your hotel in the late afternoon.

Check-in and time at leisure.

08:00 PM - Dinner at the hotel's Main Restaurant.

Overnight: Atlas Medina & SPA 3 Nights

Meal Plan: Breakfast & Lunch

**Day-9
Friday May 13, 2022**

Marrakech Sightseeing

Enjoy breakfast at hotel.

Pick up time: 09:00

Today you are invited to Explore Marrakech, renowned for its architectural wonders, historical monuments, the mystical medina, and it is thrilling souks.

Start your visit with Bahia Palace, with its luxurious decorations, elaborate pediments, painted walls, cedar wood panelling, cedarwood coffered ceilings, geometric and floral motifs, and Andalusian Arab-style zelliges.

Walk through the Labyrinth of Souks. This maze of colourful alleys and small squares is home to a bewildering number of stalls and ateliers. Every section of the souk has its own specialty, with alleys devoted to

everything from spices and ironwork to the ingredients necessary for casting magic spells.

Emerging, you find yourself in the famous Jamaa el Fna, the city's main square. No one is certain how it came into being, but over the years the square has become the beating heart of Marrakech, where fire eaters, mime artists, snake charmers and street musicians perform at every turn.

01:00pm - Lunch in a local restaurant

Shabbat services at the local synagogue followed by Shabbat dinner with Kadosh Family at traditional Moroccan tent.

Overnight: Atlas Medina & SPA

Meal Plan: Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner

Overnight: Atlas Medina & SPA

Meal Plan: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Day-10

Saturday May 14, 2022

Marrakech gardens

Enjoy breakfast at hotel.

Pick up time: 09:30

Today is dedicated to exploring Marrakech green oasis and be the star among the opulent flowers.

Your full day tour includes visit to ***Le Jardin Majorelle*** (Majorelle Gardens), originally designed in 1924 by French artist Jacques Majorelle.

After taking up residence in Marrakech, Majorelle transformed the property's existing garden into a tropical paradise, surrounded by vivid

cobalt blue buildings with verdant exotic groves, lily-covered pools, and enormous sculptural cactuses.

After Majorelle's death, the property was purchased by the famous Couture fashion designer Yves Saint-Laurent who established a trust to protect the future existence of the gardens.

In the heart of Majorelle gardens, guests will discover the Berber Museum, paying tribute to Berber culture and displaying an impressive collection of authentic Berber jewelry and traditional costumes.

Then, ***Yves Saint Laurent Museum*** - the newborn of Marrakech green oasis,

1:00 PM - Lunch at Dar Rhizlane – Mediterranean Cuisine

Back to your hotel in the late afternoon and time at leisure.

In the evening you find yourself in the famous Jamaa el Fna, the city's main square. No one is certain how it came into being, but over the years the square has become the beating heart of Marrakech, where fire eaters, mime artists, snake charmers and street musicians perform at every turn. Farewell dinner at Alfassia Aguedal, a traditional Moroccan style cuisine.

Overnight: Atlas Medina & SPA

Meal Plan: Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner

Day-11

Sunday May 15, 2022

Departure day

Enjoy breakfast at hotel.

Meal Plan: *Breakfast*

**** BON VOYAGE ****

I traveled to Morocco with Tiyul in April 2018. Tiyul Jewish Journeys and its founder, Ariel Goldstein are top notch. Ariel an experienced Tour Director guides you through seamlessly with his specialty knowledge of each destination. He picks his destination specifically and his passion for these spots are clear. The Jewish history is woven into the itinerary, so you are learning as you explore the region.

The participants are multigenerational from all over the country which makes for new and interesting conversation. As a travel professional for over 20 years, I appreciated the attention to detail from inception to completion. Tiyul Jewish Journeys and Ariel is a trip not to be missed.

Alison Blue
Los Angeles, CA



Bonnie, Ariel and Alison enjoying the sunset at luxury camp in the Sahara Desert

Scholar: Aziz Mikdar



Aziz Mikdar has been organizing itineraries and guiding various guests through Morocco for over 30 years. He believes that people visiting Morocco should explore the country each in their own, unique and personalized way. This continues to be one of his guiding principles.

Aziz is a graduate of the University of Fes and holds two degrees, History and Literature. He lives in

Fes with his wife and is a father of two grown sons and three grandchildren

Tour leader: Ariel Goldstein



Ariel Goldstein is the CEO of TIYUL. Ariel studied tourism at Hebrew University in Jerusalem and has been leading tours throughout Israel, Europe, the Persian Gulf, Latin America, Africa, India, China, and US for 20 years. He speaks Spanish, English, Hebrew, and Portuguese.

He organized and led four trips to Morocco.



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