



TRAVEL ITINERARY

3 Days Desert Trip From Marrakech to Merzouga

3 Days / 2 Nights

Marrakech

Private Tour

From 1 traveller

TOUR ROUTE

Marrakech → Ait Benhaddou → Boumalne Dades → Tinghir → Merzouga → Rissani → Alnif → Ouarzazate → Marrakech

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TRIP OVERVIEW

3 Days Desert Trip From Marrakech to Merzouga

Set off on an extraordinary 3-day tour from Marrakech to Merzouga, crossing the majestic High Atlas Mountains, exploring ancient kasbahs and losing yourself in the golden dunes of the Sahara. This private tour guarantees a genuine Moroccan experience, including a sunset camel ride, a night at a luxury desert camp and stargazing beneath the vast Saharan sky.

DURATION

3 Days / 2 Nights

DEPARTURE

Marrakech

TYPE

Private tour

GROUP SIZE

From 1 traveller

LANGUAGES

English, Spanish, French

DEPARTURES

Daily

HIGHLIGHTS

Highlights

- ✓ Cross the Tizi n'Tichka pass in the High Atlas Mountains
- ✓ Visit the Kasbah of Ait Ben Haddou, a UNESCO World Heritage Site
- ✓ Explore the striking Dades and Todra canyons
- ✓ Enjoy a sunset camel ride across the Erg Chebbi dunes
- ✓ Spend a magical night at a luxury desert camp with Berber music
- ✓ Watch a spectacular sunrise over the desert

TOUR ROUTE

Tour route

Marrakech → Ait Benhaddou → Boumalne Dades → Tinghir → Merzouga → Rissani → Alnif → Ouarzazate → Marrakech



DAY-BY-DAY ITINERARY

Day-by-day itinerary

DAY
1

Marrakech → Ait Ben Haddou → Dades Canyons

Your 3-day tour from Marrakech begins with an early pick-up at your hotel or riad in Marrakech. You drive through the High Atlas Mountains, crossing the striking Tizi n'Tichka pass (2,260 m), with panoramic views over rugged landscapes.

Your first major stop is the Kasbah of Ait Ben Haddou, a World Heritage Site and one of Morocco's most iconic places. This old fortified village has appeared in films such as *Gladiator* and *Game of Thrones*. You will have time to explore its lanes and learn about its rich history.

After a traditional lunch at a local restaurant, you continue to Ouarzazate, known as “the Hollywood of Morocco”. Here you can choose to visit the Atlas Film Studios, where many international films were shot.

The journey then takes you through the Valley of Roses (especially lovely in spring, when the roses are in bloom) before reaching the striking Dades Canyons, famous for their rock formations. You spend the night in a comfortable hotel or riad, enjoying a hot dinner and unwinding in the calm of the valley.

**Accommodation:** Night in Dades — Riad Gabsi or similarDAY
2

Dades Canyons → Todra Gorges → Merzouga Desert

After breakfast you head for the Todra Gorges, one of Morocco's most spectacular canyons, with cliffs rising up to 300 metres. It is a perfect spot for a short walk or simply to take in the scenery.

Next you pass through the lush Tinghir Oasis, where palm groves and traditional Berber villages form a peaceful contrast with the arid landscapes. There is a lunch stop in a nearby village before continuing on towards the Sahara.

As you approach Merzouga, the golden dunes of Erg Chebbi appear on the horizon, marking the start of your desert adventure. Here you join a camel caravan for a sunset ride across the dunes. This calm passage over soft sand is an unforgettable experience, with striking views as the sun goes down.

On reaching your luxury desert camp you are welcomed with mint tea and shown to your private tent, with comfortable beds and an en-suite bathroom. The evening continues with a delicious Moroccan dinner, followed by live Berber music around a fire. When night falls, the star-filled Saharan sky is the perfect setting for stargazing before you sleep in the heart of the desert.

 **Accommodation:** Night in Merzouga — Tawada Camp or similar



Merzouga → Rissani → Alnif → Ouarzazate → Marrakech

This is a long but deeply scenic day of travel. It begins with a magical Saharan sunrise, followed by breakfast and a camel ride back to the village of Merzouga. From there you set off west, stopping first in the historic town of Rissani.

Rissani is home to a bustling traditional market, a living, authentic souk where you can feel the region's age-old trading spirit. After exploring, you continue through a striking lunar landscape along the road through Alnif, marked by vast black stone deserts and rugged mountains.

This route takes you back to Ouarzazate. You will have time to visit the impressive Taourirt Kasbah, a fine example of earthen architecture, before starting the final leg of your journey. You cross the High Atlas Mountains once more, arriving back in the vibrant red city of Marrakech in the evening, bringing your grand tour of Morocco's varied landscapes to a close.

Please note: the hotels listed are mid-range. If you would like to upgrade to a luxury option, just get in touch. Rates may vary in high season and according to the accommodation you choose.

SERVICES

Included & not included

Included

- ✓ **Transport:** all ground transport in a private air-conditioned vehicle throughout the tour
- ✓ **Professional guide/driver:** a Spanish-speaking driver or tour guide throughout the route
- ✓ **Accommodation:** 3 nights as described in the itinerary

KEY EXPERIENCES AND ACTIVITIES

- ✓ Visit to Ait Ben Haddou (UNESCO World Heritage)

Not included

- ✗ Lunches and drinks
- ✗ Optional site entrance fees
- ✗ Tips for guides and drivers

- ✓ Visit to Ouarzazate and its film studios
- ✓ Scenic stops at the Tizi n'Tichka pass
- ✓ Dades Valley and the Todra Gorges
- ✓ **Camel ride:** one camel per person to reach the camp
- ✓ Camp experience with dinner and Berber music/entertainment
- ✓ **Final transfer:** drop-off at the end of the tour in Marrakech (airport or city accommodation)

PRICE AND CONDITIONS

Price and conditions

Important: Bear in mind that this 3-day tour is a suggested itinerary. If it doesn't match what you're looking for, don't hesitate to [contact us](#). We'll organize a different itinerary based on your preferences and the length of your trip. We offer customized tours and trips all around Morocco.

The price varies depending on the number of people: the more people join the tour, the lower the price per person. Since transportation has a fixed cost, it's shared among the travelers. The price also depends on the quality of the accommodation. [Contact us](#) for the exact price.

PRACTICAL INFORMATION

Practical information

Does this round trip drop me back in Marrakech at the end?

Yes, it is a circuit that starts and ends in Marrakech, so you can easily connect it with a departing flight from Marrakech or carry on with your stay in the city.

How many nights do you actually sleep in the desert over these 3 days?

One night is spent at the Berber tent camp in Erg Chebbi (Merzouga); the other is in a hotel along the way. Three days gives you a complete, if intensive, experience.

What are the Tizi n'Tichka mountain roads like — do they cause travel sickness?

The pass has many bends and tops out at 2,260 m. We stop often; if you are prone to motion sickness, sit in the front and bring medication in advance.

What does the night at the desert camp include?

A Berber dinner, breakfast, a private tent with bed and blankets, and shared bathrooms. Superior camps have en-suite bathrooms on request.

Can I leave my large suitcase in Marrakech and take only the essentials to the desert?

Yes. We recommend a small bag for two nights; your large luggage travels in the private vehicle for the whole circuit, so there is nothing to carry by hand.

Can this Marrakech circuit be extended with an extra night in the desert?

Of course. We can add a second night in Merzouga for an unhurried sunrise and more activities; we will prepare a revised quote for you.

PERSONALISED QUOTE

Would you like to take this trip?

A private departure, built around your dates. Groups of 4 or more pay less per person.

1

Tell us about your trip

Fill in the form or message us on WhatsApp. Tell us what interests you and these details, which are what we need to prepare the best proposal for you:

- How many of you are travelling.
- Exact dates (if your flights are booked) or the month you prefer.
- How many days you want to travel.
- Accommodation category: standard, superior or luxury.

2

Receive your tailor-made proposal

Within 24 hours we send you a day-by-day itinerary and the final price in a complete PDF. We adjust it together until it is exactly right.

3

Confirm your trip

Confirmed with a 30% deposit by PayPal, telling us the room and bed type you prefer (double or twin). You receive a formal confirmation and we start arranging everything.

Request a quote

 Message us on WhatsApp

 Send us an email

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Reply within 24 hours



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