

MOROCCO

CULTURAL EXPLORER TOUR



12 Days/11 Nights

6-17 May 2026

Tour Highlights...

Marrakesh Souks | Aït Benhaddou | Sahara Desert | Camel Trek | Gorges of Todra
Atlas Mountains | Erg Chabbi | Fez Medina | Dades Valley | Chefchaouen | Tangier



Summary

A journey of colour, culture, and connection—this tour is your invitation to experience the soul of North Africa in all its vibrant glory.

From the spice-scented souks of Marrakesh to the whitewashed streets of Tangier, this 12 day cultural tour of Morocco is a journey that stirs the senses and feeds the soul. Deep dive into a land where centuries-old traditions meet sweeping desert landscapes, intricate architecture, and a cultural kaleidoscope unlike anywhere else on Earth.

You'll wander through the labyrinthine medinas of Fez, uncover the Roman ruins and imperial legacy of Meknes, and stand in awe before the earthen beauty of Ait Benhaddou—each a UNESCO World Heritage treasure. Along the way, you'll be welcomed with Moroccan warmth, savour tagines and mint tea, and hear the rhythmic call to prayer echoing across timeless cities.

Whether you're marvelling at mosaic-tiled palaces or watching the sun set over the dunes, this tour offers a rich blend of history, hospitality, and heart. So grab your scarf, pack your curiosity, and join us for an unforgettable Moroccan adventure—where every turn is a story, every meal a celebration, and every moment a memory in the making.

Let's explore the wonders of Morocco—together.

ICON Adventures, PO Box 11406, Toowoomba QLD 4350

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Day 1 Salaam Aleikum! Welcome to Morocco (D)

Welcome to the land of kasbahs, mint tea, and more tagines than you can poke a cinnamon stick at! Touching down in Marrakech we will be met at the airport and whisked off to our accommodation to settle in and shake off the travel cobwebs. Tonight we gather with our new friends for a Welcome Dinner to learn about the magical journey ahead.

O/N 2 nts Riad Anya (or similar)

Day 2 Marrakesh Free Day (B,L,D)

Today's yours to explore Marrakech your way. Feeling adventurous? Dive straight into the colour and chaos of the souks, a full sensory extravaganza with lantern-lit laneways, spice-scented air, and charismatic shopkeepers ready to charm you into buying a carpet you didn't know you needed. Or maybe you'd rather ease into Morocco at a gentler pace? Find a rooftop café, order a mint tea, and watch the city swirl around you like a desert mirage. From the ancient medina to the rhythm of Jemaa el-Fna square, Marrakech is magic on every corner.

Day 3 Marrakesh to Dades (B,L,D)

Today we swap the city's buzz for the wild beauty of the High Atlas. As we wind our way up the Tizi n'Tichka Pass expect jaw-dropping views of valleys, kasbahs, and craggy peaks that look like they've been plucked from a storybook. By midday, we arrive at the stunning Ait Benhaddou, a red-earth fortress that's starred in *Gladiator*, *Game of Thrones*, and just about every desert epic worth its salt. But beyond the fame, this UNESCO-listed ksar has centuries of stories tucked into its adobe walls. We'll wander through its ancient alleys before heading on to the dramatic Dades Valley, where rugged cliffs welcome us to Morocco's spectacular south.

O/N 2 nts Kasbah Tizzarouine (or similar)

Day 4 Dades (B,L,D) Hike: 8km

Wake to the dramatic landscapes of the Dadès Valley and start the day with an invigorating hike into one of the Dades Valley's most iconic landscapes, the Money Fingers, also known as the Cliffs of Tamlalt. These surreal sandstone formations shaped over millennia into curves and pillars truly live up to their name. Enjoy spectacular views of the valley and the lush palm groves below as you follow well-marked paths, passing small Berber villages along the way. Return to Kasbah Tizzarouine for a relaxed afternoon. Take in panoramic views from the terrace, enjoy the tranquil gardens, or simply unwind by the pool. The peaceful setting offers the perfect counterpoint to the morning's adventure, letting you soak up the essence of the Dadès region without rushing.

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Day 5 Dades to Merzouga (B,L,D)

Wake up in the rugged beauty of the Dades Valley, where gravity-defying cliffs and kasbahs cling to canyon walls like they've always belonged. Heading east, the landscape flattens, and the Sahara whispers ahead. We stop at a family-run fossil workshop where ancient marine life like trilobites, ammonites, and starfish are embedded in stone. By afternoon, we reach the edge of the Erg Chebbi dunes where vast, golden waves of sand rise and fall like the sea. Here we leave the road behind and mount camels, riding slowly through the dunes into our desert camp. Once we arrive, we'll enjoy a traditional dinner and spend the night under the stars, enjoying the silence and peace and beauty of the desert.

O/N 1 nt Madu Luxury Camp (or similar)

Day 6 Merzouga to Tinghir (B,L,D)

Rise and shine—it's worth it! There's nothing quite like watching the sun stretch across the Sahara, turning shadows into shimmering gold. After breakfast at camp, we swap camel humps for 4x4s and roll across the dunes back to Merzouga, carrying a little desert magic in our boots. Heading north, we pass through Erfoud, the 'gateway to the Sahara', and visit the khettaras, ancient underground irrigation channels that once brought water (and hope) to this arid land. From here, the world slowly greens. The Tinghir palm grove welcomes us with rustling leaves, red-earth villages, and a splash of shade. By day's end, we reach Tinghir, where the mighty Todra Gorge rises like a stone cathedral.

O/N 1 nt Riad Dar Bab Todra

Day 7 Tinghir to Imilchil (B,L,D)

Today we journey into the heart of Berber country, where the Middle High Atlas reveals its rugged soul. We begin in Tinghir, where a lush ribbon of palm trees threads through red-earth villages and arid cliffs. After breakfast, we wander the mighty Todra Gorge, a jaw-dropping corridor of rock with walls soaring over 300 metres and a trickle of water still carving its way through stone. Leaving the canyon behind, we follow the road as it climbs higher into the mountains where the air gets crisper, the views get bigger. We arrive into Imilchil, a mountain village steeped in legend and lakes. Tonight we settle into a modest mountain guesthouse where the warmth comes from the fire, the food, and the stories passed around the table.

O/N 1 nt Hotel Izlane (or similar)

Day 8 Imilchil to Fez (B,L,D)

This morning, we wake in Imilchil, where Berber life hums to a timeless rhythm and legends still linger by the lakes. Upon leaving the town we descend through cedar forests, home to wild macaques that often appear along the roadside. A stroll among the trees refreshes the senses before we cruise into Ifrane, often called the 'Switzerland of Morocco' for its simple alpine architecture, manicured gardens and cool, crisp air. By late afternoon, we arrive in Fez, a city of artisans, scholars, and ancient stories. It's a stark and beautiful contrast to the quiet of the mountains, a return to urban life, but one deeply rooted in history and soul. The evening is yours to rest, explore, or simply absorb Morocco's spiritual capital.

O/N 2 nts Riad Toyour (or similar)

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Day 9 Fez (B,L,D)

Today, we dive headfirst into Fez el-Bali, the oldest part of the city and Morocco's soulful heart. Founded in the 9th century, this medina isn't just a UNESCO World Heritage Site, it's a living labyrinth, where every neighbourhood is home to a different craft passed down through generations. There's no set route today - Fez doesn't do straight lines. Instead, follow the scent of cedar, the clang of copper, or the swirl of colour through Souk El Attarine. Watch master craftsmen dye wool, shape ceramics, and bind leather books the way their grandfathers did. It's a place to get deliciously lost, and maybe find something you didn't know you were looking for. Fez is alive, and today, you get to witness a city that still moves to the rhythm of its ancestors.

Day 10 Fez to Chefchaouen (B,L,D)

Today we leave Fez behind and head toward the Rif Mountains, tracing Morocco's history across centuries and empires. Our first stop is Volubilis, a remarkably preserved Roman city where mosaics still sparkle, olive presses whisper of ancient industry, and you half expect a toga-clad senator to wander past. Next, we roll into Meknes, once the grand vision of Sultan Moulay Ismail and one of Morocco's four imperial cities and a UNESCO World Heritage Site. Massive gates, soaring granaries, and city walls still echo the sultan's imperial dreams. Then it's up into the Rif Mountains, winding into the serene beauty of Chefchaouen, the famous blue city. Quiet, calming, and a little magical, it's the perfect place to slow the pace. The evening is free to wander or simply settle into the calm that lives in its very walls.

O/N 1 nt Dar Yakout (or similar)

Day 11 Chefchaouen to Tangier (B,L,D)

Wake up in Chefchaouen, where the early light turns an already dreamy town into a watercolour painting. Take a wander through winding lanes of indigo and sky blue, past weathered walls and sleepy cats, before we bid farewell to the mountains and descend into greener valleys. By afternoon, we arrive in Tangier, where the Atlantic kisses the Med and the stories practically spill out of the sea air. Sailors, spies, poets, and eccentrics have all passed through this legendary port and you'll feel it in the breeze. Explore the medina's quiet maze of whitewashed walls, blue doors, and winding alleyways, where everyday life moves to a rhythm that hasn't changed in generations.

O/N 1 nt Dar Yasmine (or similar)

Day 12 Departure Day (B)

Today your journey through Morocco comes to an end (for now). Depending on your flight schedule, we'll arrange your transfer to the airport or port for a smooth and easy departure. If you're looking to extend your adventure, consider staying an extra night in Tangier, exploring another captivating city, or even adding a hiking day. Whatever you choose, one thing is certain: your memories of Morocco will linger long beyond the flight home.

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WORRY-FREE TIPPING

In Morocco, tipping is expected - it supplements wages, is part of everyday life and shows respect. You can choose to add it to your invoice so you don't have to think about it and focus on the fun - \$280pp

The Details:

PRICE INCLUDES

- Small-Group Escorted Tour - Min 6 - Max 12
- Australian Host
- Professional English-speaking tour leader and specialist cultural guides
- 10 nights superior quality accommodation + 1nt at a desert camp
- Meals as per itinerary 11B, 9L, 10D
- Group arrival and departure transfers, private transport throughout

ADDITIONAL ARRANGEMENTS OFFERED:

- Booking flights
- Travel insurance
- Pre or post tour travel

PRICE EXCLUDES:

- Flights
- Travel Insurance (compulsory)
- Tipping \$280pp - see note above
- Meals not mentioned on itinerary
- Optional tours not included in the itinerary
- All expenses of a personal nature

COST PER PERSON

- Twin or double share: \$4995/person
- Single supp: \$890/person (own room)

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