



## Best of Morocco with Riad Option

*Take a horse and buggy ride to Jemaa El-Fna, the famous town square of the 'Pink City' of Marrakesh.*

*Morocco is a colourful mix of Islamic, Arabic and African influences. Spain and France have left their mark too, making for a rich and unique travel experience.*

### DAY 1 – CASABLANCA AT LEISURE. 🇲🇦 🇵🇸 🇫🇷

Welcome to Morocco, considered the 'Jewel of North Africa', a land so intrinsically beautiful and rich with heritage, it has attracted seekers of the exotic over the centuries. On arrival at Casablanca Airport, your airport transfers leave for the tour hotel at 09:00, 11:00, 13:00 & 15:00. Then relax and settle in. In the evening, join your fellow guests and Tour Director for a *Welcome Reception and light informal meal*. Hotel: Sheraton (WR)

### DAY 2 – CASABLANCA – RABAT – MEKNES – FES. 🇲🇦 🇵🇸 🇫🇷

See the Hassan II Mosque, the largest in the country on your sightseeing tour of Casablanca. Then depart for the capital Rabat to see the mausoleum of King Mohammed V, Hassan Tower and the Royal Palace. Now on to one of the kingdom's imperial cities, Meknes, dating back to the 11th century, its surroundings remaining unchanged for centuries. See the Bab Mansour gateway, monumental entrance to the imperial city and focal point of Place El-Hedim. Make a *rare highlight visit inside the mosque* before continuing on to Fes. Hotel: Palais Medina & Spa (BB,D)

### DAY 3 – FES SIGHTSEEING. 🇲🇦 🇵🇸 🇫🇷

A day packed with fantastic sights and smells as you tour this carefully preserved university city, which had its golden age in the fourteenth century, during the reign of the Merinides dynasty. Visit the medina of Fes and walk through its old streets. See one of the oldest universities in the world, taking time to haggle in the Bazaar and receive a gift of Moroccan pottery crafted and hand painted by traditional artisans. Oriental rugs are an attraction for bargain hunters – witness this most important handicraft of Fes. This evening *enjoy a superb Moroccan dinner and a folklore show with drums and belly dancing*. (BB,HD)

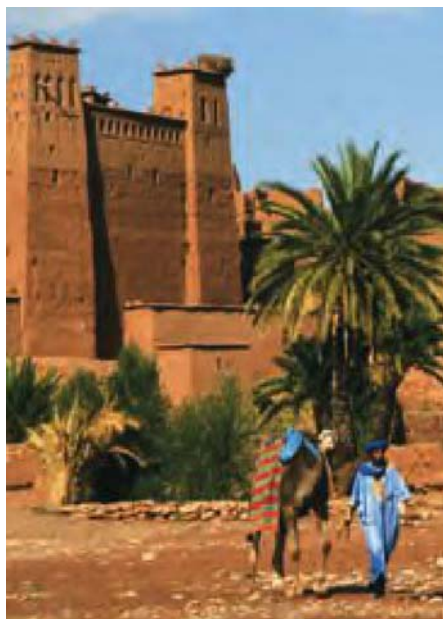
### DAY 4 – FES – ZIZ GORGES – ERFOUD.

Leave the bustle of the city behind and head for the spectacular snow-capped High Atlas Mountains. Pass through Ifrane before

reaching the great cedar forests of Azrou. Travel up through the magnificent Ziz Gorges, past palm fringed towns to Er Radhida, built by the French at an important crossroads. Your destination is Erfoud, where the red sand buildings contrast against the surrounding desert. Hotel: Chergui Kasbah (BB,I,D)

### DAY 5 – ERFOUD – TODRA GORGE – OUARZAZATE. 🇲🇦 🇵🇸 🇫🇷

Early risers have the chance to witness the glorious sunrise in the Sahara. Venture towards the oasis of Tinehir, noted for its silver and jewelry workshops. Take a detour to explore the Todra Gorge – the Grand Canyon of the Sahara. At Boumalne-du-Dades, encounter the dry rugged Dades Valley, dotted with oases of figs, olives, date palms and with castellated mud houses hugging the



*Ait Benhaddou*

slopes. *Stop in the desert for Berber tea at an Imam's house at a traditional Kasbah*. The route concludes at Ouarzazate, film capital of Morocco, with everything from Lawrence of Arabia to Star Wars being filmed here. Hotel: La Berbere Palace (BB,I,D)

### DAY 6 – OUARZAZATE – MARRAKESH.

Get your cameras ready as you stop at the village of Ait Benhaddou, boasting one of Morocco's finest kasbahs. Continue via the spectacular Tizi n' Tichka Pass before descending past charming mountain villages, dense woods and green fields to the ochre coloured city of Marrakesh. Hotel: Atlas Medina & Spa (BB,D)

### DAY 7 – MARRAKESH. 🇲🇦 🇵🇸 🇫🇷

*Today's sightseeing starts with a horse and carriage ride from your hotel to the bustling Djemaa El Fna Square*. After some time to watch the dancers, storytellers and acrobats explore the Medina (old town), seeing the Koutoubia Mosque, whose minaret dominates the Marrakesh skyline. Also included is a visit to the *Palais de la Bahia, built in the late 19th century, intended to be the greatest palace of its time*. Then take a scenic drive south of Marrakesh to the beautiful Ourika Valley. Visit a Moroccan family home to witness a traditional mint tea preparation ceremony before returning to your hotel. (BB)

### DAY 8 – MARRAKESH – CASABLANCA. 🇲🇦 🇵🇸 🇫🇷

Heading towards the Atlantic coast, say goodbye to the snake charmers of Marrakesh and drive back to Casablanca. Now you've experienced the traditional charms of the country, Casablanca is a fascinating place to return to, offering a unique insight into modern Morocco. In many ways, the economic capital represents the hopes and dreams of the country. Spend your last afternoon at leisure, enjoying this vibrant city at your own pace. *Tonight, of all the gin joints, in all the towns, in all the world, there really is only one place to be. Please join your Tour Director at Rick's Café, recreated from the famous movie. Enjoy a four course Celebration Dinner including drinks* and, no doubt, a rendition of "As Time Goes By"...again. Here's looking at you kid. Hotel: Sheraton (BB,CD)

### DAY 9 – DEPART CASABLANCA.

Your Moroccan adventure concludes with departure transfers arriving at Casablanca Airport at 07:00, 10:00 & 12:00. (BB)

**9 DAYS ~ MOROCCO**

**Key**

- PREMIUM HIGHLIGHTS
- VISITS INCLUDE ENTRANCE
- HIGHLIGHT MEALS
- DRINK INCLUDED
- GUIDED SIGHTSEEING OR ORIENTATION TOUR
- CENTRAL HOTELS + NIGHTS
- SCENIC HOTELS + NIGHTS

See hotel details on pages 216-222



**TOUR PACE**

This tour has a comfortable, balanced pace with two-night stays in Fes, Marrakesh and Casablanca. The southern Saharan towns of Erfoud and Ouarzazate are overnight stops. Travelling days are comfortable with frequent stops en route for rest and photos.

**HOTELS**

All hotels are modern and well equipped, ranging from the Sheraton Casablanca to the Chergui Kasbah in Erfoud, located on a site that brings together the largest and most spectacular dunes in Morocco. For a truly authentic Moroccan experience, traditional Riad accommodation is available in Fes.

**INCLUDED HIGHLIGHTS**

- Casablanca:** See the Hassan II Mosque, the largest in the country, on your sightseeing tour.
- Rabat:** View the Royal Palace, Mohammed V Mausoleum and Hassan Tower.
- Meknes:** Visit one of the very few Islamic religious buildings open to non-Muslims. Admire the Bab el-Mansour Gate in the heart of the medina.
- Fes:** Visit the Medina, shop for Moroccan carpets. See one of the world's oldest universities and receive a gift of authentic handmade Moroccan pottery.
- Erfoud:** Stay on the edge of the Sahara Desert.
- Tinehir:** Witness the silver and jewelry workshops of this oasis
- Todra Gorge:** Experience 'the Grand Canyon of the Sahara'.
- Dades Valley:** See the castellated mud houses and oases. Enjoy Berber tea at the Imam house.
- Ait Benhaddou:** View the Kasbah.
- Marrakesh:** Horse and carriage ride to Jemaa el Fna Square. watch the performers. Explore the Medina. Visit the Bahia Palace and see the Koutobia Minaret. Visit a Moroccan family home to witness a traditional mint tea preparation ceremony.
- Scenic Drives:** Ziz Gorge. View the spectacular scenery of the High and Middle Atlas Mountains. Tizi n' Tichka Pass

**Experience traditional Moroccan accommodation with our Riad Option**



Riads were originally noble homes, usually located in the labyrinthine streets of the old city (Medina). Built in traditional Moroccan style, they typically feature exotic gardens, fountains, authentic Moroccan cuisine and bedrooms with private facilities.

Instead of staying at the tour hotel, Insight offers you the opportunity of enjoying two nights in Riad accommodation in the Imperial city of Fes.

Riads offer the perfect opportunity for you to mix with the locals and to experience every day life in the bustling alleyways and bazaars of the medina.

Every bedroom is different and facilities vary, so it's not recommended if you prefer the uniformity of modern hotels with coffee-shops elevators, concierge services, etc. But for many, this is a once-in-a-lifetime experience, a chance to stay in small, charming, traditional and truly authentic accommodation.

**Riad Sheherazade (or similar):** Nestled in the heart of the old medina of Fes, Riad Sheherazade is built in typical Arab style. The presence of water and internal patio provide an oasis of calm and relaxation. While the panoramic terrace is perfect for enjoying mint tea.

Best of Morocco including Riad Option:	Twin Share p.p.	Single Supp. Option	Best of Morocco including Riad Option:	Twin Share p.p.	Single Supp. Option
07 Apr - 19 May '12	\$2299	\$810	103 Nov - 24 Nov '12	\$2075	\$790
26 May '12	\$2265	\$810	119 Dec - 27 Dec '12	\$2225	\$790
02 Jun - 22 Sep '12	\$2250	\$810	105 Jan - 16 Feb '13	\$2075	\$790
29 Sep - 27 Oct '12	\$2299	\$810	109 Mar - 30 Mar '13	\$2175	\$790

Meals are as per the itinerary. Riad accommodation is limited and subject to availability. Insight's Roommate matching service is not available for Riad accommodation.

TOUR CODE:  
E938A/E948

**Premium Escorted Touring from US\$203 per day**

Starts	Ends	Twin Share p.p.	Single Supp. Option	Starts	Ends	Twin Share p.p.	Single Supp. Option	Starts	Ends	Twin Share p.p.	Single Supp. Option	Starts	Ends	Twin Share p.p.	Single Supp. Option
2011:				2012:				2013:				2014:			
* Sat 05 Nov	- Sun 13 Nov	\$1665	\$455	* Sat 07 Jan	- Sun 15 Jan	\$1665	\$455	* Sat 03 Nov	- Sun 11 Nov	\$1699	\$390	* Sat 01 Nov	- Sun 09 Nov	\$1699	\$390
* Sat 12 Nov	- Sun 20 Nov	\$1665	\$455	* Sat 04 Feb	- Sun 12 Feb	\$1665	\$455	* Sat 10 Nov	- Sun 18 Nov	\$1699	\$390	* Sat 02 Feb	- Sun 10 Feb	\$1699	\$390
* Sat 26 Nov	- Sun 04 Dec	\$1665	\$455	* Sat 18 Feb	- Sun 26 Feb	\$1665	\$455	* Sat 24 Nov	- Sun 02 Dec	\$1699	\$390	* Sat 16 Feb	- Sun 24 Feb	\$1699	\$390
* Mon 19 Dec	- Tue 27 Dec	\$1899	\$455	* Sat 10 Mar	- Sun 18 Mar	\$1725	\$455	* Wed 19 Dec	- Thu 27 Dec	\$1850	\$390	* Sat 09 Mar	- Sun 17 Mar	\$1799	\$390
* Tue 27 Dec	- Wed 04 Jan	\$1899	\$455	* Sat 17 Mar	- Sun 25 Mar	\$1725	\$455	* Thu 27 Dec	- Fri 04 Jan	\$1850	\$390	* Sat 16 Mar	- Sun 24 Mar	\$1799	\$390
				* Sat 24 Mar	- Sun 01 Apr	\$1725	\$455					* Sat 23 Mar	- Sun 31 Mar	\$1799	\$390
												* Sat 30 Mar	- Sun 07 Apr	\$1799	\$390

**Reductions**

- SAVE \$15 per person with Triple room reduction
  - Insight's Great Savings & Discounts**
  - SAVE \$180 per person with Young Traveller Discount
  - SAVE up to \$94 per person with 2nd Tour Discount
  - SAVE up to \$94 per person with Frequent Traveller Discount
  - Early Payment Discount 12 mths 10 mths 6 mths**
  - SAVE per person \$180 \$135 \$90
- For additional information regarding Insight's Great Savings and Discounts, please see page 214.

**Extra Accommodation**

Per person, per night	Twin	Single	Triple
Sheraton, Casablanca	\$96	\$165	\$91

**Notes**

- All prices are in US dollars.
- \*These departures operate as per our 2011/12 Winter Europe & Eastern Mediterranean brochure
- ◇ New Year's Eve celebration dinner included
- ! These prices are subject to confirmation and the Peace of Mind Guarantee does not apply to these departures

^The coach on this tour does not have an onboard washroom

**DEF** Definite Departures (DEF)

These are regularly updated and listed on our website [www.insightvacations.com](http://www.insightvacations.com) (see page 215 for details).



**INCLUDED QUALITY DINING**

- A Welcome Reception with light informal meal (WR)
- Dinner and Folklore Show with belly dancing in Fes (HD)
- A Celebration Dinner 4 course meal with drinks at Rick's Cafe, made famous by the 1942 film "Casablanca" (CD)
- 8 Buffet Breakfasts (BB), 2 Lunches (L), 4 three-course table d'hôte Dinners, or Buffets, plus tea or coffee (D)

**INCLUDED FIRST CLASS SERVICES**

- Escorted by a professional Tour Director
- Headsets for all guided visits and walking tours
- Enjoy the unique comfort of Insight's exclusive Luxury air-conditioned 40 seat coach with extended leg room ^
- Insight Hotels include all service charges, taxes and portage
- Insight Traveller Welcome pack
- Airport arrival and departure transfers at scheduled times on Day 1 and Day 9

(Should your flights not coincide with these transfers, please make your own way to/from the airport or see page 225 to purchase a transfer)

**HIGHLIGHT MEALS & INCLUDED SIGHTSEEING ARE WORTH APPROXIMATELY US\$304**

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