

| [Trip Map](#) | [PDF file of this Trip](#) |

23OCT - 09NOV 2024 (18D15N) Morocco Meanderings
(Casablanca, Rabat, Chefchaouen, Fes, Tinghir, Mhamid, Er Chicaga Desert, Ouarzazate, Marrakesh, Essaouira, El Jadida)

Trip Cost per person Rm7100 (16pax group) EXCLUDE FLIGHT

Based on 1 Moroccan Dirham = Rm 0.4718 (19 Dec 23). Final adjustments on cost is based on Dirham exchange rate at time of final collection.

Update 22 Apr 2024 Itinerary below based on Qatar Airlines. Qatar FIT fare is Rm3667 (22Apr24) We check for Group fares and benefit will be passed on to trip members. **DO NOT PURCHASE FLIGHT UNTIL WE ADVISE**

IMPORTANT NOTICE. This is meant to be a "free and easy" budget trip. Participants should be relatively fit, with a good sense of humour, and above all, have the right attitude for close travel with others through possibly some trying times. Most definitely, this is not a trip for prudes, whiners, fuss-pots, and other similiarly assorted types! Although every effort will be made to stick to the given itinerary, ground conditions may change and cause some disruption and/or deviation from the norm. Otherwise, have fun!

We hire a 17 seater Mercedes Sprinter with a local driver for the duration of this trip. We stay budget to mid-range accomodations except for the one night in a desert tent. Its quite important participants are able to manage their own luggage, preferably backpacks or softpacks. Large 28 inches luggage is strictly NOT allowed. Yongo trips, you pay for your own meals unless stated below, entrance fees, within-the-town taxis and other activities.

Morocco is an amazing travel destination. It offers diverse landscape of mountains, desert, coastline facing Atlantic Ocean and Mediterranean. Diverse cultures of Arab, Moorish, African and European influences its architecture, languages and cuisine.

Highlights of this trip include:

- Visit seven (7) Morocco's UNESCO World Heritage sites in cities which are beautifully colour-themed to "White, Blue, Red, Yellow" i.e. Casablanca, Chefchouen, Marrakesh and Fez..
- Todra Gorge trekking at the High Atlas in Tinghir and enjoy the warm hospitality of the Berber communities here.
- Visit the less touristic part of **Sahara Desert** (Erg Chigaga) from Mhamid, enjoy desert sunset on camel's back and awed by the starry night.
- Experience the lively local markets (Souk) and its colourful produce and wares.



Shopping / Chigaga Dunes / Centuries old tannaries of Fes

Day 1 Meet KLIA Meet up at KLIA **6PM WED 23 OCT 2024** for Qatar flight leaving KUL 2100 (9PM) to DOHA, lands 1130PM. Flight time 7h30.

Day 2 Casablanca Transit 2h05 at Doha, before flight at 1.35AM landing Casablanca at 7.30AM. Our chartered van takes group to our hotel located in downtown. Rest of day free. Overnight (O/N) Casablanca, Breakfast included. (B).

Day 3 Chefchaouen (340km) After breakfast, we start our journey of 5:30hr to Chefchaouen located in the Rif mountains in Northwest Morocco. 91km from Casablanca, we stop at Rabat, listed in UNESCO World Heritage. We visit the Kasbah of the Udayas, a well preserved fortress dating back to 12th century Almohad Dynasty. The Hassan Tower Mosque and across it the Mausoleum of Mohammed V. After lunch, we continue journey to Chefchaouen, also known as the Blue City with its blue-washed buildings, this town of 43,000 population is becoming a popular tourist destination. O/N Chefchaouen. Breakfast included. (B)

Day 4 Chefchaouen. We spend the day wandering about the Old town. Take a walk through the old medina and uphill to a "Lookout Point" in front of a Spanish mosque. Enjoy the breathtaking view over Chefchaouen and its surrounding mountains. This place is indeed a rare and stunning gem of Morocco. O/N Chefchaouen. Breakfast included. (B)

Day 5 Fes (220km) An early start 4:30hr to Morocco 's biggest Roman ruins of Volubilis, and a UNESCO World Heritage Site. It was an important Roman outpost which was founded in 3rd century as capital of Mauretania. Then to Fes 1:30hr 85km, which was founded in 9th century, and it was a capital of Marinid Dynasty In 13th and 14th century. Fes hosts world's oldest university i.e. University of Quaraouiyin". O/N Fes. Breakfast included. (B)

Day 6 Fes. We will do a guided walking tour of the old medina (locally known as Fes el Bali). The old city is alive with craftsmen, markets, tanneries and mosques. Lookout for Merdesa Bou Inania, one of the city's most beautiful building. Visit Merdresse Al-Attarine and the splendid Funduk Nejjarine, a beautiful restored 18th century caravanserai. The rest of day free to continue your own explorations and get lost in the labyrinth of alleys in this old medina. Note Fes medina is car-free, you will be on foot throughout your stay in Fes. O/N Fes. Breakfast included. (B)



Roman Ruins Volubilis / UNESCO Ait-Ben-Haddou / Todra Trekking / Port Essaouira

Day 7 Tinghir (470km). It's a long bus ride into the High Atlas today, as we take in a 10 hours trip to Tinerhir. However, the change of scenery as we start our uphill ascend will surely keep all awake, at least some of the time. Tinerhir is a city in the region of Draa-Tafilalet, an oasis sandwich between High Atlas and Little Atlas. The beautiful palmeraie or oasis along the Todra river simply takes your breath away. O/N Tinerhir. Dinner included. (D/B)

Day 8 Tinghir. Morocco 's answer to the Grand Canyon, Todra Gorge awaits us today. With 300m cliff walls at its narrowest point, and quaint Berber villages abounding. We will go on a long walk (4-6 hrs) over the gorge with great views of the surrounds. Be prepared to walk about 12km with elevation of 400m. O/N Tinerhir. Dinner and Breakfast included. (D/B)

Day 9 Mhamid (330km). Early departure for Mhamid 5 hours, the last village before the Algerian border and the beginnings of the Western Sahara . On the way, we stop at Zagora market (Wed & Sun only) where one finds many dark-skin Moroccans of African origins. O/N Mhamid. Dinner, Breakfast included. (D/B)

Day 10 Sahara Berber Camp. We depart after lunch for a sand-bashing time with 4WD deep into the Western Sahara, to Erg Chigaga and its 150m sand dunes. In the evening, try your charm on the cantankerous camels around the Berber camp and oasis where we will stay the night. We sleep in large Berber tents, but nothing like a

sleeping bag on soft sands under a thousand stars! O/N Sahara Desert Tents. Breakfast, Lunch and Dinner included. (B/L/D)

Day 11 Ouarzazate (260km). We return to Mhamid in the morning for cold drinks, showers and quick lunch. We travel over the mountain to Ouarzazate 5 to 6 hours. Ouarzazate is an oasis for film makers all over the world, hence, it is also known as "The Moroccan Hollywood". O/N Ouarzazate. Breakfast and lunch included.(B/L)

Day 12 Ouarzazate. Morning, we travel 30km outside Ouarzazate to Ait Ben Haddou, one of the most exotic and best preserved Ksar (fortified village) in Morocco, and yet another UNESCO Heritage Site! Ait Ben Haddou has been featured in many famous movies including "Lawrence of Arabia, Gladiators, Indiana Jones" and many more. Afternoon, we visit Atlas Studio, one of the largest movie studio in the world and it's named after the Atlas mountain range around it. O/N Ouarzazate NO meals included.



Chefchaouen Blue City / Tagine in local restaurant

Day 13 Marrakesh (200km): We travel to Marrakesh over the beautiful high mountain pass reaching an elevation of 2260 meters at Tizi N' Tichka. It is the highest major mountain pass in north Africa. Total travel time 5 hours. O/n Marrakesh NO meals included.

Day 14 Marrakesh: The epicenter of Morocco tourism, Marrakesh is meanderer's heaven. We take in the city sights, smells, and sounds in a half-day guided walking tour, and end the day at the Koutoubria Mosque. The medina of Marrakesh is listed in UNESCO World Heritage. Djemaa el-Fna, a huge square in central Marrakesh showcase one of the world's greatest spectacle of food, fun, wares and everything else in a kaleidoscope of Moroccan vibrancy! O/n Marrakesh. Breakfast included. (B)

Day 15 Essaouira (180km): Bus 4 hours to UNESCO World Heritage listed Essaouira, a late 18th century Portuguese fortified seaport town. Wander about the maze-like streets filled with interesting artisan wares and enjoy the breeze and sights of this Atlantic coastal town. O/N Essaouira Breakfast included. (B)

Day 16 El Jadida (280km): In the morning, see more of Essaouira including the stone ramparts and canon turrets. After lunch 3 hours drive to the 8th UNESCO World Heritage site on our journey. The Portuguese fortification of Mazagan, now part of the city of El Jadida, 90-km southwest of Casablanca. O/N El Jadida. Breakfast included. (B)

Day 17 Plane: Transfer to Casablanca Airport 2 hours 98km at 8.30AM and the end of our 17 days of Moroccan meanderings! Fly from Casablanca **2.00PM FRI 08 NOV 2024** Lands Doha 11.10PM. Breakfast NOT included at El Jadida Hotel. O/N Plane

Day 18 Home: Transit 2h20 before next flight DOHA 01.30AM to Kuala Lumpur landing **THU 09 NOV 2024 1.55PM**

TERMS AND CONDITIONS

1. Cost cover accommodation and traveling to sites and some meals mentioned above.
2. Accommodations will be in budget to mid-range hotels or guesthouses. Mhamid and Sahara Desert Tent (multi-share)
3. **Not covered are** Flight costs estimated at Rm4000. Meals Rm1200 (100 x 12 days), Entrance fees and tips (Rm350) and optional activities.
4. Trip Cost is subject to change depending on fluctuations in exchange rates.
5. Non-refundable deposit of **Rm2500** is payable to confirm your place.
6. Members are required to have Travel Insurance and be adequately insured prior to departure.

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