

Majestic Morocco



April 23 – May 4, 2017

This tour is designed by Voyages Millefleurs Travel Inc. Canada



CASABLANCA, ESSAOUIRA, MARRAKECH BERBER VILLAGES & SAHARA DESERT

\$3950 CDN includes domestic flight

VIDEO <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=cfK0tLqMFZE>

Recommended flight Montreal Casablanca

AT 209 Depart Montreal 22:20 April 22
Arrive Casablanca 10:05 am April 23
AT 208 Depart Casablanca 18:30 May 4
Arrive Montreal 20:50 May 4
Boeing 787-8 Dreamliner

SIGHT-SEEING:

- Medinas in Marrakech & Essaouira
- 2 Day excursion to Atlas Mountains
- Majorelle Gardens- Marrakech
- Madersa – 14C Koranic University
- Hassan II Mosque - Casablanca
- Woodmaking Studio
- Argan Oil Women's Cooperative
- Berber Pharmacy
- Ait Ben Haddou Kashbah

LODGING:

- 1 night in Casablanca
- 2 nights in Essaouira
- 2 nights in Imlil Valley
- 2 nights in Marrakech
- 1 night in Ouarzazate
- 2 nights in Zagora
- 1 night in Desert Bivouac

All breakfasts and dinners

TRANSPORT:

- Ground transport in minibus – Accompanying chauffeur and bus for the duration of the tour
- Caleche ride in Marrakech
- Desert excursion in 4x4
- Dromedary ride -desert
- Domestic Flight from Zagora to Casablanca
- Optional Berber Village Hike

French/ Moroccan Guide & Tour Leader Zac • Daily portorage and water provided

For more information, contact Corinne
Voyages Millefleurs Travel Inc., Canada
(250) 423 5023 (877) 423 5007(toll free) info@vmtravel.ca

Price quoted is per person in CDN \$, based on 10 participants, double occupancy. A non-refundable deposit of \$500 per person is due at time of booking. Final payment is due on Feb 22, 2017. **NOT INCLUDED** in this tour: meals not mentioned in itinerary; gratuities for guide & chauffeur; travel and medical insurance; and personal expenses.



Tour Itinerary ...Majestic Morocco Tour

Day 1 April 22 In Transit Evening international flight from Montreal to Casablanca.

Day 2 April 23 Casablanca Upon your morning arrival in Casablanca, you will be met by your French/Moroccan guide, Zac and tour leader, Corinne. Enjoy lunch at a seaside restaurant. Check into the hotel to freshen up before you visit the Hassan II mosque in Casablanca with a 200 meter tall minaret tower and a roof that opens, the 8th wonder of the modern world. Free time to walk along the boardwalk and to catch a snack before an early night. Option to have a cocktail at Rick's Café.

Day 3 April 24 Essaouira Morning departure for Essaouira, an 800- year-old port showing traces of Iberian influence in its forts and towers. We will take the coastal road along the Atlantic ocean for some wonderful vistas. Late afternoon arrival at Essaouira. Dinner and overnight in the oceanside Riad Mimouna. Enjoy the sound of the waves and the sunset from the rooftop of the Riad.

Day 4 April 25 Essaouira From the Riad take a walking tour of the old medina including the market and a small colourful boutique where you will learn about the spices, fragrances and argon oil products. Not far away is a factory which creates beautiful objects from the local mahogany tree. Transfer to the old port and the Chalet de la Place where you can enjoy a fresh seafood lunch. Visit the old Portuguese port to see the blue, blue boats against the ancient ramparts. The local bluish purple shells were used as pigments which once dyed the Pope's robes. Freetime in the evening on the rooftop of the Riad to watch the sunset before enjoying a tagine dinner.

Day 5 April 26 Imlil Morning departure for Marrakech. En route we will stop at a women's cooperative for Argan Oil products. Keep an eye out for the goats on the Argan trees! Carry on to the Atlas Mountains to the Imlil lodge for dinner and overnight.

Day 6 April 27 Imlil Morning start on the berber village hike as you climb over a summit and visit the berber villages in the valley. Stop for tea with a berber family. 6–7 hour hike. You will have a private guide, a mule to transport necessities and a cook. Lunch and water provided. Overnight in Imlil lodge with dinner.

Day 7 April 28 Marrakech Morning departure to Marrakech, the "Pearl of the South". Check into the quaint Riad Catalina inside the Medina walls and savour the mint tea offered upon arrival. Riads are former two-storey houses of the Moroccan upper and middle class with a centre courtyard and fountain. Just down the street is a Berber Pharmacy where you will discover the herbal medicines and exotic spices of Morocco. Continue the narrow passageways of the Medina to the Madersa, 14th century Koranic university. Enjoy the labyrinth of the Souk where you will learn the berber way of

bargaining. Keep your eye out for leather, sweets, jewelry and lanterns. After checking in, enjoy the comfort of the Riad and a group meal with Moroccan salads and tagines within the cool walls of the garden – Within walking distance is the world-famous Djemaa Elfna. This is an open square spectacle with storytellers, soothsayers, palm readers and snake charmers all offering something to locals and tourists alike. Overnight at the Riad Catalina.

Day 8 April 29 Marrakech This morning we will take a calèche (carriage) ride outside the Medina walls to the Majorelle Gardens, now managed by the Yves St. Laurent Foundation. Be inspired by the exotic plants and capture the beauty of the gardens with your camera. Take the calèche back to the medina for a free afternoon to shop in the souks. Option to participate in a Hamam. Overnight in Riad Catalina with Tagine Dinner.

Day 9 April 30 Ouarzazate Morning departure for the desert town of Ouarzazate. Enjoy spectacular scenery as you climb over the Atlas Mountains. Stop at the Ait Ben Haddou Kasbah for lunch. This is the scene for many Hollywood movies like Lawrence of Arabia and The Gladiator. Check into the Riad Salam. Enjoy a guided visit of the 18 century Kasbah. Optional visit to a Weaving cooperative. Enjoy a swim and buffet dinner from 7 to 9.

Day 10 May 1 Zagora Morning departure on a 3 hour drive through the stunning Atlas mountains of volcanic ash to Zagora, gateway to the Sahara Desert. Arrival at the Riad Lamane for lunch on the rooftop restaurant under the palm trees. Afternoon walk through the palm trees to the center of Zagora to a market to buy Berber scarves. You will have a chance to visit a berber market for Moroccan rugs or other artifacts. Dinner at the Riad Lamane.

Day 11 May 2 - Bivouac (Desert Tents) Morning to relax at the Riad. Afternoon departure by 4 x 4 to the desert. At the furthest point in the desert Mhamid we will enjoy lunch and swim in an exceptional bath house. Optional 1 ½ hour ride on a dromedary through the desert dunes at sunset to the Bivouac for the night. Dinner in the common tent followed by a music performance by the Berber drummers.

Day 12 May 3 Zagora Optional Dromedary ride to see the sunrise! After breakfast and more photography we will make our way back in the 4x4 to Zagora for lunch and a dip in the pool at Riad Lamane. Overnight in Riad Lamane.

Day 13 May 4- Intransit Zagora - Casablanca/Flight Morning flight from Zagora to Casablanca. Here you have time to relax before the flight back to Canada in the afternoon.

