



CATALYST TRAVEL

# Discover Morocco with Catalyst Travel

**TOUR DATES: February 25 - March 7, 2025**

(EXTENSION TOUR: March 7 - March 11)



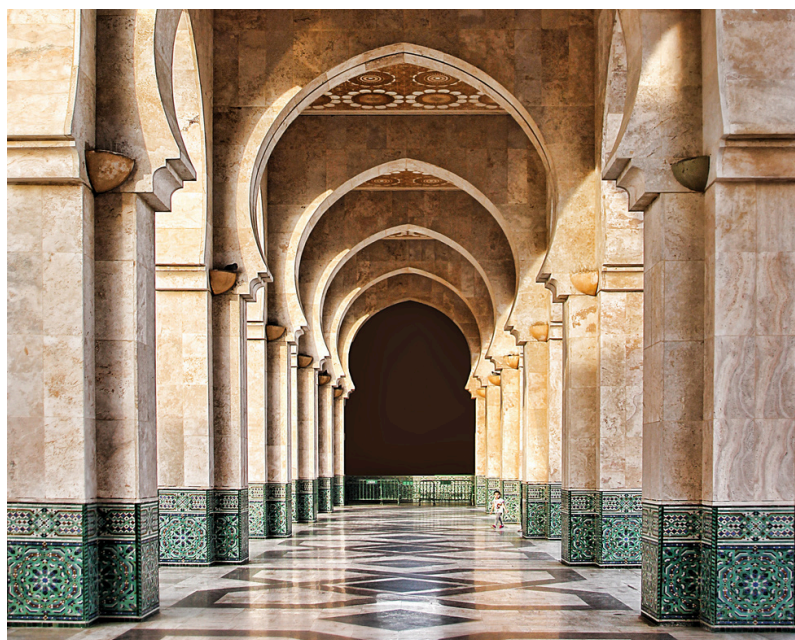
In Partnership with

**MEJDI TOURS**

Immerse in Morocco's rich cultural history and centuries-old traditions. Step inside stunning and significant venues, moving from city markets to quiet sanctuaries, and from the mountains to the desert. Share meals with Moroccan families, enjoy private cultural performances, and hear about current affairs from leaders of local organizations, religious communities, and newsrooms. Gain behind-the-scenes access to historic sites in Marrakech and Fes, absorbing both remarkable views and illuminating narratives of an inspiring Moroccan landscape.

## TOUR HIGHLIGHTS

- Hands-on culinary experience led by a local family in the Atlas Mountains.
- Exclusive Hadra Sufi show with local female musicians and performers
- Explore Moroccan affairs with leading academics, civil society leaders, and storytellers.
- Traditional live music in Fes
- Meet an Amazigh movie maker and visit the Atlas Film Studios in Ouarzazate
- Tour the Jewish Museum with its head curator or join a synagogue ceremony
- Catch a beautiful sunset while glamping in the Sahara Desert.



**PRICING:** \$3,400 - \$4,075\* per person

### INCLUDED:

- 10 nights' accommodation (double occupancy) in hotels listed (\*or similar)
- Meals: 9 Breakfasts (B), 4 Lunches (L), 5 Dinners (D)
- Expert MEJDI Guide & Facilitator Throughout
- Local MEJDI Moroccan guides
- Private transportation (+ water on bus)
- Individual Arrival Airport Transfers
- 1 Group Departure Airport Transfer
- 1 domestic flight from Casablanca to Erfoud
- Entrance fees, site visits, & speaker honorariums
- Pre-trip travel guidance and on-ground support

\*Final tour price dependent on # of travelers  
(10 min/20 max)

**Registration & Information @ [www.mejditours.com/catalyst-morocco/](http://www.mejditours.com/catalyst-morocco/)**





## Discover Morocco with Catalyst Travel

### TOUR ITINERARY

#### **Day 1: Arrival in Rabat**

Welcome to Rabat! Your Moroccan adventure begins with an important orientation and festive group dinner.

*Hotel: Riad Zyo Hotel\*, Rabat (D)*

#### **Day 2: Casablanca**

Spend the day in Casablanca including a visit to Hassan II Mosque, one of Morocco's highlights, and then enjoy a hammam and massage in the Mosque Hammam (optional). Afterward, take a short tour of Casablanca and visit the Jewish Museum and meet with the curator (if available). From there, have a conversation with a Civil Society expert or a local journalist to better understand local society, culture and current event. Have some time at leisure for dinner, then head to the airport for our hour flight to the Sahara Desert. Spend the night in Erfoud.

*Hotel: La Rose Du Desert Hotel, Erfoud (B, L & D)*



#### **Day 3: Erfoud and The Sahara Desert**

This morning, we explore Erfoud and its surroundings, including the Maadid Palace and an oasis in the region. Learn about this unique region as we head to our tented camp in the desert dunes of Merzouga. This late afternoon, enjoy a camel ride and a stunning sunset over the dunes. Later, enjoy dinner and drum circle by the campfire while gifted with a breathtaking night below the stars.

*Hotel: Oasis Camping, Sahara Desert (B, L & D)*

#### **Day 4: Journey to Fes**

After a beautiful sunrise in the Sahara Desert and a morning reveling in the landscape, we start our drive towards Fes (approx. 8 hours) stopping along the way for lunch on your own and for stunning photo ops. On the way, we stop in Ifrane, a region known as the Switzerland of Morocco. Throughout the day, there are many opportunities to stretch your legs, eat, and use clean restrooms. We arrive in Fes for the night.

*Hotel: Jnan Palace Hotel, Fes (B)*



#### **Day 5: Old Medina**

We spend today in Fes, the oldest of the imperial cities and the religious capital of Morocco. Explore the largest medina in North Africa, with over 9,000 tiny streets and alleys filled with colors, scents, mosaic tiles, mosques, courtyards, and more. And visit the Mellah (Jewish Quarter) that, prior to the Spanish Inquisition, had a native Jewish population that could be traced back to the period following the destruction of the Second Temple during the Siege of Jerusalem in 70 C.E. We visit the old tanneries, Al-Attarine Madrasa, the craftspeople quarters, and the Marinid Tombs before meeting with a local professor and learning about Moroccan history and culture.

*Hotel: Jnan Palace Hotel\*, Fes (B)*





## Discover Morocco with Catalyst Travel

### TOUR ITINERARY, CONTINUED

#### Day 6: Meknes, an Imperial City

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After breakfast, we drive to Meknes for the day (1.5 hours). We visit the imperial city and make a stop at Volubilis, a Roman city. Explore the Medina of Meknes, one of Morocco's four imperial cities, founded as a military settlement in the 11th century, and Bab-el-Mansour, the main ceremonial entrance to the Kasbah of Sultan Moulay Isma'il known for its beautifully preserved green and white zellij tiles, marble columns, and Koran inscriptions. We tour the Mausoleum of Moulay Ismail and other Medina sites (time allowing) before heading back to Fes for dinner at a private house with traditional live Moroccan music.

*Hotel: Hotel: Jnan Palace Hotel\*, Fes (B & D)*

#### Day 7: Atlas Mountains and Ouarzazate

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Take an early morning flight to Marrakech. Upon arrival, drive into the Atlas Mountains. We visit a small town to learn about Berber life before taking a cooking class with locals. Together, we explore the secrets of Moroccan cuisine and enjoy our handmade lunch. In the afternoon, take a hike or a mule to explore the beautiful landscape further, then continue towards Ouarzazate for the night.

*Hotel: Oscar Hotel, Ouarzazate (B & L)*

#### Day 8: Aït Benhaddou

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This morning, we explore Ouarzazate, learn about the filmmaking industry in Morocco at the Atlas Studios, and visit Aït Benhaddou, a UNESCO World Heritage Site. We end our day with a drive back to Marrakech for a meeting with a storyteller.

*Hotel: Riad El Walaa, Marrakech (B & L)*

#### Day 9: Marrakech, Old City

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This morning, we set off for the UNESCO World Heritage Site of Medina and spend the day discovering the ancient quarter. Visit Madrasa Ben Youssef, formerly the largest Islamic college in Marrakech, and then see Bahia Palace, a late 19th-century palace built by Si Moussa, the powerful Grand Vizier of Sultan Hassan I. From there, we visit Mellah, the Jewish Quarter, and stop by the synagogue and Jewish cemetery, and enjoy a private Hadra Sufi show with local female singers and musicians.

*Hotel: Riad El Walaa, Marrakech (B & D)*



#### Day 10: Marrakech, Old City

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We begin our day with a visit to the 16th-century Badi Palace and the Saadian tombs. For lunch, we meet with a local storyteller—a vocation that thrived in Morocco until the 20th century. Afterward, our group heads towards the Majorelle Garden and the Berber Museum. Enjoy a final dinner in Marrakech with the group.

*Hotel: Riad El Walaa, Marrakech (B & D)*

#### Day 11: Departure Day or Optional Extension

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Those departing can arrange a departure transfer to the Marrakech airport. Travelers on the extension tour will depart in the morning to begin the tour.

**OPTIONAL EXTENSION TOUR (by request):** See the blue-washed town of Chefchaouen, coastal Tangier, and capital Rabat.

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## OPTIONAL EXTENSION TOUR

**TOUR DATES:** March 7 - March 11, 2025

Continue your journey through Morocco in Chefchaouen, a historic town in the Rif mountains known for its blue-washed buildings and rich kasbah history. Continue to Tangier for encounters with the Old Town and the American Legation Museum, followed by scenic views at Cape Spartel and the Cave of Hercules from Palais Zahia Hotel. Conclude your adventure in Rabat, marveling at architectural wonders like the Mausoleum of Mohammed V and engaging with local perspectives.

**PRICING:** \$925 - \$1,050\* per person (double room)  
+ \$250 for single accommodation

**INCLUDED:**

- 3 nights' accommodation\* (double occupancy)
- Meals: 3 Breakfasts (B), 3 Lunches (L)
- 1 Expert MEJDI Guide
- Private transportation (+ water on bus)
- 1 Group Departure Airport Transfer
- Entrance fees, site visits, & speaker honorariums
- Pre-trip travel guidance and on-ground support

\*Final tour price dependent on # of travelers  
(6 min/14 max)

### Day 11: Rabat

Travel to Rabat in the morning (~3.5 hrs), arriving for an afternoon in Morocco's capital city near the Atlantic Ocean at the mouth of the river Bou Regreg. Visit the Mausoleum of Mohammed V, with its intricate tile work and grand marble tomb, adjacent to the unfinished Hassan Tower. See Dar-al-Makhzen, the King's primary residence (outside only), and Kasbah Oudaya, a tranquil Andalusian-style neighborhood of twisting lanes surrounded by blue and white buildings. Visit the Kasbah, old town and market, before meeting with a local speaker on government and current events.

*Hotel: Riad Zyo Hotel\*, Rabat (B & L)*

### Day 12: Tangier

After breakfast, we set off for Tangier (2.5 hours). There, visit the Old City and the American Legation Museum, which commemorates historic and cultural diplomacy between the U.S. and Morocco. We then visit Cape Spartel and the Cave of Hercules and the lighthouse before an evening on your own enjoying ocean views.

*Hotel: Palais Zahia Hotel\*, Tangier (B & L)*

### Day 13: Chefchaouen

In the morning, drive to the artsy, blue-washed town of Chefchaouen (3.5 hours), nestled in the Rif mountains and originally founded as a kasbah from which to defend Morocco against Portuguese invasion. Tour the Old City of Chefchaouen and explore the city's narrow lanes and maze-like medina. Enjoy dinner on your own this evening.

*Hotel: Dar Jazmin Hotel, Chefchaouen (B & L)*

### Day 14: Transfer to Rabat

Take a scenic drive between Chefchaouen and Rabat, stopping for lunch in one of the countryside villages en route.

*Hotel: Riad Zyo Hotel\*, Rabat (B)*

### Day 15: Departure Day

Check-out of the riad and head to the airport for your departure home.

*(B)*