



Discover Morocco Journey of Heritage and Culture

April 16 - April 26, 2026

TOUR ITINERARY

See options for pre- (April 15-16) and post- (April 26-29) tour extensions after itinerary.

Day 1: Arrival & Introductions - Thursday, April 16

- **Land at Marrakech International Airport** and transfer to your hotel.
- Meet your group for a **welcome dinner** and orientation.

OVERNIGHT: *Riad & Spa Bahia Salam, Marrakech*

MEALS: *Dinner Included*

Day 2: Marrakech, Old & New - Friday, April 17

- Begin your day in the vibrant **Medina of Marrakech**, a UNESCO World Heritage Site alive with color and history.
- See the Badi Palace, an impressive testament to the Saadian dynasty dating to the 16th century, then continue to the **Mellah, the city's historic Jewish Quarter** to explore the **Lazama Synagogue** and nearby cemetery with a representative of the local community.
- After lunch, head to the new city for visits to the **Majorelle Garden**, a lush remnant of the French protectorate in Morocco, and **Berber Museum** for an introduction to the indigenous Amazigh communities of the region.
- Join another Marrakech congregation for **Kabbalat Shabbat** services followed by dinner and conversation with community leaders on Jewish life past and present.

OVERNIGHT: *Riad & Spa Bahia Salam, Marrakech*

MEALS: *Breakfast and dinner included*



MEJDI TOURS



ETZ CHAYIM TOUR ITINERARY

Day 3: Study Halls and Stories - Saturday, April 18

- Enjoy a later start, with an opportunity to dialogue with a **civil society leader** from an organization such as the Association Ennakhil, which promotes women's empowerment and civic engagement.
- In the late morning, head back through the medina to **Madrassa Ben Yousef**, one of the largest and most renowned Islamic colleges in Marrakech.
- Have lunch as a group and hear from a traditional **sufi storyteller** about how this oral tradition has adapted within contemporary Moroccan society and continue to the nearby **Dar El Bacha Museum** within the palatial former residence of the Pasha of Marrakech.
- Wind through the expansive marketplace towards iconic **Jemaa El Fnaa Square**, where eclectic artists, performers and vendors embody the city's lively spirit.

Enjoy time at leisure in the evening, choosing from a range of options for dinner on your own.

OVERNIGHT: *Riad & Spa Bahia Salam, Marrakech*

MEALS: *Breakfast and lunch included*

Day 4: Into the Mountains - Sunday, April 19

- Today's journey stretches from the coastline into the rural **Atlas Mountains**, offering new perspectives on Morocco's geological and cultural landscape.
- After the morning's drive, enjoy a group lunch and introduction to a local Berber village with a representative of the **High Atlas Foundation**, which leads sustainable development projects in infrastructure and agriculture together with rural communities.
- Continue to **Aït Ben Haddou**, a UNESCO World Heritage Site known for its striking earthen architecture and cultural significance, including a visit to a local carpet collective.
- Prepare your own dinner in a local culinary workshop, then continue to Ouarzazate for an overnight stay at the Oscar Hotel, on the campus of a famous Moroccan filmmaking enterprise.

OVERNIGHT: *Oscar Hotel, Ourzazate*

MEALS: *Breakfast, lunch and dinner included*





ETZ CHAYIM TOUR ITINERARY

Day 5: Road to the Desert - Monday, April 20

- Begin the day with a tour of the **Atlas Studios**, a movie wonderland known for the film sets in *Gladiator*, *Game of Thrones* and other hit productions.
- Depart next to the lush **Valley of the Roses** before visiting an off-road site in nearby Bou Tharar to learn the traditions of a local nomadic community known for their traditional cave residences.
- Continue through **Tinghir** for lunch, then stop to stretch with a short walk to see the dramatic **Todgha Gorge**. Reach Merzouga near sunset and enjoy dinner and a drum circle by campfire under the stars.

OVERNIGHT: *Luxury Oasis Camp, Merzouga*

MEALS: *Breakfast and dinner included*

Day 6: Dunes and Discovery - Tuesday, April 21

- Wade into the **desert dunes** and then hear **Gnawa music in Khamlia**.
- Pass through Rissani en route to **Erfoud** for views of its fortress, fossils and the surrounding landscape.
- Discuss the relationship between Jewish and Muslim communities of the region over centuries, then continue to **Midelt** for the evening.
- Enjoy a warm hospitality dinner at a family home in the nearby village.

OVERNIGHT: *Villa Pomme d'Or, Midelt*

MEALS: *Breakfast and dinner included*





ETZ CHAYIM TOUR ITINERARY

Day 7: Journey to Fes - Wednesday, April 22

- Journey to Fes via scenic drive through the **Middle Atlas**, stopping in Azrou for lunch.
- Pass through **Ifrane**, known as the “Switzerland of Morocco,” to appreciate the magnificent building of the al-Akhawayn University.
- On the approach to Fes, stop to browse an **artisan ceramics workshop** and take in a panoramic view of the city from the **Marinid Tombs**.
- In the evening, enjoy a **private Hadra Sufi music performance** by local women and dinner at Dar Chadia.

OVERNIGHT: *Jnan Palace Hotel, Fes*

MEALS: *Breakfast and dinner included*

Day 8: The Medina - Thursday, April 23

- Discover the **largest medina in North Africa**, a labyrinth of over 9,000 alleys filled with vibrant colors, scents and authentic craftsmanship.
- Visit the Mellah (Jewish Quarter), including the Ibn Danan Synagogue, dating to the 17th century, and the **Al-Attarine Madrasa**.
- Enjoy a home hospitality lunch accompanied by an oud performer, then explore the **tanneries, metalworkers, and tiles workshop**.
- Meet an imam to **learn more about local Muslim traditions** and visit a care center supporting working animals in the city.

OVERNIGHT: *Jnan Palace Hotel, Fes*

MEALS: *Breakfast and lunch included*





ETZ CHAYIM TOUR ITINERARY

Day 9: The Capital - Friday, April 24

- Head west towards **Rabat**, arriving at Morocco's coastal capital to explore the **Kasbah of the Udayas**, the **Hassan Tower** and **Mausoleum of Mohammed V**, all set along the scenic Bou Regreg River.
- Stop in the Nouvelle Ville (new city) to **meet an official or expert** on Moroccan politics and foreign relations.
- Reach Casablanca in the late afternoon with time to check-in before evening Kabbalat Shabbat services at a local congregation and group dinner.

OVERNIGHT: *KAAN Hotel, Casablanca*

MEALS: *Breakfast and dinner included*

Day 10: Casablanca - Saturday, April 25

- Shabbat morning offers an opportunity for rest, to join local services, or to take an informal walking tour through the medina including the Bab Marrakech gate and the **Sqala Bastion**, an 18th century Portuguese fortification.
- Have lunch at **Rick's Cafe**, famous for its recreation of the famous Casablanca movie set, and continue to the **Hassan II Mosque** for an afternoon tour of its vast prayer halls. This architectural marvel commissioned by the late Moroccan King in 1986 has the second highest minaret in the world and capacity for over 25,000 worshippers or more on the surrounding grounds.
- Spend the afternoon on your own, with an option to enjoy a treatment at the mosque **hammam** (cost not included) or return to your accommodations.
- Gather at the **Jewish community center** in the evening for a festive farewell dinner and concluding conversation with local leadership.

OVERNIGHT: *KAAN Hotel, Casablanca [B, L, D]*

MEALS: *Breakfast and dinner included*

Day 11: Departure or Extension - Sunday, April 26

- Check-out and transfer to the airport for your departing flights.

OVERNIGHT: *N/A*

MEALS: *Breakfast included*





TOUR EXTENSIONS

Pre-Tour Extension to Essaouira - April 15-16

Travelers interested in visiting Essaouira will arrive on Wednesday, April 15 and take a long day trip (~5.5 hrs round trip) from Marrakech to Essaouira and back on Thursday, April 16. Those travelers will convene with the full tour group when the program begins at dinner on Day 1 of the main tour itinerary above.

- Start the day with a scenic drive en route to Essaouira, where history, art and culture reflect Portuguese, French and Berber influence. Arrive at Bayt Dakira, a beautifully restored synagogue, cultural center and exhibition that preserves Moroccan Jewish memory through texts and rare objects. Take a guided food tour through the bustling city center for lunch, followed by free time to explore the coastline and the medina's artisan workshops and storefronts before returning to Marrakech in the afternoon.

OVERNIGHT: Riad & Spa Bahia Salam, Marrakech

MEALS: Breakfast and lunch included

Post-Tour Extension to Tangier & Chefchaouen - April 26-29

Travelers interested in visiting Tangier and Chefchaouen will extend their stay in Morocco to Wednesday, April 29

- **Sunday, April 26** - High speed train to **Tangier** for visits to the Medina, Cape Spartel, Cave of Hercules and the nearby lighthouse. *Overnight: Tangier.*
- **Monday, April 27** - Transfer to the blue-washed town of **Chefchaouen** in the Rif mountains. Tour the Old City and explore its narrow lanes and maze-like medina. Find a rooftop for sunset views of the surrounding landscape, followed by an evening at leisure. *Overnight: Chefchaouen.*
- **Tuesday, April 28** - Return to Casablanca - Late morning transfer back to Casablanca (5+ hours), followed by an evening at leisure. *Overnight: Casablanca.*

Includes guiding, transportation, entrances, 3 nights accommodation including breakfast, one lunch or dinner.

