

exodus  
ADVENTURE TRAVELS

# MOROCCO

*MOUNTAINS & DESERT*



MOROCCO

50 *years of*  
**ADVENTURE**  
MEGAFAM 2024  
MOROCCO



# 50 *years of* ADVENTURE



Ever since our first trip in 1974, we've always embraced our spirit for adventure. And travelling to far-flung, remote destinations across the world is made that much more memorable when you share these moments with others. After 50 trips around the sun, we strongly believe that the connections we make when we travel, are equally as special as the destinations themselves – and our travelers and expert leaders agree. We owe a tremendous debt of gratitude to our travel agents and industry partners. Together, we've turned countless travel dreams into reality. Thank you for your invaluable role in our shared success and for making a difference in the world of travel.



# MOUNTAINS & DESERT OVERVIEW

Embark on an extraordinary journey through Morocco's mountains and desert landscapes with Exodus Adventure Travels.

Begin in Marrakech before delving into the Atlas Mountains to explore the well-preserved kasbah of Ait Benhaddou, famed for its cinematic history. Traverse the Draa Valley and indulge in a traditional hammam experience in the High Atlas Mountains. Conclude your adventure with an exclusive Gala dinner in Marrakech, celebrating 50 years of exploration and adventure with Exodus.



## SMALL GROUP ADVENTURE

On our guided trips, you'll join a group of like-minded travelers for an incredible adventure, where an expert local guide leads the way. There are many benefits to travelling in a guided group, from meeting new people with shared interests to getting the opportunity to fully relax, safe in the knowledge that everything's been organized for you.

# Mountains & Desert



## DAY 1

## MARRAKECH

The adventure begins in Marrakech, the captivating ochre city, the still very much alive, and modern antique-like city. We have a welcome meeting in the evening, in which we gather for the first time as a group.

*Notes: Arrival transfer included / Activities : Welcome meeting  
Meals Included: None*



## DAY 2

## AIT BENHADDOU

With time to explore Marrakech at the end of our journey, we leave the Red City behind and head into the Atlas Mountains. Our destination for the day is the well-preserved kasbah of Ait Benhaddou. This UNESCO World Heritage site is one of the most spectacular landmarks in the Atlas and the filming location for several Hollywood movies, including *Gladiator* (2000). The route takes us over the Tizi n'Tichka pass, the highest in Morocco, arriving mid-afternoon. On arrival join the tour leader for an orientation tour through the kasbah and then return to our hotel for a welcome dinner.

*Activities : Ait Benhaddou – Kasbah Ait ben haddou orientation tour, welcome dinner  
Meals Included: Breakfast, dinner*



## DAY 3

## DRAA VALLEY

We journey through Ouarzazate, known as the "door to the desert," once a vital trade route for African traders to Europe. Now, it hosts the Atlas Film Studios, featured in numerous Hollywood films and *Game of Thrones*, alongside the impressive Kasbah Taourirt, a grand fort built from rammed earth and mud-brick. Continuing south, we drive along the Draa Valley, home to over four million palm trees and bordered by ksours (fortified villages). Here, we enjoy a one and a half-hour camel trek, delving deeper into the Sahara for a night of stargazing at a simple desert camp, where the vastness of the desert becomes palpable amidst the silence and countless stars.

*Activities : Draa Valley – camel trek  
Meals Included: Breakfast, lunch & dinner*

# Mountains & Desert



## DAY 4

## ZAGORA

We wake in the desert silence, greeted by the soft hues of dawn painting the Sahara's vast landscape. Take the opportunity to capture a few breathtaking photos and immerse yourself in the tranquil atmosphere before embarking on a return camel ride. Afterward, a short drive brings us to Zagora, where we have time to rest, refresh and unwind by the pool. In the afternoon, consider joining an optional walk into the valley, to explore this renowned desert outpost.

*Activities : Sahara – Camel ride at sunrise*

*Meals Included: Breakfast*



## DAY 5

## TIGHZA

We journey west through the Draa Valley to join the Ounila Valley in the High Atlas Mountains. Starting our walk from Animeter, we traverse a track with short steep inclines, passing through small villages. After about an hour and a half, we reach our gite in Tighza for an overnight stay. In the evening, we visit the village hammam, funded by Exodus clients, offering a truly authentic experience. It's a traditional hammam, providing an opportunity to interact with villagers. Please note, this isn't a spa treatment. A standard treatment is included, with additional costs for a scrubber and soap (20 Moroccan dirham or US \$2) and customary tip (20 dirham). After refreshing ourselves, we return to the gite for dinner in the mountains.

*Activities : Tighza – Hammam experience*

*Meals Included: Breakfast, dinner*



## DAY 6

## MARRAKECH

This morning, we depart from the gite and embark on a scenic drive over the High Atlas Mountains back to Marrakech, enjoying stunning scenery along the way. We once again cross Tizi n'Tichka before arriving in Marrakech and checking into our hotel. Later, we join our Leader for a visit to a local Argan Oil cooperative. In the evening, we explore Djemma el Fna, the vibrant central square known for its lively atmosphere and diverse entertainment options, offering a glimpse into Marrakech's rich cultural heritage.

*Activities : Marrakech – Djemma el Fna visit.*

*Meals Included: Breakfast*

# Mountains & Desert

## DAY 7

## MARRAKECH



Today, enjoy a guided walking tour of Marrakech's iconic sites. Explore the Bahia Palace, Saadian tombs, and catch a glimpse of the impressive Koutoubia Mosque. Navigate through the bustling souks for souvenir shopping before joining us for lunch at a square-side restaurant. Alternatively, opt for a tranquil calèche ride to Yves St Laurent's Majorelle gardens, adorned in stunning indigo blue decor.

As the trip nears its end, we invite you to join us for a special occasion: an exclusive Gala dinner hosted by Exodus to celebrate its 50th anniversary. This intimate gathering, reserved for Megafam participants, offers a unique opportunity to commemorate our shared adventures as true explorers.

*Activities : Marrakech – guided tour*

*Meals Included: Breakfast, Gala dinner*

## DAY 8

## MARRAKECH



Enjoy your final breakfast in Morocco this morning and take the chance to reflect on your unforgettable adventure. You've navigated lively medinas, ridden a camel in the Sahara and experienced a traditional hammam in the Atlas Mountains. Now, however, is the time to start your journey home and start planning your next adventure.

*Notes: Departure transfer included*

*Meals Included: Breakfast*

## KEY INFORMATION

### WHAT'S INCLUDED

- All breakfasts, one lunch, four dinners
- Tour leader throughout
- Free arrival and departure transfers

### WHAT'S NOT INCLUDED

- Travel insurance
- Visas or vaccinations
- Single supplement
- International airfare

### WORTH KNOWING

- Please ensure your passport is valid and has at least six months left before applying.
- Any visas required are the responsibility of the traveler
- Morocco is a Muslim country. Please consider modest dress including arms and legs covered in mosques and more rural areas.
- As a predominantly Muslim country, access to alcohol may be limited or unavailable in certain areas.



# SUSTAINABILITY IN MOROCCO



Exodus is dedicated to improving life for people, places, and the planet through sustainable travel practices. As a Certified B Corp company, we prioritize supporting local communities and minimizing our environmental impact. We engage with locally owned businesses, champion locally produced food, and work to reduce waste, including eliminating single-use plastic water bottles.

In Morocco specifically, we take numerous actions to promote sustainability and responsible tourism. From hiring local guides to provide authentic insights into the culture and history of the region while also supporting the livelihoods of community members to providing aid during times of need such as the recent earthquake. Our partnerships with locally owned hotels, restaurants, and other businesses ensure that tourism revenue directly benefits local economies. Additionally, we offer opportunities for travelers to engage in immersive experiences that foster cultural exchange and mutual respect. By embracing sustainable travel practices and supporting local initiatives, we strive to preserve the natural beauty and cultural heritage of Morocco for generations to come.

As a traveler, you can contribute to sustainability efforts by dressing appropriately according to the customs, booking with a sustainable operator like Exodus, and bringing reusable items such as water bottles and bags for souvenirs. Together, we can make a positive impact on Morocco's landscapes and communities while enjoying meaningful travel experiences

