

MOROCCO SELF DRIVE ADVENTURE | 23 Days



- D1 Marrakech:** Arrive Marrakech and transfer to our Riad located in the old medina for the night. Welcome dinner included.
- D2 Marrakech:** Tour of city with local guide. Marrakech is the most important of Morocco's four former imperial cities (cities that were built by Moroccan Berber empires). Visit Majorelle Gardens, Saad Tums and Bahia Palace. Lunch during the tour and then we inspect our motorhomes, have a briefing and practice drive before transferring to our campsite not far out of town to check out our motorhomes and stay in them for the first night. Breakfast and lunch included, dinner on your own.
- D3 Essaouira:** Drive to Essaouira on the Atlantic coast. On the way stop in at and Argan Oil “co-operative” to learn about this local product. We stock up our motorhomes at a grocery store today. We’ll arrive in the afternoon at this historic city on the coast. Breakfast in Riad, lunch on the road included. Dinner on your own in one of the many restaurants in Essaouira. Riad accommodation.
- D4 Essaouira:** Full day to investigate the well preserved, maze like medina at the end of the ocean boulevard. The working harbour is fantastic for photography with its small and large fishing vessels and fishing activities. Breakfast in the Riad, lunch and dinner on your own. Riad accommodation.
- D5 Agadir:** Drive along the Atlantic coast stopping at Tafdna, a non-touristic fishing village and enjoy a delicious fresh fish lunch. Breakfast in the Riad and lunch included and dinner from your camp stores. Camping in campsite.
- D6 Tafraoute:** Drive across the Argan forests and through the Small Atlas Mountains with scenic views. Arrival at Tafraoute with time to visit the small medina where you can find local arts/clothes. Breakfast, lunch and dinner included (camp food). Camping in campsite.
- D7 Tata:** Drive to the south side of the Atlas through chalky mountains—dry landscapes with desert climate. Drive through the Ait Mansour and Izmouga Gorges. Breakfast, lunch and dinner included (camp food). Camping in campsite.
- D8 Zagora:** Today we visit the prehistoric sites of Tumulus Necropolis, Pre-Islamic Tombs. This area looks similar to some Australian desert and with the Acacia trees, sometimes you think you could be in Namibia, but the camels take place of the elephant! Breakfast, lunch and dinner included (camp food). Camping in campsite.
- D9 Ait Ben Haddou:** Drive along one of the most beautiful roads in Morocco with palms and oases. We will arrive at the famous Kasbah of Ait Ben Haddou—this is where Gladiator, Lawrence of Arabia and other movies have been filmed. Breakfast, lunch and dinner included (camp food). Camping in campsite.
- D10 Ouarzazate:** Today’s journey takes us to Telouet and the largest Kasbah in Southern Morocco—it is also right off the tourist trail and the drive there is spectacular. We’ll tour the Kasbah and have a delicious lunch of a local Tagine specialty before we head back to Ait Ben Haddou to tour the Kasbah. We’ll do a quick shop today and stay in a Riad close to Ouarzazate. Breakfast (camp food), lunch at Telouet and dinner in Riad included. Riad accommodation.
- D11 Tamtattouchte:** A very scenic drive through the Dades Valley and Roses Valley to our campsite high in the mountains. At the campsite a local specialty meal of “Mecchoui” will be prepared—whole roast lamb cooked in a clay fire that looks similar to a tandoor. Breakfast, lunch (camp food) and dinner at campsite included. Camping in campsite.
- D12 Merzouga:** Another day of driving through gorges to Merzouga in the Sahara Desert. Spend the night in our hotel overlooking the dunes or take a camel ride into the desert for an overnight stay in tents (with comfortable mattresses and bedding). Breakfast and lunch (camp food) and dinner at hotel included. Hotel accommodation or overnight camel trip.

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- D13 Tafilalet:** See the sun rise in the dunes and return to the hotel for breakfast if you've been on the overnight camel trip. Then it is back on the road to visit the oasis of Tafilalet, the second largest in Morocco. Afternoon walk in the village and oasis for those who would like to stretch their legs. Breakfast in hotel, lunch (camp food) and dinner at a Moroccan family house included. Camping in campsite.
- D14 Timinay:** Drive across the High Atlas Mountains to Timinay. We visit a remote village of Sidi Hamza on our way. If possible, we will stop into to visit a home of a local Berber family and see how they live in this remote, agricultural part of Morocco. Breakfast, lunch and dinner included (camp food). Camping in campsite.
- D15 Azrou:** Drive across the Cedar Forest and visit the 8-century old Cedar Gorov in the National Park near Azrou. We will also see the entertaining Margot monkeys today. We will visit the surprising French alps styled town of Ifrane, built in the 1930's to look like a French ski village. A good spot for coffee and a pastry! Breakfast, lunch (camp food) and dinner included at our campsite—trout dinner. Camping in campsite.
- D16 Volubilis:** We drive through the Imperial City of Meknes today where we will do grocery shopping before heading to Volubilis, a partly excavated Roman city which is a UNESCO World Heritage site. We'll go for an afternoon tour. Breakfast, lunch and dinner included (camp food). Camping in campsite.
- D17 Chefchaouen:** Today we cross the Rif Chain. We'll park out motorhomes outside of the town and be transferred to our Riad for the night. Walk around the city of Chefchaouen to discover on your own. This town is renowned for its blue buildings. Breakfast and lunch included (camp food), dinner on own. Riad accommodation.
- D18 Fez:** We see more of the Rif mountains and Al Wahda Lake on the way to the Imperial City of Fez. We'll leave our motorhomes parked close to the Medina and porters will assist you to the Riad for two nights. Breakfast in riad, lunch (camp food) and dinner (riad) included. Riad accommodation.
- D19 Fez:** Guided tour of the Imperial City of Fez including the Royal Palace, leather maker tannery and local handcrafts in its famous Medina. Breakfast and dinner in the Riad, lunch during the tour included. Riad accommodation.
- D20 Khenifra:** We drive south and start heading back towards Marrakech staying the night in Khénifra, a medieval city located in the centre of Morocco, with reddish colours, built on both banks of the Oum Errabiâ and the Dir between in the western part of the Middle Atlas. Breakfast in Riad, lunch and dinner (camp food) included. Camping in campsite.
- D21 Bin El Ouidane:** A pretty drive to visit the Ouzoud Waterfall. Breakfast, lunch and dinner (camp food) included. Camping in campsite.
- D22 Marrakech:** Our final drive of the adventure back to Marrakech. We return the motorhomes just outside of Marrakech and return to our original Riad for a farewell dinner. Breakfast and lunch (camp food) and dinner (Riad) included. Riad Accommodation.
- D23 Depart:** Transfer to the airport and depart for home.

Itinerary subject to change.

"A few words cannot do our trip through Morocco justice; however, suffice to say it was every bit as exotic and interesting as we had hoped. In the cities, the souks of Marrakesh and Fez were standouts and there were pre-arranged fantastic local tours of each. The scenery and landscapes were spectacular – from the Atlantic coast, to the beauty of the Atlas Mountains as well as the stunning Sahara Desert. Also prearranged were local guides who accompanied us for the whole trip. Self Drive Adventure's selection of local guides was spot-on! The motor home experience was complemented by several nights in very comfortable riads, the timing of which worked well with camping grounds....and don't forget the wonderful food – tagines, royal couscous, pastille and much more. Would we recommend the trip? You bet! Would we travel again with Self Drive Adventures? –anytime!!"

- Phil & Cheryl

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DATES

07 – 29 November 2020

01 – 23 November 2021

PRICES

2 people per motor home: \$9,750 AUD per person

**Prices assume a minimum of 5 vehicles, maximum of 7 vehicles (plus support vehicles). 2020 pricing to be confirmed.*



INCLUDED

Arrival and departure transfers, motor home hire, fuel, two-way handheld radios, campsites and riads as per itinerary, overnight camel trip, meals as per itinerary, camp food throughout trip (stocked in your vehicle), local city guides, support vehicle escort and staff. A fully comprehensive insurance will be provided during the rental. You will be responsible for costs up to 18,000 dirhams (around 1,650€ deductible) for any damages. This amount is frozen on your credit card and processed in the event of any incident. You can reduce the excess by taking the extra insurance for 80dhs/day (7.5€ / day) to reduce the deductible to 6,000 dirhams (around 550€). The deposit in this case will be 6,000 dirhams.



EXCLUDED

Airfares, meals other than listed on itinerary, alcohol, travel insurance, visas (if required), vaccinations, vehicle excess, optional activities, local tips and any service not specifically listed under "included".



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OTHER INFORMATION

Accommodation & Campsites: Riads (traditional homes converted to accommodation) and organised campsites. All motor homes have separate shower and toilet facilities. Campsites chosen are “best available”.

Vehicles: In Morocco they refer to these as “camping cars”, we call them motor homes. They have a lot of “get up and go” which is useful on mountain passes to get past slow traffic. They are also very economical on fuel (about 10 litres per 100km).

Although not all the models are the same, we’ll explain the vehicle type available at the time of booking. Those who book first get the first pick. Below is an example.

Glamys 40 x 2: Consists of two double beds (1 above front seats, 1 that can be made from the lounge seats) and 2 single beds bunk style at the rear. Toilet and shower are in separate compartments for greater comfort.

Driving Ability: The skills required are a driver’s license and a good dollop of common sense.

Terrain: The route is mainly tar with some dirt sections. The tar roads can be quite “rough” with large potholes and damaged surface. The tar roads can be quite narrow in places and wind along spectacular high passes over the mountains. Once out of the city the roads are quiet.

Food: Most meals will be from your groceries packed in your motor home. When staying in riads all meals are included. The food is excellent in Morocco with fresh bread, fruit and vegetables available most days from a local town.

Weather/Season: It will be mainly warm during the day (20-25 degrees C) and chilly at night (7-13 degrees C). There is the chance of rain, especially in the north and possible frost in some of the higher mountains (around 1,800m). The ocean will be cold, but you may still want to pack your bathers just in case. There are pools in quite a few of the Riad’s and campsites.

GLAMYS 40

