ARTISAN TRAVEL

Experience Magical Morocco



HOLIDAY TYPE: Flexible Dates
VISITING:

BROCHURE CODE: 5580
DURATION: 7 nights

In Brief

Discover the magic of Morocco on this wonderful seven-night adventure, combining vibrant cities, spectacular mountain scenery and the tranquillity of the desert. From exploring the fascinating souks of Marrakech to taking in the breathtaking Atlas Mountains, you'll experience the country's rich culture, beautiful landscapes and delicious local cuisine along the way.





What's included?

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- **Travel worry-free** – fully organised and run by a trusted, fully regulated UK operator. Read more about our bonding and the types of financial protection that we offer.
- **Transfers**: all transfers included
- **Accommodation**: 3 nights at Oasis Lodges or similar, 1 night in a luxury tent in the Agafay Desert and 3 nights in a 1-bedroom riad at Rebali Riads
- **Meals**: 7 breakfasts, 1 lunch
- **The following activities are included in the holiday**: Atlas Mountains day, Marrakech souk tour (order subject to change)*
- **Tourism tax** of 53MAD (£4,20) per adult per night
- Fully qualified guides and instructors during activities with all equipment provided

*Please note that we do not include activities at Rebali Riads, although there is an extensive range of options that can be booked locally. You can discuss these after checking in at this wonderfully relaxing resort, allowing you to decide exactly how busy or laid-back you would like your stay to be. If you're looking to add a little adventure, options include camel trekking, horse riding, surfing, quad biking, an Essaouira souk visit and cookery lessons.

Trip Overview

This fantastic seven-night holiday offers a wonderful introduction to Morocco, taking you from the lively streets of Marrakech to the peaceful landscapes of the Agafay Desert and the beautiful coastal surroundings of Essaouira.

Your holiday begins in Marrakech, where you'll spend three nights at Oasis Lodges, enjoying a peaceful setting just outside the city's busier areas. If you would prefer to be closer to the action, alternative accommodation in the old town of Marrakech can also be arranged, ideal for those wanting to immerse themselves in the city's vibrant atmosphere.

During your stay, you'll explore the fascinating souks with a knowledgeable guide, discovering a maze

of colourful stalls, enticing aromas and traditional crafts while gaining an insight into everyday Moroccan life. You'll also venture into the spectacular Atlas Mountains, where breathtaking scenery and traditional Berber villages offer a glimpse of a very different side of the country.

Next, you'll leave the city behind and head into the Agafay Desert for a memorable night beneath the stars. Stay in either the beautiful Inara Camp, with its panoramic views and comfortable luxury tents, or the enchanting Scarabeo Camp, where uniquely sourced furnishings, fascinating artefacts and locally crafted artwork create a wonderfully atmospheric setting.

The final part of your journey takes you towards the historic port city of Essaouira, where you'll spend three nights at Rebali Riads. This beautiful retreat features traditional Moroccan design and offers a wonderfully relaxing setting in which to unwind.

The friendly and attentive staff will be on hand to help you plan your stay, with a choice of cultural, culinary and adventurous activities available to arrange locally. Whether you prefer to fill your days with new experiences or simply take things at a slower pace, the choice is entirely yours.

There will also be plenty of time to enjoy the resort's facilities. Relax in the traditional hammam steam room, cool off in the swimming pool or perhaps enjoy a game of tennis.

Agenda

Please note the order of activities is subject to change

DAY 1 ARRIVAL AND WELCOME

Upon arrival in Marrakech, your transfer vehicle will take you to your accommodation at Oasis Lodges, approximately 10 minutes away.

Once you've checked in, you can settle into your peaceful surroundings and relax after your journey. Why not enjoy dinner at the hotel restaurant or ask the team to recommend somewhere local to experience some authentic Moroccan cuisine?

Included Meals: None

DAY 2 DAY IN THE ATLAS MOUNTAINS

After breakfast, set off on a wonderful excursion to explore the spectacular Atlas Mountains. A two-hour transfer will take you to the village of Imlil, your starting point for a day of trekking through this beautiful mountain region, accompanied by an experienced mountain guide.

With Mount Toubkal, the highest peak in the Atlas Mountains, providing an impressive backdrop, you'll follow scenic trails through traditional hamlets and walnut tree-filled woodland, gradually

making your way higher into the mountains. The views are breathtaking, offering a fantastic opportunity to discover Morocco's natural beauty beyond its bustling cities.

Along the way, you'll have the chance to visit at least one local village and gain an insight into everyday life in these rural communities. You'll also enjoy lunch at a local restaurant before returning to Oasis Lodges in the late afternoon. The excursion can be tailored to suit the needs and abilities of the group.

Included Meals: Breakfast, Lunch

DAY 3 — THREE HOUR SOUK TOUR

Today, you'll discover the sights, sounds and colourful atmosphere of Marrakech on a fascinating guided tour of its famous souks. Wander through the bustling maze of narrow alleyways, where traditional craftspeople, potters, olive-sellers and leatherworkers display their wares alongside lively market stalls, street performers and local traders.

There's plenty to catch your eye at every turn, so keep your camera handy as you soak up the wonderful energy and character of this vibrant city.

After your tour, you'll return to Oasis Lodges to enjoy a relaxing final evening in Marrakech.

Included Meals: Breakfast

DAY 4 — SLEEP UNDER THE STARS

Today, you'll leave Marrakech behind and head into the Agafay Desert for a memorable night surrounded by beautiful, rugged landscapes. Subject to availability, you'll stay at either Inara Camp or Scarabeo Camp, both offering a wonderfully atmospheric desert glamping experience.

Your luxury bivouac-style tent provides a comfortable retreat, with panoramic views across the surrounding desert and towards the Atlas Mountains. As evening falls, settle in and enjoy the peaceful surroundings before spending a magical night beneath the star-filled sky.

There is plenty to see and do in the desert, with experiences such as camel trekking available locally. You could also explore the nearby Lalla Takerkoust Lake, where activities include jet skiing. Speak to our Travel Experts for more information about the available options.

Included Meals: Breakfast

DAYS 5 TO 7 — SET YOUR OWN ITINERARY

The next three days are yours to enjoy at your own pace. At Rebali Riads, you'll have the opportunity

to sit down with your hosts and discuss the experiences you'd like to include during your stay. These activities are not included in your holiday, giving you complete flexibility to decide how adventurous or relaxed you'd like your time here to be.

There is a wonderful choice of experiences available locally, including camel trekking, quad biking, a traditional Berber lunch, farm visits and learning about argan oil production. If you'd prefer to get out on the water, you can try surfing, windsurfing or kitesurfing, while horse riding and cookery lessons offer even more ways to discover the local area and its culture.

Some activities include lunch, depending on which experience you choose. For further details and an indication of local prices, please speak to one of our Travel Experts.

Included Meals: Breakfast

DAY 8 DEPARTURE

Enjoy one last Moroccan breakfast before your transfer takes you to Marrakech Airport for your journey home, bringing your Moroccan adventure to an end.

Please note that the transfer time is approximately 3 hours.

Included Meals: Breakfast

Personalise this tour

Our pick



Spend a night in The Enchanting Marrakech Medina

If you would like to extend your trip and spend a night or two in the ancient heart of this vibrant city, please speak to one of our Travel Experts about your requirements and we will come back with the perfect riad for you! Many riads also have rooftop terraces with stunning views of the city. These are great places to relax and enjoy the sunset or people-watch.

The medina itself is a maze of narrow streets and alleyways, and it is easy to get lost. However, this is part of the charm of the medina and that extends

to your arrival. Your transfer will drop you and your luggage off at the gates of the medina. One of the knowledgeable porters will put your luggage on their trolley and will take you straight to your riad. It is useful to pay attention to the route as it will help you get your bearings but your hosts will also be able to provide you with maps and directions once you are checked in.

Included Accommodation

Oasis Lodges (Nights: 1-3)





Discover the allure of Oasis Lodges in Marrakech, where traditional Moroccan elegance meets contemporary luxury. The thoughtfully designed accommodations are adorned with vibrant hues and authentic embellishments. Delight in serenity amidst lush gardens, a glistening pool, and an indulgent spa offering revitalising hammam rituals and massages or make a splash in the nearby waterpark. There is a non-licensed restaurant on-site and plenty of other options within walking distance of the property. If you'd like to venture into the enchanting Medina or Jemaa el-Fnaa, there is a complimentary shuttle bus service available.

ROOM TYPE

2 Bedroom Lodge

Offering luxury and comfort, the lodges comprise of two double or twin rooms, separate shower and toilet. teh living room is adorned with a fireplace and terrace with a view of the private garden. Equipped with a Smart TV, mini bar, espresso coffee machine, tea service, safe and hammock, a comfortable stay is beckoning. These lodges benefit from the following services: breakfast, entrance to the OASIRIA Park, daily bottle of water and a basket of seasonal fruit on the day of your arrival.

Your room type will be confirmed at the time of booking. All room types are subject to availability.

Inara or Scarabeo Camp (Nights: 4)





Enjoy a night under a star-studded sky in the Agafay Desert. You will spend an evening at either the Inara or Scarabeo Camp. Both sites offer a luxurious and intimate camping experience set against the breathtaking backdrop of the canyons of the majestic Marrakech desert of Agafay.

Please note that the camp you are booked into will depend on availability.

Inara Camp facilities

- Sixth luxury camp designed and created by **Vincent Jaquet**
- 21-hectare plot
- On-site restaurant offering a delicious breakfast, lunch, and dinner

- 8 private dining tents offering authentic Moroccan cuisine and include entertainment with duo gnaoua, fire eater and henna tattoo each night

- 18 glamping tents, each measuring from 25 to 36m²
- Bio-designed heated swimming pool
- 24 hour night guard

- All excursions and activities are organised in partnership with local companies that respect a strict and rigorous code of ethics
- Animals are monitored by veterinary (vaccines, treatments, insurance) and perfectly fed

Inara Camp Glamping Suites

Your private glamping suite consists of a metal structure fixed on a wooden terrace and three layers of fabric for ultimate comfort.

The Glamping suites have the following facilities:

- King-size bed
- Lounge area
- En-suite facilities
- 24-hour electricity
- Orange blossom 'Les Sens de Marrakech' welcome products and Argan oil soap
- Hairdryer
- Fire extinguisher

Some suites also include a private terrace with sun lounger, double or twin bed, extra bed and cot and a wood stove

Scarabeo Camp facilities

- 360° views of the Agafay's barren grandeur and beyond to the snow-capped Atlas mountains
- Meals are served around a candlelit communal table
- 10 private rooms/suites/tents
- Swimming pool
- All excursions and activities are organised in partnership with local companies that respect a strict and rigorous code of ethics
- Animals are monitored by veterinary (vaccines, treatments, insurance) and perfectly fed

Scarabeo Camp Glamping Suites

Your private glamping suite consists of a metal structure fixed on a wooden terrace and three layers of fabric for ultimate comfort.

The Glamping suites have the following facilities:

- Thick white cotton tent
- Authentic décor, furnishings and lanterns
- Double or twin beds
- Lounge area
- Writing desk and facilities
- En-suite facilities housing western toilets and Berber shower facilities with one hot and one cold bucket of water
- Traditional black soap
- Two shower/tents with a "real shower" are available at the camp for everyone

Rebali Riads (Nights: 5-7)





White walls and bright interiors meet gleaming swimming pools and scattered greenery in this hotel, which takes after a ‘riad’, or traditional Moroccan house. ‘Paradise’ might be a better word, because it’s a place of sun-soaked luxury. There are seven private villas, each with fully-furnished kitchens, dining courtyards, and personal gardens. Four of these are larger and come with their own pool, while the three smaller buildings share two inter-connected pools between them. All have inviting roof

terraces with all-round views of sand, sea and countryside. The main hotel has hammam and spa facilities, a tennis court, and a service kitchen with a full-time chef.

Hotel facilities

- With a full-time chef available on-request, you can look forward to gorgeous Moroccan specialities and European favourites served fresh in the dining area or by the pool
- Challenge the kids on the tennis court or try out a game of boules in the large shared garden. There's also a table tennis set and plenty of board games to keep the family entertained
- Get fully refreshed in the Moroccan hammam steam-room or go for a continental spa treatment. There is also a small gift shop in the reception building
- Read up on your next activity or look for something to book with the free Wi-Fi, which is available in reception and at certain hotspots around the riads

Room type

Each of the seven riads is uniquely designed, based around a dining courtyard area which is covered with a remote-controlled sliding glass roof. Each also has a fully decked-out kitchen and a roof terrace with 360° views of the surroundings.

Dar Azreq: This riad has two bedrooms with ensuite bathrooms, each containing two basins. The bathroom attached to the main bedroom has a marble-lined bath and twin showers. As well as a personal roof terrace, Dar Azreq has a garden with a gated entrance to the shared pool area.

Dar Etoile: This has one master bedroom and a snug room which can be converted into a bedroom. The bathroom comes with twin showers and basins and a bath topped with marble. There is also a downstairs toilet. It also has a kitchen, dining courtyard, and sitting room with a fireplace. In addition, Dar Etoile has a private roof terrace and garden with a gated entrance to the shared pool area.

Dar Jeseli: This two bedroom riad has two ensuite bathrooms with twin basins; the main bedroom bathroom has double showers and a marble-lined bath. There is a private roof terrace and a garden with a gated entrance to the shared pool area.

Dar Mevada: This riad has three bedrooms – one is a master suite with a four-poster bed and ensuite bathroom; the other two share one bathroom which contains a marble-lined bath and a shower. There is a kitchen and dining courtyard, bar area, and sitting room. Outside there is a private pool, as well as a private roof terrace.

Riad Sila: This riad has three suites, each having its own balcony and bathroom with a shower, marble-topped bath, and twin basins. In the master suite, there is a four-poster bed and open-plan bathroom. Downstairs is a grand, high-ceilinged sitting room; this sits next to a snug room which can be converted into a fourth bedroom. The snug room has an open fire and access to the downstairs shower room. Riad Sila has its own pool and a private roof terrace.

Riad Valmar: The largest of the riads, this is based around three courtyards: one with a sliding glass roof and dining area; another with orange trees, a water fountain, and open space; and the last meeting the three sides of the swimming pool. The courtyards link up with the sitting room and cinema room. Upstairs are four suites, each with private terraces and ensuite bathrooms – containing twin basins and walk-in showers. Two are master suites containing four-poster beds, marble-topped

baths, and twin showers. The cinema room can be converted into a fifth bedroom and has access to the downstairs shower room.

Dar Jamila: This three-bedroom riad is a few steps away from the main hotel building, slightly closer to the sea. The riad has an open plan living room with kitchen, breakfast bar, fireplace, TV and dining table. Outside there is a large terrace and private pool, as well as a private roof terrace with views of the sea. The master bedroom has a four-poster bed with en-suite bathroom, walk-in shower and twin basins. The second bedroom has a king size bed and the third has two twin beds. Both rooms have en-suite bathrooms with walk-in showers and twin basins.

Please note that the images above show a variety of accommodation options.

The Specifics

Group Size

We always try to provide an approximation of the group size you can expect to be with for the duration of each of our holidays. It may be that you are joined by others for parts of your holiday (such as transfers and particular activities) but the above number reflects those you can normally expect to be with from beginning to end. If group size is something which is particularly important to you, please speak to our Travel Experts and they can suggest the best holidays for you.

Tailor-made holiday group sizes will vary for all activities as will the group size for any additional activities you book.

Minimum Numbers Required For A Holiday To Operate

Our full booking terms and conditions can be found on our website: https://www.artisantravel.co.uk/booking-conditions

Minimum and maximum age

If a specific minimum age applies to this holiday, it can be found in the Key Facts box on the holiday Overview page.

Unless otherwise stated in the in the Key Facts box on the holiday Overview page, the minimum age for participation in an Artisan holiday is typically 8 years old (there may be younger children in some destinations who have booked with other companies). If an adult-only environment is important to you, then please contact our Travel Experts and they will advise on the best dates and destinations for you. If you are looking for a holiday designed specifically for families then please see our sister company www.activitiesabroad.com

Itinerary amendments

The order of activities listed in this agenda is provided for guidance only, your final and detailed itinerary will be provided either with your final travel documents (which are uploaded into your online account around a week prior to departure) or upon arrival.

Terms and Conditions

Our full booking terms and conditions can be found on our website: https://www.artisantravel.co.uk/booking-conditions