



LUXURY SMALL GROUP JOURNEYS

Splendors of Morocco 2019

12 days from \$7,995

Limited to 18 guests

Enjoy total immersion into Moroccan and Berber cultures with front-of-the-line access to museums and historical sites, explore the Roman ruins of Volubilis and stay in an A&K Exclusive Desert Tented Camp amid the Erg Chebbi dunes, ending with three nights in lively Marrakech.

A&K Advantages

Discover all that exotic Morocco has to offer, from the historic cities in the north to the mysterious desert

Experience the Sahara in style when you sleep under the stars at an A&K Exclusive Desert Tented Camp amid the stunning Erg Chebbi dunes

Stay in the fascinating "Red City" at the luxurious Four Seasons Hotel Marrakech, your home for three nights

Visit Jardin Majorelle in Marrakech, a garden created by an artist and later restored by design legend Yves Saint-Laurent

Explore Meknes and Volubilis, both UNESCO World Heritage Sites, to unveil Morocco's unique culture and past

Embrace life like a local with a ride on camel back and by horse and carriage

Itinerary

DAY 1 ARRIVE CASABLANCA, MOROCCO

Arrive in Casablanca, where, after clearing customs and immigration, you are transferred to the city's newest luxury hotel, designed with contemporary styling and traditional Moroccan accents. Spend the rest of the day at leisure in this exotic setting, the inspiration for the eponymous, 1942 Humphrey Bogart film.

Four Seasons Hotel Casablanca

DAY 2 RABAT & FEZ | ANCIENT TRADITIONS, RICH HERITAGE

Begin the day exploring the port city of Casablanca, Morocco's largest metropolis and its commercial hub. Visit the stunning Hassan II Mosque, which accommodates up to 25,000 worshippers; its minaret stands as the tallest religious structure in the world. Then, travel to the Moorish city of Rabat, capital of Morocco, to visit the Mohammed V Mausoleum, dedicated to the founder of modern Morocco, grandfather of the current king. View the Mauresque-style Hassan Tower and Oudaya Kasbah, along with its scenic Andalusian garden. Continue to Fez for a special cocktail reception followed by a welcome dinner hosted by A&K.

Palais Faraj Suites & Spa | Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

DAY 3 FEZ | TIMELESS MEDIEVAL CITY

Explore Fez el-Bali (Old Fez), the cultural heart of Morocco. Founded in the eighth century by Moulay Idriss I, this imperial capital was a renowned center of medieval learning. Stroll the labyrinthine old quarter, with its 9,000 narrow lanes, alleys and souks, on a Market Visit of exceeding authenticity. Watching local craftsmen in action — working with bronze and pottery — makes for an engaging artisan visit as well. Next, proceed to the intricately detailed 14th-century Karaouine — one of the oldest, still-functioning universities in the world, and Nejjarine Square. You also see the Royal Palace, *madrasas* and mellah (Jewish quarter) in Fez el-Jadid.

Palais Faraj Suites & Spa | Meals: Breakfast, Lunch

DAY 4 VOLUBILIS & MEKNES | ROMAN RUINS & REGAL TREASURES

Journey overland to explore the Roman ruins of Volubilis, a UNESCO World Heritage Site that is home to some of the best-preserved Roman ruins in North Africa. With its triumphal arches, basilicas and capitals, the Volubilis skyline brims with iconic examples of Roman architecture. Among its greatest treasures, however, are the amazing mosaic floors of former family dwellings, which include depictions of Orpheus charming animals with his lyre, nine dolphins signifying good luck and a portrait of Amphitrite in a seahorse-drawn chariot. Upon completing this glimpse into antiquity, visit Meknes, a UNESCO World Heritage Site and one of the imperial cities of Morocco. Its impressive monuments recall the splendor of a fortified city, first built in the 17th century by the powerful sultan Moulay Ismail, to rival the court of his contemporary, Louis XIV of France. See the monumental Bab Mansour gateway — considered one of the finest great gates of Morocco — as well as the Granaries and the massive Royal Stables, which were built to accommodate 12,000 horses. Return to Fez for an evening at leisure.

Palais Faraj Suites & Spa | Meals: Breakfast, Lunch

DAY 5 ERFOUD | DESERT OASIS

Travel to small, desert-fringed Erfoud, pausing for lunch in Midelt en route and marveling at everyday life as you pass Berber villages, endless date palm plantations and the majestic Atlas Mountains. Settle into your hotel, set amid dunes and lush vegetation, with the remainder of the day to spend at leisure. Gather for dinner this evening.

L'Hotel by Chateau de Sable | Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

DAY 6 ERG CHEBBI | DUNES OF THE SAHARA

This morning, discover the fortified desert town of Rissani. Continue to the desert dunes of Erg Chebbi by four-wheel-drive vehicle, where a reception with mint tea and pastries awaits at your nomadic tented camp. Erg Chebbi's stunning dunes can reach up to 500 feet high, creating an otherworldly landscape. Experience it like a local on camel back. As the sun sets over the dunes, celebrate your unforgettable desert foray with a Scenic Sundowner. Return to your camp for a traditional meal before a campfire, along with distinctively Moroccan entertainment. Then, slumber in comfort as the sounds of the Sahara lull you to sleep.

A&K Exclusive Desert Tented Camp | Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

DAY 7 OUARZAZATE | ROAD OF A THOUSAND KASBAHS

Journey overland to Ouarzazate, once a stopping point for African traders travelling to the cities of Morocco and Europe. En route, absorb views of the High Atlas' southern slopes, intersecting the Dades Valley's flourishing crops, irrigation canals and palm trees. Travel along the "Road of a Thousand Kasbahs" and make a stop to visit an amazing, small private museum that houses exhibits showcasing local art, culture and history, before proceeding to Ouarzazate and your delightful oasis of a hotel.

Le Berbère Palace | Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

DAY 8 OUARZAZATE | DOOR OF THE DESERT

Begin the day by exploring Ouarzazate, a city originally built as a French garrison in the 1920s. Today, the city is a regional trade center, known for its pottery and carpets. See the Tifoultoute Kasbah, a majestic 17th-century fortress overlooking the Wadi Tifoultoute. Continue to elaborate Ait Benhaddou, dubbed a UNESCO World Heritage Site and home of the region's most exotic kasbahs, where structures all but defy the laws of gravity as they perch upon the steep slope. Some of these buildings have been featured in films, including *Lawrence of Arabia* and *Gladiator*.

Le Berbère Palace | Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

DAY 9 OUARZAZATE | CROSSING THE HIGH ATLAS MOUNTAINS



Journey over the High Atlas Mountains, observing everyday life in remote rural towns, to the fascinating "Red City" of Marrakech, where you settle into your luxurious hotel.

Four Seasons Resort Marrakech or Sofitel Marrakech Palais Imperial | Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Accommodations vary by departure date. See Dates & Prices for details.

DAY 10 MARRAKECH | EXPLORING THE RED CITY

Today, begin to unearth the secrets of Marrakech, starting in the medina, the old walled section of town that is a UNESCO World Heritage Site. Marvel at its architectural jewels, including the soaring Koutoubia minaret. Then, learn about the Berber culture, and follow their steps along the trade routes from North Africa to the Sahel at the Tiskiwin Museum. Also called Bert Flint's Museum for the Dutch anthropologist who founded it and whose personal collection of artifacts it houses, its displays range from authentic Berber tents and carpets to fine basketwork and ancient jewelry. Afterward, visit Djemaa el-Fna, Marrakech's main square, which is filled with orange juice stalls and vendors, along with fire-eaters, mime artists, snake charmers and street musicians performing at every turn. You may also wish to explore the city's fabled, labyrinthine *souks*.

Four Seasons Resort Marrakech or Sofitel Marrakech Palais Imperial | Meals: Breakfast, Lunch

Accommodations vary by departure date. See Dates & Prices for details.

DAY 11 MARRAKECH | HISTORIC GARDEN WITH A DESIGNER'S TOUCH

Ride Like a Local this morning — by horse-drawn carriage — to Jardin Majorelle, a picturesque garden created by French painter Jacques Majorelle and later restored by design legend Yves Saint Laurent. Stop at the newly opened Yves Saint Laurent Museum nearby, for an up-close look at some of the famed designer's creations. The remainder of the day is at leisure. Tonight, attend a special farewell dinner with entertainment by a local *gnaoua* band.

Four Seasons Resort Marrakech or Sofitel Marrakech Palais Imperial | Meals: Breakfast, Dinner

Accommodations vary by departure date. See Dates & Prices for details.

DAY 12 DEPART MARRAKECH

Transfer to the Marrakech airport and board your international flight home, or join an Essaouira Post-Tour Extension.

Extensions



Post-Tour Extension: Essaouira

4 days from \$1,995
Single Supplement from \$795

DAY 1

Transfer overland from Marrakech to Essaouira. Check-in at your hotel and relax.

L'Heure Bleue Palais | Meals: Lunch

DAY 2

Meet your guide and set out to explore the town of Essaouira, seeing its medina (old town) filled with artisan's workshops and boutiques.

L'Heure Bleue Palais | Meals: Breakfast, Lunch

DAY 3

Drive along dramatic coastline past stunning cliffs and ocean waves to Casablanca, making a stop for lunch en route. Check in to your hotel and spend the rest of the day at leisure.

Four Seasons Hotel Casablanca | Meals: Breakfast, Lunch

DAY 4

Transfer to the airport to depart Casablanca.

Dates & Prices

Prices are in USD, per person, based on double occupancy.

Dates	Prices	Single Supplement	Availability
Dec 14 - Dec 25, 2019	\$7,995	\$2,895	Waitlist - Call A&K
Dec 21, 2019 - Jan 01, 2020	\$8,495	\$3,195	Waitlist - Call A&K

Days 9–11 at Sofitel Marrakech Palais Imperial.

Journey Details

This journey contains some active elements.

Minimum age is 10 years.

First group event: welcome briefing at 6:15 p.m. on Day 1.

Last group event: farewell dinner at 7:00 p.m. on Day 11.

Departures are guaranteed to operate with a minimum of 2 guests.

Long drives should be expected on this itinerary. This is the only way to experience the magical scenery that this exotic country has to offer.

Prices are per person based on double occupancy. Internal and international air not included. See complete terms and conditions [here](#).