



Sahara Footprints

Dadès Valley, Todra Gorges and Erg Chegaga 4 days / 3 nights

Route: Marrakech – High Atlas – Ait Ben Haddou – Boumalne Dadès – Todra Gorges – Zagora – Erg Lihoudi – M’hamid – Oasis D’Oum Laalag – Erg Chegaga – Lake Iriki – Foug Zguit – Taznakht - Marrakech

day 1

Marrakech – High Atlas – Ait Ben Haddou – Boumalne Dadès

We will pick you up early in the morning at about 8:00 at your riad or hotel in Marrakech and begin our tour. The journey will lead us over the High Atlas and the pass Tichi n’Tichka with its highest point Col du Tichka (2260 m). We will do several photo stops on the way to admire the astonishing view and landscape. Along the curvy street over the High Atlas, we will see different kinds of trees, rivers and a lot of typical small Berber villages. We will continue until we arrive in the AntiAtlas, where we will visit the beautiful Kasbah Ait Ben Haddou. This Kasbah, built of pieces of clay and included on the Unesco World Heritage list, is the most famous one in Morocco. It was the film set of many popular productions like Gladiator or Game of Thrones. There or in Ouarzazate we will take a lunch break. After we will head to the Valley of Dadès and drive on the «Route of the Thousand Kasbahs». We will stop in Skoura to see the palm oasis and in El-Kelaa M’Gouna, a city that is famous for roses. Our last stop for today will be in Dadès Gorges, where you will admire a spectacular view on the Dadès Valley. That night you will stay in a riad that is typical for this region and close to Boumalne Dadès.

day 2

Boumalne Dadès – Todra Gorges - Zagora – Tamegroute – Erg Lihoudi

After breakfast in your riad we will begin the second day of our travel. We will continue our way and stop in Todra Gorges, an impressive gorge, that is 300 meters deep. Our travel then will lead us through the AntiAtlas until we arrive the Valley of Draa with millions of palm trees. In Zagora we will take a break and eat lunch in a restaurant. Then we will continue our journey to Tamegroute. There you will have the option both to visit the village that is famous for its library with books that are 900 years old, and to see in a manufactory which still

uses traditional techniques for producing the green pottery typical for this region. Then our travel will lead us past the dunes of Tinfou where we can stop too if you like. After some hours of driving we will arrive in Erg Lihoudi, where you will enjoy a wonderful sunset, eat your dinner and spend the second night in a bivouac between the sand dunes under a sky full of stars.

day 3

Erg Lihoudi – M’hamid – Erg Chegaga

Today’s journey will bring us from the small dunes of Erg Lihoudi to the big ones of Erg Chegaga. After the breakfast in the bivouac we will start our way to M’hamid, the last village before desert. At the end of the village the street ends, and our travel will continue through a varied landscape of stone desert, sand dunes and the plants of desert. And also, we will stop in the Oasis D’Oum Laalag. Our day’s journey will end in a bivouac between the dunes of Erg Chegaga. There you will have the option to try sandboarding, do dromedary trekking and enjoy a wonderful sunset. You will eat your dinner in the restaurant and spend the evening around a fire with traditional nomad music. On this, your third night, you will sleep in a tent between the sand dunes under a sky full of stars.

day 4

Erg Chegaga – Lake Iriki – Fom Zguit – Taznakht – Marrakech

Early in the morning you will enjoy the sunrise in the dunes and see how the sun returns the colours of the desert to their typical red once again. After breakfast in the bivouac, the journey of our last day will lead us again through desert to Lake Iriki, a salt lake that is usually dry for some years and can reawaken to life again if there is a period with a lot of rain. Before arriving in Fom Zguit, the first village after desert, we will stop in a field with a lot of small fossils to discover. In Fom Zguit the familiar roads resume again, and they will bring us to the village of Taznakht, that is famous for carpets. There we will do a stop to admire the handmade carpets if you like. After we will continue our way back to Marrakech again over the High Atlas. For our lunch break we will stop at a good restaurant in a village en route to Marrakech. Along the way we will have the possibility to do stopovers in pottery shops or manufactories for argan oil and products (coopératives féminines de l’huile d’argan). In the evening we will arrive in Marrakech and drop you off at your hotel or riad.

Prices per person

2 persons	3 persons	4 persons	5 persons	6 persons
430 Euro	400 Euro	375 Euro	355 Euro	340 Euro

Included in the price: 3 overnight stays with dinner and breakfast, driver and guide in an air-conditioned jeep, sandboarding, entrance fees (if there are any)
Not included in the price: travel insurance, drinks and lunch, tips, (dromedary) trekking in the bivouac