



# Sahara Footprints

## **Erg Lihoudi and Erg Chegaga 3 days / 2 nights**

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

### **day 1**

#### **Marrakech – High Atlas – Ait Ben Haddou – Ouarzazate – Erg Lihoudi**

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 Ouarzazate, the Draa Valley begins. This is the long oasis that extends until M’hamid and is full of date palms and is yet another impressive landscape to drive in. In the evening we will arrive in Erg Lihoudi, where you will enjoy a wonderful sunset, eat your dinner and spend the first night in a bivouac between the sand dunes under a sky full of stars.

### **day 2**

#### **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 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 3**

#### **Erg Chegaga – Lake Iriki – Foug 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 Foug Zguit, the first village after desert, we will stop in a field with a lot of small fossils to discover. In Foug 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
310 Euro	280 Euro	255 Euro	235 Euro	220 Euro

Included in the price: 2 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