

Morocco Unveiled

2 April 2027



19 Day Small Group Hosted Tour
From your Front Door and Back Again



The background image is a collage of Moroccan architectural elements. At the top, there are several ornate metal lanterns hanging from a balcony with intricate wooden lattice work. Below this, a row of green-tiled arches is visible. The central part of the image features a large, ornate wooden door with a scalloped archway, flanked by two smaller arched windows with colorful geometric patterns. The bottom of the image shows a courtyard with a central white fountain and a patterned tile floor.

Morocco Unveiled

Magical Morocco – A Journey of Colour, Culture & Contrasts

Uncover the vibrant soul of Morocco on this unforgettable 19-day small group adventure, where centuries of history meet striking natural beauty and rich cultural traditions. From the imperial cities of Rabat and Fez, to the blue-washed charm of Chefchaouen, the cinematic landscapes of Ait Ben Haddou, and the golden dunes of the Sahara, this journey offers a captivating blend of architecture, flavour, and soul-stirring scenery.

Travel in comfort aboard Morocco's modern high-speed trains, stay in character-filled boutique hotels, and connect with local culture through immersive experiences — including hands-on cooking classes, artisan workshops, and guided medina tours.

Venture deep into the Sahara on an exhilarating 4WD desert safari, followed by a gentle camel ride over the dunes at sunset. Spend the night beneath the stars at a luxury desert camp, where local music and traditional hospitality bring the magic of the desert to life.

Explore the lively souks of Marrakech, stroll the artistic streets of Essaouira, and marvel at the architectural beauty of Casablanca's Hassan II Mosque. With thoughtful pacing, authentic inclusions, and the ease of travelling with a fully hosted group, this tour is ideal for curious travellers seeking connection, comfort, and cultural depth.

Join us as we journey through the heart of Morocco — where every alley tells a story, every spice has a history, and every day brings something extraordinary.



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2 April to 20 April 2027

2 April – Depart New Zealand

Today marks the beginning of our Moroccan adventure! We gather at Auckland airport, where we meet our fellow travellers and tour host after checking in for our international flight.

With Rabat as our first destination, we settle in for the journey ahead, enjoying in-flight meals and entertainment as we cross continents. A sense of anticipation builds as we look forward to the vibrant culture, stunning landscapes, and unforgettable experiences that await us in the days to come.

3 April – Arrive in Rabat, Morocco

(D)

Marhba bik f l-Maghrib - Welcome to Morocco!

We arrive at the coastal city of Casablanca and are met on arrival by our friendly English-speaking representative. From here, we transfer to Rabat, Morocco's elegant capital, where ancient history meets modern charm.

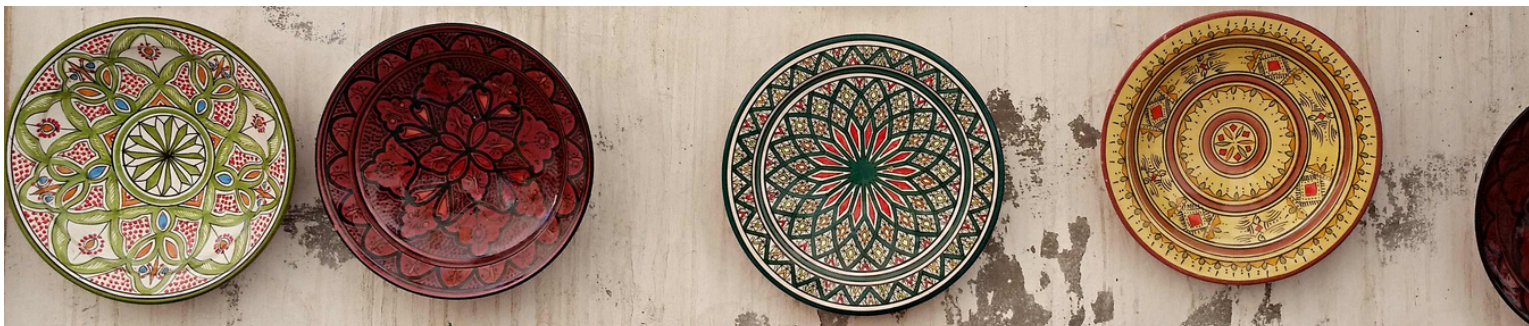
Upon arrival in Rabat, we check in to our comfortable hotel, our home for the next two nights. The remainder of the day is at leisure to relax and recover from our journey or to begin soaking up the rich culture that surrounds us.

Take a leisurely stroll through the charming streets of the Medina, admire Rabat's distinctive Andalusian architecture, or unwind in one of its lush gardens. Whether you choose to rest or explore, your Tour Host will be available to offer tips, directions, and local insights to help you make the most of your time here.

This evening, we come together for a special Welcome Dinner, the perfect opportunity to get to know your fellow travellers and share in the excitement of the journey ahead.

Trip Highlights

- **Explore Imperial Cities:** Visit Rabat, Fez, Meknes, and Marrakech — Morocco's historic heartlands filled with stunning architecture, palaces, and medinas.
- **Discover the Blue City:** Wander the blue-washed alleys of Chefchaouen, nestled in the Rif Mountains.
- **Ride the Bullet Train:** Experience the Al Boraq high-speed train from Rabat to Tangier.
- **Cultural Immersion:** Join artisan workshops, hands-on cooking classes, and a pottery experience in Fez.
- **Roman Ruins of Volubilis:** Step back in time among ancient mosaics and columns at Morocco's most significant Roman site.
- **Desert Safari & Camel Trek:** Venture deep into the Sahara via 4WD and enjoy a peaceful camel ride at sunset.
- **Luxury Desert Camp:** Stay under the stars in the dunes of Merzouga, complete with **traditional music and campfire stories**.
- **Kasbahs & Cinematic Landscapes:** Visit Aït Ben Haddou, a UNESCO-listed fortified village featured in iconic films.
- **Traditional Souks:** Shop colourful markets in Fez and Marrakech — textiles, spices, jewellery, and leather goods.
- **Atlas Mountains & Valleys:** Take a day trip to the Ourika Valley, including a visit to Anima Garden and a traditional tea ceremony.
- **Coastal Charm of Essaouira:** Enjoy art, sea breezes, and relaxed exploration in this UNESCO-listed seaside gem.
- **Hassan II Mosque, Casablanca:** Marvel at one of the largest mosques in the world, beautifully perched above the Atlantic Ocean.





4 April – Discover Rabat

(B) (L) (D)

Our exploration of Rabat begins with visits to some of the city's most iconic landmarks; the Hassan Tower, an ambitious 12th-century minaret; the Royal Palace, an impressive complex and the official residence of Morocco's King; and the Mausoleum of Mohammed V, a stunning example of Moroccan craftsmanship and a place of deep national significance.

We continue to the Oudayas Fortress (Kasbah of the Udayas), a fortified citadel perched above the Bou Regreg River. Stroll through its narrow, blue-and-white painted streets and pause to admire panoramic views over the Atlantic Ocean — a tranquil and striking contrast to the bustling city below.

Lunch is served at a traditional local restaurant, offering a warm welcome to Moroccan hospitality and cuisine

This afternoon, enjoy time at leisure to explore the old Medina, where colourful souks brim with handcrafted goods, spices, and textiles. Later, we return to our hotel to relax and recharge. This evening, we come together for dinner, sharing stories, laughter, and first impressions of this magical Moroccan journey.

5 April – Rabat to Tangier

(B) (L) (D)

We embark on Morocco's modern high-speed rail as we journey from Rabat to Tangier aboard the Al Boraq bullet train. Sit back and relax as we glide towards the northern tip of Africa, enjoying views of the changing landscape.

Upon arrival in Tangier, we set out to explore this historic port city. Our first stop is the breathtaking Cape Spartel, where the Atlantic Ocean meets the Mediterranean Sea in a dramatic display of nature. Take in the salty breeze and panoramic coastal vistas.

We continue to the peaceful Rmilat Forest, a green haven ideal for a quiet pause amid nature. From there, we head into the heart of the Kasbah of Tangier, where winding alleys, ancient stone archways, and traditional courtyards tell tales of centuries past.

After lunch at a local restaurant, we dive into the colourful energy of the Tangier Medina. Explore artisan workshops, vibrant souks, and bustling cafés in this lively and culturally rich quarter. We also visit the elegant Tangier Marina, where the sea's gentle rhythm and views across the water bring a serene end to the afternoon.

We return to our hotel to unwind before gathering for a flavoursome dinner at a local restaurant, reflecting on a day filled with scenic beauty, history, and Moroccan hospitality.

6 April – Tangier to Chefchaouen

(B) (L) (D)

This morning is yours to enjoy at leisure in Tangier. Take time to soak up the coastal ambiance, explore the vibrant medina, or simply relax with a mint tea as the city comes to life.

By late morning, we depart for the enchanting mountain town of Chefchaouen, famously known as Morocco's Blue City. As we ascend into the Rif Mountains, picturesque views unfold around every bend, preparing us for the charm that awaits.

Upon arrival, we enjoy lunch at a local restaurant nestled in the heart of the medina, offering a warm introduction to the town's laid-back rhythm.

This afternoon, we set out on a guided walking tour through Chefchaouen's dreamy blue-washed streets. Wander the medina's narrow lanes, where doorways, staircases, and walls are painted in every shade of blue — a photographer's paradise and a soul-soothing experience. We visit Outa el Hammam Square, the lively heart of the old town, lined with quaint cafés and overlooked by the historic Kasbah. Our walk continues to Ras El Ma, a peaceful spring at the town's edge, where locals gather beside the flowing waters beneath the mountain slopes.

As the sun dips behind the peaks, we transfer to our hotel to refresh, before reuniting for a relaxed dinner at a local restaurant — the perfect end to a truly magical day in one of Morocco's most beloved destinations.

7 April – Chefchaouen to Fez

(B) (L) (D)

We depart Chefchaouen this morning, leaving behind its dreamy blue medina as we travel toward Fez — a journey steeped in history and spirituality.

Our first stop is at the extraordinary archaeological site of Volubilis, where the most extensive Roman ruins in Morocco await. As we wander among ancient columns, intricate floor mosaics, and the remains of grand villas and temples, we step back over 2,000 years into a world of imperial grandeur — a captivating glimpse into Morocco's layered past.

We then continue on to the sacred hillside town of Moulay Idriss, one of Morocco's most important spiritual sites. Here, we enjoy lunch at a local restaurant with scenic views over the village's whitewashed houses and surrounding countryside, embracing the peaceful rhythm of this spiritual town.

In the afternoon, we journey onwards to Fez, Morocco's spiritual and cultural heart. Upon arrival, we check in to our hotel, where we have time to rest and refresh.

The remainder of the day is at leisure — whether you choose to relax at the hotel, stretch your legs with a gentle stroll, or begin soaking up the timeless ambiance of this ancient city.

This evening, we reunite for dinner at a local restaurant, ready to begin our exploration of Fez in the days ahead.

8 April – Discover Fez

(B) (L) (D)

Step into the heart of Morocco's cultural soul as we delve into the ancient wonders and living traditions of Fez.

Our day begins in the captivating Old Medina, a UNESCO World Heritage Site and one of the world's largest car-free urban areas. This labyrinth of narrow laneways, lively souks, and hidden courtyards transports us back in time. We visit the Madrasa Attarine, a masterpiece of Islamic architecture, and admire centuries-old mosques, fountains, and caravanserais that reflect the city's imperial heritage.

Later this morning, we take part in a hands-on pottery workshop with skilled local artisans. Learn traditional techniques passed down through generations — and even craft your own creation to take home as a one-of-a-kind keepsake.

We continue to the renowned Chouara Tanneries, where the centuries-old leather trade continues to thrive. Here, we gain insight into the age-old tanning process and meet a skilled leather artisan who brings these colourful techniques to life.

After lunch in the heart of the medina, the afternoon is free to wander through Fez's lively markets and souks at your own pace. Whether you're on the hunt for handwoven textiles, spices, ceramics, or jewellery.

This evening, we come together for a festive group dinner featuring a traditional belly dancing performance — a joyful celebration of Moroccan music, movement, and culture.

9 April – Culinary Delights & Leisure in Fez

(B) (L) (D)

Flavours take centre stage today as we immerse ourselves in the culinary heart of Morocco with a hands-on cooking experience.

The morning begins with a visit to a bustling local market, where vibrant displays of produce, fragrant spices, and the lively energy of daily life provide the perfect introduction to Moroccan cuisine. Accompanied by our chef, we select fresh, seasonal ingredients while learning about their cultural importance and traditional uses.

Back in the kitchen, we roll up our sleeves for a hands-on cooking class, preparing a variety of authentic Moroccan dishes — from aromatic tagines and zesty salads to delicately spiced couscous. Afterward, we sit down to enjoy a leisurely lunch featuring the delicious dishes we've created together.

The afternoon is yours to spend at leisure. Whether you choose to delve deeper into Fez's ancient streets, relax at a café, or indulge in an optional traditional Hammam experience — a centuries-old Moroccan spa ritual — this is your time to recharge and reflect.

We regroup this evening for a relaxed dinner at the hotel, sharing stories of the day's flavours, friendships, and discoveries in one of Morocco's most soulful cities.



10 April – Fez to Erfoud

(B) (L) (D)

An early departure sees us journey south through the scenic Middle Atlas Mountains toward the desert town of Erfoud. Enjoy the picturesque views and keep an eye out for glimpses of Morocco's diverse wildlife along the way.

We set off early this morning for a scenic journey south, travelling through the majestic Middle Atlas Mountains toward the desert gateway town of Erfoud. Along the way, admire the ever-changing landscapes and keep an eye out for glimpses of Morocco's diverse wildlife along the way.

We pause midday in Midelt, a peaceful oasis town tucked between the Middle and High Atlas ranges. Here, we enjoy a relaxed lunch, sampling regional flavours in a serene and refreshing setting.

In the afternoon, our route winds through the breathtaking Ziz Valley, one of Morocco's most photogenic regions. Dramatic red-rock gorges, lush palm-filled oases, and scattered Berber villages create an unforgettable tableau. We make time for photo stops and to simply take in the beauty of the landscape.

By evening, we arrive in Erfoud, a charming desert town known for its proximity to the Sahara and fossil-rich terrain. After checking in to our hotel, enjoy a restful evening — tomorrow, the dunes of Merzouga and the Sahara Desert await.

11 April – Erfoud to Merzouga & the Sahara

(B) (L) (D)

A day of desert discovery unfolds as we travel from Erfoud to the majestic dunes of the Sahara, with rich cultural encounters along the way.

This morning, we make our way to Rissani, a historic town that once flourished as a major stop along the ancient caravan trade routes. We explore its bustling markets, filled with traditional goods and local life, and visit the region's oldest Koranic school, where we gain insight into the spiritual and scholarly heritage of southern Morocco.

Next, we dive into a second hands-on cooking experience, this time focused on Medfouna — affectionately known as “Berber pizza.” This hearty desert specialty features a savoury spiced filling wrapped in soft, freshly baked bread. After preparing your own, enjoy the fruits of your labour over a delicious lunch, rich with authentic local flavour.

In the late afternoon, our adventure continues as we leave the town behind for the towering dunes of Merzouga. A thrilling 4WD desert safari takes us deep into the golden sands, carving a path through vast open landscapes and remote tracks. As the sun begins to dip, we switch to camelback, gliding over the rippling dunes bathed in golden light — a truly unforgettable Sahara experience.

Upon arrival at our luxury desert camp, we are welcomed with warm hospitality and the vibrant rhythmic of a live Gnawa music performance. As night falls, gather beneath a star-filled sky for an enchanting evening of traditional dance, drumming, and storytelling, embraced by the stillness and magic of the desert.





12 April – Merzouga to Skoura

(B) (L) (D)

We bid farewell to the dunes and begin our westward journey across Morocco's ever-changing landscapes, travelling from the Sahara to the lush oasis of Skoura.

After breakfast amid the serene beauty of the desert, we depart our luxury camp and set out on a scenic drive that unfolds like a tapestry — from golden dunes to arid plateaus, and through dramatic mountain passes that reveal the rich geographic diversity of southern Morocco.

Along the way, we pause for lunch at a local restaurant, where we enjoy a relaxed meal infused with regional flavours and hospitality.

By late afternoon, we arrive in Skoura, a tranquil palm oasis nestled in the fertile Dades Valley, known for its kasbahs and laid-back charm. After checking in to our peaceful hotel, take time to relax — perhaps with a walk through the lush gardens, a swim, or simply a moment of stillness beneath the palms.

This evening, we dine together at the hotel, surrounded by the calming rhythm of oasis life — a gentle contrast to the vast energy of the desert behind us.

13 April – Skoura to Marrakech via Aït Ben Haddou (B) (L) (D)

The cinematic landscapes of southern Morocco unfold as we journey from the peaceful oasis of Skoura to the vibrant city of Marrakech, passing through dramatic scenery and iconic heritage sites along the way.

Departing the palm groves of Skoura, we travel through striking desert terrain toward Ouarzazate, often dubbed the “Hollywood of Morocco.” With its vast open vistas and historic kasbahs, the region has served as the backdrop for countless films and series, from *Gladiator* to *Game of Thrones*. Enjoy a short stop to take in the wide horizons and cinematic energy of this unique desert town.

We then continue to the extraordinary Ksar Aït Ben Haddou, a UNESCO World Heritage Site and one of Morocco's most iconic fortified villages. On a guided walking tour, explore the labyrinth of earthen buildings, winding alleyways, and ancient clay towers that rise dramatically from the desert floor. For those who wish, a short climb to the top of the kasbah reveals panoramic views over the surrounding valley and riverbed.

As the sun dips behind the High Atlas Mountains, we continue on to Marrakech, arriving in the early evening. After checking in to our hotel and freshening up, we come together for dinner at a local restaurant — a chance to savour the city's renowned culinary offerings and soak in the lively ambiance that makes Marrakech so unforgettable.

14 April – Discover Marrakech (B) (L) (D)

A sensory journey awaits as we delve into the vibrant soul of Marrakech — a city where history, artistry, and daily life intertwine in every colourful corner.

Our day begins in the heart of the Medina, navigating a maze of narrow alleyways that open into fondouks, or caravanserais — once bustling rest stops for traders and now home to artisan workshops and hidden galleries. These atmospheric courtyards still echo the rhythms of Marrakech's rich commercial past.

We stop at a ferran, a traditional communal bakery, where locals bring their homemade dough to be baked in age-old wood-fired ovens. Nearby, we visit the Furnace, the heat source for a Hammam, or Moroccan steam bath — offering a fascinating glimpse into the city's traditions of wellness and community.

Our exploration continues at the elegant Dar El Bacha Museum, an 18th-century palace adorned with intricate mosaics, trickling fountains, and citrus-scented courtyards. Once the home of a powerful Pasha, this beautifully restored space now houses an exceptional collection of Moroccan art, design, and cultural treasures.

We then lose ourselves in the bustling souks, where the city's vibrant spirit comes alive in rows of stalls brimming with jewellery, lanterns, leather goods, spices, and handmade textiles. Along the way, we pause for a special encounter with a skilled wood turner, watching traditional craftsmanship passed down through generations.

15 April – Day Trip to Ourika Valley (B) (L) (D)

A refreshing escape to the mountains offers a peaceful glimpse into rural Moroccan life and the natural beauty of the Ourika Valley.

This morning, we leave the bustle of Marrakech behind and travel into the foothills of the High Atlas Mountains, where the Ourika Valley awaits — a picturesque region known for its lush greenery, traditional Berber villages, and serene landscapes.

En route, we visit the enchanting Anima Garden, a whimsical botanical retreat created by Austrian artist André Heller. Meander through its artistic pathways, where exotic plants, bold sculptures, and bursts of colour create a magical fusion of nature and imagination.

We then continue to the Jardin Bio Aromatique d'Ourika, a peaceful garden dedicated to the cultivation of medicinal herbs and aromatic plants. In this tranquil setting, we enjoy a leisurely lunch, followed by a traditional tea ceremony led by a local tea specialist — a heartfelt expression of Moroccan hospitality.

In the late afternoon, we return to Marrakech with time to relax before regrouping this evening for dinner, reflecting on the quiet beauty and cultural richness of the day.



16 April – Marrakech – Essaouira

(B) (L) (D)

We trade the buzz of Marrakech for the breezy charm of Essaouira, a coastal gem known for its whitewashed architecture, artistic soul, and relaxed seaside spirit.

This morning, we journey west from the Red City to the windswept Atlantic coast, arriving in the laid-back port town of Essaouira. Famed for its UNESCO-listed medina, vibrant arts scene, and golden beaches, Essaouira offers a refreshing change of pace.

Upon arrival, we embark on a guided walking tour of the medina, where blue-trimmed white buildings and narrow, winding streets tell stories of Portuguese influence and coastal tradition. The architecture, sea breeze, and relaxed rhythm of daily life make this town one of Morocco's most enchanting destinations.

After lunch at a local restaurant, the afternoon is yours to explore at leisure. Stroll along the sandy beach, visit the Skala de la Ville with its impressive ramparts and ocean views, or browse the town's many galleries, boutiques, and artisan shops for handmade souvenirs.

As the sun sets over the Atlantic, we regroup for a relaxing dinner surrounded by sea air and the charm of the coast.

17 April – Essaouira at Leisure

(B) (L) (D)

The day is yours to savour — explore Essaouira at your own pace or unwind amid the charm of this breezy coastal town.

Wander through the UNESCO-listed medina, where artisan workshops, colourful storefronts, and narrow lanes invite discovery at every turn. You might photograph the town's iconic blue fishing boats, shop for locally made treasures, or relax along the beachfront promenade with a mint tea in hand, watching the waves roll in.

Lunch is included today at a local restaurant, where the menu reflects the region's fresh, coastal flavours.

This evening, we regroup for dinner at the hotel.

18 April – Essaouira – Casablanca

(B) (L) (D)

Our final travel day begins with a scenic journey from the Atlantic coast to Morocco's cosmopolitan heart, bringing together beautiful landscapes, coastal charm, and cultural grandeur.

We depart Essaouira this morning and travel eastward toward Casablanca. En route, we stop in the historic coastal town of El Jadida, where Portuguese heritage meets seaside serenity. Here, we enjoy a relaxed lunch at a local restaurant, soaking in one last taste of Morocco's vibrant coastal cuisine.

In the afternoon, we arrive in Casablanca and visit the awe-inspiring Hassan II Mosque, one of the largest and most impressive mosques in the world. Perched dramatically above the Atlantic Ocean, its intricate craftsmanship and scale offer a fitting finale to our architectural and cultural journey.

Later, we check in to our hotel and enjoy some time to rest or reflect before our final evening together.

Tonight, we come together for a special farewell dinner, celebrating the unforgettable experiences we've shared — from medinas and kasbahs to mountains, deserts, and the sea. It's a moment to toast new friendships, reflect on our Moroccan adventure, and bid a heartfelt goodbye.

19 April – Depart Casablanca

(B)

After an unforgettable journey through Morocco's rich history, breathtaking landscapes, and vibrant culture, it's time to bid farewell to this remarkable destination.

At the designated time, we transfer to Casablanca Airport for our onward journey. As we depart, we carry with us cherished memories, meaningful connections, and the spirit of adventure that has defined every step of this Moroccan experience.

We arrive back in New Zealand on 20 April, with hearts full and stories to share.

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19 DAYS • FULLY HOSTED SMALL GROUP TOUR

COUNTRY: Morocco

DEPARTS: 2 April to 20 April 2027

- Fully Hosted from New Zealand with a **YOURTours Host**
- International Economy Class flights ex Auckland
Flight upgrades (e.g., Premium Economy or Business Class) available upon request.
- Enjoy return home-to-airport transfers (*T & C's apply*).
- Premium Hotels: High-quality accommodations
- Comfortable, air-conditioned coach transport
- Transfers and activities as per itinerary
- High-speed bullet train journey from Rabat to Tangier
- Services of local English-speaking guide throughout
- Meals as per itinerary
- Departs 2 April 2027
- Price from \$15,995 pp twin share or double room
- Single Price from \$18,500 pp



You are invited to join us on our fully hosted small group tour, with a maximum number of guests is 18.

Based on the beautiful Kapiti Coast with our guests joining us from all corners of New Zealand, we believe you will be pleasantly surprised by just how much we include in our tour price.

You can be reassured that your tour host will always be one of our friendly well-experienced YOURTours Hosts, ensuring everything is taken care of from start to finish, allowing you to relax and enjoy your tour.

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