





Kasbah du Toubkal



Musicians in Jemaa el Fna



La Sultana



Essaouria

Morocco

We are delighted to add fascinating Morocco to our featured destinations. We urge you to venture beyond **Marrakech** by including an extension to the **brehtaking Atlas Mountains**, close by and yet seemingly a million miles away. By also incorporating a stay in the atmospheric fishing port of **Essaouria**, we can create **an unforgettable itinerary** for a Spring or Autumn break.

Heritage & Culture - Shopping - Trekking and Climbing - Hammams & Spas

Activities and Attractions

Marrakech, an ancient oasis of terracotta pink, has been an important trading stop for caravans since it was founded a thousand years ago. The 9 metre high wall surrounding the Medina extends for 10 kilometres creating a stunning architectural feature in itself. Set within its' heart Jemaa El Fna is an immense square which comes alive at dusk with snake charmers, musicians and storytellers. Local wares including carpets, pottery and leather await those able to navigate the surrounding souks, whilst the

Kasbah District is home to the current day Royal Palace and Saadian Tombs whose crumbled walls are peppered with stork nests. The Minaret of the Koutboubia Mosque, from which the five-times-daily call to prayer is made, towers over all.

Outside the New Town is characterised by wide boulevards, whilst the Palmerie is home to luxury villas. Gardens have always been important in Moroccan culture and if you only have time for one, we recommend the Marjorelle Gardens.

South of the City you will find Oasisria, North Africa's largest waterpark, ideal for bribing children during a shopping expedition!

The snow-capped peaks of the High Atlas Mountains provide a dramatic backdrop to Marrakech. The home of the Berbers, the original inhabitants of North Africa, a stay here provides the perfect contrast to the bustle of the City only an hour away. Footpaths meander their way through lush, irrigated terraces, apple orchards and walnut groves to villages where the way of life has changed little for centuries. Walks of a few hours or treks for several days can be easily arranged whilst for more structured activities, the tree-top adventures of the Terres d' Amanar Acro Park are not far away.

Essaouria is a medieval walled port with rampart walks and fishing harbour on the Atlantic coast and has a fascinating history as a conuit

between Africa and Europe in the 18th and 19th centuries.

Skala du Porte is a working dock where the boat builders can be seen in action whereas a stroll along the promenade is ideal for people watching.

Accommodation

Simply staying at our recommended properties, all laden with local character, will prove an experience. A wooden door in an average street can lead to the most intricately designed riad, whilst a few days at a trekking Lodge can return you to an atmosphere of long ago, but with modern-day comforts.

Climate

Cooler conditions would be anticipated for the Atlas due to altitude and Essaouria as this located by the sea.



Average	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Min temp °C	4	6	9	11	14	17	19	20	17	14	9	6
Max temp °C	18	20	23	26	29	33	38	38	33	28	23	19
Rainfall (mm)	25	28	33	31	15	8	3	3	10	23	31	31

Morocco

Accommodation

Les Jardins de la Medina ★★★★★

A wooden doorway in the ancient Kasbah District leads to this most charming surprise. As its name suggests, the highlight of this delightful oasis are the fragrant gardens featuring towering, ancient palms and meandering paths leading to the heated swimming pool. 36 air-conditioned rooms with mini-bar and satellite TV offer sanctuary from the Medina.

Pool - Fitness Centre - Beauty Salon - Hammam - Restaurant & Bar



Family

The hotel allows 1 child to share a standard or 2 an upgraded room type and in our view affords good value for families in Marrakech, considering the attractive space, central location and range of facilities.

Jnane Tamsna ★★★★★

Located in the Palmerie, a 15 minute drive from the souks, the Martins offer a genuine welcome to their piece of paradise, creating a 'house party' ambience. Set in 9 acres of delightful gardens encompassing swimming pools and a tennis court, a stay at this Moroccan 'Hacienda' in one of the 24 air-conditioned rooms offers space and tranquility without compromising on character.

Pool - Tennis Court - Library - Restaurant - Honesty Bar



Family

The relaxed stance of your hosts will make families feel truly at home. If you are seeking space for energetic, younger guests, enhanced by a rare 50% discount for children in their own room, look no further!

La Sultana ★★★★★

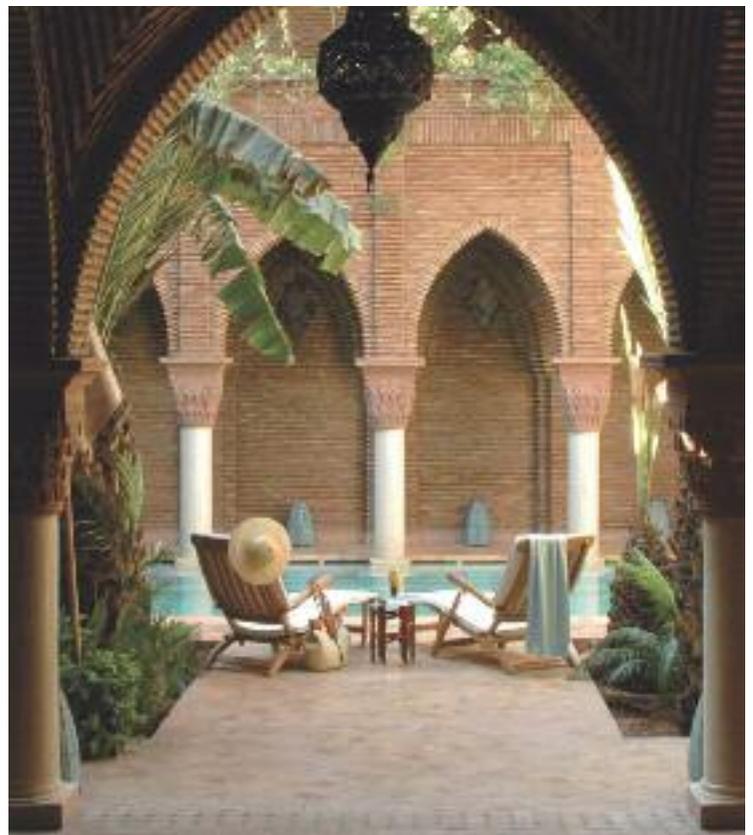
This deluxe, boutique hotel showcases a delightful and expansive roof terrace with panoramic views over the Royal Palaces creating a stunning venue to enjoy breakfast or watch the sun set over the Imperial City. The pool riad also provides the perfect place to relax or sample an atmospheric lantern-lit dinner before retiring to one of the 21 sumptuous air-conditioned rooms with satellite TV, DVD and mini-bar.

Pool - Gym - Spa - Library - Restaurant - 2 Bars



Family

Spacious suites are offered for families ensuring both adults and children are well looked after. Watching the fabled Storks from the rooftop or swimmers from the cool underground bar will create cause for comment!



“The setting was simply breathtaking and the local welcome very warm”

Kasbah du Toubkal

Kasbah du Toubkal ★★★

Perched below the highest peak in North Africa, a stay at this unique lodge offers the opportunity to experience Berber hospitality within a spectacular setting. Accessed by a 15 minute walk on foot or mule-back from Imlil, the Kasbah provides a welcoming and cosy refuge after exploring the local villages and hiking trails which take from 1 hour to several days.

Hammam - Library - Restaurant



Family

This is a wonderful opportunity to introduce children to a friendly, new culture with walks suitable for all standards (mules to hand!). A variety of accommodation options are available, but we highly recommend The Apartment.

Kasbah Tamadot ★★★★★

Sir Richard Branson’s renowned retreat in the foothills of the Atlas is a magical hideaway of growing reputation. Only an hour from central Marrakech but a whole world apart, this boutique hotel offers glorious evergreen gardens, a roof-top terrace with views to snow capped summits, a tranquil Spa and gastronomic dining opportunities alongside 18 rooms with climate control and DVD.

Pool - Tennis Courts - Spa - Gym - Salon - Restaurant - Bar



Family

Families with children under 12 are welcomed during the school holidays (please enquire for dates). A range of activities and luxurious accommodation (1 child can share or interleading rooms available) will ensure both happy kids and parents.

Heure Bleue Palais ★★★★★

This magnificent mansion forms a calm oasis within the walls of the ancient, fortified Medina in Essaouria. The extensive restoration included installation of wooden shutters in the 35 rooms with mini-bar and satellite TV, giving a touch of Colonial Africa whilst the use of whitewashed wood and thatch on the roof terrace with heated pool creates a holiday ambience.

Pool - Spa - Games Room - Private Cinema - 2 Restaurants



Family

The Palais is ideal for families seeking a pool without compromising on atmospheric location. 2 children under 12 can share a Suite or interleading rooms are available and the roof top comes complete with children’s beach corner!

Madada Mogador ★★★

Forming part of the original ramparts of the Medina, yet with views to the Atlantic Ocean, this intimate hotel offers an ideal location for exploring charming Essouria. The setting can be fully appreciated thanks to a spacious roof terrace, whilst a small number of rooms with a contemporary edge offer comfortable accommodation with character.

Pool - Roof Terrace - Library - Restaurant - Restaurant below - Bar service



Family

The excitement of staying in a suite built in to the fortress walls of the city will not go un-missed by many children and adults alike! We recommend Suite Mogador for families of up to 4.