Home to more than 300,000 people, Marrakech’s Medina, or ancient quarter, is a maze of narrow, winding lanes brimming with activity. Stroll through this vibrant community.

THE AUTHENTIC MEDINA

An appointed guide will escort you through the tanneries near Bab Debbagh and offer you a walking tour of the Medina with a visit to a Moukef, a gathering of labourers; to Foundouks, original lodging and trading houses for merchants, as well traditional bakeries where residents still still bring their dough to be baked.

The walk continues to Dar Bellarj, formerly a hospital for storks, and then to Medersa Ben Youssef, which used to be the largest theological college in Morocco, dating back to the 16th century.

The visit then proceeds to the Musée de Marrakech, which houses exhibits of rare art and crafts, after which you will explore the main artery of the Medina, passing through the leather, metalwork and woodcraft markets, then through the busy mint and olive markets until you reach Jemaa El-Fna Square.

THE EXCURSION INCLUDES:

- Visit to the tanneries
- Moufek and Foundouks
- Traditional bakeries and hammams
- Dar Bellarj-former stork hospital
- Medersa Ben Youssef - old theological college
- Musee de Marrackech
Explore the rich history of Marrakech by visiting palaces, a mosque, tombs and a museum.

**THE EXCURSION INCLUDES:**

- Gate of Bab Agnaou
- Saadian Tombs
- El Badia Palace
- Jewish quarters
- Bahia Palace
- Dar Si Said-Museum of Moroccan Art

This historical walk begins at the intricately carved gate of Bab Agnaou, heading through narrow and busy streets that take you to the entrance of the 16th-century Saadian Tombs. Hidden for centuries, these princely tombs are ornamented with some of the finest examples of Moroccan Andalusian decorative art.

Next, the walk proceeds to the ornate gate of the 12th-century El Badia Palace, its former opulence pervading despite it being largely in ruins.

Another brief walk through the handicraft and spice markets of the Jewish quarter ends at the 19th-century Bahia Palace. Unlike El Badia, this palace is in excellent condition. Used as the French governor’s residence during the colonial days, it has a freshness and tranquility that provides a welcome contrast to the bustle of the streets outside.

Another stately 19th-century home, only 200 metres away, is Dar Si Said, now the Museum of Moroccan Art, housing some of the finest collections of jewellery, carpets, green and earth-toned pottery, leatherwork and oil lamps.
A great introduction to Marrakech, this tour invites guests to spend a few hours soaking up the varied colours of the city – earthy tones, lush greens, cerulean blues – taking in its gardens, main buildings and sites, and Menara (water basin).

THE EXCURSION INCLUDES:

**Agdal Gardens**

**12th Century Mausoleum & Mosque**

**Menara Gardens**

**Rooftop visit for view of Marrakech**

**Yves-Saint Laurent Majorelle Gardens**

Via streets lined on both sides with oleander, jacaranda, leafy palms and orange trees, the walk begins in the Agdal gardens, dating from the 12th century and still owned by the Moroccan royal family. A visit to the Menara Gardens follows, at the centre of which, among acres of olive trees, is the water basin with its Minzah (‘beautiful view’) – the inspiration for Amanjena’s central basin.

Next, a short climb to a rooftop offers an ever-changing view of the whole of Marrakech. On a clear day, the buildings appear various shades of ochre while roofs are of contrasting green; the main streets are silhouetted with jacaranda and orange trees.

The last stop is Yves Saint-Laurent’s Majorelle Gardens, with their electric-blue walls accenting thickets of emerald bamboo and international flora.
MARRAKECH GUELIZ SHOPPING

Discover the boutiques and fashion accessories that are more than a match for international designer labels.

Away from the Medina, Guéliz is the heart of modern Marrakech – and the epicentre of sophisticated shopping, with elegant boutiques and stores that never fail to delight. Leather goods – from classic handbags in all colours and sizes to the softest, chicest loafers – and interior accessories (rugs, leather ware, metal work). The quality is usually excellent, and prices are reasonable. A must-do for any lover of fashion and design, this tour is undertaken by car, with well-informed drivers who know the area and its stores well.
Golf lovers could not choose a more suitable location than Amanjena. Literally on the resort’s doorstep is the Amelkis Golf Club, while the Marrakech Royal Golf Club is located less than two minutes away.

The former has a new-resort feel with an open-view rolling course, and sand and water traps. The latter, built in the early 1920s, bears an old-fashioned, narrow design and boasts lush vegetation and beautiful shady gardens, ideal in the hot summer months. Both courses are challenging enough for pros, yet manageable for amateurs and beginners. Amanjena has various sets of clubs available for guests.
DISCOVER MARRAKECH’S SURROUNDINGS

The authentic Morocco, virgin to our cosmopolitan ambitions

Less than half an hour from the vibrant ‘Red City’, at the crossroads of Arab and Berber civilisations, experience the richness of the Moroccan countryside and its rural settlements, surrounded by palm trees and olive groves with the majestic Atlas mountains beyond. Horses are an important part of rural life here and still function as a means of transport - and there is no better way to discover Marrakech’s scenic surroundings than by indulging in the pleasant slow pace of a horse-drawn carriage. Enjoy a traditional Beldi tea and snack in the magnificent ruins of an abandoned Kasbah on the way.

Should you prefer horseback riding, beautiful horses are also available, both for beginners and experienced riders, to travel through the villages and trails crossing unusual, fertile soils with green-brown mountains on the horizon – the perfect way to discover the rural way of life here.

A horse-drawn coach and horseback riding can be combined within the same trek according to your preferences.

Note:
- Approximate duration of the ride, including the break for tea and Beldi snack, is three hours.
- A village market is held on Saturdays in the vicinity and can be visited on the way back.
A gentle one and a half hour walk through traditional Berber villages and verdant terraced fields, with an authentic lunch in the true Moroccan spirit and tradition.

L’ARBAA TIGHDOUINE

This pleasant one-hour or 60-kilometre drive heading south along the road to Ouarzazate provides a beautiful introduction to Morocco. Pass by small communities, catch a glimpse of rural life, and slowly become a part of it as you arrive at the tiny village of L’Arbaa Tighdouine.

The escorted walk heads down to the picturesque river gorge, crossing a simple bridge then proceeding up the stony mountain slopes towards the village, which is perched at the top. The panoramic views of the landscape from here as the settlement unfolds are fascinating.

Explore the paths outside the mud-walled houses, before experiencing the hospitality of one of the owners of these traditional houses and relishing an authentic Moroccan lunch. Be ready for a full tour of the house and discover the straw-woven Hammams and earthen bread ovens.

Notes:
- Alternatively a picnic prepared at Amanjena can be enjoyed among the cypress and olive trees.
- Kindly inform your driver beforehand if you wish to enter the homes of the locals.
- A village market is held on Wednesday mornings.
A scenic drive followed by a picnic lunch.

This is yet another beautiful drive exploring the stunning surroundings of Marrakech, in particular the fertile valleys around the villages of Tahanaout, Asni, and Moulay Brahim.

The drive heads southwest from Marrakech towards the lake ‘Lalla Takerkoust’; just before reaching the dam, a winding narrow road through the plain leads to the Kik plateau, passing astounding panoramas of the blue lake and its beautiful surroundings.

Once at Kik Plateau, the road crosses vast open wheat-growing farmlands with the backdrop of the majestic snow-capped High Atlas mountains. After passing through rocky dirt tracks and authentic Berber villages, the drive culminates at a serene picnic spot, just after the Berber village of Agdour. From here, the reward is a truly magical view of the entire region.

Enjoy an Amanjena picnic lunch, and relax before heading back through a quick descent towards Asni valley with stunning views of Toubkal Mountain, always snow-covered during winter and spring.
FOR THE ACTIVE AND ADVENTUROUS

Mountain Biking

This is a full day trip in the stunning Atlas Mountains and on the road with a gentle off-road climb, but mainly all downhill.

For bikers who are seeking a more rough and rugged ride through the Atlas Mountains, this trip offers a perfect adventure and spectacular scenery.

Karting and Quad Biking in the Agafay desert

Just 40 minutes’ drive from Marrakech, embark on an exciting and thrilling off-road trip on a quad bike to discover the semi-lunar terrain and simmering stony desert of Agafay.

Breathtaking views open up as the ride passes through plateaus backed by the majestic High Atlas mountains. An exquisite oasis, nestled into the arid hills, along which run the oued river beds, provides an idyllic haven for lunch at la Pause.

Notes:
- Please note that although there are instructors to guide you, caution must be taken while riding these engines.
Kasbah Toubkal in the High Atlas

Start from Imlil with a private guide and mule, and hike up to the Kasbah Toubkal for lunch with stunning views.

An hour and half drive to the High Atlas mountains taking in the villages of Tahanaout and Asni through steep pine and cedar forests, past freshwater streams, apple, quince and walnut plantations, and fertile valleys. Various guided walks, from half-hour strolls to four-hour treks, are available to reach the Kasbah. Alternatively, take a leisurely ride on a mule through the village trail, shaded by chestnut trees. On Saturdays, the market is well worth a visit.

Kasbah Toubkal, 1,800 metres up in the crescent of the High Atlas, lies in sight of Jbel Toubkal, North Africa’s highest mountain at 4,167 metres. The Kasbah, the Berber word for ‘fortress’, is kept along traditional Berber hospitality rules, welcoming guests with dates and almond milk, before lunch on their terrace with spectacular views of the breathtakingly beautiful mountain range.

There are various walks to enjoy, ranging from half-hour strolls to four-hour treks.

Lunch is also available at Kasbah Tamadot, Sir Richard Branson’s Moroccan retreat, located in the foothills of the mountains, 25 minutes’ drive from Kasbah Toubkal, and known for its spectacular views.
Discover Morocco’s first biological herb farm, where Amanjena’s bathroom products are tailormade from organically grown plants.

A 45-minute drive away, Nectarome is located at the foot of the Atlas mountains, and is a true feast for the senses. Immediately upon entering, visitors are struck by the scents of the aromatic herbs and plants found in abundance here. Beside their beauty, all the plants have medicinal and gastronomic value, as the passionate owner and his chief gardener will explain.

This aromatic garden aims to rediscover the secrets and benefits of natural Moroccan cosmetics.

Guests will also be able to see the distillery and learn about the processes necessary for making essential oils, before visiting the little shop to purchase some of the organic products. Bath, massage and essential oils, salts, liquid soaps and shampoo are just a few of the items on sale here.

Prolong the trip with a delicious onsite organic lunch prepared by the farm.
Across Morocco, weekly markets are the centre of all activities.

Enjoy a short ride into the countryside and wander through the hustle and bustle of daily shopping; there is a weekly market in the area nearly every day of the week. Lunch is available either at a recommended restaurant in the market or as an Amanjena picnic at a scenic spot nearby.

Monday  The ‘Itnain’ Ourika valley – a 45-minute drive away (40km)

Tuesday  Tahanaout, - a 30-minute drive (35km) south of Marrakech

Wednesday  The market day that gave this mountain village a part of its name – L’Arbaa (Arabic for Wednesday) Tighdouine. A one-hour drive (62km) from Marrakech along the Ouarzazate road.

Thursday  Tamesloht. Famed for its annual Moussem (religious festival mid- to late June) in honor of the local saint Moulay Abdellah Ibn Hssein.

Friday  Tamesloht. Famed for its annual Moussem (religious festival mid- to late June) in honor of the local saint Moulay Abdellah Ibn Hssein.

Saturday  Asni lies at the foothills of the Southern Atlas mountains and is a convenient one-hour drive southeast of Marrakech.
ESSAOUIRA

A colourful port, Essaouira is a beautiful old walled city of whitewashed buildings, trimmed with electric-blue.

Two and a half hours away, Essaouira, formerly called Mogador, is a quaint and colourful fishing port, a true melting pot of Arabic and Southern European cultures, but distinctly Moroccan nonetheless. Take a stroll through the Medina with its cobbled streets and white buildings trimmed with bright blue shutters. A visit to the Scalla de Ville, the impressive sea bastions built along the northern cliffs, presents a wonderful view of this wild Atlantic Coast as well as of the Ile Mogador.

The souks of Essaouira work at a slower pace than in Marrakech, and the atmosphere of this town invites wandering, and enjoyment of the leisurely ambience. Lunch can be taken at one of the town’s restaurants or fish stalls in the port, where deliciously fresh grilled fish is served. A long walk along the beach after lunch is highly recommended. There are also numerous cafés, artists’ studios, and handicraft stalls to visit.

An optional 20-minute drive along the coast reveals Sidi Kaouki, with its simple, tranquil beach. Another option available is a slow camel ride along the seafront, or some windsurfing for those with expertise.

Notes:
The excursion can also be organised by helicopter; the flight takes less than an hour.
OUALIDIA (BY CAR OR HELICOPTER)

An impromptu excursion to taste the charms of Oualidia, with a boat ride to the oyster beds in its beautiful tidal lagoon and a fresh-fish barbecue lunch on the beach.

The route through Safi winds through miles of magnificent date palms, rolling hills and vast plains of varying colours that blend with simple settlements. Discover the city of Safi, famed for its pottery and well-preserved Castle of the Sea, or continue along the scenic Atlantic coast for the last 45 minutes (60km) towards the modest and enchanting seaside village of Oualidia.

The turquoise-blue lagoon, with its herons and flamingos, and its oystermen, is simply enchanting and a hive of activity for any nature lover. Walk along the coastal beaches, where spider crabs roam in their hundreds, or take a ride in a small boat across the shallow clear waters to the prolific beds of oysters, having a few as an appetiser before returning to the mainland for a delicious fish barbecue lunch. Relax in idle contemplation on the beach.

Notes:
- The drive from Marrakech to Oualidia takes almost three hours.
- Flight by Helicopter takes 1hr 10 minutes.
- Birdwatching is possible all year round, though the best time is in spring or autumn.
- Oualidia in the summer months is popular with Moroccans and tourists alike. It becomes quieter after September but the temperature of the water is significantly colder by then.
EXCURSIONS SUMMARY

Authentic Medina
Marrkech through the ages
Colours or Marrakech

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<th>Half day (&lt; 5 hours)</th>
<th>Full day (&gt; 5 hours)</th>
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The above rates include a private car, a local guide and entrance fees.
For 3 guests or more, a larger vehicle is used.
A half-day tour is therefore priced 2400+ Dhs (with 150+ Dhs added per additional guest)
A full-day tour is therefore priced 4200+ Dhs (with 300+ Dhs added per additional guest)
Drop-off and hourly rate are priced 450+ Dhs.

Marrakech’s surroundings
Horse drawn coach / Horse riding

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L’Arbaa Tighdouine
Kik Plateau/Atlas Mountains
Kasbah Toubkal in the High Atlas
Nectarome
Daily Village Markets

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For 3 guests or more sharing a car, 400+ Dhs will be added per additional guest
EXCURSIONS SUMMARY

Essaouira or Oualidia
3600+ Dhs for 2 guests (Lunch & guide excluded)
The rate includes private car transfers and English speaking driver
Should you wish to be accompanied by a guide, there will be an additional charge of 520+ Dhs
For 3 guests or more sharing a car, 400+ Dhs will be added for every extra person

Quad Biking in the Agafay desert
2600+ Dhs for 2 guests
Quad-biking 750 Dhs/hour per guest

Mountain Biking in the Atlas mountains
2000+ Dhs per person with guide

Daily Village Markets
2,400+ Dhs for 2 guests
For 3 guests or more sharing a car, 400+ Dhs will be added per additional guest

Golf Green Fee
600 Dhs per 18 holes
Tennis with professional coach
850+ Dhs per hour
Cycling in the Palmeraie
600 Dhs per guest with guide

Additional 650+ Dhs for roundtrip for cycling in the Palmeraie

All above rates marked with a ‘+’ denotes that they are subject to 10% service charge. All activities programs and rates are subject to change without notice.