

# EXPLORE!



**Grand tour of Morocco**

20 days

Morocco - Trip code MGT

## Grand tour of Morocco

Explore a wonderful world of mountains, markets and medinas on this three week grand tour of Morocco. Discover Andalucian influenced architecture in Rabat and Chefchaouen, meet the proudly independent Berbers, the masters of the Atlas mountains and spend a couple nights under the stars with desert nomads. Wander through huge souks and barter with merchants over intricately decorated artwork in the cities of Marrakech and Fes and relax by the beach at the bohemian towns of Mirleft and Essaouira.

## Trip highlights

- ★ **Marrakech** - Explore the Red City and navigate the heaving Djemma-el-Fnaa market
- ★ **Sahara Desert** - Sleep under the stars in against a backdrop of towering sand dunes
- ★ **Atlas Mountains** - Experience views over the snow-capped mountains of North Africa's highest range
- ★ **Imperial Cities** - Discover the ancient cities of Fes and Rabat and learn about their imperial heritage
- ★ **Coastal towns** - Relax by the beaches of Mirleft and Essaouira and enjoy the bohemian vibes

### ACCOMMODATION GRADE:

#### Standard

Our standard, mid-range accommodation offers a good level of service, often with other amenities such as a restaurant, bar, garden or swimming pool. Generally rooms will be comfortable with en suite facilities.

**TRIP PACE:****Moderate**

Moderate pace tours are ideal if you want a holiday which combines exciting activities and experiences with plenty of time to relax and unwind. Typically you'll be active and busy for part of the day but then also have time to rest and recharge your batteries.

**GROUP SIZE:****10 - 15**

Maximum group size ranges from between 6 to 20 people, depending on the type of trip, the transport and accommodation used and activities included. We rarely have groups that are smaller than five or six people and the average is 12 people plus an Explore leader.

# Itinerary

Itineraries on some departure dates may differ, please select the itinerary that you wish to explore.

## DAY 1 - Join Trip in Marrakech

Our trip starts in Marrakech. This evening we will meet our Explore Leader who will conduct an introductory briefing and we will get to know our fellow group members. Customers arriving on earlier flights may have time to walk to the bustling Djemma-el-Fnaa square or just have a stroll around the 'Red City'. Tonight is the first opportunity to try a tagine, a slowly cooked stew which is found all over Morocco, baked in a traditional conical clay pot.



**Accommodation: Moroccan House** (or similar)



Standard Hotel



Swimming pool available



Single room available



Meals Provided: None

## DAY 2 - Visit the Hassan II Mosque in Casablanca and drive to Rabat

We leave Marrakech early this morning and make our way to Casablanca to visit the great mosque of Hassan II. This spectacular structure is the largest mosque in Morocco and the only one open to non-Muslims; it can hold an incredible 25,000 worshippers and has a huge retractable roof. After a guided tour we will continue on our journey to Rabat, a city that's history dates back to 8BC. On arrival we will have an opportunity to explore something of the city's historic heart, with a walking tour of the area around the Hassan Tower and the Mausoleum of Mohammed V, before wandering through the blue and white walled Kasbah des Oudaias, a fortified town infused with a distinctly Andalucian flavour.



**Accommodation: Hotel Bouregreg** (or similar)



Standard Hotel



Single room available



Meals Provided: Breakfast

## DAY 3 - Explore the mountainous town of Chefchaouen

Today we head into the mountains and drive to Chefchaouen, a historical town known for its Andalusian influenced medina with red tiled roofs and buildings that are painted pure whitewash or an electric blue. Upon arrival we will explore the medina, scramble up the battlements of the 15th century kasbah and spend some time browsing the market in the Uta Lhmm square, which is the centre of the town. As well as the historical interest and aesthetic beauty of the architecture, one of the best parts of walking around Chefchaouen is the views over the fertile plains beneath the Rif Mountains. Walking round the town is a good time to try some mint tea, this incredibly sweet drink is found all over Morocco and it's probably a good idea to get used to it quickly, as it is unavoidable!



**Accommodation: Hotel Madrid** (or similar)



Standard Hotel



Single room available



Meals Provided: Breakfast

## DAY 4 - Cross the Rif Mountains via Volubilis to Fes

Crossing the Rif Mountains our first stop is the Roman site of Volubilis. The ruins have intact detailed mosaics and show the layout of a former provincial Roman capital. We continue to Meknes and take a guided walk around the imperial city. We will visit the old granary of Heri es-Souni and the Mausoleum of Moulay Ismail, the tyrant who built the city. We'll also take in the Bab el Khamis Gate and walk through the city's

spectacular centrepiece, the Bab Mansour, en route to the Place el Hedim and the city's medina, where we can try our bartering skills in the busy markets. It is then an hour's drive to Fes where we will stay for two nights.



**Accommodation: Hotel Zahrat al Jabal** (or similar)



Standard Hotel



Single room available



Meals Provided: Breakfast

## DAY 5 - Discover Fes, visit the Royal Palace and take a guided tour of the city

We have a full day today to take in the artisan capital of Morocco and during the morning's sightseeing we will view the Royal Palace and drive out to North Bori for some great views back across the city. Craftwork made and sold in the Fes medina is considered amongst the finest in Morocco and a wander through its artisan districts reveal weavers and brass workshops, coppersmiths and

tanners, producing beautiful pieces much as they have for generations. After lunch our exploration of the city continues with a tour of Fes El Bali (Old Fes), exploring the souks in the backstreets, wandering past the spice stalls and taking in the luxurious majesty of the 14th century Attarin Madrasa whose intricate decoration and elegant design makes it one of the city's most captivating medieval colleges. As we walk through the market we smell freshly cooked baghrir, or Berber pancakes and we can try Harira soup, a tasty broth made from chickpeas, tomatoes and Moroccan spices.



**Accommodation: Hotel Zahrat al Jabal** (or similar)



Standard Hotel



Single room available



Meals Provided: Breakfast

## DAY 6 - Drive over the Berber lands of the Middle Atlas to Erfoud

Today we have a full day driving as we climb steadily into the dramatic landscapes of the Middle Atlas, passing near the small mountain village of Azrou, which in the Berber tongue translates as 'the rock'. This is the land of the fiercely independent Berbers, the Lords of the Atlas, whose traditions and ways still hold sway up here in their mountain strongholds far away from the cities below. The Berbers present us with a special view of a way of life lost to the rest of North Africa, where music and dance, even language and religion, are far removed from their Arab neighbours. Continuing into Berber sheep raising country we traverse a broad plateau past Meski Oasis, the so-called 'Blue Spring' bordering the arid desert plains, from where our journey brings us at last on to the desert settlement of Erfoud, our base for the night.



**Accommodation: Hotel Le Riad** (or similar)



Standard Hotel



Swimming pool available



Single room available



Meals Provided: Breakfast

## DAY 7 - Explore fortified villages and take a camel ride through the Erg Chebbi sand dunes

Our day starts by following the meandering Ziz River towards Rissani, the last sizeable community and the end of the vegetation belt before the dunes of the sand sea begin. The settlement is the homeland of the Alaouite dynasty, which reigned in this region for 300 years, and this morning we'll have an opportunity to visit the founder's mausoleum and explore something of the local ksour (fortified villages). After lunch, we then drive on to the settlement of Merzouga, which lies on the edge of Erg Chebbi, an area of high dunes that are amongst some of Morocco's most spectacular natural landscapes. To get to our camp we will ride camels, those not wanting to ride can walk alongside. There is also the option of taking a 4WD to camp if needed. Tonight we stay in a traditional nomad camp with large tents sleeping 3-5 per people each, the camp will also have a restaurant tent where we will eat dinner and breakfast, prepared by our camp crew. All bedding is provided at camp.



**Accommodation: Nomad Camp - Chebbi Dunes** (or similar)



Simple Camping



Meals Provided: Breakfast & Dinner

## DAY 8 - Walk in a lush palm forest and stay in the Todra Valley

We recommend getting up early this morning to take a short walk to the top of the nearest dune to witness the sun rise; there is nothing like seeing the light of the sun spread over the vastness of the desert. Watching as the sand turns from a dark greyish colour to brilliant gold as the sun's rays touches it. After breakfast we make our way back to Merzouga (either by camel or 4WD), board our bus and travel along the southern slopes of the High Atlas on our way to the Todra Gorge. The landscapes continues to change as sand dunes give way to hills which then start to turn green with a more tropical feel as we approach the town of Tinghir. We will stop here for a chance to have a walk around the huge date palm forest that skirts the town, after spending the night in the desert it is quite surreal to walk amongst lush palms trees a few hours later. We continue to our hotel in the upper Todra Valley where we will spend two nights.



**Accommodation: Dar Ayour** (or similar)



Standard Guesthouse



Swimming pool available



Single room available



Meals Provided: Breakfast

## DAY 9 - Discover the colourful Todra Gorge and walk to a panoramic viewpoint

Today we will explore the Todra Gorge where dramatic ochre-coloured cliffs rise vertically to leave just a narrow pass through which our track and the river struggle for right of way. In the morning Berber women drive their goats through the narrow gorge to the better grazing land higher up and we have an opportunity to follow their daily ritual and take in the stunning views, as we spend the morning exploring these deep, narrow mountain chasms on foot. You may choose to join your Explore Leader on an optional walk to Abdelali viewpoint for some excellent panoramas across to the Jebel Sahro and down into the gorge. The walk generally takes around 5 hours in total and is considered a moderate graded trek, but be aware that in high temperatures it can be more demanding (walking boots with ankle support are essential). Alternatively you may opt to explore the valley floor following the path of the river and take in the local scenery from one of the nearby cafés.



**Accommodation: Dar Ayour** (or similar)



Standard Guesthouse



Swimming pool available



Single room available

## DAY 10 - Enter the Valley of a Thousand Kasbahs and explore UNESCO Ait Ben Haddou

This morning we drive west, where we make a short stop in El Kelaa des M'Gouna positioned at the foot of a rocky outcrop that separates the Dades and Mgoun Valleys. Famed for its roses, the town lies blanketed under a landscape of scented blooms each spring, which are then harvested in May during the famous Festival of the Roses and processed into rosewater to be sold throughout the Islamic world. Driving on through the Dades Valley with its fertile oases, we enter the Valley of a Thousand Kasbahs, where each of the oasis towns can boast their own distinctive character, the mud and straw structures becoming more plentiful and more ornate as we progress along the valley. Later this afternoon we make our way towards the small, fortified Berber settlement of Ait Ben Haddou, which has been classified as a UNESCO World Heritage Site and is considered by many to be one of Morocco's most picturesque settings. Studded with crenelated towers and richly decorated, the town's kasbah is quite spectacular and provided an ideal location for filming scenes from Jesus of Nazareth and Lawrence of Arabia. After exploring the kasbah it is a short drive to the desert outpost of Ouarzazate where we stay the night.



**Accommodation: Hotel Les Jardins de Ouarzazate** (or similar)

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Standard Hotel

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Swimming pool available

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Single room available

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 Meals Provided: Breakfast

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## DAY 11 - Visit a 15th century library and take a 4WD into the Sahara Desert

Today we head back into the desert and drive through the beautiful and fertile Draa Valley. Our route is lined with palm groves, with many kasbahs and ksours (villages) punctuating the impressive landscape on the way for a quick stop at a pottery cooperative in Tamgroute, a historical town featuring a 15th century library which contains books spanning back over 700 years. We will visit the library and then continue to Mhamid and board 4WD jeeps on our way to the towering Erg Chegaga sand dunes of the Sahara Desert.

After arriving into camp our leader will take us on a walk up the dunes for panoramic views and to learn a bit more about the flora and fauna found in the desert. Our camp tonight is a traditional nomad camp with large tents sleeping 3-5 people each, the camp will also have a restaurant tent where we will eat dinner and breakfast, prepared by our camp crew. All bedding is provided at camp.



**Accommodation: Nomad Camp** (or similar)

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Simple Camping

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 Meals Provided: Breakfast & Dinner

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## DAY 12 - Take a wilderness drive by 4WD across the Sahara Desert

We leave camp after breakfast, get in the 4WD and take a wilderness drive across the desert to the oasis town of Foug Zguid. This is a 90km drive but will take between three to four hours as we are off road and on desert tracks. Though the going is at times bumpy, this drive is a real adventure and we will barely see any human activity, even the camels here are wild. At Foug Zguid we will get back in the bus and make our way to Tata, stopping on the way at Tissint, where there is a large gorge filled by a lake which ends in a waterfall. The falls may not have a wow factor but there are often nomads in the area collecting water and we may have a chance to meet them. Our destination tonight is Tata, and depending on our arrival time there should be an opportunity to explore the town, with its pink buildings and laid back character.



### Accommodation: Le Relais des Sables (or similar)



Standard Hotel



Swimming pool available



Single room available



Meals Provided: Breakfast & Dinner

## DAY 13 - Cross the desolate Anti-Atlas and drive to Mirleft on the Atlantic coast.

This morning we drive through the Anti-Atlas, a wild and barren world of rocky outcrops and remote, desolate landscapes. We pass primitive villages, consisting of a few small homes surrounded by palm trees, life in this area is tough as water is scarce and farming difficult. The main town in this region is Goulemine, known as the gateway of the Sahara; we will stop in the town for lunch and for a short walk through the Taghijit Valley, a rare oasis of green lush date palms. Taghijit is known for its high quality dates and there will be an opportunity to buy some from a local farmer. Our drive continues towards the Atlantic Ocean and as we get closer to the coast we notice the scenery becoming greener and brighter, our destination is Mirleft, a small town set just off the coast where we will spend two nights. Our accommodation is set in a rural area with coastal views just a short drive away from the town. Upon arrival there will be free time to take a ten minute stroll down to the beach or relax by the pool, before having dinner.



### Accommodation: Un The Au Bout du Monde (or similar)



Standard Hotel



Swimming pool available



Single room available



Meals Provided: Breakfast

## DAY 14 - Day at leisure at coastal town of Mirleft, try a surf lesson or relax in a coffee shop

Today is free to spend at leisure in Mirleft. Mirleft has gained a reputation as a bohemian town thanks to its popularity with artists, musicians and travellers; meaning there is a burgeoning café culture and a surf scene that is growing in popularity. Your Explore Leader will talk you through the options for today, which include swimming, having a surfing lesson or to just relax around the town, and assist with getting to and from the town twenty minutes away.



## Accommodation: Un The Au Bout du Monde (or similar)



Standard Hotel



Swimming pool available



Single room available



Meals Provided: Breakfast

## DAY 15 - Visit Sous-Massa National Park and try cooked meats in Taroudant

We drive north today through the fertile Sous Valley, passing forests and plantations; this area of Morocco has a more relaxed feel and we will find local people particularly welcoming and happy to see visitors. Our first stop is the Sous- Massa National Park, which is a large reserve situated between the estuary of the Sous-Massa River and the Atlantic Ocean, where we will enjoy a couple hours of walking. The park has seven traditional Berber villages but the main attraction is the birdlife, and it's in this area that we may be lucky enough to see the Bald Ibis. We will also see flamingos and there are some old fisherman caves which can be also explored. We make our way to Taroudant, the former capital of the south of Morocco, on arrival our Leader will take us on an orientation tour of the town. Taroudant is enclosed by a huge rectangle of golden fortified walls, dotted with towers which are still in good repair and are an impressive sight. We will explore the market, where there are lots of small food stalls selling cooked meats and flat breads, filling the air with smoky barbeque aromas.



## Accommodation: Hotel Tiout (or similar)



Standard Hotel



Single room available



Meals Provided: Breakfast

## DAY 16 - Explore the coastal port of Essaouira

Our destination today is the historic seaport of Essaouira, a small town on the Atlantic coast where we will spend the next two nights. It will take us around four hours to drive to Essaouira and once we arrive we will find a local restaurant to have lunch, seafood is the predominant ingredient here, eaten by tagine or grilled over charcoal. After lunch our Leader will take us on a walking tour, ensuring we have our bearings for a free day tomorrow. The town is encircled by 18th century battlements and we will explore the old walled medina, passing through the narrow, highly decorated arched entrance to find a host of merchants selling local handicrafts and women carrying out their daily routines, veiled in their traditional dress.



## Accommodation: Hotel Souiri (or similar)



Standard Hotel



Single room available



Meals Provided: Breakfast



## DAY 17 - Day at leisure in Essaouira, relax on the beach or wander through the souk

Today is free to spend at leisure in Essaouira. Just south of the town there is a long sandy beach which is slightly sheltered from sea-wind and depending on the time of the year the water is great for swimming (it might be a bit cold in the winter). Other things to do here are to wander around the harbour, with its famous blue boats; explore the Jewish quarter and shop in the various laid back souks and markets.



**Accommodation: Hotel Souiri** (or similar)



Standard Hotel



Single room available



Meals Provided: Breakfast

## DAY 18 - Drive to Marrakech, walking tour of the Red City

This morning we leave the coast and return to Marrakech. It's a few hours' drive and after we have checked in to the hotel we will take a walking tour of the Red City.

Like many North African towns, Marrakech is divided into two distinct parts, the Gueliz (the modern French-built city) and the Medina (the Old City), a place where trade and barter amongst the colourful souks still renders its ancient heart a glittering cacophony of noise and colour. The city's beating heart is the spectacular Djemma-el-Fnaa, a site not to be missed and a scene straight out of the pages of the Arabian Nights. Here we will find the streets and alleys alive with storytellers and musicians, jugglers and acrobats and clowns. Marrakech is a city like no other; with a staggering array of spectacular architecture and wonderful facades; not to be missed are the Koutoubia Mosque and tower, Saadian Tombs, Ben Youssef Madrasa, the Dar Si Said Palace (now the Museum of Moroccan Art) and the Menara gardens. This evening there is also an opportunity to visit a traditional hammam.



**Accommodation: Moroccan House** (or similar)



Standard Hotel



Swimming pool available



Single room available



Meals Provided: Breakfast

## DAY 19 - Free day to explore Marrakech

Today has been left free to continue exploring this amazing city. You can wander past vendors selling doughnuts and fried grasshoppers, meander through native markets where women, their hands and feet dyed with henna, call out to sell their wares, and enjoy the sounds and the smells of spice and cooked meats. Perhaps you will prefer to take time to enjoy more of the remarkable medina, haggling for a bargain or two, or simply sitting at one of the local cafés and watching the street tableaux unfold

before you. Do remember that many of the mosques will be forbidden to non-Muslims



**Accommodation: Moroccan House** (or similar)



Standard Hotel



Swimming pool available



Single room available



Meals Provided: Breakfast

## DAY 20 - Trip ends in Marrakech

The trip ends after breakfast this morning.



Meals Provided: Breakfast



## Why book this trip

This three week adventure is perfect for travellers with more time to spare and who want to really get under the skin of Morocco. It is the most explorative trip of Morocco in the market, whilst still seeing all the historical highlights in this beautiful and tranquil country.

# What's included?



## Included meals

Breakfast: 19  
Dinner: 3



## Transport

Bus  
4WD



## Trip staff

Explore Tour Leader  
Driver(s)  
Local Guide(s)



## Accommodation

2 nights simple camping  
2 nights standard guesthouse  
15 nights standard hotel

# Trip information

## Country information

### Morocco

#### Climate

The climate is both Mediterranean and Atlantic. The dry, hot season is from May to October when summer temperatures can reach 38°C and above (if sight seeing is included we will do our best to avoid the heat of the day during this period). Temperatures may drop significantly at times during the night as the day's heat rapidly diminishes. From December to January snow can be expected on mountain passes and it can be wet. In winter, day temperatures will probably be around 18-25°C, dropping to perhaps 0-5°C.

#### Time difference to GMT

0

#### Plugs

2 Pin Round

#### Religion

Islam

#### Language

Arabic, Berber, French.

## Budgeting and packing

### Optional activities

The following excursions and/or activities are usually available and may be arranged locally. Estimated costs are provided below for guidance only, are on a per person basis unless shown otherwise, and may depend on the number of participants. Prices quoted are correct as of the date these tour notes were originally issued but may change at any time due to currency fluctuations. Please note: These activities are booked and paid for direct with the supplier and do not form part of your Explore holiday contract.

Merzouga - 4WD excursion £20 per person; Sunrise Walk with your Tour Leader (no fee)

Todra Gorge - Palmeraie of Tinghir walk (no fee)

Quarzazate - Entry to Atlas Film Studios £4 per person

Mirleft - Half Day Fishing £16 per person (dependent on the season and local regulations; Surfing Lesson (2hrs) £17 per person (dependent on weather conditions)

Marrakech - Cookery demonstration £25 per person; Hamman £20 per person

## Clothing

Summer: Clothing should be lightweight. However, a warm sweater is also advisable, as the desert can sometimes get cold at nights, even in the summer.

Winter: Usually warm during the day but thicker clothing is essential for cold nights (Nov-Mar). It is advisable to take warm clothing (eg. track suit or thermal underwear) to sleep in, as the quality of heating in Moroccan hotel rooms can be variable. A waterproof jacket, trousers and fleece are recommended in the winter months.

Morocco is a Muslim country and it is important to dress with respect for local customs. People may be offended by shorts or revealing dresses, which can attract unwelcome attention. We advise that in general both men and women should cover shoulders, upper arms and knees. Transparent, plunging necklines and tightfitting clothes should be avoided. Women should also cover their heads when entering a sanctuary, though in general, mosques are forbidden to non-Muslims. For those clients on a cycling holiday please bear this information in mind for times that you are not on the bikes. While cycling it is no problem for both men and women to wear your regular cycling gear, tight fitting or not.

## Footwear

We recommend sandals and walking boots with good ankle support if planning to do the Abdelali walk in the Todra Gorge.

## Luggage

20kg

### Luggage: On tour

One main piece of baggage and daypack. Remember you are expected to carry your own luggage so don't overload yourself.

## Equipment

A head torch, water bottle, sunhat and high factor sunscreen are all essential, whilst we recommend swimming costumes and towels.

## Tipping

### Explore leader

You may wish to tip your tour leader in appreciation of the efficiency and service you have received whilst on tour.

### Local crew

Although entirely voluntary, tipping is a recognized part of life in this region of the world. Some local staff will look to members of the group for personal recognition of particular services provided. In order to make things easier for you, the Tour Leaders may organise a group's tips kitty and if this is the case, they will account for it throughout the tour. Accordingly, you should allow approx. £45 per person for tipping of crew and local guides used.

## Country Information

### Morocco

#### Food and drink

The costs for meals may vary depending upon location, type of restaurant and number of courses eaten and so the prices given are an average guide. Local restaurants located off the beaten track may be less expensive, whereas an upmarket restaurant located in the centre of a major city may charge more.

##### Lunch price

£6.00 - 8.00

##### Dinner price

£8.00 - 12.00

##### Beer price

£2.5

##### Water price

£0.6

## Foreign Exchange

### Local currency

Moroccan Dirham (MAD).

### Recommended Currency For Exchange

US Dollars, Sterling and Euros are readily exchangeable. We recommend you take a mixture of cash and credit cards. Scottish bank notes and Australian dollar travellers cheques and cash are NOT normally accepted in Morocco.

### Where To Exchange

Most major towns - your Tour Leader will advise you.

### ATM Availability

ATMs are available in main towns/cities, though can be unreliable.

### Credit Card Acceptance

Not all places.

### Travellers Cheques

Travellers cheques are difficult to exchange and are not recommended.

## Transport, Accommodation & Meals

### Transport Information

Bus, 4WD

### Accommodation notes

#### Booking a Single Room

All of our group tours are planned and operated on a twin-share basis, meaning that the standard cost is based either on individual travellers sharing accommodation with another group member of the same sex, or people who book together sharing accommodation. Please refer to the tour notes where the single room option availability is detailed on a night by night basis for this tour, and the price for the available nights is detailed on the dates & prices tab by departure date. For Self-Guided trips the Single Room supplement offers the option of a single room each and is charged per person. The Single Room supplement also applies to the third person in a party of three that will be accommodated in a single room.

Morocco is a developing country and as such, the accommodation standards are not equivalent to those in Europe and can be more basic. We generally choose our properties because of their location, cleanliness, traditional style or for their welcoming atmosphere, as we endeavour to provide an authentic Moroccan experience. However, some of the properties might have some outdated or simple furniture and the level of service may vary depending on the location. You may find that availability of hot water is variable or limited in certain locations. Breakfasts are generally continental style. A swimming pool is often available, especially in the cities.

## Essential Information

### FCO Advice

We strongly recommend that you check your government's travel advisory for up-to-date information and advice about your destination: safety and security, entry requirements, health, local laws and customs. For UK Foreign and Commonwealth Office advice [click here](#).

For more information from Explore about travel advice, [click here](#)

#### Under 18 immigration guidance

Please note that some countries require proof of parental consent when travelling overseas with under 18s. Please check requirements with the relevant embassy or consular office well in advance of travel if this applies to your party.

### Price Guarantee

Once your booking has been confirmed we guarantee the price will not increase, whatever the circumstances. Before booking please ensure you have read our important tour pricing information. [Booking Conditions](#)

## Visa and Passport Information

Morocco: Visas are not required by UK, Australian, New Zealand, US and Canadian citizens. Other nationalities should consult their local embassy or consular office.

If you do require assistance in obtaining a visa then you may consider applying through Explore's recommended visa service in the UK, Travcour. See [www.travcour.com](http://www.travcour.com) to download the relevant visa application for your trip, if applicable (UK citizens only), along with details of how to apply for your visa through Travcour. The Team at Travcour will be happy to answer specific questions relating to visa applications, please call them directly on 0208 5431846.

It is your responsibility to ensure that you are in possession of a full passport, with the correct validity for your chosen destination.

## Booking conditions

Before booking your Explore trip, please ensure that you read both our Essential Information and Booking Conditions.

## Transfers

[Find out more about Trip Transfer Terms and Conditions before you book.](#)

### Booking a land only package with Explore

Customers who have chosen to book on the 'Land Only' arrangements of our tour, please ensure that you have checked your tour specific 'Joining Instructions' prior to booking your own travel arrangements. Your joining instructions can be found below in the dates and prices information.

You may also be eligible for the Free Explore Transfer.

### Joining Tour Abroad

Customers booked on the 'Land Only' arrangements will now receive a Free Transfer, provided you arrive and depart on the tour only itinerary start and end dates. The transfers will be from the Explore designated airport or train station to the joining point of your tour, and then back from the ending point to the designated airport or train station. The exception to this rule is customers who are booked on a tour where the joining and ending point is at the designated airport or train station.

Free transfers are not available for Self-Guided, Polar, Tailormade or Tours for Churches customers.

If you are not eligible for the Free Transfer then you will need to make your own way through to the joining and ending point. On a majority of our tours Explore will be able to provide a private transfer at an additional cost. Please ask for a quote at the time of booking.

For more information regarding the Explore Free Transfer [click here](#)

## Insurance

It is a condition of booking with Explore that you have adequate valid travel insurance. It is your responsibility to arrange appropriate travel insurance and ensure you have read and understood the full terms and conditions of your travel insurance policy to ensure that you are covered for all activities you intend to undertake whilst on the tour, including all optional activities. Your Insurance Policy must fully cover you for medical expenses and emergency repatriation to your home country. Please ensure your policy includes medical emergency helicopter evacuation in the event of illness or injury and covers the entire duration of your holiday. If you are trekking at altitude please ensure that there is no upper altitude limit which may limit or exclude cover for your trip. The cost of many of our Polar Voyages will exceed the capped amount covered by standard insurance premiums and you will be required to pay an additional premium to cover the full value of your trip. Please ensure that you are covered for the full amount of your holiday cost, as insufficient cover could invalidate a claim under the policy. Medical and repatriation insurance cover is not mandatory for UK residents who are travelling on trips within the United Kingdom.

Read more information about what travel insurance is required.

## Flight information

Explore offers a wide range of flexible flying options to make joining and leaving our trips easy. [Read more about them here.](#)

### Flight Information

You are able to book this tour on a 'land only' basis or as a 'flight inclusive' package. Your flight inclusive package will be fully protected by the Civil Aviation Authority (CAA) ATOL protection scheme.

### Booking a flight inclusive package with Explore

We have a good selection of flights not only from London but from many regional airports around the UK allowing us to compare fares between scheduled carriers as well as low cost and charter airlines. Our dedicated flights team will match the best flight options to your arrival and departure airport.

On our website we display a UK flight inclusive package guide price which is generally based on a London departure. To avoid paying supplements or to secure your preferred flight option, we recommend booking as early as possible, especially for peak travel dates.

## Morocco

### Vaccinations

Nothing compulsory, but we recommend protection against tetanus, typhoid, infectious hepatitis and polio. Consult your travel

clinic for latest advice on different prophylaxis available against malaria. Please check the latest requirements with your travel clinic or doctor prior to departure. The above is not an exhaustive list. Further information regarding vaccinations and travel health advice can be found by following the NHS and NaTHNaC links at [Explore Travel Health](#) and from your local healthcare provider. Visa and vaccination requirements are subject to change and should be confirmed by you before travelling.

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