



THE IMPERIAL CITIES GOLF TOUR

Morocco is like a tree nourished by roots deep in the soils of Africa which breathes through foliage rustling to the winds of Europe | King Hassan II.



OUTLINE:

- Day 1: Casablanca – Rabat
- Day 2: Rabat
- Day 3: Rabat – Fez
- Day 4: Fez
- Day 5: Fez – Marrakech
- Day 6: Marrakech
- Day 7: Marrakech
- Day 8: Marrakech – Atlas Mountains
- Day 9: Atlas Mountains
- Day 10: Departure



DETAILED ITINERARY

DAY 1: CASABLANCA - RABAT

Our representative will meet and welcome you on your arrival at the Casablanca airport. You will then be transferred to Rabat, the royal and administrative capital of Morocco, the first of the Imperial cities that you will discover.

OVERNIGHT: LA TOUR HASSAN 4* (B)

DAY 2: RABAT

Today the non-golfers will explore the capital of Morocco, Rabat's monuments, starting with the Mohammed V Mausoleum. A rich decorated monument made of white marble where you view the tombs of the last two kings of Morocco, many consider this as the most beautiful monument in the whole country. Next you will visit the museum of antiquities, which exhibits objects discovered during excavations of pre-historic Punic, Roman and Islamic sites. Your guide will lead you to the rich "bronze room" where you will admire the roman statues discovered in different architectural sites from all over the country. You will end the tour with a visit to the medieval fort of Chellah garden, prior to the return to your hotel, mid afternoon.

The golfers will enjoy a full day of golf at the Royal Golf Rabat Dar Es Salam

OVERNIGHT: LA TOUR HASSAN 4* (B)

DAY 3: RABAT - MEKNES - VOLUBILIS - FEZ

Rabat is an elegant city hosting the official residence of the king since the early 20th century. Yet this capital maintains a traditional Moroccan character, like all the historical cities of the country.

Your morning tour commences with a visit to the fortified Kasbah Oudaya, including the 17th century royal residence and its Andalusia style garden. You depart Rabat and head inland to the city of Meknes, which served as the capital of Morocco in the 17th century for the Sultan Moulay Ismail. This king had a reputation of a ruthless warrior but he was also a builder as during his 55-year reign. He transformed Meknes from a small town into a majestic capital with gigantic ramparts, monumental gates, palaces and more than 15 miles of exterior walls. Your tour guide will escort you on a comprehensive tour of the city's highlights, such as the impressive granaries and stables built by the Sultan for his cavalry, the Mausoleum of the King located inside a beautifully built mosque, the monumental gate of Bab El Mansour dominating El Hedim square and the colorful food market.

In the afternoon a scenic drive across a beautiful countryside will lead you to the archaeological site of Volubilis, the largest of the Roman colonies established in Morocco between the 1st and the 2nd centuries AD. You will be guided through this World Heritage site where the excavated ruins are particularly noted for their amazing colorful mosaics and remains of Roman monuments such as the Basilica, the Temple and the Arch of Triumph. Later that afternoon you continue the drive to the city of Fez.

OVERNIGHT: HOTEL SAHRAI 4.5*(B)

DAY 3: FEZ

Today the non-golfers visit of Fez, the oldest royal city in Morocco, founded in the 9th century. It is believed to be the most complete medieval city in the Arab world as it has preserved all its medieval aspects and way of life.

You will commence your day with a generous introduction to the history and the culture of the city. Fez will stimulate all your senses as you explore Fes el Bali (old Fes) with its food and spice markets, handicraft quarters, auction markets and colourful Souks on your guided tour. In addition, you visit the medieval children's school,

whereby you will meet the schoolteacher and the pupils. From there you will visit the artisan workshops whereby you will discover the secrets of their ancestral arts, you will visit the public bakeries and pastry makers in the residential quarters and view the historical fountains, mosques and sanctuaries.

The highlight of the morning will be a visit to the 14th century Medersa (theological school), renowned for its most intricate architecture, as well as the Karaouine mosque, which was once the oldest university in the world.

In the afternoon you will visit the Royal palace of the late 19th century where king Hassan I once resided, now a museum of Fez' traditional art. Your guided tour will continue to Fez El Jedid (new Fez) for a stroll in the Jewish quarter, where you will be able to visit a 17th century synagogue and have time to explore the jewelry market.

The golfers will enjoy a full day of golf at the Royal Golf Oued Fes.

OVERNIGHT: HOTEL SAHRAI 4.5*(B)

DAY 4: FEZ – MARRAKECH

You depart after an early breakfast, heading south towards the cultivated and fertile valley of Saiss, continuing to Imouzzer de Kandar, which features the gorgeous lake 'Dait Aoua'. The scenic journey continues on to Ifrane, a charming ski resort, and Azrou, a typical Berber town with its flat roof earth houses.

The journey features magnificent cedar, pine and oak forests, in addition to a diversity of impressions amidst the Middle Atlas Mountains where nomad shepherds reside in black tents and move with their herds of goats and sheep across these mountains in the hot season down to the desert land areas in the winter.

Numerous stops will be made along this itinerary for photos, breaks or lunch. When you view the first palm trees of the oasis on the outskirts of Marrakech, you know that you have reached red city of

Marrakech.

OVERNIGHT: THE SOFITEL MARRAKECH 4* (B, L)

DAY 5: MARRAKECH

Today the non-golfers will enjoy a guided tour of Marrakech. The city, nine centuries of age, has been a gateway to the Sahara desert and was a major caravan centre where traders and travellers from different parts of the world would meet. Marrakech' identity has been polished by a rich history and an ancestral tradition of hospitality which, for centuries, has fascinated visitors.

- You start your discovery tour of Marrakech visiting the 12th century archaeological site of the Koutoubia mosque, this is where the history of Marrakech started.
- You will enter the Bab Agnaou gate, whereby you will visit the historical Saadian Tombs of the 16th century, prior your walking tour of the 12th century Kasbah with its food market, bakeries and narrow alleyways.
- You will visit the remains of El Badi palace built in the 16th century, featuring the marvelous Minbar, which was made in 1137 in Cordoba and sent to the King to be used as a pulpit in the big mosque of Marrakech.
- You will explore the 19th century Bahia palace and discover the intricate work done by the local artisans who decorated this splendid home built by a powerful prime minister of that time.
- Your morning tour ends with a stroll inside the Jewish quarter, whereby you will visit the historical synagogue (if open) built in 1492 by Sephardic Jews expelled from Spain.

After an optional break for lunch, your guide will navigate you through the maze of colourful streets and alleys, whereby you will discover a multitude of traditional crafts made in Marrakech and

surrounds. You will have the opportunity shop, barter for the best deal and visit one of the many herbalist stores in the Souks, learn about the Moroccan spices, medicinal herbs and essential oils. You will end your stroll at the UNESCO oral world heritage site, Jemaa El Fna, where you will discover some of the intriguing local folklore traditions such as musicians, dancers, acrobats and snake charmers. It might resemble a movie set, however this reflects everyday life in Marrakech for ages.

The golfers will enjoy a full day of golf at Royal Golf Marrakech.

OVERNIGHT: THE SOFTEL MARRAKECH 4* (B, L)

DAY 6: MARRAKECH

Today you will explore the exciting and interesting authentic side of the old city of Marrakech, where you will view the traditional activities of the inhabitants of the old city.

The walking tour journeys through one of the historical gates of the old Medina whereby you will discover the medieval way of life of its inhabitants and their daily occupations.

- You will make your way through some the oldest quarters in the Medina of Marrakech. Along the way, you will hear children from the Koran schools reciting verses, view old fountains, historical gates, visit an old bakery and taste the local bread, view the furnace that heats the public steam bath and learn about the role they play in the social life of each quarter.
- You will visit the 16th century Ben Youssef theological school that is considered a highlight of the Moroccan architecture in Marrakech. If the calligrapher is there, you will have a demonstration of the splendid and intricate Arabic calligraphy.
- You will visit the sumptuous Moorish palace that was once the home of a Moroccan minister until the end of the 19th

century and admire the marvellous Moorish architecture, an interesting collection of antiques, which varies from the art of embroidery to ethnic jewellery and the fine blue and polychrome pottery.

- You will view the archaeological site of the Almoravid dynasty dome, which is the oldest monument in Marrakech, dating back to the early 12th century.
- You will discover the hidden quarters and the historical caravanserais called Fondouks, used once as hotels for the caravan traders. They are still in use today by Marrakech artisans who have set their workshops in many of them to perpetuate their ancestral skills of making all sorts of local crafts.
- Your tour will end at the beautiful Majorelle Gardens.

OVERNIGHT: THE SOFTEL MARRAKECH 4* (B)

DAY 7: MARRAKECH

The non-golfers will have the opportunity to enjoy either a Moroccan cooking class or a visit to a Moroccan Hammam (spa).

Moroccan Cooking Class

The cooking class usually starts with a comprehensive introduction that highlights the importance of cooking in the Moroccan society, and reviews the variety of recipes created by *Dadas* (traditional female cooks) over the centuries for special occasions such as marriages, holy days, and family festivals.

You then proceed with an overview of the most traditional recipes such as pastilla, couscous, and a broad variety of tajines (stews usually made with lamb or chicken), while reviewing some of the basic pillars of Moroccan cuisine; a 'spices and herbs' technique of cooking. You will visit a nearby spice market and communal bread oven, where neighborhood families bake their bread.

OR

Moroccan Hammam (Spa)

Enter the Bains de Marrakech and discover this exceptional oasis, dedicated to well-being and intense relaxation. The chic oriental decorations, which evoke images of palaces from the Arabian nights and are reminiscent of the Riads from the first days, provide an intimate atmosphere, perfect for surrendering yourself to eudemonia.

An enchanted break combines ancestral oriental traditions and occidental expertise as the skilled hands of our highly qualified masseuses will provide you with unique cares treatments and beauty rituals using our 100% natural products.

The golfers will enjoy a full day of golf at Amelkis Golf.

OVERNIGHT: THE SOFITEL MARRAKECH 4* (B)

DAY 8: GO BERBER IN THE HIGH ATLAS

Immerse yourself in the daily life of an authentic mountain community. The trip will journey through the lush Ourika Valley and dramatic Atlas landscapes prior the start of your eye-opening, hands-on adventure.

Bake bread and prepare tagine in the kitchen of a village family and get to know them better over a pot of traditional mint tea – prepared by you.

While lunch is simmering, you will have the opportunity to get your hands stuck into wet clay in a ceramics workshop. Later, you will be able to try your hand at weaving a colourful kilim with the local women, and walk the farm terraces to explore the labour that goes into ancient irrigation and subsistence farming methods.

You'll also be able to meet the community's youngest members at the charity pre-school centre where little Berbers learn Arabic in preparation for big school.

This exciting day ends at the gorgeous **Kasbah Tamadot**

OVERNIGHT: RICHARD BRANSON'S KASBAH TAMADOT 5* (B, L)

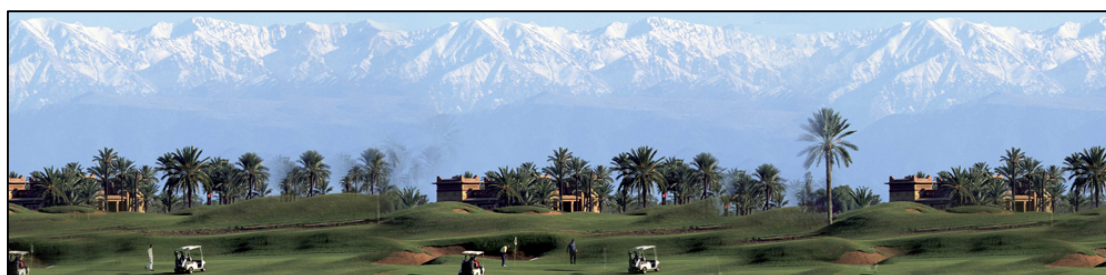
DAY 9: ATLAS MOUNTAINS

A day at leisure to enjoy facilities the hotel has on offer.

OVERNIGHT: RICHARD BRANSON'S KASBAH TAMADOT 5* (B)

DAY 10: DEPARTURE

After breakfast, you will be transferred by your representative who will assist you at the Marrakech airport with the formalities and an easy check in.



Rates start from:

6 Passengers: \$6430.00 per person
10 Passengers \$5905.00 per person
14 Passengers: \$5,710.00 per person
18 Passengers: \$5,820.00 per person
(More expensive due to the larger coach)

Rates are valid from 01 November 2017 – 31 October 2018,

excluding the festive dates (25 December 2017 - 10 January 2018).
Availability will be on request.

INCLUSIONS:

- 09 Nights accommodation in luxury hotels as shown below
- A/C Private deluxe 17 seater vehicles with WIFI (based on 06, 10, and 14 passengers)
- A/C Private 32 seater motor coach (based on 18 passengers)
- Water in the vehicles throughout the tour
- Highly qualified English Speaking guide throughout
- Meals as indicated
- All visits as per the itinerary
- All entrance fees to the monuments and museums
- The 18 holes green fees as indicated below
- All local taxes

Accommodation:

Rabat

2 Nights - La Tour Hassan 4* in Deluxe Rooms (B)

Fez

2 Nights - Hotel Sahrai 4.5* in Deluxe Rooms (B)

Marrakech

3 Nights - The Sofitel Marrakech 4* in Deluxe Rooms (B)

Atlas Mountains

2 Nights - Kasbah Tamadot 5* in Deluxe Rooms (B)

Meals:

All breakfasts, 4 lunches including the Marrakech Cooking Class Lunch and the Atlas Berber Family Lunch

Golf Courses:

Rabat

Day 02: Royal Golf Rabat Dar Es Salam

Fez

Day 04: Royal Golf Oued Fes

Marrakech

Day 06: Royal Golf Marrakech

Day 07: Amelkis Golf

*18 Holes Green Fees included at each golf course

EXCLUDES:

- Any flights or departure taxes
- All items of a personal nature
- Meals other than those specified
- Any items not mentioned above
- Gratuities (this is not compulsory - a guideline is guides US\$10 and general staff US\$5 per guest per day)
- Visa fees (please check your visa requirements)
- Comprehensive travel insurance



For bookings contact Motive Travel

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