



THE CONTE CLUB

PRIVATE TRAVEL

MARRAKECH



ABOUT MOROCCO

Morocco, a North African country bordering the Atlantic Ocean and Mediterranean Sea, is distinguished by its Berber, Arabian and European cultural influences. Marrakech's Medina, a mazelike medieval quarter, offers entertainment in its Djemaa el-Fna square and souks (marketplaces) selling ceramics, jewellery and metal lanterns. The capital Rabat's Kasbah of the Udayas is a 12th-century royal fort overlooking the water.

ARABIC

A few words of basic Arabic will take you a long way. Try es salaam alaykum (hello, literally 'peace be upon you'), 'afak (please) and shukran bezzef (thank you very much).

Cultural Advice & Moroccan Etiquette

If you're offered a mint tea by a local, sit down to enjoy. Mint tea is the hallmark of Moroccan hospitality, and it's impolite to refuse it. A sit-down tea session takes about half an hour.

Any gesture you make in Morocco should be done with your right hand. All greetings, dining manners and other gestures should be done with your right hand if possible. It is also impolite in Morocco to point at someone with your index finger.



EXPLORING MARRAKECH

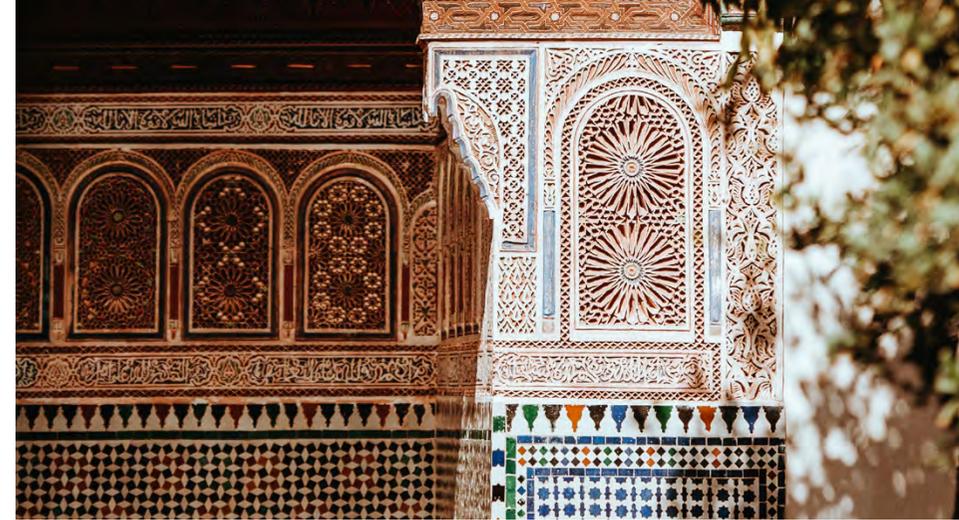
Marrakech, an enchanted place where time has been suspended, giving you a glimpse of its rich and remote roots, its ancient past still planted firmly and unshakingly in the present. There is also a modern Marrakech, with luxury hotels and streets with impatient mopeds and guides, all co-existing seamlessly with the past. It is a Berber rather than Arab city; the traditional capital of Atlas tribes, Mahgrebis from the plains, Saharan nomads and slaves from beyond the desert. It was founded around 1062 and in 1126 the first circuit of walls were raised from “tabia” - the red mud of the plains.

The city is a picture of the traditional Morocco. You can easily imagine the caravaneers loading their camels with food, tools and handiwork as you wander through the picturesque alleys of the old town. The souks contain everything that a traveller could want: colour, atmosphere and smells, welcoming and smiling faces. The Semmarine souk specialises in clothing. You will find many typical clothes made traditionally in the narrow streets surrounding the souk. Some stalls sell jewellery and often antiques as well. The famous Jemaa El Fna is a medieval world where, day and night, storytellers, shopkeepers and snake charmers vie for your attention. You will be able to see the splendid minaret of the Koutoubia mosque.

This 12th century Hispano-Moorish masterpiece inspired the builders of the Giralda in Seville. Amateurs of the eternal Orient will want to visit the splendid Bahia Palace where surprising Andalusian gardens add to the refinement of the prestigious apartments and their secret patios.

Many treasures, especially famous riads (riad, garden in Arabic), are hidden away in Marrakech. Riads are houses, built around a central patio, whose outside walls are entirely closed. They are a symbol of the Moroccan art of fine living. The Majorelle Gardens house a collection of plants from the four corners of the earth flourishing among elegant ornamental lakes and an Art Deco villa. Yves Saint Laurent’s ashes were scattered here.

In Marrakech you have the opportunity to have dinner under the stars at the peak of a dune in the desert, with a private chef and local entertainment all by candlelight. You can also journey into the Atlas mountains to take an exclusive private hot air balloon ride over the city, before returning in a vintage car.





YOUR TIME IN MARRAKECH

DAY ONE

In the morning, fly from London to Marrakech.
Enjoy the Ruby Marrakech tour in the afternoon, including the continual hubbub of La Place, the Hivernage residential area and the elegant avenues of Gueliz.

Overnight in Marrakech

DAY TWO

Enjoy a relaxed morning before journeying to the old medinas of Marrakech. Discovering the old medina of Marrakech will be a game, a true treasure hunt in the country of the Arabian nights. Your children will be the heroes of this adventure and you will be the Genie granting every wish.

Overnight in the Marrakech

DAY THREE

Enjoy a relaxed morning before your Natural Savours experience. You and the children can put on your chef's hats and roll up your sleeves, learning to cook in a Berber village. The experience includes a welcome tea ceremony, a Moroccan cuisine and bread making workshop and a graduation ceremony.

In the evening, take a camel ride in the desert before dinner on your final night in Morocco.

Overnight in the Marrakech

DAY FOUR

In the morning enjoy a hot air balloon ride, taking in the Atlas mountains as the sun rises with you.

Overnight in Marrakech

DAY FIVE

Private transfer to Marrakech Airport
Flight to London, UK



FOUR SEASONS YOUR HOTEL IN MARRAKECH

FAMILY VILLA

Welcome to this 16-hectare (40-acre) Moorish garden sanctuary – perfectly situated between the Red City’s fabled, ancient medina and the cosmopolitan neighbourhoods of the Ville Nouvelle.

Each of the villas inspires a different experience, from spacious doubles with breathtaking views of the snow-peaked Atlas Mountains, to intimate pavilion suites with private plunge pools. Dining spans from healthy, poolside lunches to lively family-style suppers and Italian haute cuisine. And while the kids let off steam in their very own Kasbah, you can take time out for tennis or yoga. The resort takes pampering very seriously, too, at their world-class Spa inspired by ancient Moroccan hammam and beauty treatments.

Your one-storey villa is situated between both pools provides an intimate retreat for your family. Plant-filled courtyards, a bright and airy living room filled with original artwork and large terrace for dining and lounging, make this a home away from home.



Bedroom



Private Terrace



Lounge



Pool

DINING IN MARRAKECH



DAR MOHA

Set within an atmospheric riad, Dar Moha is one of the best places in town to experience 'new Moroccan cuisine'. The restaurant is run by Mohamed Fedal, who transformed the beautiful riad into an idyllic dining space in which guests are seated around the pool of the patio area. The flavours of the Moroccan home, and are as comforting as they are astonishing.



COMPTOIR DARNA MARRAKECH

Comptoir Darna Marrakech is performance space and Art Deco villa, with regular performances of Moroccan dancing and music. The opulent dining area and exotic performances are complemented by a lovingly crafted menu which brings out the best of French and Moroccan cuisine. The food is only part of the appeal of this decadent dance hall, which truly comes alive once dinner is over.



DAR YACOUT

Dar Yacout is one of the most popular Marrakech restaurants. Diners are drawn in by its combination of theatrical design and unforgettable cooking. The lavish grandeur of the interiors is elegantly offset by the rustic hearty cuisine, which features all the mainstays of Moroccan cuisine, cooked to perfection. The rooftop terrace, where diners can enjoy a drink before or after their meal, is another attraction.



LA FAMILLE

La Famille, situated as it is in a large enclosed garden with tables scattered beneath banana and olive trees, is the perfect place to relax. The vegetarian, Mediterranean menu is fresh and simple. The salads, in particular, are highly recommended. On site you'll also find a cute shop stocking some lovely leather goods, jewellery, ceramics and baskets.

DISCOVER AN UNRIVALLED BLEND OF CULTURE & LUXURY

thecontclub.com

+44 3333 444 233



THE CONTE CLUB

PRIVATE TRAVEL