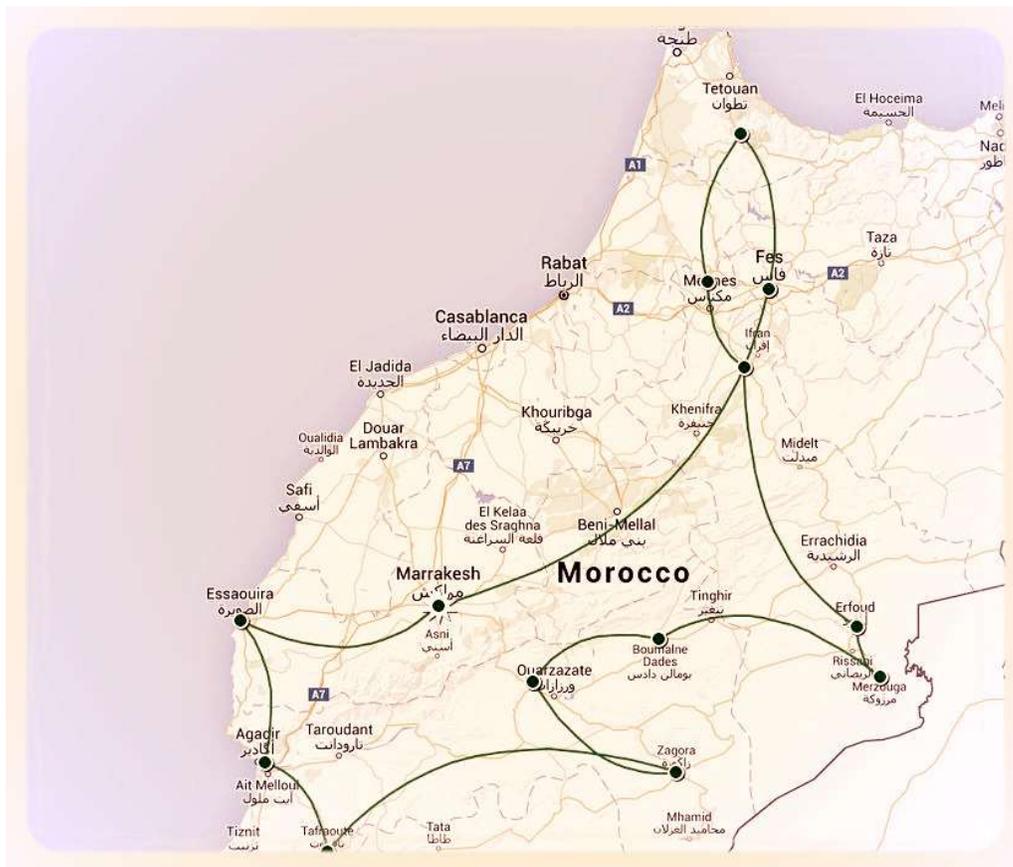


## MOROCCO SELF DRIVE ADVENTURE | 22 Days



You will be fascinated by the beauty and charms of this diverse country and its people, who will make your experience unforgettable.

See the best of Morocco through the desert, mountains, valleys, imperial cities and stunning gorges. The freedom of a motor home journey allows the group to travel at our own pace, outside the classic tourist routes.

Morocco will be everything you expect, but it will also surprise you. Our local Berber guide will take us on roads and introduce us to people we would be unlikely to meet and interact with if we travelled on our own.

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- D1: Marrakech:** Arrive Marrakech and transfer to our Riad for two nights. Welcome dinner included.
- D2: Marrakech:** Tour of city with local guide. Marrakech is the most important of Morocco's four former imperial cities (cities that were built by Moroccan Berber empires). Visit Majorelle Gardens, Saad Tums and Bahia Palace. Lunch during the tour and then we inspect our motorhomes, have a briefing and practice drive before returning to the Riad. We recommend a walk around the Jeema el-Fna in the evening—see the square transform from its regular day life to an entertaining nightlife. Breakfast and Lunch included, dinner on your own.
- D3: Essaouria:** Drive to Essaouria on the Atlantic coast. On the way stop in at and Argan Oil “co-operative” to learn about this local product. We stock up our motorhomes at an excellent grocery store in Essaouria and still have time to investigate the well preserved, maze like medina at the end of the ocean boulevard. Breakfast in Riad, lunch on the road included. Dinner on your own in one of the many restaurants in Essaouria. Raid accommodation.
- D4: Agadir:** Drive along the Atlantic coast stopping at Tafdna, a non-touristic fishing village and enjoy a delicious fresh fish lunch. Breakfast in the Riad and lunch included and dinner from your camp stores. Camping in campsite.
- D5: Tafraoute:** Drive across the Argan forests and through the Small Atlas Mountains with scenic views. Arrival at Tafraoute with time to visit the small medina where you can find local arts/clothes. Breakfast, lunch and dinner included (camp food). Camping in campsite.
- D6: Tata:** Drive to the south side of the Atlas through chalky mountains—dry landscapes with desert climate. Drive through the Ait Mansour and Izmouga Gorges. Breakfast, lunch and dinner included (camp food). “Bivouac” camping—which is camping with no amenities.
- D7: Zagora:** Today we visit the prehistoric sites of Tumulus Necropolis, Pre-Islamic Tombs. This area looks similar to some Australian desert and with the Acacia trees, sometimes you think you could be in Namibia, but the camels take place of the elephant! Breakfast, lunch and dinner included (camp food). Bivouac camping.
- D8: Ait Ben Haddou:** Drive along one of the most beautiful roads in Morocco with palms and oases. We will arrive at the famous Kasbah of Ait Ben Haddou—this is where Gladiator, Lawrence of Arabia and other movies have been filmed. Breakfast, lunch and dinner included (camp food). Camping in campsite.
- D9: Ouarzazate:** Today’s journey takes us to Telouet and the largest Kasbah in Southern Morocco—it is also right off the tourist trail and the drive there is spectacular. We’ll tour the Kasbah and have a delicious lunch of a local Tagine specialty before we head back to Ait Ben Haddou to tour the Kasbah. We’ll do a quick shop today and stay in a Riad close to Ouarzazate. Breakfast (camp food), lunch at Telouet and dinner in Riad included. Riad accommodation.
- D10: Tamtattouche:** A very scenic drive through the Dades Valley and Roses Valley to our campsite high in the mountains. At the campsite a local specialty meal of “Mecchoui” will be prepared—whole roast lamb cooked in a clay fire that looks similar to a tandoor. Breakfast, lunch (camp food) and dinner at campsite included. Camping in campsite.
- D11 Merzouga:** Another day of driving through gorges, including the Ghrsse Gorge, to Merzouga in Sahara desert. Spend the night in our hotel overlooking the dunes. We will do some star gazing after dinner. Breakfast and lunch (camp food) and dinner at hotel included. Hotel accommodation.
- D12 Merzouga:** A day to relax or go for a morning walk in the ochre dunes. In the afternoon we depart on a camel ride into the desert for an overnight stay in Berber tents (with comfortable mattresses and bedding). Breakfast and lunch in hotel and dinner on the camel ride included. Tented accommodation.

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- D13: Tafilalet:** See the sun rise in the dunes and return to the hotel for breakfast. Then it is back on the road to visit the oasis of Tafilalet, the second largest in Morocco. Afternoon walk in the village and oasis for those who would like to stretch their legs. Breakfast in hotel, lunch (camp food) and dinner at a Moroccan family house included. Camping in campsite.
- D14: Timinay:** Drive across the High Atlas Mountains to Timinay. We visit a remote village of Sidi Hamza on our way. If possible we will stop into to visit a home of a local Berber family and see how they live in this remote, agricultural part of Morocco. Breakfast, lunch and dinner included (camp food). Camping in campsite.
- D15: Azrou:** Drive across the Cedar Forest and visit the 8 century old Cedar Gorov in the National Park near Azrou. We will also see the entertaining Margot monkeys today. We will visit the surprising French alps styled town of Ifrane, built in the 1930's to look like a French ski village. A good spot for coffee and a pastry! Breakfast, lunch (camp food) and dinner included at our campsite—trout dinner. Camping in campsite.
- D16: Volubilis:** We drive through the Imperial City of Meknes today where we will do grocery shopping before heading to Volubilis, a partly excavated Roman city which is a UNESCO World Heritage site. We'll go for an afternoon tour. Breakfast, lunch and dinner included (camp food). Camping in campsite.
- D17: Chefchaouen:** Today we cross the Rif Chain. Walk around the city of Chefchaouen to discover on your own. This town is renowned for its blue buildings. Breakfast, lunch and dinner included (camp food). Camping in campsite.
- D18: Fez:** We see more of the Rif mountains and Al Wahda Lake on the way to the Imperial City of Fez. We'll leave our motorhomes parked close to the Medina and porters will assist you to the Riad for two nights. Breakfast, lunch (camp food) and dinner (Riad) included. Riad accommodation.
- D19: Fez:** Guided tour of the Imperial City of Fez including the Royal Palace, leather maker tannery and local handcrafts in its famous Medina. Breakfast and dinner in the Riad, lunch during the tour included. Riad accommodation.
- D20: Bin El Ouidane:** We drive south and start heading back towards Marrakech. This will be a long, but pretty drive. Breakfast in Riad, lunch and dinner (camp food) included. Bivouac campsite.
- D21: Marrakech:** We visit the Ouzoud Waterfall around mid-morning and take a tour and have lunch next to the falls before our final drive back to Marrakech. We return the motorhomes just outside of Marrakech and return to our original Riad for a farewell dinner. Breakfast and lunch (camp food) and dinner (Riad) included. Riad Accommodation.
- D22: Depart:** Transfer to the airport and depart for home.

*Itinerary subject to change.*

*"A few words cannot do our trip through Morocco justice; however, suffice to say it was every bit as exotic and interesting as we had hoped. In the cities, the souks of Marrakesh and Fez were standouts and there were pre-arranged fantastic local tours of each. The scenery and landscapes were spectacular – from the Atlantic coast, to the beauty of the Atlas Mountains as well as the stunning Sahara Desert. Also prearranged were local guides who accompanied us for the whole trip. Self Drive Adventure's selection of local guides was spot-on! The motor home experience was complemented by a number of nights in very comfortable riads, the timing of which worked well with both recognised camping grounds and bivouac camps....and don't forget the wonderful food – tagines, royal couscous, pastille and much more. Would we recommend the trip? You bet! Would we travel again with Self Drive Adventures? –anytime!!"*

*- Phil & Cheryl*

# MOROCCO SELF DRIVE ADVENTURE | 22 Days



## DATES

07 – 28 November 2019 – 22 Days

## PRICES

2 people per motor home: 9,750 per person

*\*Prices assume a minimum of 5 vehicles, maximum of 7 vehicles (plus support vehicles). 2020 pricing to be confirmed in early 2019.*



## INCLUDED

Arrival and departure transfers, motor home hire, fuel, two-way hand held radios, campsites and riads as per itinerary, overnight camel trip, meals as per itinerary, camp food throughout trip (stocked in your vehicle), local city guides, support vehicle escort and staff. A fully comprehensive insurance will be provided during the rental. You will be responsible for costs up to 18,000 dirham (around 1,650€ deductible) for any damages. This amount is frozen on your credit card and processed in the event of any incident. You can reduce the excess by taking the extra insurance for the amount of 80dhs/day (7.5€ / day). This option allows you reducing the excess to 6% on the damages (with a minimum of 6.000dh) that could occur on our vehicle and drop off the deposit to 6.000dhs (around 550€). The deposit in this case will be 6.000dhs.



## EXCLUDED

Airfares, meals other than listed on itinerary, alcohol, travel insurance, visas (if required), vaccinations, vehicle excess, optional activities, local tips and any service not specifically listed under "included".



# MOROCCO SELF DRIVE ADVENTURE | 22 Days



## OTHER INFORMATION

**Accommodation & Campsites:** Riads (traditional homes converted to accommodation), organised campsites and “bivouac” or camping without any amenities. All motor homes have separate shower and toilet facilities. Campsites chosen are “best available”.

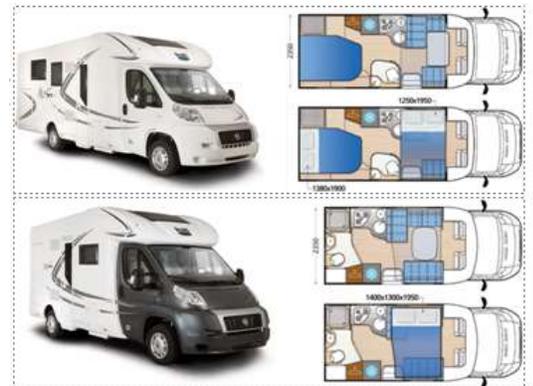
**Vehicles:** In Morocco they refer to these as “camping cars”, we call them motor homes. They have a lot of “get up and go” which is useful on mountain passes to get past slow traffic. They are also very economical on fuel (about 10 litres per 100km).

Although not all the models are the same, we’ll explain the vehicle type available at the time of booking. Those who book first get the first pick. Here are two examples.

**MC4-69 x 2:** Consists of two double beds (1 permanent, 1 that can be made from the lounge seats). Toilet and shower are in separate compartments.

**MC4-32 x 1:** Consists of a drop-down double bed as well as “seats-bed”. Toilet and shower in separate compartments.

**Driving Ability:** The skills required are a driver’s license and a good dollop of common sense.



**Terrain:** The route is mainly tar with some dirt sections. The tar roads can be quite “rough” with large potholes and damaged surface. The tar roads can be quite narrow in places and wind along spectacular high passes over the mountains. Once out of the city the roads are quiet.

**Food:** Most meals will be from your groceries packed in your motor home. When staying in riads all meals are included. The food is excellent in Morocco with fresh bread, fruit and vegetables available most days from a local town.

**Weather/Season:** It will be mainly warm during the day (20-25 degrees C) and chilly at night (7-13 degrees C). There is the chance of rain, especially in the north and possible frost in some of the higher mountains (around 1,800m). The ocean will be cold but you may still want to pack your bathers just in case. There are pools in quite a few of the Riad’s and campsites.