

## ***Morocco - a taste of Africa...***

Morocco is an old favourite of ours and one we can never get enough of. A world away yet only 14km across the Strait of Gibraltar!



### **Guided tour highlights include:**

- Middle & High Atlas Mountains
- Sand dunes of the Sahara
- Djemaa el Fna in Marrakech
- Tizi n'Tichla / Tizi n'Test Mountain Passes
- Todra & Dades Gorges
- Rif Mountains & Chefchaouen

**Start/Finish Location:** Malaga, Spain

**Dates:** Please refer to guided tours calendar on website

**Tour Price:** Please refer to guided tours calendar on website

- Includes return transport of your motorcycle from our base in Wexford, all B&B accommodation, evening meals on all riding days, tour guide(s), detailed route plan etc.
- Not included: Flights to/from Malaga, fuel, food during the day, Green card insurance etc.

With more than 12 tours completed Morocco remains one of our most popular tours. It's a country we have loved since we first visited in 2010. Although the country has changed a lot in recent years it's still a magical and enchanting place. It's difficult to describe Morocco in words and what really draws us to it – the smells, the tastes, the sights of the of the desert and the the various cultures. **This is Africa!**



### Trip Itinerary:

Day No.	From	To
1st	Malaga	Rabat
2nd	Rabat	Bin El-Ouidane
3rd	Bin El-Ouidane	Marrakech
4th	Marrakech	Taroudant
5th	Taroudant	Taroudant
6th	Taroudant	Gorge du Dades
7th	Gorge du Dades	Khamlia
8th	Khamlia	Errachidia
9th	Errachidia	Errachidia
10th	Errachidia	Fes
11th	Fes	Chefchaouen
12th	Chefchaouen	Malaga

**Total km: 2,750 approx**

### Malaga to Rabat

Departing Malaga we travel the 140km to Algeciras and catch the ferry to Tangier Med. Our destination for tonight is Morocco's capital, Rabat, enabling us to get a decent distance south and a good starting point for tomorrow's ride to the Atlas Mountains. While in Rabat we will have a chance to visit the Hassan Tower and King Mohammed V Golden Mausoleum.



### Rabat to Bin El-Ouidane

Leaving Rabat we head directly south to Bin El-Ouidane at the foothills of the High Atlas mountains.

### Bin El-Ouidane to Marrakech

Today we visit the Cascades d'Ouzoud on route to Marrakech, A three tiered 110m waterfall regarded as the most spectacular in Morocco. Arriving in Marrakech we negotiate our way through some crazy traffic to our hotel on Boulevard Mohammad IV, within walking distance to the Djemaa el-Fna and its vibrant nightlife



### Marrakesh to Taroudant

Leaving hectic Marrakesh behind we travel south towards Taroudant in the Sous Valley via the spectacular and exhilarating Tizi n'Test pass at 2260m. The Sous valley separates the High and Anti Atlas Mountains and is also separated from the Sahara desert by the Anti-Atlas Mountains. The natural vegetation in the Sous region is savanna dominated by the Argan (*Argania spinosa*), a local endemic tree found nowhere else. Part of the area is now a UNESCO Biosphere Reserve to protect this unique habitat. The region of Sous is generally fertile and has a high agricultural production.

### Taroudant – Rest Day

An ideal opportunity for some leisurely exploration of the Sous Valley and the Anti Atlas.

### Taroudant to Gorge du Dades

It's easy biking today as we turn east and ride along the south side of the high Atlas mountains which will be our constant companion for the next few days. Along the way we will pass Ouarzazate and have an option to visit Ait Benhaddou – famous as the filmset for many films The Mummy and Gladiator amongst others. Leaving Ouarzazate we travel further east along the 'Route de Kasbahs' towards the Dades Valley. (with an option to make a short detour into the 'Valley of the Roses' along the way).

After checking in to our hotel a ride is highly recommended further up the Dades gorge via the "snaky road" pass to the canyons and the end of the tarmac. Those seeking some off road fun may take the opportunity to explore the "gorge to gorge" link between the Dades and Todra Gorges.



### Gorge du dades to Khamlia

Today will see us travel further east along the Route de Kasbahs to the spectacular steep rock formations of the Todra Gorge before turning south across the Jebel Sahro mountain range and onwards to the Erg Chebbi sand dunes at Merzouga and our destination in



the small village of Khamlia. A treat awaits us with our very good friends Suzanne and Abdoul. There are lots of activities on offer including a camel ride (or 4x4) out into the sand dunes to witness the spectacular sunset (or sunrise for that matter).

### **Khamlia to Errachidia**

After a lazy start we leave the sands of the Sahara behind us as we face north for the short ride to our hotel in Errachidia.

### **Errachidia Rest day**

Surrounded in some of Morocco's best landscapes Errachidia is a perfect base for a 2 night stopover where we can abandon our luggage and explore off the beaten track...

### **Errachidia to Fes**

Today it's time to say goodbye to the desert as we head north and climb through the Ziz gorge up into the cooler high Atlas, across the high plains of the mid Atlas before descending through the Cedar Wood Forests, the alpine like town of Ifrane and onwards to Fes.

### **Fes to Chefchaouen**

Today will see us travelling north into the Rif mountains to the chilled-out town of Chefchaouen with its blue architecture. There will also be a chance to visit the 2000 year old Roman Ruins at Volubilis along the way. The Rif region is widely known for its production of marijuana.

### **Chefchaouen to Malaga**

Today is a short ride to Tangier Med port marking out departure from Africa and Morocco. Exit formalities are a little less tedious departing and so we aim to be back in Spain early afternoon where we have the option of returning to the hotel in Malaga to unwind or make a short detour via Ronda.

We will be providing a more detailed itinerary on arrival in Malaga to include hotel info and GPS co-ordinates. Please note that this is an outline route and maybe subject to change.

