



## Day 1

After an early breakfast at Bab Zouina, the excursion begins by crossing the Atlas along the Oued Zat. The road winds at the foot of Berber villages in rammed earth surrounded by green terraces and majestic mountains. The colors of the landscape change at each contour until the arrival at the Tizi N Tichka pass (2'260 meters above sea level). The descent on the south side is done via Telouet, a former merchant stop for caravans located on the salt road towards Timbuktu, South of Morocco. After a lunch at the foot of the Glaoui palace and the visit of the palace (admire the zellij and woodwork of the princely living room of the ancient building that falls into ruins), the road continues to Ait Ben Haddou, a rammed earth Ksar inscribed in the world heritage list of the UNESCO. We dine and stay at Dar Hajja's house, a beautiful kasbah in the old village.

Route: 180 km, 4 hours' drive



## Day 2

If you are an early riser, enjoy the sunrise from the terrace of your room. After a good breakfast, we visit the antique village of Aït Ben Haddou (continually restored) and possibly the tomb of the patron saint of the region, Sidi Ali Ben Ouamer, as well as the Jewish cemetery located east of the Kasbah. We continue the journey via Ouarzazate and visit the Oscar studios where the sets of many films are still on site, such as: Asterix, Obelix and Cleopatra, Gladiator, Babel, Prince of Persia, etc. After lunch, we head to Skoura's palm grove and pass through the town of Kalâat Mgouna which hosts the rose festival annually in May. We dine and stay in a family-owned guesthouse in Dades Gorge, where Sidi Mohamed and his children spontaneously play Berber music for their guests every evening.

Route: 170 km, 2 hours and 40 min drive



## Day 3

Breakfast is followed by a beautiful day of trekking with Sidi Mustapha, a shepherd from the Dades valley. We walk the mule tracks on the South face of the Atlas and have a picnic at the foot of a beautiful waterfall. After sharing a tea with the locals, we head to Tinghir, an oasis at Toudra's Gorges entrance. We dine and stay at the Kasbah Timbuktu, managed by Suleimane, a Spanish enthusiast of rammed earth constructions, who also extensively traveled across Africa. The rooms and the surroundings of the Kasbah have a unique African touch.

Route: 3 to 4 hours of trekking in the Atlas and 77 km, 1 hour and 15 min drive



## Day 4

After a delicious Berber breakfast, we visit Afanour's oasis and the antique rammed earth mosque that is undergoing restoration. We observe, between palm trees and irrigation channels, the functioning of the local traditional agriculture and economy of the oasis. We continue the journey and go through the Anti-Atlas and its rocky desert. We have lunch in the oasis of Al-Nif and meet Mohamed Bouyiri, a specialist of the desert's fossils and minerals. We then arrive at Zagora, the gateway to the desert. We dine and stay at the Kasbah Sirocco, with its beautiful swimming pool.

Route: 245 km, 3 hours and 20 min drive



## Day 5

The first part of the morning is dedicated to visiting the potters of Tamegroute and the old library (XVIIth century) which houses important religious and scientific manuscripts. We then take the road westward through a desert plateau, framed by two chains of the Anti-Atlas. We arrive at the bivouac on the top of Fum Zgid sand dunes, to enjoy a nomadic style lunch and a short walk in the desert. We take a moment of rejuvenation and meditation until sunset, a magical moment. We Dine under the light of a million stars, cradled by the deep silence of the night, this being the pinnacle of this circuit.

Route: 150km, 2 hours and 30 min drive and 20 min of sand road in the desert



## Day 6

Get up at dawn to gaze at the sun which points behind the dunes. After breakfast, we drive until the village of Fum Zgid, and take a right turn. We stop at Taznakht's Sunday souk, the capital of Berber carpets on the south face of the Atlas. We drive through the green valley of Tisselday and have lunch at the Tizi N Tichka before returning to Bab Zouina.

Route: 340 km, 5 hours and 30 min drive