



CUSTOM MOROCCO

IAN PARKER TOUR

9 DAYS / 8 NIGHTS :: Oct 19 - 27

DAY 1:: **Oct 19 FES (D)**

Upon arrival into Fes, you will have an **airport transfer**- from the airport to your riad- Check in a rest from your travels. As you feel rested, you may like some free time in the medina.

Dinner will be served in riad.

Transfer ONLY- no other transportation today.

RIAD EL YACOUT

DAY 2:: **Oct 20 FES (B, D)**

You will meet your Experience It Tours driver today to begin your time in Fes... a day devoted to exploring the walled in city, or medina, of Fes!... see the donkeys in the old city, shops with piles of vibrant spices, and storehouses heaped high with hand-woven carpets in every color and design possible. You'll hear the call to prayer, reminding the city to carry out their religious duties. This is a chance to see the real Fes. Your guide will be happy to offer information and explanation for the



stops you'll make. Some of the other places you'll visit will be the tanneries, the King's Palace, and the potters. After winding your way deep into the medina, you'll get to have lunch at one of the best restaurants in Fes (not included). After lunch you will complete the tour and return to your riad for a comfortable evening.

Dinner will be served in a local restaurant.

RIAD EL YACOUT

DAY 3:: Oct 21 FES/ MERZOUGA (B, D)

After an early breakfast you will begin your ascent across the Middle Atlas Mountains. Most of the day will be spent winding your way through the beautiful forests, jagged rock faces, and Berber villages as you cross the Atlas Mountains and begin to descend towards the Sahara Desert. Half way, you will stop for lunch in the town of Midelt, famous for its fossils and rocks. On arrival at the Kasbah in Merzouga, a hot shower or dip in the swimming pool (depending on the weather) will be a treat after the drive.

Dinner will be served in the Kasbah.

RIAD NEZHA

DAY 4:: Oct 22 SAHARA DESERT (B, D)

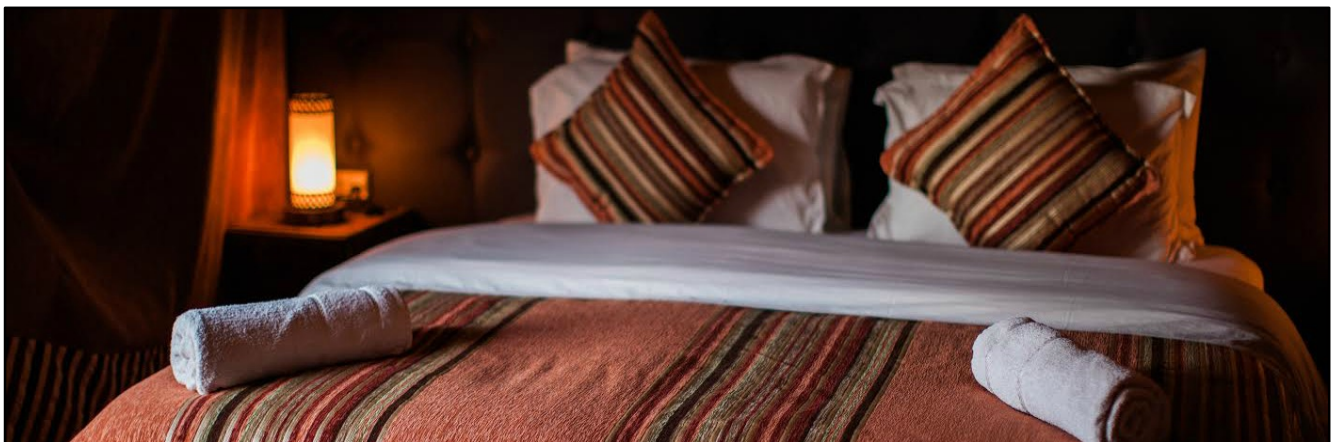
After breakfast, you will enjoy a drive exploring the small interesting desert towns surrounding the Sahara places like Khamilia (heart of Gnawa music in the desert), see how the nomadic peoples live in the desert, and explore a bit more of the dunes. In the afternoon, you will head off in some 4-wheel drive vehicles across the barren land to the majestic Sahara sand dunes.

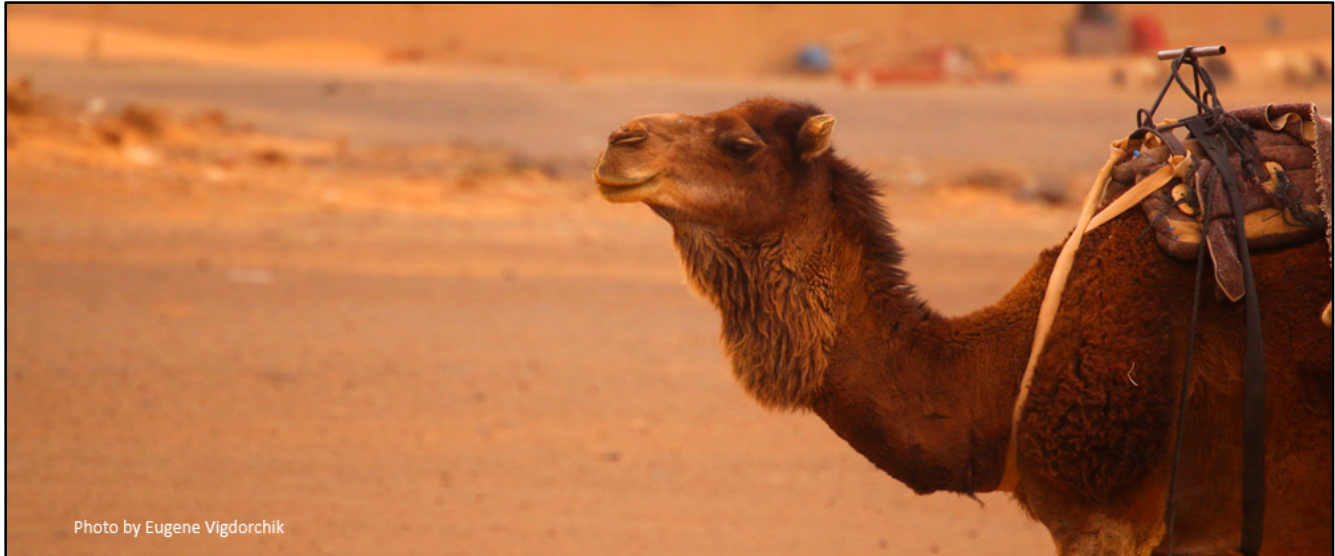
Authentic Superior Tent – JAIMAS MADU

AUTHENTIC SUPERIOR TENT ON THE EDGE OF THE DUNES

For those who are looking to enjoy a little more comfort while still experiencing the dunes, this option may be for you. In the evening you will set out on a 30-minute camel ride out onto the dunes where you could choose to climb up the dune to watch the sunset. After you watch the sunset, you will return to the edge of the dunes where you will have a superior Berber tent.

Each superior tent includes its own private basic-style bathroom with a western style toilet, running water, a basic shower. Dinner will be served under the stars and you will enjoy the million-star hotel. In the morning you will enjoy breakfast at the tents before you meet up with your 4x4 driver to return you to Erfoud





DAY 5:: Oct 23 TODRA GORGES/ SKOURA (B, D)

After breakfast, you will return to your 4x4s and head back to Erfoud. From Erfoud you set out behind the High Atlas Mountains on route to the Todra Gorges. In the afternoon, you will take a walk up in the towering Todra Gorges (600 feet high). The picturesque river valleys make for a beautiful journey towards the southeast of Morocco. You will stay the night in Skoura before you cross the High Atlas Mountains.

Dinner will be served at the Kasbah.

L'MA LODGE

DAY 6:: Oct 24 MARRAKECH (B, D)

After an early breakfast you set off to Marrakech via Ouarzazate. Tucked away in the High Atlas Mountains, it is one of the jewels of Morocco. In typical Moroccan fashion, the true treasures must be searched out and discovered...usually off the beaten path. In actuality, this setting has been used for more films than any other location in Morocco; films including, *Lawrence of Arabia*, *Jesus of Nazareth*, and *The Gladiator*. Lunch can be taken at Ait Ben Haddou.

After lunch, you will head over the mountains to Marrakech. Once in Marrakech, you will check into your hotel. If it isn't too late, you could optionally head off to the Jemaa el-Fna, the center square of the medina. Coming alive at night with the local storytellers, entertainers, and mouth-watering barbeque pits, the square is well worth a visit. A quiet cup of tea on the terrace of an adjacent café provides a spectacular aerial view of the bustling square.

Dinner will be served at the Riad.

RIAD LE CLOS DES ARTS

DAY 7:: Oct 25 MARRAKECH (B, D)

After breakfast, you will have a guided tour of Marrakech, the southern pearl of Morocco. This city should be on every traveler's bucket list. You will discover the Palace of the Bahia and many other hidden treasures. After lunch, you will continue with the tour on to the magnificent Koutoubia



Mosque and return to the famous Jemaa el-Fna. The tour will conclude with an exploration of the souk (market) of Marrakech.

Dinner will be served in a local restaurant.

RIAD LE CLOS DES ARTS

DAY 8:: Oct 26 MARRAKECH / RABAT (B, D)

This morning after breakfast, you will travel to Casablanca. Upon arrival you will have a tour of the Hassan II mosque. (The last tour is at 2 pm.) Loaded with religious and historical significance, it will awe you with its sheer size and incredible architecture. Smell the salty ocean air as you marvel at the exquisite minaret!

In the late afternoon, you will travel to Rabat, the capital city and residence of the King. As time permits, you may visit some of the sites of the city... enjoy the beautiful coastal city including the old medina, Kasbah of the Oudayas, the Oudaya Gate, and the Hassan Tower. Dinner will be served at the riad.

RIAD KALAA

DAY 9:: Oct 27 RABAT/ VOLUBILIS / MEKNES / FES (B, D)

After an early breakfast, you will set out in the morning to the ancient Roman ruins of Volubilis. You will spend the morning exploring the 2000-year-old ruins and getting a picture of life during the Roman Empire. After lunch, which will be in Moulay Idriss, you will have a riding tour of imperial city of Meknes before continuing your drive back to Fes.

You will be taken to the location of your choice to end our services.



