

# Topdeck

## MOROCCAN EXPLORER



TRIP CODE:

MXMEMM-9



## Topdecker, MEET MIDDLE EAST & NTH AFRICA

Feel the magic of the Middle East on Topdeck's Moroccan Explorer trip, which starts and ends in the cultural hub of Marrakech. Travel to Casablanca, Fes, the Atlas Mountains and more on this memorable exploration of one of the most diverse countries in North Africa. With an overnight stay in the Sahara Desert and a guided tour of the medina in Fes on the cards, this adventure is one for the books!

### WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW



Explorer



Nights



Android/iPhone app  
download info



This is a principal  
package.

# Hi, AND THANKS FOR CHOOSING TO HOLIDAY WITH TOPDECK

## HI, AND THANKS FOR CHOOSING TO HOLIDAY WITH TOPDECK!

We really appreciate your decision to travel with us, and rest assured that the entire Topdeck team will be pulling out all the stops to make your trip an unforgettable one.

Now it's time to get excited and get ready for a fantastic holiday!

From all the crew at Topdeck Travel

## ABOUT YOUR TRIP NOTES

These Trip Notes contain everything you need to know before your trip departs, including where to meet, what to bring and what you can expect on your trip of a lifetime! Also, you can easily download and print this document off so you can check off the lists or bring it with you when you travel.

Please do bear in mind though, some points should be taken as a guide only - after all, everyone's different! For example, daily spending money and clothing lists can vary greatly from one person to the next so don't be alarmed if you don't expect to spend (or even wear) so much! However, we're sure you'll find the information in general to be very useful.

However, we're sure you'll find the information in general to be very useful.

**PLEASE NOTE:** We strongly urge you to refresh this document as close to the time of your departure as possible to ensure you have the most up-to-date accommodation list and information available.

### ON THE BUCKET LIST (INCLUDED)

- + Guided tours of Marrakech, Rabat and Fes
- + Visit Hassan II Mosque in Casablanca
- + Visit the Medina of Fes
- + Visit the Roman ruins of Volubilis
- + Stay at a desert camp in the Sahara
- + Entrance fees to all sights in the itinerary

### MORE INCLUSIONS

- + Airport transfer
- + Guided tour of Marrakech
- + Visit Hassan II Mosque
- + Guided tour of Rabat
- + Visit the Roman ruins of Volubilis
- + Visit Meknes
- + Guided tour of Fes
- + Stay at a desert camp in the Sahara

## YOUR TRIP WILL START

### PICK UP:

Marrakesh  
Middle East & North Africa

## YOUR TRIP WILL FINISH

### DROP OFF:

Marrakesh  
Middle East & North Africa

## *Trip currencies*

- + Morocco -

# Your Itinerary



**AWESOME TRIP  
LEADER**



**DRIVER**

## DAY 1 | MARRAKESH, MOROCCO

Transfer to your hotel, ditch the map, turn off your phone and prepare to lose/find yourself in a maze of mosaics and souks. Welcome to Marrakech! Join the gang at tonight's welcome meeting and get pumped – it's gonna be an amazing ten days.



### **INCLUDED TODAY:**

+ Airport transfer

## DAY 2 | MARRAKESH

Today is all about the city tour. We'll check out the Bahia Palace (think: tiles, tiles and more tiles), see the shimmering Saadian Tombs and wriggle past the snake charmers in bustling Jemaa el-Fnaa square. This place has got it all – street entertainers, henna tattoo artists, musicians and more.



### **MEALS:**

+ Breakfast



### **INCLUDED TODAY:**

+ Guided tour of Marrakech

## DAY 3 | MARRAKESH TO RABAT VIA CASABLANCA

First up today, we'll pay a visit to the Hassan II Mosque – which has the world's largest minaret (with an actual laser beam on top). Then: it's on to the UNESCO World Heritage capital of Rabat for a city tour. Don't forget to paint the town blue in the Kasbah of the Udayas!



### **MEALS:**

+ Breakfast



### **INCLUDED TODAY:**

+ Visit Hassan II Mosque  
+ Guided tour of Rabat

## DAY 4 | RABAT TO FES VIA VOLUBILIS AND MEKNES

Live la dolce vita in Volubilis (or at least get a good idea of what it was like during Roman times) while wandering around some well-preserved ruins. We're talking historic public buildings that date back a whopping 2,000 years, AND some intricate mosaics that have well and truly stood the test of time. Later, we'll take a walk through enchanting Meknes (which was once home to the Moroccan sultanate) before bracing ourselves for all things patterned in Fes.



### **MEALS:**

+ Breakfast



### **INCLUDED TODAY:**

+ Visit the Roman ruins of Volubilis  
+ Visit Meknes

## DAY 5 | FES

Mausoleums, mosques and medinas are on the cards today as we hit the streets on a full-day whip around the city with a local guide. The 9,000 narrow cobbled streets in Fes el-Bali are lined with spices, food stalls and tanneries, so don't just stand there – get exploring! Spot minarets crowning the rooftops, see how many fountains you can count or hunt down a hammam for a body shine and polish. It's a tough life.



### MEALS:

- + Breakfast
- + Lunch



### INCLUDED TODAY:

- + Guided tour of Fes

## DAY 6 | FES TO ERRACHIDIA VIA IFRANE AND MIDELE

Adjust to the altitude in Alpine-fresh Ifrane, then carve back through cedar forests to Midele for lunch (not to mention some breathtaking views of the eastern High Atlas). Afterwards, point your compass south – we're off to Errachidia.



### MEALS:

- + Breakfast

## DAY 7 | ERRACHIDIA TO MERZOUGA DESERT CAMP

Merzouga looks as if it might be engulfed by the red dunes of the Sahara Desert at any moment. Pull up a pool lounge and savour the view before hopping on a camel (if you want to!) and heading out to our desert camp. Have you ever seen so many stars?



### MEALS:

- + Breakfast
- + Lunch
- + Dinner



### INCLUDED TODAY:

- + Stay at a desert camp in the Sahara



### OPTIONAL ACTIVITIES:

- + Camel ride (no extra cost)

## DAY 8 | MERZOUGA TO DADES GORGE VIA TODRA GORGE

Step into your own Roadrunner cartoon today in rock climber's heaven: Todra Gorge. With a 3D landscape of imposing orange sandstone peaks, streams and the odd camel playing outside your window today, the trip to Dades Gorge will seem quicker than a coyote.



### MEALS:

- + Breakfast
- + Dinner

## DAY 9 | DADES GORGE TO MARRAKESH VIA AIT BEN HADDOU

Ait Benhaddou is UNESCO World Heritage and 'Desert Hollywood' beauty combined on an old caravan route between Sudan and Marrakech. Otherworldly charm level: 100/10.



### MEALS:

- + Breakfast

## DAY 10 | MARRAKESH

The trip might be over after breakfast, but your adventure doesn't have to be! We'll be seeing you around.



### MEALS:

- + Breakfast

# Meals

Breakfasts are included every day on most trips (except on the first morning). A typical breakfast may consist of cereals with milk or yoghurt, bread, croissants, cold meats, cheese and a range of spreads, with fruit juice, tea or coffee to drink. It is rare to get a hot breakfast, though on some occasions there may be some hot food available as well.

Included evening meals are in local restaurants or your place of accommodation. In most cases table water is provided with the meals, and if you wish to purchase additional drinks you can do so at your own expense.

If you have any dietary requirements we will make every effort to cater to your specific needs as long as you advise your travel agent or Topdeck Customer Service Consultant when you book. But please be aware that although we will do everything in our power to arrange it, we cannot guarantee that every restaurant we use will be able to cater to all dietary needs. We also cannot cater for tastes or dislikes, as most of our included evening meals feature a set menu.

Your included meals are detailed in the 'More Inclusions' section of this document.

Important note on Ramadan: As many Middle Eastern countries are of Islamic faith, it is important to remember that many restaurants and shops will either be closed or operating on reduced hours during this time. Some Optional and Included Activities may also be affected. Despite some of these restraints, Ramadan is an incredibly important and sacred month for Muslims. When equipped with some basic knowledge, you'll have the chance to immerse yourself in this special tradition and experience all its highlights.

# Topdeck Travel App

Our travel app is **AVAILABLE TO DOWNLOAD BEFORE YOU TRAVEL**. With a range of cool features including a Currency Converter, Budget Planner, Check-In tool and Social Timeline (so your next #TravelEnvy post is never too far away) you can plan your trip like a pro.

Think of it like your very own Topdeck Trip Leader, always on call with the latest info, weather, maps and city guides to give you the trip of a lifetime, all in the palm of your hand.

[GET IT FOR IPHONE](#)

[GET IT FOR ANDROID](#)



# Passenger safety

One of the best parts of travelling is experiencing the nightlife and entertainment each city has to offer. However, amidst the fun and excitement, it's important to be aware of your surroundings and personal safety as well. Before you hit the road with us, be sure to familiarise yourself with the following safety information.

When you're on a night out, remember to avoid walking alone, particularly through deserted areas like beaches and back streets. Always stick together, take a registered taxi where possible, and keep a note of your accommodation details so you can find your way back to your fellow Topdeckers if you become separated. It's also a good idea to get your Topdeck trip mates' mobile numbers in case you need to get hold of them while out and about.

In some countries, alcoholic measures can be considerably larger than what you may be used to. Try to keep track of what you're drinking, and if you see one of your trip mates looking a little worse for wear, take them back to your accommodation. Never leave your drink unattended.

It's also important to be aware that what you might consider harmless flirting may be interpreted differently in some countries. Be yourself and have fun, but stay savvy – you don't want to find yourself in an uncomfortable situation.

# OTHER INFORMATION



**THAT'S IT!**