

The Valley of the Roses, Morocco

Itinerary

Day 1

Arrive at Ouarzazate. If you fly to Marrakech you must be scheduled to arrive before 2pm to allow for the four hour transfer (extra cost) to Ouarzazate. If you can only get an evening flight to Marrakech then you should arrive the previous day. Meet at Ouarzazate and be transferred to your hotel. Overnight in a riad in Skoura palm grove.

The following is the proposed itinerary but please note that changes are possible due to weather and local conditions.

Dinner and accommodation in a hotel in Ouarzazate. Unless advised otherwise this is the Hôtel La Palmeraie, Avenue Al Maghreb Al Arabi Zone Hoteliere Erraha BP 121, Ouarzazate.

Day 2 Skoura to Aghbalou

You meet at the horses' winter base just outside Skoura. First there is an evaluation of everybody's riding level and a matching of horses. After a ride briefing, you set off through the Skoura palm grove and onto the arid plateaus of Aït Saïd Oumanssour. Camp at the foot of the mountains. (approx. 4 hrs riding)



Day 3 Aghbalou to Aguerd

In the morning you cross the Tamassent plateaus to reach Toundout. Here you will have a beautiful view over the valley with its almond trees. In the afternoon there should be the opportunity for some long canters on the plateau until you reach Tiflit village. You then climb up through steep gorges to your camp next to Aguerd village. Overnight in camp (approx. 5 hours riding)



Day 4 Aguerd to Taoujgalt

Today you ride along Nait Tounert and past many villages with beautiful views over the cultivated terraces. After your picnic lunch, you ride across a plateau and then to a pass that overlooks the Azaghar-N-Aiguer valley. Finally you ride along a narrow path that leads to your camping spot. (1900 m) Overnight in camp (approx. 5.5 hrs riding)



Day 5 Taoujgalt to Agouti

Today in the Assif El Qati Valley you will see many examples of the beautiful architecture of the typical ksour (castle) of southern Morocco. These look spectacular against the green background of their gardens and the ochre cliffs behind which perhaps were once lived in by troglodytes. Camp in Agouti (approx. 5 hours riding)

Accommodation

On the first night and last night you will stay at a hotel in Ouarzazate.

During the ride you stay in two person dome tents with a porch at each end for baggage. You may have a tent to yourself. Foam mattresses are supplied but you will need to bring a sleeping bag and camping pillow. Normally everyone helps with the setting up of the sleeping tents.



Day 6 Agouti to Boutaghrar

Well-preserved traditional villages will be part of the scenery as you ride along the El Qati Valley. The paths you follow are fenced with wild rose bushes and in May the blossoming roses exhale the most delicate perfume. The kaleidoscope of colours - pink for the roses, green for the plantations & ochre for the rocks - is a delightful show. This region is famous for its rose plantations. The rose essence is used in well-known perfume blends and is exported worldwide. Overnight in camp on the way to Boutaghrar. (approx. 6.5 hrs riding)



Day 7 Boutaghrar to Timstiquite to Ouarzazate

You leave the refreshing area of the M'Goun River and ride along mule-paths until you arrive in Timstiquite village. After lunch in the valley, return to Ouarzazate and the rest of the afternoon at leisure. Dinner and overnight in a hotel in Ouarzazate. (approx. 2.5 hrs riding).

Day 8

Transfer to the airport for your flight



There is a large mess tent for eating and relaxing and also a shower tent and a chemical loo. There is a separate shower tent and you are provided with a large bucket of hot water for showering.



The support vehicle normally meets you for lunch and goes ahead to set up camp.

When staying in hotels, there is no single supplement if you are willing to share. If you wish to guarantee a single room, there is a single supplement.