

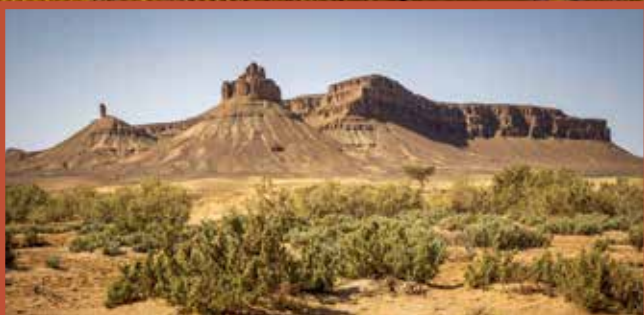


PEOPLE • COMMUNITIES • WILDLIFE



MOROCCO

SAHARA FOOTPRINTS



5**DAYS**

MOROCCO

Morocco is a fascinating Country. At the cross-roads between Africa and Europe, it is a melting pot of culture, religion, architecture, incredible landscapes and medieval history.

This 5-day adventure into the mighty Sahara Desert will leave you in awe of the vast, harsh and fragile environment. You will have the opportunity to ride a camel over a sea of sand, sleep among the undulating golden dunes and under the mesmerizing North African sky- a truly unforgettable experience!

Please do join us on this authentic trip to experience the remote Berber Villages and dunes of Erg Chegaga.

DUE TO THE EXTREME HEAT IN THE SAHARA DESERT, THIS SAFARI IS AVAILABLE FOR TRAVEL BETWEEN NOVEMBER TO APRIL ONLY

How can you help support people & wildlife today?

- Say no to SLS in soap products

In Morocco water is a precious resource and water tables are sensitive to chemicals and additives. When bringing soaps and shampoos from home, we ask you to choose products that are free from sodium lauryl sulphates (SLS) and parabens. There are many beautiful products available online as well as locally produced in Morocco. You will have the chance to visit Cooperatives throughout your Moroccan journey.

Key

B: Breakfast

L: Lunch

D: Dinner

Day 1: Arrive Zagora

D

Welcome to Zagora- a town located in the Draa River valley and the gateway to exploring South-Eastern Morocco. On your way to Zagora you'll pass by many oases of lush palm and date trees, which exist to protect the precious nearby water source. In Zagora you can organise your belongings and prepare for the 2-night adventure in the Sahara Desert. Tonight, we will enjoy a local meal and enjoy the comforts of our quaint guest house.

Day 2: Zagora - M'Hhamid

BLD

This morning we journey towards M'Hhamid- a small and authentic Berber village near the majestic dunes of the Sahara Desert. This is quite literally the end of the road- only sand, shepherds and camel-caravan trails lie beyond. We'll pass by many old kasbahs, Berber villages, donkey carts and camels on the way!

Upon arrival at our permanent tented camp, we'll purchase our special desert attire and take a lesson in camels. We'll learn about the important role that camels have played in Morocco over hundreds of years. Traditional animal owners understand that the

best working animal is one that is healthy, nourished and rested. Nomadic camel herders have specially formed a strong bond with their camels. As with all working animals, there's sometimes a need to help take care of the sick or mistreated. SPANA is an international animal welfare charity that seeks to ensure a better life for working animals through treatment, education and guidance. It has several centres around Morocco, and RAW Africa Eco-Tours works in partnership with SPANA to ensure that Morocco's camel population is kept healthy and happy.

Day 3: Sahara Trekking

BLD

After breakfast, we will travel by 4WD to our mobile camp beneath the mighty Erg Chegaga Dunes.

At camp we will have the chance to learn about the nomad culture and the importance of the camels to the desert people.

We will have the opportunity to take a camel ride over the dunes and experience the unique personalities of these gentle animals.

Tonight, we enjoy local Berber hospitality as we dine on delicious dishes and enjoy music around the fire, before sleeping under the Sahara stars (mobile camp).



TRIP EXTENSION

Combines seamlessly with either the 10 or 15-day Morocco safari tours.

TRIP DETAILS

Price: AU \$1195 per person/
twin share
+ AU \$175 for solo traveller
supplement

Inclusions

Day 1: Transfer from Ouarzazate to Zagora (approx. 2.5 hours).
Day 5: Transfer from Sahara Desert to Ouarzazate (approx. 4 hrs)
All transport, activities, entry fees, accommodation, water with activities, and meals as per itinerary. All tips-except your RAW Africa tour leader.

Accommodation

1 night in Riad (traditional guest house), 1 night mobile camp, 2 nights permanent tented camp

Group Size Maximum 8.

Extras: Marrakech transfers are AU\$140 each way & Casablanca is AU\$160, each way)



Day 4: Sahara Desert

BLD

This morning we can get up early and enjoy an incredible desert sunrise experience. We can also take another camel ride over the dunes, before the day gets too hot.

After breakfast, you will have another opportunity to take a camel ride over the dunes or climb to the top of the 'fairytale' Erg Chegaga dunes for a magnificent view across the Sahara. We will make our way to one of the permanent camps that dot the edge of the Sahara. We will be able to relax and enjoy the surrounds of our gorgeous, permanent fixed camp.

Erg Chegaga is considered the 'real Sahara Desert,' as it is not as crowded and touristic as some other areas. Erg Chegaga consists of several ergs (dunes) and it's the largest golden sand sea in Morocco.

Tonight, as we enjoy an evening 'glamping' under the starlit Northern African sky, we will feast on an authentic Moroccan meal while listening to Berber music.

Day 5: Farewell Sahara Desert

B

Today you will wake to another gorgeous sunrise in the Sahara. You are free to depart El Chegaga at any time after breakfast- we will transfer you back to Ouarzazate.

PREPARING FOR CAMPING IN THE MIGHTY SAHARA DESERT:

Sleeping under the starry African sky, banging drums around a fire, camping in a traditional Berber tent, and watching the sun rise over mountainous dunes. It's an unforgettable experience – but you need to prepare properly.

* During Summer (July/ August) most camps close as temperatures climb above 50C (122F). They open in winter, when daytimes are comfortable, but nights can be cold (around 10C/50F).
* Camps don't have an electrical supply and you will not get mobile reception. Enjoy the rare treat of completely switching off!
* Allow enough time, before both sunset and sunrise, to climb to the peak of a sand-dune & enjoy 360-degree views of the desert.

* Pack appropriately- it is hot during the day & cold at night. Hat, sunglasses, and UV protection are a must. Extra layers are recommended for night.

* During this Sahara safari, you will truly experience what makes Morocco- its people and its culture- very authentic and special.

CAMELS: In Morocco, the camel is called a dromedary which is the Latin name for the 1 humped camel. Camels are an integral part of the Berber culture and hold a central position in Berber life. As a mode of transport, these trains of the desert made the trade route possible from Morocco to Sudan and beyond. Treated with respect and affection, the dromedary make life in the desert possible.



RAW Africa Eco-Tours specialises in community & conservation-based ecotourism with over 80% of your tour money going directly to our field partners.

For all tour bookings and enquiries contact team@rawafricaecotours.com.au

