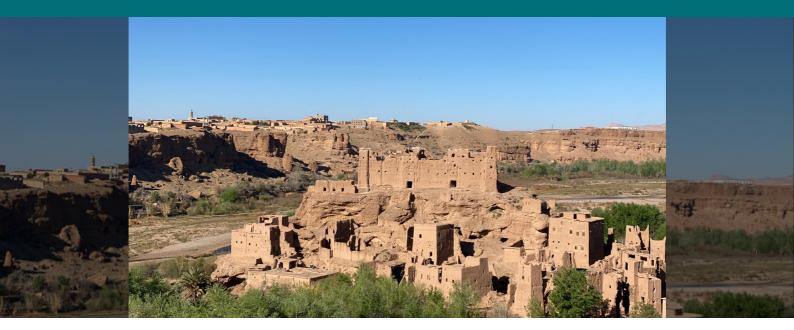
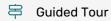


# MOROCCO: MARRAKECH AND THE ATLAS BY E-BIKE AND MTB



# FROM MARRAKECH TO THE ATLAS MOUNTAINS



**⇔** E-Bike

**≥** 360-00 km

••o Medium

Duration: 8 days / 7 nights

#### **DESCRIPTION**

A real "journey" by bike through a country full of history and culture, Morocco, from Marrakech to the Atlas Mountains by E-Bike or Mtb. You can participate with your own bicycle or rent one with us. Morocco is the country of Imperial Cities, whose essence we will sayour in Marrakech, from where we will leave to then ride our Bikes for 6 days in the heart of the majestic Atlas Mountains, characterized by alpine landscapes, palm trees and rocky desert areas. We will reach magical sinuous dunes and cross the immense valleys full of fortified Ksours and dotted with tiny villages that will take us back in time. A trip to Morocco is always a new movie, with landscapes that change, suddenly, always leaving us speechless. It is one of the most intense journeys that can be undertaken due to the various social and cultural aspects, which will amaze you with its unpredictability and will reward you with the beauty of the landscapes. We will have a typical welcome of a mixture of Arab, Berber and black African peoples who coexist here without problems. Moroccan cuisine will also be part of the journey, thanks to the extraordinary raw materials and basic preparations that are the cornerstones of North African gastronomy. We will also appreciate the splendid craftsmanship and the different architectural styles that change according to the regions and dominations, and which are expressed from rudimentary decorations to the most precious artefacts. Morocco is definitely a feast for



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the senses among perfumes, traditions and nature. Its magic has the bright colors of the majestic Atlas Mountains with its alpine landscapes, the splendour of the finest beaches and ancient cities, and the warmth of festivals and markets. It is considered by travelers to be one of the most fascinating countries in North Africa due to the variety of landscapes that characterize it and which is impossible to find elsewhere and in a single destination. We have planned an adventure cycling trip in Morocco, right in "his" heart and with "our" heart, along a remote and untouched route, unusual for "normal" bikers. Every evening we will be able to recover strength in a comfortable bed, all overnight stays will in fact be in Riads (typical Moroccan hotels). You will cycle with all the luggage transported by Desartica vehicles. Seats will also be available on board the organization's vehicles (for one day and in rotation) if a participant feels particularly tired and needs to rest. For those who don't like cycling but want to follow a pedaling partner in this experience, there will be the option to participate as an "organisation vehicle passenger". The Guide will guide us along the itinerary and will be of support to all the participants. The assistance vehicles will follow the group even in the most inaccessible stretches in such a way as to always be present in case of technical and logistical needs. We will always have the opportunity to have a snack or recover the most suitable clothing at a certain moment if by chance we have not taken it with us in the morning before leaving.

#### **DETAILED ROUTES**

#### **P** DAY 1: Arrival in Morocco and transfer to Riad in Marrakech:

Flight to Marrakech from Italy or anywhere in Europe. Participants will be able to decide the departure airport according to their needs. Day off. Overnight in Riad.

# PDAY 2: Transfer - Tizi n'Tichk pass and Ait Ben Haddou:

On board our vehicles, we will enjoy a fantastic transfer along the road that goes up to the Tizi n'Tichka pass, considered one of the most beautiful roads in the world for its landscapes, and we will head towards the South. Right at the top of the pass, after having briefly stretched our legs, we will unload our bikes to reach the Kasbah of Telouet, through wonderful roads where we will cycle passing through remote villages ... Lunch with a view of the Kasbah. We will then arrive at Ait Ben Haddou, a Unesco heritage site: one of the best preserved fortified Moroccan cities, the undisputed protagonist of spectacular blockbuster films (Alexander, Gladiator, The Jewel of the Nile, and many others) which we will visit after leaving the bikes in the Riad where we will have dinner and we will stay overnight.

### **♀** DAY 3: Draà Valley:

(Distance: 100 km / Height difference: + 1,030 m - 1,250 m)

After a hearty breakfast and a short transfer, we will start pedalling along the Draà Valley, heading South, along the high banks of the largest river in Morocco, which is born in the Atlas Mountains, tracing a very deep canyon over millions of years. We will then reach the Agdz area making delightful detours along the way and then the last stretch will take us to N'Kob where we will stay in a delightful Auberge whose dinner will make us think we are at home, relaxed and happy.

## OAY 4: Bab n'Ali - Jebel Sarhro - Tinherir

(Distance: 60 km / Height difference: + 1,700 m - 980 m)

The track today will climb over 2,000 meters above sea level through unforgettable scenarios. Timeless villages, with a dimension light years away from our lifestyles, will remain indelible in our hearts. This beautiful and unknown track reaches genuine mountain villages and will take us to the other side of Bab n'Ali (the gate of Ali), where magical pinnacles deriving from ancient volcanoes eroded by the weather will contrast with our dreams. We will cross the Jebel Sarhro, a volcanic massif which, from its high peaks, will continue to make us dream with its lava rocks shaped like organ pipes. The last 60 km is to be done on the organization's vehicles to avoid pedalling on the "boring" asphalt. We will then reach Tinherir, renowned for its goldsmiths' workshops, fortified buildings and a ruined palace, characterized by its magnificent gardens and small squares and where date palms and figs abound. During the evening the protagonists will be your enthusiastic comments about the landscapes you will have enjoyed during the day: we are sure of it! Dinner and overnight in a splendid Riad overlooking the gorges.

# **♥** DAYS 5: Tinghir / Todra Agoudal

(91 kilometres by bike, with the possibility of being transported by support vehicles if necessary)

Todra and Dades gorges and the Atlas mountains: without a shadow of a doubt they are among the "symbolic places" of the beauties of Morocco. Two valleys carved out by the two rivers of the same name that we will connect to each other via an impervious track that climbs, climbs, climbs... We will pass the 2,000m altitude with the curious looks of the few shepherds who watch over their flocks of mountain sheep. A track that runs for kilometres in the bed of a river, often also "inside", between red rocks shaped over the millennia into soft shapes.

The blue sky will seem to be our goal! Dinners and overnight stays in the Riad.

### P DAYS 6: Agoudal - Dades

(105 km by bicycle, with the option to be transported by support vehicles if necessary)

Today, we will tackle another iconic road in Morocco: we will reach the Dades Gorges, whose hairpin turns will remind us of the Stelvio Pass. The landscapes carved into the rock also welcome rock climbing enthusiasts, and it will feel like stepping back in time. Once, this road was the main link to the desert. Now, we challenge it with our pedal strokes. Dinner and overnight stay in a Riad.

# PDAY 7: Road of 1000 Kasbahs and Rose Valley – Transfer to Marrakech (175 Km total, 65 km off-road by bike)

In the morning we will walk the "Road of 1000 kasbahs", so named for the numerous red earth castles that emerge between the palm trees. The same area is also known as the "Valley of Roses", for the cultivation and processing of this symbol of love, a fitting farewell to this beautiful country. On the way, we will arrive and visit Kasbah Skoura one of the most beautiful and best preserved in Morocco, also depicted on old banknotes. After lunch, we will load the bikes onto the organization's vehicles and return to Marrakech. We will have the late afternoon and evening available to visit its famous Jemaa El Fna square, the vital centre of this splendid imperial city, and its surroundings—dinner and overnight in the Riad.

#### P DAY 8: Marrakech

Individual departure or the possibility to extend your stay.

#### **GENERAL INFORMATION**

Classification: Guided Tour
Duration: 8 days / 7 nights
Distance: ca. 360-00 km
Starting point: Marrakech

• Arrival:

By plane: Marrakech airport. Possible flight quotation on request.

Accomodation:

Riads, typical Moroccan hotels, double rooms with private bathrooms and hot water

Attention: Any local taxes are payable directly on-site.

Rental bikes:

E - bike or Mtb

#### **INCLUDED SERVICES**

Valid for a minimum of 10 participants

- · Luggage transport during the tour;
- Organized off-road vehicle transport of passengers with drivers/guides;
- All overnight stays foreseen in the program in a typical Riad/Auberge with half board treatment (water included, other drinks excluded);
- Packed lunches or in a typical structure during the entire itinerary;
- Drinking water, generally mineral water, for the entire duration of the trip;
- Tour Leaders
- Completely free use of the satellite phone in case of emergency.
- AXA medical/luggage insurance (or similar).
- Technical assistance (extraordinary maintenance and unforeseen repairs, compatibly with time, the seriousness of the fault and the spare parts available) and logistics for the entire course of the trip.

#### NON INCLUDED SERVICES

- · All kinds of drinks.
- · Personal expenses and any tips.
- · What is inserted in the OPTIONS section.

• GPS track.
Charging of e-bike batteries.
• All transfers to and from Marrakech Airport and all transfers en route.

#### **STARTING DATES**



#### **PRICES**

Standard		
Package price in a double room with half board	Arrive on 02/03/2024 and 24/04/2024	1.870 €
Package price high season	Arrive on 02/03/2024 and 24/04/2024	1.870 €
Traveller without bicycle, with support vehicle		
Traveller without bicycle, with sup	port vehicle	
Traveller without bicycle, with sup Package price in a double room with half board	port vehicle  Arrive on 02/03/2024 and 24/04/2024	1.870 €