Abercrombie & Kent



KASBAHS & CARAVANS

A country more exotic and enticing is hard to find. Morocco blends the best of Arab civilisation with an appealing climate and some of the world’s most dreamy hotels.

Tailor-Made Journeys, Suggested Itineraries

North Africa & Middle East, Morocco

12 days from AU$16,440 pp

Private

Journey Overview

A country more exotic and enticing is hard to find. Morocco blends the best of Arab civilisation with an appealing climate and some of the world’s most dreamy hotels. On this journey, take in the fascinating history of imperial Fes, the mysterious Kasbahs of the Dades Valley, A&K’s Private Desert Camp and the charms of Marrakech.

Journey Highlights

- Step back in time on a ramble through the ruins of ancient Volubilis
- Wander through the beguiling souks and colourful tanneries of Fes
- Sleep Bedouin style in A&K's Private Desert Camp
- Drive to hilltop Berber village for a traditional tea ceremony at dusk
- Admire the exquisite creations of one of the world's great designers at the Museum of YSL



Itinerary

Day 1: Arrive Casablanca

Arrive to a private Meet & Greet and transfer to the hotel.

Four Seasons Casablanca

Day 2: Casablanca – Fes

After an orientation tour of Casablanca including a visit to the Hassan II Grande Mosque, head east to Capital city of Rabat where you will have a short tour of the city including a visit to the Mohamed VI Museum of Modern & Contemporary Art. After lunch continue to the historic city of Fes, the largest living medieval medina-city and cultural heart of Morocco.

Palais Faraj | Meals: BL

Day 3: Fes

Embark on your private city sightseeing tour starting in the UNESCO World Heritage medina including a visit to the famous Tanneries of Fes. Continue to New Fes, built in the 13th century, where you see the Royal Palace, mosques, medersas (schools), bustling souks and the old city wall.

Palais Faraj | Meals: B

Day 4: Fes – Meknes – Volubilis – Fes

Visit the ruined Roman city of Volubilis where excavations have revealed many fine mosaics, some prominent public buildings and high status houses. Continue to Meknes, another of the imperial cities and one-time home of the Moroccan sultanate. Then head to Chateau Roslane, one of Morocco’s best known wineries for a 3-course lunch with paired wines.

Palais Faraj | Meals: BL

Day 5: Fes – Erfoud

Today you travel to Erfoud, a small town on the edge of the desert. Stopping in Midelt for lunch en route. The latter part of your journey is filled with stunning scenic views of endless palm plantations, Berber villages and the spectacular Atlas Mountains. Later today you arrive at your hotel located in a very quiet area on the outskirts of Erfoud, on a site that brings together the largest and most spectacular dunes in Morocco.

Palais Masandoia | Meals: BLD

Day 6: Erfoud – Erg Chebbi

Today, enjoy a full day of sightseeing in and around Erfoud, with a private vehicle and guide at your disposal. Erfoud is one of the largest oases in Morocco. At East Fort, there are splendid views over the Ziz Valley and the surrounding desert. Inspect Erfoud's quarry, where fossils have been found indicating that this part of the world was once beneath the sea. Fossil mining is a growing industry in this part of Morocco, and the rocks excavated are used to produce beautiful decorative objects ranging from crockery to furniture.

In the afternoon, head south by 4WD vehicle over the desert dunes of Erg Chebbi to your tented campsite. The tents are of the traditional “Caidal” style with colourful carpets, comfortable bedding and private facilities. On arrival in camp, you are greeted with mint tea and pastries, before a camel ride into the Erg Chebbi dunes. Return to camp for a mouth-watering dinner served under the stars by the camp fire.

A&K Private Desert Camp | Meals: BD

Day 7: Erg Chebbi – Skoura

After a stunning desert sunrise travel through the Dades Valley on the Road of 1000 Kasbahs reaching your hotel in Skoura, in the foothills of the Atlas, late afternoon.

Dar Ahlam | Meals: BLD

Day 8: Skoura

Relax at your hotel, a converted 19th century Kasbah, in picture postcard surrounds or explore the Palmeraie.

Dar Ahlam | Meals: BLD

Day 9: Skoura – Marrakech

Travel to Marrakech today, stopping en route in Ouarzazate and the UNESCO listed fortified city Ait Benhaddou, one of the best preserved kasbah-towns in the Atlas and location for many feature films.

La Villa Des Orangers | Meals: BL

Day 10: Marrakech

Get a taste of exotic Marrakech today when you delve into the mysteries of the medina, the old walled section of the town, where most the city's architectural attractions lie. Explore the labyrinthine souks, looking for treasures and bartering hard. Souk Smarine is a maze of colourful alleys dominated by textiles, clothing and handicrafts – a shopper's paradise.

Next up, your visit to the Jardin Majorelle (Majorelle Gardens), originally designed in 1924 by French artist Jacques Majorelle. After taking up residence in Marrakech, Majorelle transformed the property's existing garden into a tropical paradise, surrounded by vivid cobalt blue buildings with verdant exotic groves, lily-covered pools, exotic plantings and enormous sculptural cacti. Take time to wander through this peaceful haven before visiting the new Yves Saint Laurent Museum. The renowned fashion designer first visited Marrakech in 1966 and the museum is dedicated to his couture and the country that so inspired him. After careful selection by his partner Pierre Bergé the museum exhibits more than 5,000 of his designs and 15,000 accessories.

Wind up in famous Djemaa el-Fna Square where there's time to soak up the vibrant atmosphere – snake charmers, musicians, storytellers, acrobats and stalls of dried fruit, nuts and orange juice vendors.

La Villa Des Orangers | Meals: BL

Day 11: Marrakech

Day at leisure. Perhaps an optional visit to the Atlas Mountains, a cooking class, food tasting or spa treatment (additional costs apply).

La Villa Des Orangers | Meals: BL

Day 12: Depart Marrakech

Transfer to airport for departure flight.

Meals: B

Map


Rabat
Fes
Meknes
Casablanca
MOROCCO
Marrakech
Skoura
Erfoud
A&K Private
Desert Camp
ARRIVE/DEPART
ROAD

Accommodation

Four Seasons Casablanca



Situated on the oceanfront, Four Seasons Hotel Casablanca is a sleek resort-inspired escape. It boasts magnificent views of the Atlantic. This hotel blends cool architecture with Moroccan flair. The Four Seasons is part of the AnfaPlace Living Resort. This resort was designed by cutting-edge London architects. It combines residential, shopping and entertainment. Rooms are ultra-spacious and the hotel houses three restaurants and lounges for ocean-view dining, an outdoor heated pool and one of the city's finest spas and gym. Please note that the hotel does not serve alcohol.

Why we like it

- A resort-Inspired escape, only 10 minutes from the city centre
- The hotel has magnificent Atlantic views
- Water babies will love doing their laps in the 21m outdoor pool
- Modern architecture meets old-world Moorish design

Palais Faraj Suites & Spa, Fes



Allow the Palais Faraj to take you back in time a thousand years, this grand building with its sumptuous designs and bespoke furniture has the ideal location in the heart of Fes. The Palais Faraj is full of fabulous fountains, intricate arches, carved wood, stucco laces, beautiful marble floors and sacred geometry. This boutique hotel boasts a selection of beautiful suites. Each suite has been designed using the distinguished art of secret alchemy complemented by the latest luxury facilities.

Boasting two restaurants and two bars; the Moroccan Restaurant L'Amandier is one of the best in Fes. As special requests, courses of Fassi cuisine and natural cosmetics of the Moroccan women can be arranged, as well as workshops of brocade weaving, pottery, stucco and zellige uncovering some of the Moroccan traditions.

Why we like it

- Experience Fes in refinement and comfort at the Palais Faraj Suites and Spa
- Andalusian large patio and outside swimming pool
- Heated bathroom floors for the winter months
- Moroccan designed and inspired interiors
- Discover Fassi gastronomy, one of the most refined cuisines in the world

A&K Private Desert Camp, Sahara Desert



A convoy of 4x4 vehicles takes all the equipment necessary to the dunes of Merzouga. Traversing the rocky, flat-baked sand bordering the dunes of Erg Chebbi, you can jump in the convoy or arrive in style by camel, where a traditional mint tea awaits your arrival.

The tents themselves are extremely comfortable and decorated in Berber style to enhance your desert experience. Large rugs keep out the night chills, while your bed space is accompanied by a torch - essential in the desert where the sun is the only source of light - and your campfire, of course. All tents have a small wash basin with cold running water, with towels and basic shower provisions provided. Two chairs stand sentry outside your tent - perfect for watching the permanently shifting dunes and the incredible desert sunsets.

Each tent has use of a bathroom just a few feet away, with a canvas partition separating the sink area (with the luxury of hot and cold running water) from the toilet and shower area at the back.

Why we like it

- Sahara Desert camping in an isolated spot close to the dunes of Merzouga
- Private Arabic caidal tents with wash basin and a separate toilet and shower tent
- Outstanding cuisine served quite literally in the middle of nowhere
- Enjoy a traditional cooked Moroccan dinner around the campfire or in the private restaurant tent, followed by a wonderful array of exotic fruits
- Camel trek through the dunes at sunrise or sunset

Dar Ahlam, Skoura



If the setting for this Kasbah, between the drama of the Atlas Mountains and the emptiness of the Sahara is not astonishing enough, then the building itself surely is. In the style of a traditional Kasbah, it is genuinely jaw-dropping. The brainchild of a Parisian party planner it is an intimate and hugely luxurious retreat behind bright ochre walls.

The villa and suites are fabulous. All have been decorated individually, using antiques and silk curtains to add splashes of colour and personality. The villa is built around a patio, soak up the views on the exclusive terrace or take a dip in the plunge pool.

Once part of a medieval sultan's private hunting ground in the Skoura Oasis, this towering rust-red fortress surrounded by a palm grove really is a 'House of Dreams', as its name translates. For some quality pampering unwind in one of the indoor and outdoor massage rooms. Other facilities and activities include a Hammam and solarium, mountain biking, hiking, horseback riding, quad-biking, buggy, mule rides, and hiking.

Why we like it

- Dar Ahlam stands in the region of the thousand Kasbahs between the peaks of the High Atlas and the gateway to the South Moroccan desert, surrounded by luscious gardens.
- All suites are spacious, with air-conditioning, fireplaces, and views of the Atlas Mountains
- Inspired Moroccan cuisine can be served in a cosy corner of the Kasbah or on a secret terrace.
- Dar Ahlam has an outdoor swimming pool, whilst the villas has its own plunge pool
- The property is on a full board basis so all meals, drinks, excursions and cooking classes are included

Abercrombie & Kent

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