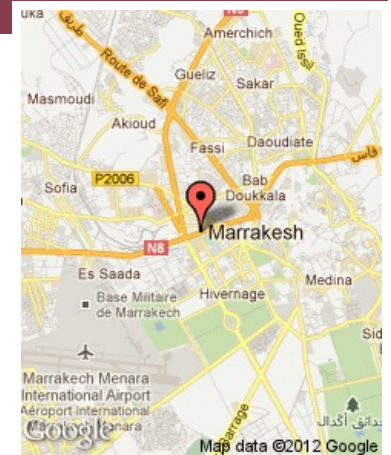


Boutique Marrakech Break, with one day in the Mountains



Highlights

A five day break in Marrakech, staying in a stylish and contemporary riad in the heart of the medina. Marvel at the acrobats and story tellers in the atmospheric Djemma El Fna and lose yourself in the intoxicating souks, then head out to the Atlas Mountains for a day for a guided hike.

This 5 day break has been devised to show you the very best that Marrakech and its surround have to offer. Staying in a stylish, boutique riad in the heart of the medina, you will have 2 full days to explore the winding souks and sights that Marrakech has to offer. Your riad is an oasis of calm, away from the constant hustle and bustle of the medina. The rooms all look out onto a central courtyard and there are several communal areas including a beautiful roof terrace (complete with open fire for cool nights and shade for hot days) There is also a small pool where you can cool off after a long day out in the souk and a lounge with an honesty bar.

After you have had your fill of the imperial city, you will spend a day exploring the Atlas Mountains with a guide. The small village of Imilil will form the base for your day trip from Marrakech. Imilil is set at the foot of Mount Toubkal – the second highest peak in Africa (behind Kilimanjaro). The setting is suitably stunning with rooftop terraces taking in sweeping views over mountain streams, waterfalls, and up the valley towards Toubkal.

There are several walks of around 5-10km; you could head up the Toubkal trailhead for stunning views of the Toubkal or head East up to the pass of Tizi'n'Tamatert. But your day trip from Marrakech isn't so much about lengthy strenuous walks as it is about enjoying the scenery whilst sipping mint tea on a Kasbah rooftop and taking a delicious Moroccan lunch in a small Berber Village.

Is it for me?

Marrakech is an intoxicating city which delights all of your senses. Away from the main square, the medina is made up of many small winding streets, or derbs. Everyone, without exception, gets lost when they visit Marrakech, The best way to deal with this is to relax, embrace the experience and take a mobile phone with you so that you can call you riad if you get lost.

The day trip from Marrakech to the Atlas Mountains is accessible to anybody of any level of fitness. We can accommodate those who would rather just do a spot of light sight-seeing as well as those who would like to tackle something a little more strenuous.

Accommodation

Accommodation

Marrakech's medina is chock a block full of riads - traditional buildings built around a courtyard which have been converted into boutique accommodation. Located mostly in the winding derbs that branch off from the small market streets, these hidden oases provide a calm antidote to the lively souks. Don't be misled by their less than salubrious exteriors, riads tend to be upmarket, often luxurious affairs.

You will be based for the duration of your stay in a boutique riad in the heart of Marrakech's ancient medina. Staying in one of four riads, all owned and renovated by a British couple, you can expect stylish and elegant accommodation, a welcome oasis to the hustle and bustle of the medina. Your riad will have a maximum of six

Prices from

329 GBP (5 days) per person

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bedrooms, all of which have their own unique and individual style. All rooms are ensuite with air conditioning with thoughtful features such as an i-pod docking station so you create extra special atmosphere. In addition, all rooms have a safe and wifi. The rooms all look out onto the central courtyard and there are several communal areas including a lovely roof terrace decked out with sun loungers and a lounge with an open fire, tv and a honesty box bar. In the courtyard you will find a small plunge pool where you can soak your hot and weary feet after pounding the souks all day. No children under the age of 12 are permitted to stay at the riad, guaranteeing a calm and romantic experience.



Food

Breakfast is included in your stay and can be taken in the courtyard or on the roof terrace. Your breakfast consists of pastries, breads, jams, fresh juice and your choice of tea or coffee. The offering each day is different and it is all beautifully presented.

Dinner can be arranged at your riad. This needs to be booked in advance, as all meals are prepared daily. The three course meal will be enjoyed by candlelight either on the roof terrace or on the patio and is prepared using the freshest in-season products.

Itinerary

Please note itineraries are provided for guidance only and are subject to change if the weather or other factors change.

Day 1: Arrival

You will be picked up from the airport and transferred to your riad.

Day 2: Marrakech

A day at leisure to explore the sites and souks of Marrakech. You can see [here](#) for ideas of what to do and see.

Day 3: Marrakech

Another day to explore Marrakech.

Day 4: Day walk in the Atlas Mountains

You will spend the day walking in the Atlas Mountains, enjoying some stunning views and fresh mountain air, a relief after the dusty medina. You have the choice of three walks, depending on your fitness levels.

Option 1: Toubkal Trailhead

12km walk from Imlil heading up the Imlil Valley (along the Valley floor) towards the mighty peak of Toubkal. Pick up in Marrakech at 9am for the picturesque two hour drive to Imlil through the Moulay Brahim Gorges and the buzzing market town of Asni. You'll meet your guide in Imlil itself and take mint tea (usually on the roof terrace overlooking the mountains). From Imlil you will trek to Aroumd and then further up the valley towards Sidi Chamharouch – a place of pilgrimage for devout Muslims. The shrine is thought to date from pre-Islamic Berber religions. You will take a picnic lunch by the river-side in full view of Toubkal before heading back down the other side of the valley back to Imlil and then on to Marrakech.

Option 2: Tizi n' Tamatert

10km walk from Imlil heading up to the pass of Tizi n' Tamatert for dramatic views. Pick up in Marrakech at 9am for the picturesque two hour drive to Imlil through the Moulay Brahim Gorges and the buzzing market town of Asni. You'll meet your guide in Imlil itself and take mint tea (usually on the roof terrace overlooking the mountains). From Imlil you will trek East up the Valle de Tamatert through the Berber Village of Tamatert. From Tamatert you'll head up winding mule tracks to the Tizi n' Tamaterte pass – 2279 metres above sea level. Here you'll stop for a picnic lunch before returning back to Imlil along the same route and then back to Marrakech.

Option 3: Imlil & surrounding villages

Short 4km walk in Imlil and the surrounding villages. Pick up in Marrakech at 9am for the picturesque two hour drive to Imlil through the Moulay Brahim Gorges and the buzzing market town of Asni. You'll meet your guide in Imlil itself and take mint tea (usually on the roof

terrace overlooking the mountains). Afterwards you'll head out on a gentle 4km walk around the surrounding Berber villages of Aroumd (Aremd) (1843m), Ait souka, Targa, Imoula and Achayn. Lunch is served in a traditional setting in the Berber village of Achayn after which you set off back down to Imlil for the return drive to Marrakech, normally arriving at 5.00 pm.

Day 5: Departure

You will be transported back to the airport in time to catch your flight home.

Details

Getting there

Flying from the UK... Marrakech has an international airport (RAK) which is serviced by several airlines flying direct from the UK. The airport is about six kilometres outside the city centre.

From the South East:

Gatwick: Easy Jet, British Airways and Thomson

Heathrow: Bmi

Luton: Ryanair

Stansted: Ryanair

From the Midlands:

East Midlands: Ryanair

From the North:

Manchester: Easy jet and Thomson both have several departures a week.

Joining Instructions... You will be picked up from the airport by a driver holding a Tourdust sign. Please make sure that we have you flight details.

Price includes

Return transfers to the airport, Accommodation in a boutique Marrakech riad on a bed and breakfast basis, one day hike in the Atlas Mountains with a guide and lunch, return transfers to the mountains in a tourist vehicle.

Price details

If there are three of you in your group, then accommodation will be in a triple.

When is best

This trek is possible any time of year. From November to April, the mountain-tops are covered in snow, but you will be walking below the snow line on this day trip from Marrakech, so this shouldn't cause any trouble. The bonus of course is that the mountains look stunning with snow atop the peaks.

The summer months can get very hot, but it is perfectly manageable. Spring and Autumn are arguably the best time of year, with wild flowers in spring and stunning vibrant red Walnut groves in late autumn.

Available

Jan—Dec

Typical Duration

5 days

Comfort level

Refined (boutique or luxury accommodation and food)

Experience required

A reasonable level of fitness and interest is all that is needed

Travellers should bring

You will be sent a full kit list, along with all of your pre-departure information, once we have received your booking.

Reviews (4)

Reviews of this experience

“ We had a great time thanks, the guide was excellent as was the lunch in the mountains, really good.

The only downside was that unfortunately my wife, who'd been so keen and excited to go, got a stomach bug the Sunday night so wasn't able to come on the trip on Monday. A real shame but otherwise a big success. ”

mark naylor reviewing Boutique Marrakech Break, with one day in the Mountains

“ I would definitely recommend this to other travellers.

This trek was the highlight of our trip to Marrakech and couldn't have run smoother.

The pick up from our hotel was on time and the driver was fantastic, making up feel very confident and safe in his driving, along with giving great information about what we were seeing along the way into the Mountains.

Once we arrived our guide was waiting for us and after a chat about how long we wanted to trek for we set off. Again very informative explaining things along the way.

On descent we stopped at the Berber village Imlil and had lunch at the family-run guesthouse Dar Adrar, which was the most delicious food we had eaten during our stay in Marrakech and the greeting and hospitality fantastic.

Afterwards feeling well fed and tired we were driven back to our hotel again by our very competent driver.

I couldn't recommend this trek enough as a little taster and will definitely be going back to take on the longer trek through the Atlas Mountains and Sahara.

Thanks Tourdust! ”

Emma Reed reviewing Boutique Marrakech Break, with one day in the Mountains

“ We really enjoyed our trip. The driver arrived at the hotel on time. The car was very clean and in good condition and most importantly he turned out to be a very safe driver which is a must in the Atlas Mountains!

The guide once we arrived at the Atlas Mountain was also good and the food that was prepared for our lunch was really tasty and fresh, a real treat. ”

EsmeAllen reviewing Boutique Marrakech Break, with one day in the Mountains

“ As you predicted, we didn't have one drop of rain and we thoroughly enjoyed ourselves and already recommended it to our friends.

So to rate your customer service, it must be 5, and our experience of this trip's rating is also 5.

Thanks again and keep up the good work. ”

William He reviewing Boutique Marrakech Break, with one day in the Mountains