

# Camels on the Beach Family Morocco Holiday

Trip Code: FMC

Version: FMC Morocco Family Holiday - Camels on the Beach



MULTI ACTIVITY



FAMILY



LEISURELY



## HIGHLIGHTS

- A magical family adventure in Morocco, with camel supported walks along the coast
- Spend time in Marrakech bursting with life and coastal, historic Essaouira
- One night camping in the sand dunes under the starry skies

- Drink sweet mint tea, relax in a Hammam and explore the colourful souk market

#### AT A GLANCE

- 4 days trekking
- Join at Marrakech

#### ACCOMMODATIONS & MEALS

- 6 Breakfasts
- 4 Lunches
- 4 Dinners
- 1 nights Camping
- 1 nights Hotel
- 2 nights Hotel with swimming pool
- 2 nights Guesthouse with swimming pool

VIEW DATES, PRICES & BOOK YOUR HOLIDAY HERE

## Introduction

Combining the magical city of Marrakech, with time on the beach, walking with camels and discovering the pirate city of Essaouira this is an excellent short introduction to the fun and colourful country of Morocco. Families are always welcomed with open arms by the warm and friendly people everywhere you go. Starting in Marrakech from our hotel with a pool we travel to the coastal, meet our camels and head out for an exciting overnight camp in the sand dunes to watch the starry night sky. We then walk along the beach and dunes to the village of Sidi Kaouki where we have two nights at a guesthouse with pool and sea views. From here we enjoy walks and visit a Berber family for the sharing of cake and mint tea. The afternoons are free for swimming in the pool, paddling, beachcombing, beach games or an optional surf lesson.

This stretch of the Atlantic is wild, dramatic, remote and beautiful. Onto the walled city of Essaouira where old cannons still point out to sea (true pirate style), we find a wealth of shops and souks, and a sandy beach famous for wind and kite surfing. The last night of the holiday is spent in Marrakech where we can walk in the main square - Djemaa el Fna, watching the children delight at the fascinating mix of dancers, music, storytellers and food stalls which are found here. This holiday truly captures the essence of Morocco and allows parents and children alike to have an active and culturally rich time away.

If you are wanting a longer holiday you can do our [Teenage Toubkal Ascent](#) which is available to run back-to-back on certain departures.

### Is this holiday for you?

#### Suitable for children from 6yrs old

Morocco is bustling with noise and life, which is great fun when embraced. Our two nights in the village of Sidi Kaouki will be relaxing away from the busy towns of Marrakech & Essaouira. We have 1 night camping, where all camping equipment is provided. We should bring a smaller bag to take overnight belongings for this night (transported by camel). We have walks along the beach and inland which are between 3-5 hours. The pace is not fast, and children and adults alike can take turns on the camels, but

note that these are walking days...not camel riding days! It can be hot during the middle of the day, though a cooling breeze from the sea often alleviates this. The guide will speak both English and French, and the group may include both English and French families. For the optional surfing lessons children need to be 6yrs or above, there is no restriction of height or size.

# Itinerary

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## DAY 1

**Meet at the group hotel in Marrakech. Transfers from Marrakech Airport are provided.**

Your holiday starts at the hotel in Marrakech. On arrival at Marrakech Airport you will be met by a KE representative who will assist with the short transfer to the group hotel. After settling in you may have the time to do a little exploration. There is lots to see and do in Marrakech, and quite easy to get around. You can head for the central square, Djemaa-el-Fna, beneath the imposing tower of the Koutoubia Mosque. The main labyrinth of souks is also found here if we fancy looking around and chatting to the local sellers. We can have dinner at the hotel or a nearby restaurant.



### Accommodation

Hotel with swimming pool

## DAY 2

**Transfer to the coast south of Essaouira, walk through the dunes to our campsite for one night.**

We depart Marrakech this morning on our scenic drive to the coast (approximately 3hrs). We pass many plantations of the famous Moroccan Argan Oil. Our journey takes us to the coast just south of Essaouira. Here we meet our camels and watch as they are expertly loaded with the tents, mats and pots and pans and everything that is required for our one camping night, and then we are off on our mini-adventure walking north along the beach and sand dunes. We have a berber lunch next to the waterfalls at Sidi m'Barek and then we walk to the dunes at Assif n'Boud where the river cuts into the sea. We can look in the rock pools and slide down the dunes. There will be lots of time to splash around in the shallow waters, paddle, play some football or do cart wheels in the sand. At camp the team will help us put our tents up and set up camp. Then we will have dinner, and watch the sky change colours for the sunset and maybe join in with the Berber team singing some songs. The night skies are incredible here with minimal light pollution, allowing us to see billions of stars, and the sounds will only be of distant waves crashing on the beaches. It'll be a special night.

Meals: **B L D**



### Accommodation

Camping



### Time

2 - 3 hrs walking

**DAY 3****Walk along the coast to our guesthouse with pool at Sidi Kaouki.**

After some breakfasts with sea views we pack up camp and set off with the camels along the coast again. Our path takes us on the beach and dunes to reach the village of Sidi Kaouki. There are a few small accommodations here which cater mainly for the surfers who come for the waves and wind that bless the long sandy beaches. We arrive at our guesthouse accommodation, with sea views, at lunchtime. Our Berber host family cook us delicious meals from locally sourced produce. Alongside more traditional Moroccan dishes there will be some classics for the children to munch through. Maybe a splash around in the guesthouse swimming pool will bring us into the mid afternoon when we'll walk down to the beach 10-15mins. We'll play some beach games or have a paddle before returning to the accommodation for dinner, beautifully prepared by our hosts again.

Meals: **B L D**

**Accommodation**

Guesthouse with swimming pool

**Time**

4 - 5 hrs walking

**DAY 4****Berber village life. Morning walk to a family house for cake and mint tea. Afternoon free for optional surf lesson.**

This morning we walk inland and visit a Berber village. The Berber people who live in this area are called Haha. Our guide will talk to us about the crops and fields that we pass: the wheat, barley, argan, the gardens with vegetables and the shepherds with their herds of goats. Everything is important in the weave of a lifestyle which is still mainly based on the land. We will be welcomed into to a family house for mint tea and can taste some local cake which is traditional dipped in olive and argan oil. We walk back to have a late lunch at our accommodation. Time allowing at Sidi Kaouki beach we can partake in an optional surf lesson. This can be one of the highlights of the holiday for some children (and adults!). The surfing here is very dependent on the local conditions (wind, waves, tide), so we need to remain flexible and aware that it might not happen, to avoid disappointment. At the accommodation there is, as always, time for a swim in the pool before dinner and a good night sleep.

Meals: **B L D**

**Accommodation**

Guesthouse with swimming pool

**Time**

4 - 5 hrs walking

**DAY 5****Walk along beach watching the windsurfers. Transfer to Essaouira.**

Our final walk starts as we walk along the beach in the morning. Some surfers might be catching the

early wave. We pass a small shrine and then a traditional pretty fisherman's village. Our balcony path above the coast gives great views. We have a final lunch with our Berber team before transferring the 40 mins to the old pirate port of Essaouira. This is a great place with a vibrant Berber culture, but a lot more relaxed than Marrakech. It has many souks and stalls to buy all manner of pretty painted bowls, mint tea teapots, spices, and other souvenirs to take home. The town is also renowned for the delicious fresh fish eateries. Time allowing it might be possible to have pampering in a traditional hammam (hot bath) using the local argan oils.

Meals: **B L D**



**Accommodation**  
Hotel



**Time**  
2 - 3 hrs walking

## DAY 6

### Transfer back to Marrakech for lunch. Afternoon free in Marrakech.

After breakfast at our hotel, we make the drive (3hrs) back to Marrakech, arriving at around lunchtime. This afternoon we can relax at the hotel with swimming pool or do some more sightseeing in this exciting town. Traditionally, our last night in Morocco is celebrated with an excellent Moroccan buffet feast, our guide can recommend a good restaurant for us. Relaxing over this leisurely meal is a memorable way to end this fantastic family adventure.

Meals: **B**



**Accommodation**  
Hotel with swimming pool

## DAY 7

### Departure day. Marrakech Airport transfers are provided.

Your holiday ends after breakfast. For those clients with evening flights the remainder of the day is free to explore the streets, souks and colourful sights of Marrakech. A popular option is to simply sit and watch the world go by from one of the restaurants overlooking the Djemma el-Fna. Airport transfers are provided on this day.

Meals: **B**

## Extensions

When booking your holiday, you will be able to 'add an extension option'. Once we have received your booking we will contact you to discuss additional services required for the extension and to take any additional deposit.



### Sahara Desert Family

For a taste of the Sahara Desert this adventure is hard to beat! After journeying across the Atlas Mountains we arrive in the oasis town of Skoua for a night in a traditional Moroccan Kasbah with pool. Next we head into the sandy dunes near the town of Merzouga and take a stunning desert sunset walk with camels to our nomad tents for the night nestled in the dunes. In the morning we'll watch sunrise over the dunes before making our way back to Marrakech, with a stop in Ouarzazate and the UNESCO Kasbah of Ait Ben Haddou. Staying in traditional riads and kasbahs with pools, and travelling in an air-conditioned 4WD vehicle this is a great way to experience the desert.

4 days from

✕9,223,372,036,854,776,000 per person

## Holiday Information

### What's Included

- A professional and qualified Moroccan tour leader
- Marrakech Airport transfers (on first and last day of itinerary)
- Accommodation as described
- Meals as described in the Meal Plan
- All land transport required by the itinerary
- All activities and excursions mentioned except where specified as 'optional'
- All camping equipment for the 1 night

## What's not Included

- Travel insurance
- Some meals as detailed in the Meal Plan
- Any additional activities/excursions indicated as optional
- Tips
- Miscellaneous personal expenditure - drinks and souvenirs etc

## Joining Arrangements & Transfers

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### TRAVEL TO YOUR DESTINATION

In some cases you may choose to take a ferry and/or train to your holiday start and end destination. Please see further information on [Travelling by Train](#).

If flying from the UK there are low cost airlines available to the start and from the end of your holiday.

To benefit from full financial protection, ease your holiday planning, and avoid dealing with airlines, we can book scheduled flights from the UK as part of a flight inclusive package. Scheduled flights are usually more expensive than low cost alternatives, however potentially less stressful if your flight is cancelled or delayed. If you book flights through KE Adventure Travel we will [offset the carbon of your flight](#).

The group will meet at the hotel in Marrakech.

Airport transfers are provided for all clients to the group hotel.

Hotel contact details and an emergency number will be provided with your booking confirmation.

### Meal Plan

All meals, except for 1 lunch and 2 dinners whilst in Marrakech, are included in the holiday price.



## Food & Water

It is not recommended to drink untreated water from the taps. You should take purification tablets or a filter bottle (such as a [Water-To-Go bottle](#)) to treat your water. We do not encourage the purchasing of single use plastic bottles.

Moroccan cuisine is amongst the best in the world and our meals cooked by our Berber hosts or are taken in a range of restaurants and other eateries. Breakfasts are continental style, with tea and coffee, orange juice, cereals including muesli, bread, jam, honey and cheese. A typical Moroccan menu begins with a simple selection of mezze, which might include a bowl of olives or a selection of cooked vegetable salads dressed with olive oil, sprinkled with cumin and served with a dip and flat bread. The tagine or roast meat (or vegetable) dish comes next, served with couscous and often a salad. There will be some meat (usually chicken, lamb or beef). Meat is not prominent in the menu. All dishes come with traditional sauces which are rarely (spicy) hot. A simple plate of prepared fresh fruit or dessert marks the end of the meal, before the mint tea is served. For our picnic lunches we may have a buffet of rice, pasta or cous-cous, with a freshly prepared salad - onion, tomatoes, green peppers, grated carrot, green beans, with tinned sweetcorn or peas added. Hard and soft cheeses, tinned fish, olives, biscuits and bread are also on the lunchtime menu. In the hotels and restaurants in towns it is also usually possible to get more western types of food such as chips and pizzas (to please the children!) Boiled and treated water is provided when staying at the guesthouse and on the walks. You will be able to fill your personal water bottles from this.

## Special Diets

Whilst we can cater for vegetarians, albeit sometimes with a more limited choice, we cannot always provide special diets. Due to the nature of some of the trips that we operate and the countries in which we operate them, it can be very hard (and sometimes impossible) to cater for a wide range of dietary choices and you may have to supplement your diet with food/snacks from home. If you have specific dietary requirements please do speak to our sales team and they will be able to advise you whether or not we will be able to offer your specific choice. Please note that we are unable to provide separate menus and cannot accept liability for any problems arising from special dietary requirements or intolerances.

## Accommodation

In Marrakech (2 nights) we stay at the Imperial Plaza Hotel which has a swimming pool. In Sidi Kaouki we stay at a fairly newly built guesthouse with swimming pool called Dar Aalida. This is owned and run by the Berber family who are in charge of the camel logistics for our groups on the coast. It is 10-15 mins walk from the sea, in a quiet setting, with views to the sea. It has 6 bedrooms which can each accommodate 3 to 5 people and have en suite bathrooms. Each family will have their own room. It is simple, but very personable and your hosts will take excellent care of you. When camping all our equipment is supplied. We have large 2-man tents. Families of 3 will have 2 tents for their family. There is also a toilet tent. Camels will carry all the equipment and your overnight bag, so you only walk with your daypack. In Essaouira we have one night in a small hotel in the Medina, which is usually the Hotel Souiri or Riad Inna. All hotels are subject to change without notice.

In Marrakech & Essaouira, 3-person families will share a triple room, whilst 4-person families will have adjacent twin-bed rooms. Occasionally there are family rooms available. We will do everything to ensure that you are happy with your rooming allocation.

If you are planning on extending your holiday additional nights at the group hotel are available on request.

## Group Leader & Support Staff

The group will be led by a professional and qualified Moroccan tour leader. This leader will speak English and French. During the walking days you will have the support of camel(s) and their handlers, and a full trek crew team including cook when on our overnight camp.

## Spending Money

Approximately £350 per family of 4 (or equivalent in US dollars or Euros) should be allowed for tips, soft drinks, snacks, non-included meals and miscellaneous expenses. Marrakech is a great place for souvenir buying, so you may wish to budget for this.

It is not necessary to purchase Moroccan currency (Dirham) outside the country. You can withdraw money in local currency from ATM's on arrival at the airport in arrivals or in Marrakech itself. Credit cards are useful and it is a good idea to carry one in case of emergency.

## OPTIONAL ACTIVITY COSTS:

Please note that these prices are correct at time of writing, but are subject to change without warning. Optional activities taken outside the KE holiday are at your own risk.

- Windsurfing on Dar Alida Beach: dhs 250 for 2 hours (approx €25)
- Windsurfing at Essaouira (time permitting): €40 per person for 3 1/2hrs

## Guidance on Tipping

Tips are the accepted way of saying 'thank you' to your local guides and crew. They do not form part of their wages. KE always pays staff the best rates, no matter what country they are in and any tips they receive are seen as a personal thank you from group members. For our part, we advise local teams that tips are not a duty or a prerequisite but are a bonus and entirely dependent on the service that was given. For your crews we recommend that you give a tip if you feel that their services have met your satisfaction. As a rough guide we suggest you allow a total of £80-100 for a family of 4.

## Baggage Allowance

For this holiday you should take one piece of luggage and a daypack. Luggage with wheels or a soft bag such is useful for this holiday. Please also bring at least 1 soft bag to pack your families overnight belongings in for the 1 nights camping. These will be carried by camel. For international flights please check your baggage allowance with your airline.

## Group Size & Holiday Status

For each holiday there is a minimum number of participants required to enable it to go ahead. Once the minimum number is reached, the trip status will change from 'Available' to 'Guaranteed to run'. You can check the trip status for each departure in 'Dates and Prices' table. Other than in exceptional circumstances, we will not cancel a trip once it has achieved this guaranteed to run status and so you are free to proceed with your international flight booking and other travel arrangements.

# General Information

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## Passport & Visas

The information that we provide is for UK passport holders. A passport with 6 months remaining validity at the end of your stay is generally required, and you should have at least 2 blank pages for each country that you visit.

**It is your responsibility to ensure that you have the correct travel documents and visas for your holiday.** Please ensure that you check for the latest advice before travel. For the most up to date information on entry requirements, please visit the [UK Government website](#).

## Visa Morocco

UK and USA passport holders do not require a visa for short stays.

For this holiday we require a scanned copy of the main pages of your passport. Please email this to the office when your holiday is guaranteed to run.

## Health & Vaccinations

If you have a severe allergy please inform the KE office before you travel. We will do all we can to help, but we cannot guarantee an allergy free environment on KE trips. You will need to carry your own treatment for the allergy with you, as 'adrenaline auto-injectors' are not carried as standard by KE leaders and staff. You should inform your leader on arrival of your allergy, and let them know where you keep your adrenaline pen.

## VACCINATIONS

You should contact your doctor or travel clinic to check whether you require any specific vaccinations or other preventive measures. You should be up to date with routine courses and boosters as recommended in the UK e.g. diphtheria-tetanus-polio and measles-mumps-rubella, along with hepatitis A and typhoid. A good online resource is [Travel Health Pro](#).

## Currency

The unit of currency in Morocco is the Moroccan Dirham.

## Climate

During April and October average daytime temperatures in Marrakech will be a comfortable 20-22°C while on the coast the daytime temperatures will be around 18-20°C. In the summer months we can expect average daytime temperatures in Marrakech of 28°C. Evening temperatures at this time are around 22°C. Temperatures on the coast are always cooler than Marrakech and the Atlantic breeze usually means that the 'real feel' temperature here is around 20-22°C. At any time of the year nighttime temperatures on the coast can drop as low as 5°C. At the times of all our departures you are unlikely to experience rain but this can never be ruled out and you must have protection from this as well as from the sun.

## Travel Aware

As a reputable tour operator, KE supports the British Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office's '[Travel Aware](https://www.travelaware.gov.uk)' campaign to enable British citizens to prepare for their journeys overseas. The 'Travel Aware' website provides a single, authoritative source of advice for all kinds of travellers and we recommend that prior to travel, all KE clients visit the official UK Government website at [travelaware.campaign.gov.uk](https://travelaware.campaign.gov.uk) and read the FCDO Travel Advice for their chosen destination. North Americans can also check out the U.S. Department of State website: [www.travel.state.gov](https://www.travel.state.gov) for essential travel advice and tips.

KE treat the safety and security of all clients as the most important aspect of any trip we organise. We would not run any trip that we did not consider reasonably safe. Should the FCDO advise against travel for any reason, we will contact everyone booked to travel to discuss the situation. We receive regular updates direct from the FCDO and are in constant touch with our contacts on the ground. If you have any questions about government travel advice, please call our office.

## Single Use Plastic

KE do not encourage the use of single use plastic items. We are ensuring that our agents all over the world are working together to reduce the problem and educate those around them. We are leading by example in our KE office by reducing our plastic use.

## FAQ's about our family holidays

We welcome all family dynamics and we will try to accommodate you in the roomings of your choice. The only stipulation for joining a family group holiday is that 1 party member is 17yrs or under, and they are accompanied by an adult. An average group size is around 10 members in total. Further general information and FAQ's are available here: [KE Family Adventure Holidays general information](#).

## Travel Insurance

It is an essential condition of joining a holiday with KE Adventure Travel that you have a valid travel insurance policy to cover the cost of medical treatment and to protect the value of your holiday in the event of cancellation. When taking out insurance please ensure the policy you choose covers you for the activities and altitude included in your itinerary.

For appropriate insurance cover we recommend Campbell Irvine Direct. Please go to our [Travel Insurance](#) page for further information and to get a quote.

# Equipment Information

## Equipment List

Please try to keep the weight of your baggage to a minimum. See the 'baggage allowance' section for further details.

### YOU SHOULD BRING THE FOLLOWING ITEMS:

- Walking shoes or trainers
- Sandals / tevas
- Lightweight walking trousers / shorts / skirt
- T-shirts and/or casual shirts
- Loose-fitting, long-sleeved shirt with collar (for sun protection)
- Socks & Underwear
- Lightweight waterproof jacket & overtrousers
- Fleece jacket or warm jumper
- Sunhat
- Warm hat
- Sunglasses
- Daypack 25-30 litres (depending on how much of the kids' stuff you want to carry)
- Sleeping bag liner (blankets are provided)
- Selection of dry bags (to keep kitbag contents dry)
- Sun protection (including total bloc for lips, nose etc.)
- Insect repellent
- Water bottles (approx 2 litre per person) (we encourage re-filling water bottles rather than single use plastic)
- Water purification tablets
- Washbag and toiletries
- Antibacterial handwash
- Swimwear
- Swim towel
- Torch and batteries
- Basic First Aid Kit. Including: antiseptic cream, throat lozenges, diarrhoea treatment (Imodium), painkillers, plasters and blister treatment, and re-hydration salts (Dioralite).

### THE FOLLOWING ITEMS ARE OPTIONAL:

- Cycle helmet \*\* see notes
- Pen-knife (note: always pack sharp objects in hold baggage)
- Camera
- Rash vest
- Goggles for the kids
- Reusable cloth bag for shopping (to avoid plastic bags)

**NOTE:**

All camping equipment is provided including sleeping mats and 2 blankets per person.

**\*\*We recommend you bring a cycle helmet for anyone intending to ride the camels. Please note that these animals can be unpredictable and difficult to control, and if you wish to ride, this is at your own risk.**

**Cotswold Outdoor**

Many of the Equipment items listed above are available from [Cotswold Outdoor](#) - our '**Official Recommended Outdoor Retailer**'. When you book a holiday with KE you will receive 12.5% discount voucher from Cotswold Outdoor and other retailers.  
[-> Find out more](#)

**Land Only Information**

The LAND ONLY dates and prices are for the itinerary, joining at the hotel in Marrakech. Transfers are included from/to Marrakech Airport.

**Flight Inclusive Information**

The FLIGHT INCLUSIVE dates and prices are based on UK flights from London to Marrakech.

Outbound flights will usually depart from the UK in the early afternoon, arriving late afternoon on Day 1. Return flights will depart Marrakech usually in the late afternoon of the last day of the itinerary, arriving in the UK later the same day.

# Why Choose KE

**Why KE**

This fabulous walking holiday is made by the wonderful local guides who love children and are always keen for a game of football on the beach or having fun. Read the reviews for some first hand comments from Mums and Dads.

**Please Note** This document was downloaded on 16/05/2024 and the trip is subject to change