

23 SEPTEMBER – 3 OCTOBER 2027



Kasbahs, colours and couscous. One unforgettable ladies' journey.

MOROCCO

2 nights Fes • 5 nights Marrakech • 1 night Agafay Desert



Discover the colour, craft and warmth of Morocco on a thoughtfully curated ladies-only journey. From the ancient medina of Fes to Marrakech's gardens and souks, the Atlas foothills, the Essaouira coast and a night under desert stars, each day unfolds with culture, cuisine and unforgettable sights, shared with like-minded women at a pace that feels effortless, enriching and truly memorable.

YOUR JOURNEY AT A GLANCE

Eleven days, three beautiful bases, and every detail taken care of: flights, hotels, breakfasts, the first-class train through Morocco, and hand-picked experiences along the way. Just two hotel unpacks, plus one magical night in the desert.

DAY	DATE	WHERE	THE PLAN
Day 1	Thu 23 Sep	Fly	Evening departure from Johannesburg, overnight flight (routing confirmed at ticketing).
Day 2	Fri 24 Sep	Fes	Arrive and settle into your Fes hotel. A relaxed afternoon, then rooftop welcome drinks and dinner over the medina.
Day 3	Sat 25 Sep	Fes	Privately guided medina day: the tanneries from the terraces, artisan workshops, and a hands-on Moroccan cooking class with lunch.
Day 4	Sun 26 Sep	Fes → Marrakech	First-class Al Atlas train south through the countryside. Check in and enjoy a relaxed evening.
Day 5	Mon 27 Sep	Marrakech	Bahia Palace, a guided souk walk and Jemaa el-Fnaa at dusk with your local guide. Group dinner.
Day 6	Tue 28 Sep	Marrakech	Pre-booked Jardin Majorelle and the YSL Museum. Free afternoon for a hammam, spa, pool or shopping.
Day 7	Wed 29 Sep	Ourika Valley	Day trip into the Atlas foothills and Ourika Valley, including a women-owned argan oil cooperative and lunch in the valley.
Day 8	Thu 30 Sep	Essaouira	Full-day coastal escape: medina walk, artisan shopping and a seafood lunch by the Atlantic.
Day 9	Fri 1 Oct	Agafay	Relaxed morning, then out to your luxury desert camp: pool or spa time, an optional sunset camel ride, and the farewell dinner under the stars.
Day 10	Sat 2 Oct	Home	Sunrise breakfast in the desert, transfer to Marrakech airport, and the flight home.
Day 11	Sun 3 Oct	Johannesburg	Land in Johannesburg, full of stories.

WHAT'S INCLUDED

- International flights
- 8 nights' accommodation (sharing): quality hotels in Fes and Marrakech, and an ensuite luxury desert camp
- Daily breakfast
- First-class Al Atlas train, Fes to Marrakech
- Full-time tour leader and licensed local guides
- Welcome dinner in Fes and farewell dinner at Agafay
- Guided Fes medina day with the tanneries and artisan workshops
- Hands-on Moroccan cooking class with lunch
- Bahia Palace, guided souk walk and Jemaa el-Fnaa, with dinner
- Pre-booked Jardin Majorelle and YSL Museum
- Ourika Valley day with a women-owned argan cooperative and lunch
- Essaouira day trip with seafood lunch
- Sunset camel ride at Agafay (optional, included)
- All transfers, with private transport after dark
- Moroccan visa assistance

Please note: the day-by-day programme and inclusions may be adjusted without prior notice as bookings are confirmed.

FES

2 NIGHTS · THE OLDEST MEDINA IN THE WORLD

Morocco begins gently. Arrive, settle in, and meet the city from a rooftop with welcome drinks and dinner as the call to prayer drifts over ten thousand rooftops. Fes has been perfecting its crafts for twelve centuries, and you have front-row seats.



A DAY DEEP IN THE MEDINA

With your licensed local guide, step into the world's largest car-free city: a living maze of some 9,000 alleyways where donkeys still make the deliveries. Watch the famous tanneries at work from the leather shops' terraces (a sprig of mint helps with the aroma), meet the artisans behind Fes's zellige tiles, brass and embroidery, and shop where the makers are.

COOK LIKE A MOROCCAN

Then it's aprons on for a hands-on cooking class: learn the spices, layer your own tagine, and sit down together to the best lunch in town, the one you made yourselves.



THE TRAIN SOUTH

On Sunday morning we board the first-class Al Atlas train for the ride south to Marrakech: comfortable seats, countryside rolling past, tea from the trolley, and not an airport queue in sight. Arrive relaxed, check in once, and stay put for five nights.

MARRAKECH

5 NIGHTS · THE PINK CITY

Your home base for the rest of the journey. Five nights in one hotel means you unpack properly, find your favourite rooftop, and let Marrakech unfold: palaces, gardens, souks and spice-scented squares, with free time woven in.



PALACES, SOUKS & THE GREAT SQUARE

With your guide, wander the painted ceilings and tiled courtyards of **Bahia Palace**, then find your bargaining feet on a guided souk walk: lanterns, leather, ceramics and carpets. As the sun sets, **Jemaa el-Fnaa** comes alive with storytellers, musicians and sizzling food stalls, and we finish with a group dinner. Private transport brings us home after dark, every time.

MAJORELLE, YSL & AN AFTERNOON TO YOURSELF

Pre-booked, timed entry takes us into the **Jardin Majorelle** before the crowds: the cobalt-blue garden Yves Saint Laurent loved, and the **YSL Museum** next door. The afternoon is deliberately yours: a traditional hammam, a spa treatment, the pool, or another round in the souks.



Marrakech evenings are yours too: some of Africa's loveliest restaurants are here, and your hosts will happily book ahead for you.

DAYS OUT & THE DESERT FINALE

OURIKA VALLEY · ESSAOUIRA · A NIGHT AT AGAFAY

INTO THE ATLAS FOOTHILLS

An easy day trip into the green Ourika Valley, about an hour from town: mountain views, riverside lunch, and a visit to a vetted women-owned **argan oil cooperative**, where you meet the women behind Morocco's liquid gold. Keep your camera ready: the goats really do climb the argan trees.

THE COAST FOR A DAY

Essaouira is Morocco with a sea breeze: a whitewashed, blue-shuttered medina, artisan shops without the hard sell, fishing boats bobbing in the harbour, and a long seafood lunch by the Atlantic.



A NIGHT UNDER THE STARS

For the finale, we swap the city for a **luxury desert camp** in the Agafay: ensuite tents, pool and spa time, an optional sunset camel ride across the moonscape, and the farewell dinner by lantern light under a sky full of stars. Wake to a desert sunrise breakfast, then roll straight to the airport. (Agafay is a rocky desert rather than sand dunes, and it is beautiful.)



JOIN GERDA ON A HOSTED LADIES-ONLY TOUR

Shared with like-minded women, this is travel that feels effortless, enriching and truly memorable, with your host taking care of every detail from Johannesburg and back.

Travel with Gerda, your Ladies Travel host.

GOOD TO KNOW

FLIGHTS

Evening departure from Johannesburg on Thursday 23 September; land back in Johannesburg on Sunday 3 October. Routing and times are confirmed at ticketing, and the group travels on one booking, together with your tour leader, from OR Tambo and back.

LATE SEPTEMBER WEATHER

Warm and dry: typically low 30s in Marrakech and Fes by day, low 20s and breezy on the Essaouira coast, and wonderfully cool desert evenings at Agafay. Pack light layers, sun protection, comfortable walking shoes and a scarf for mosque visits, plus something warmer for the desert night.

TRAVEL DOCUMENTS

South African passport holders currently require advance visa clearance for Morocco, and we assist the whole group with the process. Passports must be valid for six months beyond return with two blank pages. Travel insurance is essential.

OWN-ACCOUNT OPTIONS

- Hammam and spa treatments in Marrakech and at the camp
- Lunches and dinners on free days and evenings
- Shopping: carpets, ceramics, leather, lanterns and argan oil



THIS IS MORE THAN A TOUR

It is shared laughter with like-minded women. It is craft and colour brought to life. It is culture, connection and unforgettable moments experienced together. The group is small (12 to 16 ladies), there are only three unpacks in eleven days, and every detail is taken care of.

Limited group size. Secure your place.

Gerda van Schalkwyk · gerda@ladiestravel.co.za