

LONG WEEK END IN THE RED DUNES 3 days (2 nights)



**MARRAKECH – OUARZAZATE - SKOURA – TODRA GORGES – DADES VALLEY – MERZOUGA –
DRAA VALLEY– AGDZ – AIT BENHADDOU - MARRAKECH**

DAY 1 – Marrakech – Ouarzazate – Merzouga (camp)

KM = 565 – TIME = 8H50

You travel in a comfortable private air conditioned 4WD car. Your driver (French or English speaking is Great South specialist and will offer you a safe and true discovery of the region.

Early morning start from your hotel and take the road of Ouarzazate facing the Atlas Mountains, You drive through Tichka Mountain pass after 2H30.

Short stop for a mint or absinthe moroccan tea at Café Tinzigue before arriving at Ouarzazate. In the eastern slope of High Atlas, OUARZAZATE is located at the crossroads of the great enchanting valleys of the South. Its numerous pisé Kasbahs, dry plains and mountains, lushes oasis and palmgroves, red and ocre villages make all the charm of this region.

After Ouarzazate, starts the SKOURA valley with its colorful spots, before reaching the Todra Gorges and Dades Valley where the ancient Kasbah seem to stand watch against the cliffs. You will be in a spectacular scenery amazed by the colors of the rocks.

The road to TINEGHIR passes green palmgroves and Berber villages until 15km along.

Further, you will visit the old foggaras of JORF (former waterworks from 15 century), before arriving at ERFOUD, town of fossils and mineral products (Ammonites, Trilobites, marble ...)
Among the fossils which tell us the prehistorical history of the region, there are petrified skeletons of 65 million years old dinosaurs.

After another 1H30 drive before reaching the desert doors. In Merzouga, starts the sand tracks and the dreams of desert. Leave your car for a camel and start the discovery of Erg Chebbi through the sand dunes. An opportunity to enjoy serenity and peace of desert before arriving to your camp for sunset.

Dinner and night at the camp.



DAY 2 – Erg Chebbi

Live a full day in the desert.

After breakfast, camels are waiting for you for a trek in the red dunes of Erg Chebbi. With your experienced cameleer you will enjoy the serenity and silence of the desert.

Before noon, we will leave in 4x4 for an excursion in the desert with picnic in the dunes.

Dinner and second night at desert camp.

DAY 3 - Erg Chebbi – Drâa Valley – Agdz – Aït Benhaddou – Marrakech

KM = 562 – TIME = 8H30

Early breakfast before taking the road . On the way back we will choose the south road towards Alnif. Landscape surrounded by Anti Atlas mountains reminds bushes of Africa. N'KOB – Village of « 45 kasbahs », links Drâa Valley with Ziz Valley.

With Agdz the Drâa Valley starts, 69 km south to Ouarzazate. Located on the former caravan road joining Marrakech to Tombouctou. Lunch At Yacob, old kasbah in Tamnougalt village, which has a nice terrace overlooking the palmgrove.

We continue through the Drâa Valley until Anti Atlas heart. This old and pleated mountain range dates from 300 millions years. As the road starts to climb, we gradually enter a starkly beautiful landscape up to Tizi ait Saoun pass (1900 m). there is no more vegetation.

Reaching Ouarzazate, we will go directly to Aït Benhaddou (30 km). UNESCO World Heritage Site since 1987. This giant fortification, which is made up of six Kasbahs and nearly fifty ksars is a great example of earthen clay architecture of South Morocco. Many films have been shot there.

You have 4 hours drive left to reach Marrakech.

Price : On request

Based on 2 participants (minimum)

Includes

4x4 car with driver for 3 days

1 half day excursion with picnic

2 nights accommodation in a luxury desert camp in HB

All taxes

Not included : Lunches, personal fees and tips