

The Imperial Cities

This tour is dedicated to the travelers that are fascinated by the history. Visit the imperial cities of Morocco, covering the four historical capitals: Fez, Marrakech, Meknes, and Rabat, the current capital of Morocco. These cities represent capitals at different times and by different monarchs from the Moroccan dynasties.

Day - 2 Fes

Rabat – Meknes / Volubilis - Fes (B, D)

After breakfast, departure to Rabat, recently granted UNESCO Heritage Site status. Rabat, the administrative capital of Morocco, was founded in 1146 by the Almohads, as a fortress (the name Rabat comes from the Arabic *riba*, meaning 'fortified place') from where to launch attacks on Spain. A few years after the capital of the Empire was moved there by Yaqub al Mansour, under whose reign the Koutoubia in Marrakech had been built. He started to build in Rabat what would be the world's largest mosque at the time, but work stopped when he died; the unfinished minaret known as Hassan Tower – less than half its intended height – bears witness of this attempt. Yaqub al Mansour also erected the city walls and expanded and restored the Kasbah of the Udayas, former stronghold of the Almoravids in the area. In Rabat is located also the Mausoleum of Mohamed V, grandfather of the current King of Morocco. A masterpiece of modern Moroccan architecture. Continue to the Imperial city of Meknes known as the "Moroccan Versailles" and founded in the 17th century by King Moulay Ismail. Meknes is famous for its 25-mile-long walls. There are numerous historic sites to see and here we name but a few; the massive gate of Bab Mansour, The Bassin de L'Agdal a massive 400m x 100m pool dating back some 300 years. The Mausoleum of Moulay Ismail is one of only three Moroccan shrines that non-Muslims can visit. Continuation to Fes. **Dinner and overnight** at hotel in Fes.

Inclusions

- 6 nights in your chosen accommodation
- Meal as specified in itinerary
(B = Breakfast, BR = Brunch, L = Lunch, D = Dinner)
- Activities and excursions according to itinerary

FOR EXAMPLE:

- Visit Casablanca, the economic capital Morocco and explore Hassan II Mosque, piece of art
 - Discover Volubilis, the furthest point of the Roman empire into Africa
 - Wander the medieval maze-like streets of Medieval Fes
 - Watch acrobats and snake charmers entertain in Marrakech's Jemaa el-Fna Square
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- Tours and excursions in mini buses/buses
or with public transportation according to itinerary with english speaking driver
 - Local guides in the Cities
 - Admission fees according to itinerary

Exclusions

- International flights
- Meals other than mentioned in itinerary
- Tours and Excursions other than mentioned in itinerary
- Early check-in and late check-out at hotels
- Personal travel insurance
- Personal expenses and tips for driver/guides
- Visa fees