

# BERBER TOURS

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## Tour 7, JEWISH HERITAGE 4X4 TOUR PACKAGE

TOTAL DISTANCE TRAVELED: 1,031 miles  
ARRIVE ANY DAY IN CASABLANCA – PRIVATE 4X4 TOUR  
1-6 PEOPLE PER 4X4

FOR PRIVATE PARTIES OF MORE THAN 6,  
CONTACT BERBER TOURS FOR PRICING

14 nights – 15 day 4X4 Tour  
4-star hotel accommodations

Transportation by **TOYOTA LAND CRUISER 4x4**  
Breakfast (**B**) and Dinner (**D**) with room accommodations  
Services of one English speaking driver for the ENTIRE tour  
Airport transfers

### OPTIONAL:

FANTASIA DINNER SHOW AT CHEZ ALI SUPPER CLUB:

\$75.00 USD PER PERSON. Arabian Nights-style entertainment: Chez Ali is the original, and is probably still the best. Catering for hundreds of guests each lunchtime and evening, it is a logistical phenomenon on the scale of a mini Disneyland. They may not be genuine cultural experiences, aimed as they are at the coach tour crowd, but the entertainments are fun and you can be sure children will love the *fantasia* horsemen and the camels, not to mention the laser projected girl on a flying carpet.

**HIGH SEASON** – September 1 to May 31

**LOW SEASON** – June 1 to August 31 – 30% Reduction in Price

**4x4 TOURS SOLD BY BERBER TOURS ARE OFFERED AS  
"INDIVIDUALIZED OR PRIVATE GROUP TOURS"**

**CLIENTS MAY NOT PURCHASE "PLACES" ON SOMEONE ELSE'S 4X4 TOUR**

**THIS PACKAGE DOES NOT INCLUDE AIRLINE COSTS**

**PRICES ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE AT ANY TIME**

### PROGRAM DESCRIPTION:

The Moroccan Jewish Community has always been, and still is, one of the largest in the Arab World. Its heritage and history are little known abroad although every part of the Kingdom records an important Jewish legend. We are rediscovering this Jewish heritage, thereby learning more about the many sided history of Morocco. Jews have been here for hundreds of years, they have lost nothing of their ancient traditions, special customs and culture. Moroccan kings protected Jews from harm and helped some of them develop the wealth that sustained the monarchy for many years.

### **Day 1: Casablanca**

Arrival at Casablanca Mohamed V airport. Welcome and assistance. Orientation tour of Casablanca, including the Habbous quarter, the United Nations square, the exterior of the Royal Palace and an interior visit of the Hassan II mosque, one of the Islamic world's stunning monuments. Casablanca is home to the largest Jewish community in Morocco and has numerous congregations, active communal institutions, and many highly recommended kosher restaurants. Visit of the Mellah (Jewish Quarter) with its temples and synagogues such as Beth-El, Em Habanim and Neve Chalom. Night at hotel. **(D)**

### **Day 2: Casablanca / Rabat / Meknes (179 miles)**

After breakfast we depart for Meknes with a stop in Rabat for you to see some of the sights in the capital city. The city of Meknes which is called "the Moroccan Versailles," was founded at the end of the 17th century by Moulay Ismail. The Jewish presence is evidenced by Hebraic epitaphs dating from the Christian era, as well as Greek inscriptions that still appear in local Synagogues; a place of pilgrimage is the tomb of Rabbi David Benmidan, "The Patron of Meknes." Night at 4-star hotel in Meknes. **(B, D)**

### **Day 3: Meknes**

The crowded old Mellah, known for its historic Jewish street names is not to be missed. There is also the new Mellah (Jewish quarter), which harbors eleven Synagogues, eight of which are still in use. Highlights will also included Bab El Mansour, the Hedim square and the mosque of Moulay Ismail. Continue on to Volubilis, a well-preserved remains of a Roman city. Check in to the Volubilis Inn which sits on the crest of a hillside and overlooks the remains of the ruins; and across the valley you will see the town of Moulay Idriss. **(B, D)**

### **Day 4: Volubilis / Moulay Idriss / Fez (40 miles)**

The Roman ruins of Volubilis, stretched out over 40 hectares, are the most well preserved ruins in Morocco. This town is named after the prominent Moroccan saint, Moulay Idriss. He was a descendant of Mohammad, of the fourth generation, and died by murder hand in 792. He had then spent five years in Morocco, in which time he had established a new dynasty, that survived his death. Moreover, he had founded the cities of Fez, and the one that was called after him. Travel on to Fez to spend the night in 4-star accommodations. **(B, D)**

### **Day 5: Fez**

Fez was founded in 790 AD and is the religious center of Morocco. The beautiful city of Fez will dazzle as we view its visual details, haunting sounds and rich aromas. Fez is among the best known cities in medieval Jewish history. Indeed, it was once the home of one of the most influential Talmudic scholars of all times, Rabbi Isaac Alfasi, as well as of Maimonides in the years 1160 to 1165. Highlights will also include the Mellah with all its synagogues. Overnight stay at 4-star hotel in Fez. **(B, D)**

### **Day 6: Fez / Sefrou / Ifrane / Midelt / Merzouga (336 miles)**

Leave Fez and travel to Sefrou. On the way to Sefrou, we will stop in Bhalil which features the cemetery where Rabbi Lahou Harroch and Rabbi Raphael Moshe Elbaz are buried. Sefrou, rarely disturbed by tourists, was once a major center for Morocco's Jews and its walled white pedestrian medina is still characterized by their houses with wooden balconies. The medina is dissected by the River Aggai, that enters the town via a small waterfall above the separate walled *ksar*. Beside the Bab Makame, the Cooperative Artisanale offers good quality handicrafts at very reasonable prices. It is said that Ifrane was the capital of a Jewish Kingdom in the distant past. Not to be missed: the village's only Synagogue and the cemetery have been for centuries a center of pilgrimage for Moroccan Jews. Stop in Midelt and then continue on to Merzouga. Enjoy a Berber dinner and overnight stay at Auberge Tombouctou hotel for accommodation. **(B, D)**

**Day 7: Merzouga**

A day of rest at Auberge Tombouctou before you experience an authentic overnight camel trek. You will travel by camel to join your camp under traditional Berber tents and to admire the sunset on the dunes of golden sand; spending the evening by a campfire under the starry sky will help you to catch the spirit of the desert. Wake up to the sunrise on the ever-changing dunes and take advantage of the slow rhythm of life in the desert. **(B, D)**

**Day 8: Merzouga / Erfoud / Tinerhir (100 miles)**

After your trip to the desert, you will travel to Todra's magnificent and narrow gorges where vertiginous cliffs of pink ochre frame a crystal clear and fresh river. At the end of the day, take a moment to appreciate the beauty and tranquility of these places. Stay at 4-star accommodations in Tinerhir. **(B, D)**

**Day 9: Dadès Gorge**

Your driver will leave you within a few feet of the fabulous rocky formations of the Dadès Gorge so that you can continue your trip on foot. In your own rhythm, you will discover intact and wild landscapes strewn with villages with flat roofs among almond and fig trees. Spend the night at Tinerhir. **(B, D)**

**Day 10: Tinerhir / El Kella des M'Gouna / Ouarzazate (100 miles)**

Departure to Ouarzazate via El Kelaa des M'Gouna and a visit of Tiliit (5 miles from El Kelaa des M'Gouna), known as the Ancient City of the Jews of the Dadès. The fortress of Tiliit has been the center of a Jewish region ruled by the Spanish-Jewish family of Perez from the end of the 15th century until the reign of Moulay Ismail in 1672. Continue to Ouarzazate, check-in to 4-star hotel and overnight stay. **(B, D)**

**Day 11: Ouarzazate**

After breakfast, visit the Taourirt and Tifoultout Kasbahs, ancient residences of the Glaoui (The former Pacha of Marrakech). The rest of the day is for relaxation by the swimming pool or for further exploration of the city. **(B, D)**

**Day 12: Ouarzazate / Telouet Kasbah / Marrakech (126 miles)**

Depart for Marrakech and on your way, you will visit the "seat" of Glaoui tribal power, Telouet Kasbah, now mostly in ruins except for the magnificent state rooms of this once great Kasbah which can still be visited. You will travel there from Aït Benhaddou Kasbah over a dirt "piste" road which follows along rocky mountain cliffs (Weather and road conditions permitting; otherwise, access to Telouet Kasbah by the main black-top road). At Telouet you will visit the tomb of Rabbi David Ou Mouchi. Upon arrival in Marrakech in the afternoon via the Tiz-n-Tichka pass (2260m), the remainder of the day will be devoted to sightseeing in "The Red City." The Saadian dynasty made Marrakech their capital, and converted the El Badi Palace to a Mellah, which became home to a thriving community of native and Spanish Jews famed for their rabbinical schools and scholars. Visit the rabbi Hanania Hacoheh cemetery, which is also the burial place of Rabbi Mordekhai Ben Attar and Rabbi Pinhas Hacoheh Azough known as the "Patron of Marrakech." Overnight stay at 4-star hotel. **(B, D)**

**Day 13: Marrakech**

The day will be devoted to sightseeing in Marrakech, the second oldest Imperial city known as the "Pearl of the South" and home to the Saadian tombs, the Koutoubia Mosque, the Bahia Palace and the Menera Gardens. In the afternoon, exploration of the souks (market) and the world famous Djemaa El Fna Square, the "heart" of Marrakech, which offers various entertainments (story tellers, acrobats, snake-charmers, magicians, etc.) **(B, D)**

Optional dinner at World Famous "Chez Ali" with night at 4-star hotel.

**Day 14: Marrakech / Casablanca (150 miles)**

Morning is free time. In the afternoon we depart back to Casablanca and will stay at 4-star hotel near the Mohamed V International Airport. **(B, D)**

### **Day 15: Flight home**

Berber Tours will accompany you to the airport and make sure that you arrive in time for your flight home.  
End of services. **(B)**

### **INCLUDED IN TOUR:**

15 Day Program from arrival in Casablanca to departure from Casablanca  
Includes all transportation in air conditioned Toyota Land Cruiser 4x4  
All 4-star hotel accommodations  
Dinner and breakfast accommodation with hotel rooms  
Services of one English speaking driver for the ENTIRE tour  
Tips/ portage for Berber Tours Employees: Five percent (5%) of the TOTAL TOUR COST  
Normal entrance fees  
Airport transfers

### **Optional:**

#### **FANTASIA DINNER SHOW AT CHEZ ALI SUPPER CLUB:**

\$75.00 USD PER PERSON. Arabian Nights-style entertainment: Chez Ali is the original, and is probably still the best. Catering for hundreds of guests each lunchtime and evening, it is a logistical phenomenon on the scale of a mini Disneyland. They may not be genuine cultural experiences, aimed as they are at the coach tour crowd, but the entertainments are fun and you can be sure children will love the *fantasia* horsemen and the camels, not to mention the laser projected girl on a flying carpet.

**Note:** Breakfast and dinner are included in the in the cost of this package. However, if the clients wish they are not obligated to have dinner or breakfast "when or where" Berber Tours says that they must. The clients are free to go somewhere else if they choose, but there will be NO REFUND or DEDUCTION to the base price should the clients choose to have dinner or breakfast on their own and that is not supplied by Berber Tours.

### **NOT INCLUDED IN TOUR PRICE:**

**Additional entrance fees:** Not able to quote, depends on where you go. However, the "average price" is \$2.50 to \$6.00 USD PER PERSON.

**Additional Guide Services:** Cost depends on what is required. For example, a guide in Marrakech averages approximately \$40.00 USD - \$50.00 USD per day for a 7 hour day. Due to restrictions by the Moroccan Government, **ONLY** those guides who live and work in the city visited are allowed to guide any clients and they set their own rates. This is the reason why Berber Tours does not include guide services in the cost of a 4x4 tour. However, if given prior notice, Berber Tours will arrange for a guide but it is the responsibility of the client to pay for the guide services themselves.

**Lunches unless provided by Berber Tours:** \$7.00 to \$13.00 USD PER PERSON. This is considered a "free time" for the clients to explore the towns and villages that we visit.

**Incidentals:** such as soft drinks, wine or beer with meals; personal purchases, or tips.

**Single room supplement:** \$50.00 USD per room, per day

**Airline costs are not included** and Berber Tours does not supply other information such as airline cost; hotel costs; transportation not directly supplied by Berber Tours.

## **RATES FOR THE JEWISH HERITAGE 4X4 TOUR:**

**HIGH SEASON:** SEPTEMBER 1 TO MAY 31

**OFF SEASON:** JUNE 1 TO AUGUST 31 - 30% REDUCTION IN PRICE, EXCLUDING OPTIONS

Prices are based on 4-star hotel accommodations with double occupancy:

**\$7,948.00 USD total package cost:** 1 person, 4-star hotel accommodations or a combination of 4-star hotel/riad - 4-star hotel tour rates will be charged

**\$7,571.00 USD total package cost:** 2 people, dbl. occ. w/1 room, 4-star hotel accommodations or a combination of 4-star hotel/riad - 4-star hotel tour rates will be charged  
For a 3rd person add \$300.00 USD total

**\$7,203.00 USD total package cost:** 4-6 people, triple occ. w/2 rooms, 4-star hotel accommodations or a combination of 4-star hotel/riad - 4-star hotel tour rates will be charged

**A SECOND 4X4 WITH AN ADDITIONAL 4-6 PARTICIPANTS – 20% REDUCTION IN PRICE**

### **Hotels in Morocco:**

Berber Tours uses a variety of different 3-star and 4-star hotels around the country for our 4x4 tours. While we cannot guarantee a specific hotel, we can guarantee that ALL of the hotels we use are clean and comfortable and will have many of the amenities you would expect to find in any hotel. The hotels we use also offer either breakfast or dinner, but usually both, as part of the hotel stay. Where available, as in Marrakech, we can also offer at the 4-star hotel package rate, the option of staying at one of the many quaint and comfortable riads within the Medina. However, at a riad, usually only breakfast is offered as part of the cost for staying there.

Hotel standards in Morocco and Europe DIFFER from those in the United States; in most cases, a "3-star" hotel by U.S. standards is the same as a "4-star" hotel in Morocco and Europe.

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