

Into the Atlas: A Moroccan Mountain Adventure

From Marrakech to the High Peaks – Trekking Where Trails Are Ancient and Views Endless



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A Moroccan Mountain Adventure

The Ourika Valley is located to the southeast of Marrakech, positioned in the foothills of the snow-covered Western High Atlas Mountains.

This captivating area of Morocco provides opportunities for mountain hiking, the exploration of distinctive Berber villages, and even winter snow skiing.

The distance from Marrakech to the Ourika Valley varies between 30 to 40 km, with a travel duration of roughly 40 to 50 minutes. Despite being close to Marrakech, it remains a relatively well-preserved valley, inherently maintaining the traditional mountain lifestyle.

Detailed itinerary

Day one:

Depart London to Marrakesh

Depart London for flight to Marrakesh.

Upon arrival you will be met by your guide and transferred to your hotel.

Day two:

Marrakech to Ihlouan to Timlilt

5-7hrs trekking

Altitude gain: 800m / loss: 200m

After breakfast we will meet our guides and transfer south for approx. 2hrs towards the Atlas Mountains and the lush Zat Valley. We meet our muleteers and start our walk up to the ridge of Djebel Yagour. From the pass, we will enjoy the fantastic views of the first Atlas High peaks and the green Yagour Plateau. In this area, villagers from the valleys around perpetuate a secular transhumance tradition. Each year they bring up their herds to graze from July and leave them in the high plateaus until the first snow falls. We camp at the foothill of the imposing Mont Meldsen (3,695m), our camp is pitched in a picturesque spot at 2,200m.

Day three:

Timlilt loop

4-6hrs trekking

Altitude gain: 300m / loss: 350m

A beautiful day walking as we follow the red sandstone gorges of Oued Timlilt. At the Azib Adarnan, we will discover one of the most amazing prehistoric sites of the high Atlas! On sandstone slabs, prehistoric Lybico Berbers left some superb carved rocks representing: Humans, animals from sub-Sahara, weapons. We continue between lush terraces and a beautiful forest of old juniper trees. We then loop back to our camp at Timlilt, and a delicious Moroccan supper prepared by our cook team.



Day four:

Timlilt to Ourika to Marrakech

5-7hrs trekking

Altitude, gain: 300m / loss: 1,200m

After breakfast, we head towards the western slopes of the Yagour with great views into the beautiful Ourika Valley, surrounded by the Atlas "Giant" peaks. The path follows a crest with an amazing double-sided view before it links the village of Wigrane and Imi n'Taddert where our amazing trek ends. After a fond farewell to our muleteer team, we meet our vehicles for the transfer along the Ourika valley towards Marrakech. A chance to freshen up at the hotel before dinner and a chance to celebrate our trekking achievements in the Medina.

Day five:

Marrakech to London

Transfer to the airport for the return flight to London.

Difficulty:

Moderate to tough

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This itinerary is complex and subject to change