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

Nestled in the foothills of Morocco's spectacular High Atlas Mountains, the beautiful Ourika Valley lies less than an hour from Marrakech yet feels a world away. Known for its dramatic scenery, traditional Berber villages and authentic mountain culture, the region offers one of Morocco's most rewarding trekking experiences.

This trek explores the lesser-visited Zat Valley and the vast Yagour Plateau, where ancient mule paths connect remote communities and shepherds still follow seasonal grazing traditions. Along the route, trekkers will pass fertile river valleys, walnut groves and high mountain pastures, with sweeping views of the Atlas peaks throughout.

The Yagour Plateau is also home to remarkable prehistoric rock carvings left by ancient Lybico-Berber communities, adding a fascinating cultural dimension to the adventure.

Combining rewarding trekking, stunning landscapes, peaceful campsites and warm Moroccan hospitality, this itinerary is perfect for adventurous trekkers looking to experience Morocco beyond the usual tourist routes.

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 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. Aftera 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

Breakdown of Costs – Ourika Valley Trek, Morocco

Inclusions

- International return flights
- All food (unless otherwise stated)
- Local English-speaking head guide and support staff
- Shared twin accommodation hotels and tents on trek
- Drinking water on challenge
- Internal road transfers
- Celebration dinner
- UK Doctor
- UK leader
- 1 free place on 20+ participants

Exclusions

- Airport taxes and fuel surcharges
- Visa (if applicable)
- Travel insurance
- Gratuities
- Lunch on day 5

2027 costs:

15 x participants - £1,120 per person + taxes
20 x participants - £1,060 per person + taxes
30 x participants - £950 per person + taxes

Please note airport taxes and fuel surcharges are not included in the above (currently £80 June ‘25).

Our pricing policy

We believe that we are very competitive and offer excellent value for money. However, it can be confusing when comparing prices, as small differences in an itinerary, can make a substantial difference. We would be happy to review proposals you may have received from other tour operators, as we are confident that we can beat any genuine quote.