

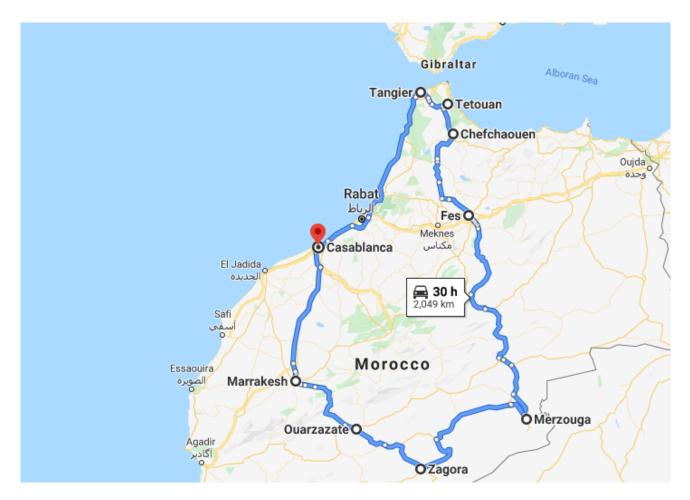
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# **EXPLORE SUFISM IN MOROCCO - 16 DAYS 13 NIGHTS**



# Day 1 – Departure from airport of origin.

# Day 2 – Casablanca (D)

Meet & greet at Mohammed V Aeroport, Casablanca. Transfer to hotel for freshen up and a local lunch. We will visit Place des Nations Unies, walk about at Boulevard Mohammed V and the medina. Magrib prayer in Africa's largest mosque, <u>Hassan II mosque</u>. Enjoy dinner and overnight at Casablanca.





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# Day 3 - Casablanca – Tangier (338 Km, 4 hrs) – Tetouan (63 Km, 1 Hrs 30 Min) (B/L/D)

After a good breakfast, we will depart for Tangier, the most Southern city and the gateway to Europe. The city is currently undergoing rapid development and modernisation, including the new and vibrant Tangier-Med port. Upon arrival, we will have lunch in the ancient medina before visiting the famous <u>Ben Siddiq mosque</u> as well as his zaouia, Sheikh Abdellah Ibn As Siddiq Al-Ghumari (1910-1993). The Al-Ghumari family are all famous scholars of their time. Sheikh Abdellah left more than 60 works in several disciplines from Fiqh, Hadith, dogma and Sufism, with his interesting work om Fiqh Al-Muqaran. We then proceed to visit <u>Ibn Batuta (1304-1368)</u>, a Berber Moroccan scholar and explorer who travel to the Islamic medieval world. This tiny zaouia may not be open on a regular basis and it's very much depending on our luck. We will also spend some time exploring the lively souk before we continue our journey to our hotel.

# Day 4 – Tetouan – Moulay Abdelsalam (72 Km, 3 hrs 40 min) – Chefchaouen (40 Km, 1 hrs 30 Min) (B/L/D)

After a good rest and delicious breakfast, we continue our journey to the mountain of this famous Sufi saint, <u>Abd al-Salām ibn Mashīsh al Alamī</u> with 4 of his important teaching, the oneness of existence (al-wahdat al-wujud), fear of Allah and His Judgements ( al-hawf bi ilah), Allah is everywhere and it is important to see Him among all his creation and lastly, through the Ocean of Unity (awnu fi bahri al-wahadati) with the seeker discard his own existence, can they be absorbed and merged into Allah and His Attributes. Our lunch will be at a local restaurant and overnight at Chefchaouen.

#### Day 5 – Chefchaoune – Mausolee Sidi Muhammad Al-Arabi – Chefchaouen (B/L/D)

After a good breakfast we will proceed to board a small van for our journey to visit <u>Sidi Muhammad</u> <u>Al-Arabi</u>, (1760-1823). He was Moroccan Sufi leader of the Shadhili tariqa and the author of letters concerning the method based on the central techniques of invocation or dhikr and he preached and instructions for daily life. He stressed non-involvement in worldly affairs (*Dunya*). Today lunch will be in a lunch box and we will travel back to Chefchaouen for overnight.

### Day 6 – Chefchaouen – Moulay Idriss (179 Km, 3 hrs 20 min) – Fes (87Km, 1 Hrs 30 Min) (B/L/D)

This morning we will visit around the Blue City and we depart for <u>Moulay Idriss Zerhoun</u> after lunch. Moulay Idriss el Akhbar was a great-grandson of the Prophet Muhammad: his grandparents were Muhammad's daughter Fatima and Muhammad's cousin Ali. Moulay Idriss was heir to the caliphate in Damacus, but after the civil war and Umayyad victory that led to the Shia-Sunni divide, he fled to Morocco. Arriving in 787, Moulay Idriss founded Morocco's first Arab dynasty. The tomb of Moulay Idriss, which was rebuilt by Moulay Ismail (1672-1727), has been a place for pilgrimage for many. We will continue our journey to Fes, and overnight.



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# Day 7 – Fes Visit (B/L/D)

After breakfast, we will visit the Madrasa, mosque and the souk.

- 1. Founded by <u>Sheikh Sidi Ahmed Tijani</u> Sufi in 1737-1738 in area of the medina of Fez, twenty years after the founding of the Tariqa Tijaniya (Sufi), it is the most famous and most eclectic zaouïa history Africa and the Maghreb.
- 2. <u>Zaouia Moulay Idriss 2</u>, who ruled Morocco from 807-828. It is one of the holiest shrines in Morocco.

Then we proceed to visit the <u>Quaraouiyine University</u>, the oldest Islamic university in the world which open for visit during prayer time, the <u>tannery</u> which is the ancient craft of dyeing of leather and <u>Bab Beljoud</u>, the medina blue gate. We will overnight in Fes.





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# Day 8 - Fes - Infrane (64 Km, 1 hrs 20 min) – Midelt (135 Km, 2 Hrs 30 min) - Merzouga (Sahara Desert) (263 Km, 4 Hrs 15 Min) (B/L/D)

Early morning after breakfast we will depart for the mysterious desert. A relaxing time in the cool highland of Infrane. Photo stop for beautiful Ziz Valley, oasis and Berber's house in a raw rocky plain. We will stop at Midelt for lunch and continue our journey to Merzouga for a <u>sunset camel ride</u>. Experience the trek while riding slowly crossing dunes and accompanied only by silent and calmness as you watch the day go by and be replaced by the darkness of the night. Feel your path illuminated by the clear sky of tiny sparking stars as the compass to your camp of the night. Upon reaching the camp, you may refresh yourself and a traditional Berber's dinner will be served. Enjoy the warmth of the campfire together with the drumming performance from the Berber's tribe.



# Day 9 - Merzouga - Rissani (40 Km, 45 Min) - Zagora (268Km, 4 hrs) (B/L/D)

The journey continues to the visit of Moulay Ali Sheriff and the Sijilmassa ruin.

Moulay Ali Sheriff (1631 to 1636) - He is considered the founder of the Alaouite Dynasty after the collapse of the Saadian. The place contains the tombs of Moulay Ali al-Sharif and his sons Moulay Mohamed, Moulay Youssef, Sidi Lahib ben Zine El Abidine Ben Moulay Ismail, and Moulay Rachid Ben Sidi Mohamed Ben Abderrahmane. The mausoleum features an ornate gate with an entrance to the large hall that houses the tomb of Moulay Ali al-Sharif. It has a spacious courtyard, a balcony and a mosque with a dome measuring 11 meters, 7 meters wide and 15 meters high.



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Sijilmasa was founded in 757 by a group of Kharijites from the Banū Midrar fleeing religious persecution in Qayrawān (Abbasid caliphate). The Karijites believe that anyone who is just and devout person could become the leader of the community. The earlier group of Kharijites, the Haruriyya, believe that even women can serve as imam. They bought with them a view on Islam which is acceptable to the inhabitant of this area, which is the Berber at that time. It was a Haruriyya that assassinated Ali, the 4th Caliphate in the 5th years of his rules. By 956, Sijilmasa had become the epicenter of the Trans-Saharan route. We proceed to Zagora and stay for the night.

#### Day 10 - Zagora - Ouarzazate (162 Km, 2 hrs 50 min) (B/L/D)

After a good breakfast, we will proceed to visit <u>Zaouia Naciria</u> - it displayed impressive examples of the Koran, ancient books on various topics including an illustrated dictionary of animals, as well as illuminated transcripts with beautiful calligraphy. Sidi Mohammed bin Nasir a 17th century religious teacher, theologian, scholar and physician who composed a collection of writings on fiqh, pieces of poetry and treatises on Islamic law. Sidi Mohammed bin Nasir's mausoleum housed the graves of eight marabouts (important Muslim leaders or teachers) and a medersa (madrasa). We have lunch at a local restaurant and we will visit the <u>famous pottery village of Tamegroute</u>. Be amazed with the straight sandy flat road with valley and dried terracotta greyish hill and mountain spread wide and away. We will overnight in Ouarzazate.

### Day 11 – Ouarzazate – Marrakech (194 KM, 4 Hrs) (B/L/D)

After breakfast we will continue our visit to <u>Kasbah Ait Haddou</u> and have lunch at the local restaurant before continuing our journey to the Unesco World Heritage Imperial City and also the city of the 7 Saints via the route of "The Thousand Kasbah". On the way we will stop by <u>Ka'alat M'gouna</u> (Rose Valley) for a toilet stop and at the same time, visit the distilling of Rose Oil which can be made into various quality products. We will stop at the <u>Women's Co-Operative</u> to understand how the premium Argan Oil is being produced, simple by hand. We checked into a hotel in Marrakech.





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### Day 12 – Marrakech – The Seven Saints (B/L/D)

#### <u>1 – Sidi Youssef Ben Ali -</u>

His full name was Abou Yaacoub Ben Ali Assenhaji. He was born in Marrakesh and never left it all his life. He was nicknamed "Moul L Ghar", or the "Cave Man". When he was still young, he was afflicted with leprosy and would lose parts of his body, causing people flee from him in fear of contracting the disease. His family, on the other hand, expelled him out of fear of the virus. Afterwards, he went to live in a cave in a deserted place near Marrakesh. Locals expected him to die any moment, but Sidi Youssef Ben Ali surprised them all and survived for a long time. People started talking about his power to resist hunger and disease, and they began visiting him in the cave to receive guidance and help them solve their problems. Sidi Youssef Ben Ali died in 1196 and is buried in Bab Aghmat, near the cave.

#### 2 - Sidi Bel Abbas

Born in Ceuta in 1129, Belabbas Ahmed Sebti is the most important of the Seven Saints, and is sometimes referred to as the Patron Saint of Marrakech. It's been said that his father died when he was still a teenager, and then his mother sent him to work. However, his obsession with his studies prompted him to occasionally escape his work in order to attend the classes of Sheikh Abi Abdellah Mohamed Lfakhar in the mosque. His mother, on the other hand, kept punishing him and sending him back to work, until the Sheikh intervened and suggested giving his mother money in order to let her child study. Sidi Bel Abbas was a great patron of the poor and particularly the blind in the twelfth century. Even today, food for the poor is distributed regularly at his tomb. He died in 1204 and is buried in Marrakesh. The biggest and most busy of all.

#### 3 - Sidi Suleiman Al Jazuli

Abu Abdullah Muhammad al Jazuli was born in a village called Jazoula in Sous Massa Daraa in the 15th century. Nobody knows the exact year of his birth. Historians say he descended from Ali Ibno Abi Talib. Imam al-Jazouli is better remembered as a character of legend rather than a real human being. "Imam al-Jazuli", was a Moroccan Sufi leader of the Berber tribe of the Jazulah. He is best known for compiling the Dala'il al-Khayrat, an extremely popular Muslim prayer book. The book is divided into 7 sections for each day of the week. In June 1465, he collapsed and died while performing his Subh prayer. Because of the suddenness of his death, it was rumored that he was poisoned. His body was buried near Essaouira. Seventy-seven years after his death, his body was exhumed to be transferred to Marrakech.

#### <u>4 – Sidi Abdel Aziz</u>

Sidi Abd El Aziz was a fifteenth century theologian. His mausoleum is very near to Rue Baroudiyine. He was born in Marrakesh, and was illiterate during his youth. However, he later made a name for himself in Fez at the Medersat el Attarine, where he was the spiritual successor of Imam el Jazouli. He died in 1508 and was buried in Marrakesh. It is a local tradition for women to visit his grave, drawn to the idea that he can heal their fertility and facilitate childbirth.

#### <u>5 – Sidi Abdullah Ghazouani</u>

Sidi Abdullah Ghazouani was born and grew up in Fez. He was a follower of Sidi Abdel Aziz. He died in 1528 in Marrakesh and was buried there.



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#### <u>6 – Qadi Ayyad</u>

Qadi Iyad ibn Musa was born in 1083 in Ceuta, then belonging to the Almoravid Empire. He was the great imam of that city and, later, a high judge in Granada. As a scion of a notable scholarly family, Iyad was able to learn from the best teachers Ceuta had to offer. Qadi Iyad benefited from the high number of scholars in al-Andalus, the Maghrib, and the eastern Islamic world. He became a prestigious scholar in his own right, and won the support of the highest levels of society. He died in 1149 and was buried in Marrakesh.

#### 7 – Imam Souhaili

Imam Abderahim Souhaili was born blind in 1114 in Malaga. He grew up in a poor, but religious and well-educated family. His father taught him Arabic and helped him memorize Quran. Afterwards, he was taught other sciences by the famous scholars of that time, in Malaga and other cities in Andalusia (the southern region of Spain). He died in 1185 in Marrakesh, and was buried in Bab er Robb, a southern gate of the city of Marrakesh, near Bab Agnaou.

Lunch will be served in the Medina local restaurant. After which we will visit the Koutoubia Mosque, Bahia Palace, and the amazing Jemaa El Fna. Overnight in Marrakech



# Day 13 - Marrakech - Day Tour (B)

After which we will visit the Koutoubia Mosque, Bahia Palace, and the amazing Jemaa El Fna. Overnight in Marrakech.



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#### Day 14 - Marrakech - Casablanca (241 Km, 3 Hrs 30 Min) (B/L/D)

After a good breakfast, we will let the guests to enjoy the souk, after lunch we will proceed to drive to Casablanca.

# **Day 15** – Casablanca transfer to Mohammed V Aeroport for your flight back to Kuala Lumpur.

#### Day 16 – Welcome home.

#### **TOUR DETAILS**

No	Departure Date	Season	Airline
1.	-	Winter: min 9°C; max 20°C	ТВС

Tour Price Per Pax	All IN: RM12,880; GROUND: RM9380; Single Supplementary: RM1598		
Tour Price Included	<ol> <li>Flight Ticket: Economy return flight ticket (KUL-CMN) + airport taxes</li> <li>13 nights' accommodation with double sharing: 10 nights – local 3&amp;4 star hotel; 2 night - local traditional accommodation in Chefchaouen, blue city; 1 night – Sahara Luxury Camp with private bathroom.</li> <li>Meals as per listed in itinerary: 13 hotel breakfasts, 11 local lunches, 12 hotel dinners. Hotel breakfast and dinner are usually buffets. Hotel dinners do not include water or any other drinks. Traditional accommodation will be traditional Moroccan food. Local lunch will serve main dish + water/mint tea. No refund if meals are not taken.</li> <li>Licensed Tourism Bus services</li> <li>Local national registered English-speaking guide</li> <li>Entrance ticket         <ul> <li>Marrakech: Bahia Palace</li> <li>Tipping for guide &amp; driver</li> <li>Sunset camel ride</li> <li>2 small bottle of mineral water(500ml) per pax per day</li> </ul> </li> </ol>		
	10. E-copy and hardcopy of the tour guidebook		
Tour Price Excluded	<ol> <li>Tipping for porter service, camel man (5-10dhm), toilet stop (2-5dhm)</li> <li>Travel insurance</li> <li>Difference transfer location</li> <li>Single room supplementary</li> <li>Personal expenses</li> <li>Sightseeing, program, activities outside the itinerary</li> </ol>		
Guaranteed Departure	1. Minimum number of 15 pax for guaranteed departure.		



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General Terms & conditions/ Remarks	1.	Morocco2u reserves the right to modify the itinerary including the sites visited, the order of the visits, the travel services including accommodation which will not affect the standard of services due to unforeseen circumstances.
	2.	All complaints shall me made immediately and directly to Morocco2u for any issue arises in order to provide Morocco2u with the opportunity to properly address such complaint. Any complaint made after the completion of a Tour will not be entertained.
	3.	Any unutilized services, unused tours, meals or hotel rooms due to personal reason are non-refundable.
	4.	All our tours are flexible, you may choose to upgrade your accommodations, transportation or any experience to a higher classification upon request.
	5.	Single Traveler: We will paired you with other solo traveler without paying extra charges!

## **BOOKING DETAILS**

Documents Required	Copy of passport, email address, phone number	
Minor below 18 years of age	<ol> <li>Minor below 18 years of age must be accompanied by an adult.</li> <li>Children discount:         <ul> <li>Age of 0-2 years old child (INFANT) are not allowed to join the group tour.</li> <li>Age of 3-6 years old child sharing room with two adults (CHILD NO BED) 15 % DISCOUNT</li> <li>Age of 3-6 years old child sharing room with two adults (CHILD EXTRA BED) 10 % DISCOUNT</li> <li>Age of 3-6 years old child sharing room with one adult (CHILD TWIN) NO DISCOUNT</li> <li>Age of 7 years and above no child discount is provided (ADULT)</li> </ul> </li> </ol>	
Non-admittance of passenger	A moderate degree of physical health and physical ability is required to participate in our tours. In the event of any passenger over 70 years of age or with special physical or mental needs, Morocco2u must be informed in writing at the time of booking, which will be analyzed on a case by case basis, and it is possible that Morocco2u may request a medical report. In cases in which the customer accepts the tour, Morocco2u cannot assume any responsibility in relation to the difficulty or impossibility that the said passenger may encounter during the tour, nor can Morocco2u assume any responsibility for providing assistance for their adaptation to, or continuation of the trip. No reservations will be accepted and Morocco2u reserves the right to suspend any tour for passengers who's physical and/or mental conditions make their participation in it very difficult or dangerous to	

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	themselves or others. Morocco2u likewise reserves the right to exclude passengers who significantly disrupt the smooth-running of the trip.
Payment Policy	<ol> <li>RM3,000 deposit per person must be paid as reservation fee.</li> <li>Deposits made are non-refundable or transferable.</li> <li>Instalment payment: The payment towards your trip can be paid out monthly or in full.</li> <li>The balance or full payment must be made 30 days before travelling.</li> </ol>
Cancellation Policy	<ol> <li>Cancellation of booking must be made in writing to avoid any misunderstanding.</li> <li>If the company receives notice to cancel 31 days or more before the date of departure, tour deposit will be forfeited. Otherwise, the following charges will apply:         <ul> <li>30-16 days before arrival 60% loss of the total price.</li> <li>15-8 days before arrival 70% of the total price.</li> <li>7-3 days before arrival 80% of the total prices.</li> <li>Less than 3 days before arrival date is 100% of the total price.</li> </ul> </li> </ol>
Payment details	Name: Foster Planet Travel & Tour Sdn. Bhd. (1307993-k)   KPK/LN: 9650Bank: Maybank BerhadAccount No : 568621011876
Disclaimer	<ol> <li>For all the Zaouia visit, very much depends on their opening time and situation, as such we cannot guarantee all the visits. Donations are needed, min 20 dirham per visit suggested.</li> </ol>