

IMPERIAL CITIES, DESERTS AND ESSAOUIRA - A FOOD ODYSSEY

MOROCCO, MARRAKECH AND CASABLANCA
6 - 23 SEPTEMBER 2025

Embark on a culinary odyssey like no other with our exclusive Dream It Food Travel Experience, meticulously crafted by a renowned travel guru specialising in the Middle East and North Africa.



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For more information email Lisa Cameron
fatloss@lisacameron.co.nz

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Overview

Embark on a culinary odyssey like no other with our exclusive Dream It Food Travel Experience, meticulously crafted by a renowned travel guru specializing in the Middle East and North Africa.

Picture this: two nights in the opulent city of Dubai, a prelude to thirteen enchanting days across Morocco's most vibrant cities—Fez, Marrakesh, and Casablanca. Indulge in the epitome of luxury with stays in handpicked Riads and boutique hotels, each promising a blend of comfort and cultural immersion. From savoring aromatic spices in bustling souks to private cooking classes with local chefs, every moment is designed to elevate your senses and create unforgettable memories.

Join us on this ladies-only journey of exploration and gastronomic delight, with seamless door-to-door hosting from Auckland and return. This is more than a trip; it's a feast for the soul—a once-in-a-lifetime food and cultural experience that awaits.

Morocco is a gateway to Africa and a country of dizzying diversity. Here you will find epic mountain ranges, ancient cities, sweeping deserts- and warm hospitality.

Morocco's rich historical past is reflected in its modern day culture. Foods, languages, art, and landmarks in Morocco are a fusion of various ethnicities, religions, and nationalities that have made their mark in Moroccan culture. Because of its rich cultural tradition, Morocco has always been a favourite refuge for artists from abroad, and the country boasts a thriving artistic sector of its own, including prize winning literature, film, and popular music. Film, music and art festivals celebrating Morocco's cultural diversity take place throughout the country in Marrakesh, Essaouira, Casablanca, Rabat, Fez, Tangier and Dakhla among other places.

Moroccan cuisine is also a diverse blend of Berber, Andalusian, Arab and Mediterranean cooking. Nevertheless, it's most famous dishes from Couscous to Tangine to Harira, are Berber in origin and will tantalise your tastebuds.



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Itinerary

SATURDAY 6 TH SEPTEMBER 2025

We depart from Auckland Airport flying Emirates for 2 nights in Dubai to explore this amazing city and freshen up before we head onto our amazing food adventure.

TUESDAY 9TH SEPTEMBER

CASABLANCA

On your arrival in Casablanca at Mohammed V airport, after going through the passport and security formalities, you will be met and transferred to the hotel in downtown Casablanca. Remainder of the day at leisure.

WEDNESDAY 10TH SEPTEMBER

CASABLANCA - CHEFCHAOEN (BL)

Start the day with a foodie tour including a visit to Dar Bennis Family bakery created since 1930 offering homemade savory and sweet Moroccan dishes, continue to Great Habous Olive Market and visit the Central Market, Casablanca's central market will offer any visitor a great fish and seafood experience.

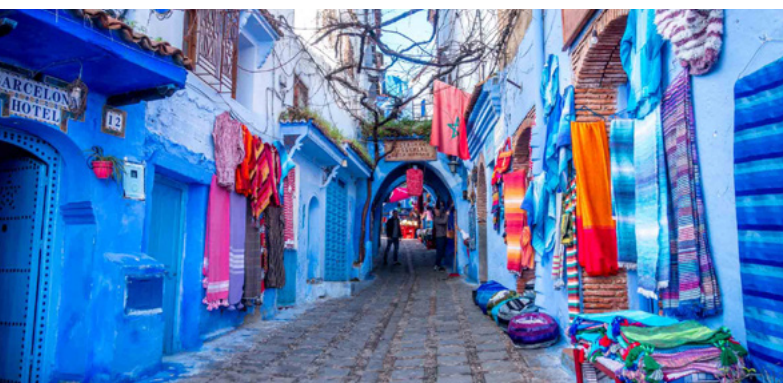
Visit of the Economic Capital: the Habous district, the Royal Palace, the Mohamed V square, the residential area of Anfa and the outside of the Mosque Hassan II.

Then, departure to Rabat, the Administrative Capital visit of the Royal Palace (Mechouar), Ouadayas Garden & Kasbah, Mohamed V Mausoleum and Hassan Tower Mosque. Lunch today is the local seafood specialty at restaurant Marina Sla.

Continuation to Chefchaouen one of Morocco's most delightful spots. The blue and white town appears at a turn on the road, with its two-story houses and round roof tiles, as well as twenty odd mosques and sanctuaries.

The holy town of Chefchaouen breathes an atmosphere of profound serenity. It is a delight to stroll through these cobblestone streets and idly dream in a peaceful, shaded square as you sip your coffee in a Moorish café!

The old city is one of the loveliest in Morocco. Try the local snacks like msemmen (Moroccan pancake).



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THURSDAY 11TH SEPTEMBER

CHEFCHAOUEN – FEZ (BL)

Leisurely start to the day with a tour of Chefchaouen, one of the most beautiful cities in Rif mountainous massif, known by its Medina of shady alleys, whitewashed houses with blue turquoise doors wrought iron windows and tile covered roofs. Early lunch Chaouen including goat cheese in Salade.

Departure towards Meknes visit the Ismailian capital with the longest ramparts in Morocco (40 km). Visit the famous Bab Mansour gate, the Royal Stables and the Jewish quarter. Then Volubilis a roman site where you will enjoy goat cheese and tasting wines. Travel south to Fez full of historical and architectural treasure.

FRIDAY 12TH SEPTEMBER

FEZ (B + snacks)

Embark on a captivating tour in Fez, exploring its cultural gems. Begin with the regal allure of the Royal Palace, immersed in its historical grandeur. Traverse the intricate beauty of either Attarine or Bou Anania Medersa, showcasing splendid Islamic artistry. Discover tranquility at the Nejjarine Fountain, a masterpiece of Moroccan craftsmanship. Admire the exterior of the Moulay Idriss mausoleum and the Karaouine Mosque, delving into their spiritual significance.

This afternoon Embark on the next leg of your Fez journey, delving into the labyrinthine wonders of the Medieval Medina and its vibrant souks. As you navigate the narrow alleys, experience the pulse of this ancient city, where history intertwines with everyday life. There is the opportunity to savor authentic Moroccan flavors, pastilla (a Savory pastry), harira (soup), and sfenj (Moroccan donuts) a gastronomic delight amidst the bustling surroundings. Every corner holds a story, and the spirit of Morocco comes alive in the intricate details of its markets and streets. Back to hotel for overnight. Optional lunch at restaurant Bab Sahara including Patilla chicken.



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SATURDAY 13TH SEPTEMBER

FEZ - IFRANE - MIDELT - ERFOUD – MERZOUGA (BD)

Today we will have one of the most interesting and scenic drives through the Atlas Mountains. We will pass by the Berber villages and towns to see their pastured animals and colorful costumes. We will make a short stop to enjoy Ifrane which is an Alpine little town in the middle of cedar trees.

Our next stop is Midelt, which is famous for its fossils and local Berber handicrafts. Next we will continue to drive along Ziz River and its oasis where more than a million date palm trees are growing. Visit the souk in Erfoud before driving by 4WD to spend the entire day in the Sahara desert at private tent camp. Take a camel ride or other optional camp activities, climbing the sand dunes for a spectacular sunset. Afterwards we will have a special dinner with local entertainment.

Overnight in tents to experience a beautiful sunrise over the sand dunes in the morning, and then go back to civilization. Dinner and overnight in Merzouga-Desert tent private camp,

Included: Camel ride experience along the sand dunes of Merzouga.

SUNDAY 14TH SEPTEMBER

MERZOUGA – ERFOUD (B)

Meals included: Breakfast

After morning sunrise experience and breakfast travel by 4WD to Erfoud. Erfoud is a major commercial center in the region, with a large souk, it is noted for its leather and goat skin trading and marble quarries. Visit Borj East: from the top of this boulder view Erfoud and the surrounding oases, the view is incredible! The Tizimi palm grove extends as far as the eye can see along the Ziz and Rheris oueds, depending on the season enjoy the local date palms and delicacies made from these. In the distance you can see the first sand dunes, stained pink during the sunset. A magical and serene moment to be had here.



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MONDAY 15TH SEPTEMBER

ERFOUD - TINGHIR – OUARZAZATE (BLD)

Passing through Tinjdad we will stop at Todgha Gorge for a spectacular view and continue to Dades Gorge, one of the highlights in south Morocco. At both Gorges we have the option to walk as much as we want or just view the spectacular natural wonders created by water over millennium, there will be numerous Berber villages on the way, so we could stop in any of those villages to experience Berber life.

Enjoy a Berber lunch of Goat tagine and local teas. Continue to Ouarzazate along the road of the 1000 Kasbahs crossing Kalaat M'Gouna.

Arrive to Ouarzazate and departure for city tour visit including a panoramic photo stop at Kasbah Taourirt as well as the Cinema studio. Late afternoon, check in your hotel for dinner and overnight.

TUESDAY 16TH SEPTEMBER

OUARZAZATE - AIT BENHADDOU – MARRAKECH (BD)

Departure towards Kasbah Ait Benhaddou for visit, a UNESCO world heritage known as the most spectacular fortress in the south of Morocco that served as decor for many great movies

such as Lawrence of Arabia, Troy, Gladiator, Games of thrones... Walk through this Berber village of towered and crenulated Kasbahs that once guarded the lucrative caravan route.

Optional lunch in a local restaurant. Continue towards Marrakech passing by the Tizi N'tichka.

Appreciate the panoramic views of the High Atlas Mountains as well as sights of fertile valleys, blue and red colored clay villages and other striking mineral environments. Dinner today is a treat – a Tanjia (different to Tajine as cooked over smoldering ashes not fire). Check-in your hotel for overnight.

WEDNESDAY 17TH SEPTEMBER

MARRAKECH (B)

Full day visit of Marrakech, the second oldest Imperial city. The historical visit includes Menara Garden, Bahia Palace, Koutoubia and Dar Si Said Museum. Optional Lunch.

Afternoon, visit of the souks, handicraft quarters and the famous Jemaa El-Fna Square with its non-stop entertainment. Tonight take dinner in the markets – a truly lively and entertaining experience where you can try various Moroccan street foods like grilled meats, couscous, and pastries. Overnight in hotel.



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THURSDAY 18TH SEPTEMBER

MARRAKECH (BL)

Round off your culinary experience in Morocco with a cooking workshop and learn the secrets of Moroccan cuisine, considered the most refined on the African continent. The workshops are run by a dada (traditional Moroccan chef), and include a visit to a nearby spice market and communal bread oven. After the workshop, during which every participant has worked alongside the dada at his or her own workstation, one dines on the delicious meal that's been prepared. This afternoon visit the secret gardens and YSL museum.

In Marrakech, we suggest the Moroccan Culinary Art Museum approx. \$40 per person including a Museum visit + tasting

Description: To better comprehend how a meal or ingredient is confected, you can participate in the demonstration sessions offered at the museum and learn more about the extraction of Argan oil, hand-rolled couscous, mint tea ritual, and the baking of the traditional Berber bread, Tafrnout. While you can discover another section where we show the preparation of rose and orange blossom-scented water.

FRIDAY 19TH SEPTEMBER 2025

MARRAKECH -ESSAOUIRA (BL)

Departure towards Essaouira. With possibility to visit a Women cooperative producing Argan oil en route. Arrive at Essaouira and try the local seafood specialties with a fish lunch. Departure for a visit of Essaouira, formerly known as Mogador, enjoy the charming sights of Essaouira, including its ochre-colored walls, the beautiful Moulay El Hassan square, and the souks, as well as the little streets of the city's old Medina. Check into your riad for overnight.

SATURDAY 20TH SEPTEMBER

ESSAOUIRA (B)

Full day free at leisure on the beach or shopping... overnight at your riad.



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SUNDAY 21ST SEPTEMBER

ESSAOUIRA - EL JADIDA - CASABLANCA (BD)

Departure to Casablanca passing through the Portuguese Remains. Optional lunch at Oualidia.

Continue towards El Jadida formerly known as Mazagan. Departure for an Orientation tour of the city (built by the Portuguese and previously known as Mazagan "Mazagão") with possibility to visit the Portuguese Cistern El Jadida or Mazagan is an old Portuguese city located on the Atlantic Ocean at 90 kilometers to the south of Casablanca.

El Jadida is considered the best shelter place along the coast for Portuguese who left by 1769. It is famous for its citadel, ramparts, bastions, tanks and its port as starting point of cruises to India and Brazil. Early evening, Check in your hotel. Dinner at Ricky Café. Overnight at hotel.

MONDAY 22ND SEPTEMBER 2025

CASABLANCA - DEPARTURE HOME

Transfer to Casablanca airport with assistance during the check-in connecting via Dubai arriving into Auckland Airport Tuesday 24th September at 9:50am.



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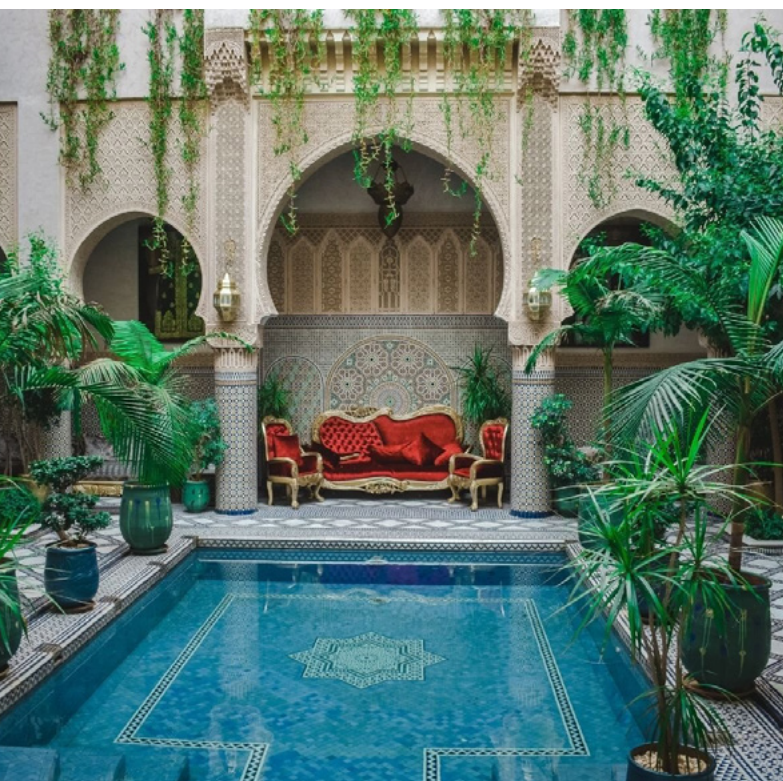
TOUR PACKAGE INCLUDES:

- Return International flights ex Auckland
- Pre departure Strata Lounge entry
- Full hosting throughout from Lisa Cameron and Dream It Director Michael Davis
- Accommodation in hotel and riads on BB as in program apart from Merzouga where accommodation is on Half Board (ie includes dinner).
- Airport arrival and departure transfers with assistance.
- Air conditioned deluxe car with English speaking driver at disposal during all the tour as per program.
- Local guides speaking English during visits.
- Sightseeing and visits as described in the program.
- Entrance fees to the monuments as indicated in the program.
- Full day Jeep Safari 4WD car from Erfoud around Rissani and Merzouga ending in your camp in Merzouga.
- Transfer by 4WD car Merzouga – Erfoud.

- Lunch at the winery excluding drinks or wine-tasting
- Berber Lunch, Street Food tasting Fez, Chefchaouen and Casablanca, Fish Lunch Rabat and Essaouira
- Cooking Class at la Maison Arabe
- Dinner Rick's Cafe
- Camel Ride in Merzouga
- Luggage portorage and tips at the hotels
- Our full assistance.
- VAT taxes
- 2 x nights Dubai 4 star accommodation with transfers and ½ day tour
- Lounge access in Dubai Airport on the return

TOUR PACKAGE EXCLUDES:

- Personal Travel Insurance
- Personal expenses
- Tips for guide and driver



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Trip costs

TOTAL PACKAGE COST:

Share Twin NZD \$12,750

PAYMENT DATES

In order to meet the necessary arrangements and preparations with our travel partners and agents we request the following payment schedule:

Deposit Payment NZD \$3,500

Progress Payment NZD \$5,000 1st February 2025

Balance Payment NZD \$4,250 1st June 2025

BANK ACCOUNT DETAILS

Bank Account details for payment are as follows:

Dream It NZ
02-0492-0136659-00

Invoices will be sent to you via email.

REQUIRED NEXT STEPS

Upon receipt of your deposit payment we will require the following to confirm your booking:

- Scanned copy of your Dream It Client Form. This will be emailed to you.
- Scanned copy of your passport. Please ensure that your passport is valid at least 6 months from the start of your trip.
- Scanned copy of your travel insurance cover.

TERMS AND CONDITIONS

This package is based on the following terms and conditions.

1. Group departures are based on reaching the minimum number of 10 participants being reached. Maximum group size of 12.
2. Inclusions as specified.
3. All prices are subject to change until paid in full and prices are all subject to availability. Prices are for cash or bank transfer. There will be a 2.5% surcharge for Visa/Mastercard payments and a 3.5% surcharge for Amex/Diners. Your name on your electronic ticket must be exactly the same as on your passport and you must have at least 6 months validity on your passport upon your return to New Zealand. All prices are subject to currency fluctuation and are based on prevailing travel pricing conditions in May 2024.
4. Prices quoted are for Economy return airfare and twin share accommodation. Single supplement and flight upgrades are available on request.
5. Itinerary subject to change.



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NO REGRETS

For Dream It to succeed, so must you! Our ultimate goal is to give you an amazing and epic Dream It adventure in the best possible way—with no regrets. At Dream It, our no regrets policy is all about ensuring you get the most out of your adventure by being well prepared and well informed.

We are preparing a pre departure event for our Dream It family so we all get a chance to meet one another before we depart. We will also set up a closed facebook group specific to this trip for our clients to provide regular travel updates and information plus advice and guidance leading into our epic trip.

Key contacts

Lisa Cameron HOST

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