



Morocco Packing Guidelines

The climate in Morocco is relatively uniform throughout the country during the winter months. In these periods there are not a lot of rainy days toward the middle of the country, but there will be a greater chance of light rain in the north. The temperature fluctuates greatly between night and day, from a low in the 30s or 40s at night to a high in the 60s or 70s during the day. Bringing layers will be important, and you may want gloves if you are riding a camel - the temperature can drop sharply over the course of a sunset camel ride.

When it comes to clothing, it is important to remember that the local etiquette of clothing can be rather different to Western travellers. Morocco is a Muslim country, meaning that conservative clothing is expected (though not strictly required) throughout the country. As responsible and respectful travellers, as we all are, it is polite to avoid excessively short, tight, or low-cut clothing. Moroccans are rather liberal compared to other Muslim countries, therefore t-shirts, skinny jeans and knee-length dresses are quite common, especially in bigger cities. The countryside is naturally more conservative and there we recommend wearing something a bit more covering and with a loose fit.

Good walking shoes are important both in the mountains and in the cities, as the best way to explore medinas is on foot, and not all of the ground is smooth and level. There is no need for women to cover their hair. Wearing hijab is a personal choice to Moroccan women, and many choose not to wear it. As it is a religious symbol, it should not be adopted lightly.

If you intend to take advantage of local nightlife in the cities, attire is much as you would find in the United States.

Winter is usually cool enough for pants to be comfortable. However, the Sahara Desert cools dramatically after the sun goes down, so a warm jacket and perhaps a hat is a good idea to have. Also, comfortable pants are recommended for the camel ride, as well as for the day spent traveling south. While we have a pretty full schedule, most of the properties do have swimming pools which there may or may not be time to take advantage of.

Beyond clothing, we highly recommend stomach medicines as it's always possible something could disagree with you. Additionally, if you are prone to motion sickness, you will absolutely need some sort of remedy for traveling through the mountains. The electrical outlets are the same configuration as European, but twice the voltage of the U.S. Therefore, any heating implements (hair dryer, curling iron, etc.) MUST have a power converter, not merely an outlet adapter. Money will be exchanged on the ground in Morocco. This can be done several times during the trip, as it is best not to have any leftover cash that must be converted back before leaving Morocco. Most everyday shops and restaurants do not accept credit cards, and tips are common for nearly all services. A SIM card can be purchased for a low price to be used in any unlocked cell phone if desired.

For more information, you can visit <http://www.muchmorocco.com/practical-information/>

Suggested packing:

- Comfortable walking shoes
- Comfortable pants for long travel days, hikes and camel trek
- Jacket for chilly mornings/nights
- Sunglasses
- Motion sickness remedies
- Stomach issue remedies
- Backpack/overnight bag to pack for overnight in the desert
- Power adapter (African/European)
- Power converter if you are planning on using heating elements (hair dryer, straightener, curling iron)
- Unlocked cell phone if you plan to use a SIM card
- All the cash you think you will need (most shops do not take credit cards in Morocco)