



Sahara Crossing

Maximum weight: 90 kg

Airport for arrival: Ouarzazate

Airport for departure: Agadir

30 days / 29 nights / 24 riding days



This is a month-long, immersive desert adventure – an epic camping trail across the Moroccan Sahara. Get ready to truly live the landscape and culture as you ride Arab-Berb horses an incredible 875km. From the legendary dunes of Merzouga to the vast Iriki lake, through vibrant plantations and beyond, your journey culminates at the Atlantic coast.

This isn't a guided tour; it's a shared expedition. You'll be a crucial part of the community, contributing to daily camp life, assisting with horse care, and supporting your fellow riders and the dedicated support team. This is a demanding and incredibly rewarding ride, exclusively for fit, advanced riders craving an unparalleled adventure, genuine connections, and total cultural immersion.

Horses & riding

This trail offers a varied and engaging riding experience. While there are opportunities for enjoyable canters and gallops on suitable terrain, it's important to note that this is not a fast-paced ride and that the pace is primarily walk. You'll often find yourself leading your horse on foot through certain sections, navigating the diverse landscape alongside your mount. Beyond the saddle, this adventure requires a team-oriented spirit. Riders should be physically fit and ready to actively participate in the daily rhythms of camp life.



This trail is designed for experienced riders seeking a true test of endurance and skill. You'll be spending 24 days on horseback, covering a remarkable 875km through ever-changing landscapes. You'll navigate a diverse array of terrains, from the challenging rocky passes and vast plateaus dotted with acacia trees to the soft sands of desert dunes and winding riverbeds. Riders can anticipate long hours in the saddle, with daily distances often ranging from 35km to 44km, the pace is mainly walking although there are some exhilarating canters and magnificent gallops across the open plains and along the pristine Plage-Blanche (White Beach). This is a demanding yet incredibly rewarding ride, requiring participants to be in excellent physical health.

The weight limit is 90 kilos.

Guides & Group Size

The group size will be between 6 and 12 riders and the group will be guided across the desert by Abdel, the head guide. It's said he was practically born on a horse in the Agadir region, a testament to his profound connection and lifelong passion for horses. While his background includes working with racehorses, his true calling now lies in leading unforgettable journeys on horseback. Abdel has personally ridden all of our trails in Morocco and numerous others in France, before making the desert and Atlantic coast his home. Beyond his exceptional horsemanship and outstanding organizational skills, Abdel is a fluent speaker of Berber, Darija, French, and English, ensuring seamless communication for all riders.

Accommodation & Meals

Throughout the expedition, you will experience a unique blend of authentic bivouac camping (21 nights) and comfortable hotel stays (8 nights) during designated rest periods. The bivouac camps are fully equipped tents sleeping 2-3 people on foam mattresses (single tents are available for a supplement), there is also a communal dining tent, and individual showers (with hot water!) and toilet facilities.

You'll be amazed at what can be cooked up in the desert as most days will begin with a delicious breakfast, featuring freshly brewed tea, coffee, and milk, alongside warm, crusty bread, sweet jams, golden honey, and fluffy pancakes. You'll also find creamy cheese and a selection of cereals to fuel your morning.



Lunch will feature a fresh salad, typically made with ingredients like tomato, peppers, sweet corn, and beetroot. This is usually accompanied by rice, pasta, or lentils served with a traditional Moroccan sauce. You'll also have the option of cheese, canned tuna or sardines, and bread. Tea and mineral water are always served with lunch.

Dinner will be a delightful experience of traditional Moroccan cuisine, such as couscous, tajine, Berber Omelette, and Kefta. For dessert, you might enjoy a fruit salad or even traditional Moroccan patisserie, depending on what's available in the local town. Tea and mineral water is always on hand. If you prefer soft drinks, these can be purchased during one of the town stops and stored in the support truck.



International Flights & Airport Transfers

Once your booking is confirmed, book your arrival flight to Ouarzazate Airport (OZZ) by 3:00 PM on day one; transfers from Ouarzazate are included. Marrakech Menara Airport (RAK) arrivals incur a supplement, requiring an early morning landing due to a 10-hour transfer. Depart from Agadir Al-Massira Airport (AGA) after breakfast on the final day, or opt for a Marrakech (RAK) transfer for a €150 shared supplement (3-4 hour journey).

What to bring:

We recommend that you wear your riding boots for the journey and take a set of riding clothes and your helmet in your hand luggage, so that you can participate in the excursion and ride even if your luggage should not arrive at your destination in time.

Space is limited in the vehicle carrying your belongings on the trek, so please travel light and use a large backpack or soft travel bag rather than a hard case.

- ☐ Your own riding hat or helmet, adjusted to your size
- ☐ Comfortable riding trousers
- ☐ Non-slip riding or trekking boots
- ☐ Chaps
- ☐ Riding gloves
- ☐ Sleeping bag
- ☐ Torch
- ☐ Long-sleeved T-shirts to protect you from the sun
- ☐ Warm clothing such as a fleece or woollen jumper
- ☐ Clothes for your mornings and evenings in luxury accommodation
- ☐ Waterproof jacket - it rarely rains, but it's best to be prepared
- ☐ Bandana or scarf to protect you from the sun and dust
- ☐ Comfortable clothes for the evening
- ☐ Light footwear for when you're not riding
- ☐ Swimming costume and light towel
- ☐ Sun cream and lip balm
- ☐ Sunglasses and hat
- ☐ Portable battery / Power bank
- ☐ Adapter
- ☐ Copy of your travel insurance
- ☐ Personal medical treatment



Climate

The climate in Morocco is hot all year round, with very little rain. From December to February, winter temperatures are around 20°C during the day and drop below 10°C at night. March to May and October to November are generally very pleasant, with temperatures between 20 and 30°C during the day and over 10°C at night.

Health:

<https://www.gov.uk/foreign-travel-advice/morocco>

Consult your GP at least 8 weeks before you leave so that he or she can advise you and, if necessary, carry out any vaccinations appropriate to your age and state of health.

Travel documents

A valid passport covering the entire planned stay is required for a stay in Morocco. Passports are compulsory, including for groups on organised tourist trips. Entry to Morocco is no longer possible on presentation of the national identity card alone.

For more information, visit

<https://www.gov.uk/foreign-travel-advice/morocco>

For all other nationalities, please contact your embassy to check the conditions and procedures for entering the country. It is your sole responsibility to be in possession of the travel documents you need for your holiday.

Currency and tips

The local currency in Morocco is the Moroccan dirham. Your holiday is all-inclusive, so we recommend you don't bring too much money with you. At the end of your stay you will have some free time in Agadir, where you can enjoy and shop. Bring enough cash to buy souvenirs and be prepared to haggle! Tipping your guide is at your discretion, and will be greatly appreciated by the team.

Rider's declaration

'I declare that I am an experienced rider, able to mount and dismount without assistance. I have a good seat and am confident and in control at all gaits (including collected trot, balanced canter and fast canter), and am physically fit to ride. I do not suffer from any disability or illness that could affect my safety or the safety of others.'



Cancellation policies and conditions

Payment and cancellation policy

Your holiday is confirmed with a 20% non-refundable deposit.

The full amount is due 56 days before the departure date.

If you cancel your booking less than 56 days before the departure date of your holiday, Saddletravel.co.uk is entitled to request payment of the full amount, less a refund to the client as follows:

Cancellation 42 days or more before departure: 50% refund possible.

Cancellation 30 days or more before departure: 30% refund possible.

Cancellation less than 30 days before departure: no refund, full amount due.

Contact details

+ 44 1497 888 228 Calls, Messages & WhatsApp

trails@saddletravel.com

saddletravel.com

5 Brayford Square,
London,
E1 0SG

NC: 05411320

