

TREK THE SAGHRO MOUNTAINS, MOROCCO

1st – 9th November 2025



DURATION: 9 Days

DEPART: London airport to Marrakech, Morocco

Join us for a challenging 5-day trek through the rugged and remote Saghro Mountains of Morocco. Far removed from the usual tourist trails, this stunning range, situated between the High Atlas Mountains and the Sahara Desert, offers an unforgettable journey through rocky canyons and lunar landscapes. Take in the breathtaking views of remote plateaus, deep canyons, and towering rock formations as you traverse mountain passes and valleys. This spectacular landscape is dotted with Berber villages, almond groves, and oases of date palms.

MOROCCO is situated in North West Africa, with a population of over 35 million people. Morocco boasts a diverse geography with both Atlantic and Mediterranean coastlines, in addition to a rugged mountainous and desert interior. The mighty Atlas Mountains and the vast Sahara Desert make Morocco an adventure lover's paradise. Meanwhile, Marrakech is a wonderful place to visit, with its spicy aromas, peaceful mosques, diverse entertainers, and the cacophony of merchants in the bustling medina.

THE BERBERS also known as the Amazighen ('free people'), are an ethnic group indigenous to North Africa whose culture can be traced back over 4,000 years. Traditionally, Berber men tend livestock, while Berber women take care of the home and create handicrafts for household use and sale. The lifestyle is generally nomadic or semi-nomadic, with large Berber communities in rural areas of the country.

DETAILED ITINERARY

DAY 1 (SAT): LONDON TO MARRAKECH

We will leave the UK and fly to Marrakech. Upon arrival, we will set off on a journey across the High Atlas Mountain range to our overnight stop in Ouarzazate (journey time approximately 4-5 hours). Dinner will be served before a trek briefing about the adventure ahead.

Meals: Dinner

DAY 2 (SUN): OUARZAZATE – AIT YOUL – ACHEMRAH (1,520m)

After a hearty Moroccan breakfast, we will drive to Ait Youl in the Vallée des Roses (approx. 1.5 hours). This stunning valley is one of the country's most captivating natural attractions, named after the thousands of rose bushes lining the banks of the Oued Dades. Here, we will meet our local Berber guides, load up our mules, and begin our trek across the desertic plateau, with a break for lunch at the foothills of the Saghro Mountains. heading to our first overnight camp. In the mid-afternoon, we reach camp, which is set in a small oasis with a nearby river and surrounded by lovingly tended crops.

Meals: Breakfast, lunch, dinner

Trekking: Approx 3hrs trekking (8km)

Total elevation gain: 160m

Change in altitude: Gain of 130m

DAY 3 (MON): ACHEMRAH – TAGMOUTE VALLEY (1,930m)

After breakfast, the trek to Jbel Saghro begins, leading you along a riverbed and then uphill into the mountains, where narrow paths reveal breathtaking scenery in every direction. After a rewarding climb, we pause for lunch near a tranquil oasis, perfect for cooling your feet in its refreshing waters. The journey continues to the 2,000m Tagmoute Pass, offering spectacular views of the massif. From there, you descend into the striking Agoulzi Canyon, with its impressive red stone formations and lush oasis nestled at its base. A final ascent out of the canyon brings you to the expansive Tagmoute Valley, where your camp awaits for the night.

Meals: Breakfast, lunch, dinner

Trekking: Approx 6hrs (13km)

Total elevation gain: 695m

Change in altitude: Gain of 410m

DAY 4 (TUE): TAGMOUTE – ASSAKA (1,610m)

This morning, the trek shifts direction as we descend eastward through the valley towards the Assaka Canyon. A challenging climb takes you to the trek's highest point at 2,200m, before descending through colourful rock formations, from purple to green, past a former silver mine, and across ever-changing terrain. After lunch, we enter the breathtaking Assaka Canyon and descend to its valley floor. Following a narrow path, we take in views of oases and dwellings on the opposite side before reaching camp near the village of Assaka. Dinner will be served before you settle under canvas in the heart of the mountains.

Meals: Breakfast, lunch, dinner

Trekking: Approx 6hrs (13km)

Total elevation gain: 290m

Change in altitude: Loss of 320m

DAY 5 (WED): ASSAKA – TAJALAJTE – TIFDASSINE (1,250m)

Leaving Assaka, we follow the gorge through a picturesque valley, passing small Berber villages like Tajalajt and Berkou, where terraced farmland clings to the hillsides. This area is home to villagers who tend flocks of goats and sheep, often seen high on the mountainsides across the valley. Lunch is served beneath almond trees before continuing the trek, crossing streams and a small pass, then descending into the open valley and oasis of Tifdassine. Here, surrounded by towering mountains, you'll find the camp. Although today is the longest trekking day, the terrain is gentler, with easier inclines.

Meals: Breakfast, lunch, dinner

Trekking: Approx 6hrs (16.5km)

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Total elevation gain: 410m
Change in altitude: Loss of 300m

DAY 6 (THU): TIFDASSINE – IGHAZZOUN – BAB N'ALI (1,425m)

Today offers more incredible views as we leave the valley and, before long, catch sight of the distant rock pinnacles—our ultimate destination. Traversing varied rocky terrain, we pass through small villages and follow the Amguis Gorge, surrounded by surreal rock formations. Looking back, the sweeping views of the valley and the mountains you've conquered are truly awe-inspiring. Reaching the top of a hill, you're rewarded with a close-up view of the iconic Bab N'Ali gate (1,580m), where towering pinnacles of Precambrian sandstone create a magnificent, otherworldly landscape. Your final camp lies in the shadow of these impressive formations, offering a memorable last night under canvas.

Meals: Breakfast, lunch, dinner
Trekking: Approx 7hrs (15km)
Total elevation gain: 480m
Change in altitude: Gain of 180m

DAY 7 (FRI): BAB N'ALI – OUARZAZATE - MARRAKECH

After breakfast, we'll pack up camp and take a short walk to the road, where we bid farewell to our team of mules and Berber guides. We will then drive back to Ouarzazate and continue onwards to Marrakech (approximately 7 hours 30 minutes), stopping for lunch along the way. On arrival in Marrakech, we'll check into the hotel for dinner and an overnight stay.

Meals: Breakfast, lunch, dinner

DAY 8 (SAT): SIGHTSEEING

Take the day to explore the vibrant city of Marrakech at your own pace. Visit historical landmarks, browse the bustling souks, or simply relax and reflect on your incredible trek.

Meals: Breakfast, Dinner

DAY 9 (SUN): MARRAKECH – LONDON

Transfer to the airport for your flight back to the UK.

Meals: Breakfast

WHAT'S INCLUDED

- ✓ Flights from London (including all current airport taxes & airline fuel surcharges)
- ✓ All transfers & transport in Morocco
- ✓ Accommodation in 3 star hotels (3 nights), and tents on trek (5 nights)
- ✓ ATOL protection
- ✓ All meals (listed above) and drinking water, including a traditional Moroccan celebratory farewell dinner
- ✓ Local English-speaking guides and full support crew on the trek, including mules for porters
- ✓ Different Travel Tour Manager and a dedicated contact at Julia's House, who will join you on the trek and give you one-to-one support all the way
- ✓ An invitation to the hospice where you can meet fellow trekkers and see how the money you raise will make a difference to our families
- ✓ Fundraising support, ideas and tips
- ✓ Free training weekends – again, another fantastic way to meet your fellow trekkers!
- ✓ Regular communications to keep you up to date

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- ✓ Huge cheers and support throughout the trek!

WHAT'S EXCLUDED

- ✗ Personal expenses (such as other drinks and souvenirs)
- ✗ Any visas (not currently required) or vaccinations
- ✗ Personal travel insurance
- ✗ Optional tips for local guides

Please note the itinerary may be subject to slight changes - we will always do what's best for the group.

CHALLENGE INFORMATION



Who accompanies us?

You will be accompanied throughout the trek by professional English-speaking Berber guides who have excellent knowledge of the local culture and hiking in the region. The guides are first-aid trained and will support you throughout your journey.

In addition to the guides, you'll be supported by a team of staff, including camping crew, cooks, muleteers (and their mules), as well as a UK tour manager from The Different Travel Company. A representative from Julia's House will also join you on the trek. Rest assured, you'll be in very safe hands!

How tough is it?

The trek is rated **challenging** and is suitable for individuals with a good fitness level. You will be trekking for five consecutive days, averaging around six hours per day. The terrain is largely rocky, dry, and uneven, as you'll be trekking off the beaten track, through mountain passes and across sparse valleys.

There may be sections of loose scree, small boulders requiring some scrambling, and exposed areas. However, your guides will provide support and encouragement throughout. Training on hills is essential to prepare for this trek.

What is the climate like?

Temperatures in the Saghro Mountains can reach highs of 18–20°C during the day, but wind chill may make it feel cooler. At night, temperatures can drop to around 6–10°C, and it will feel much cooler once the sun sets.

Please note: While the temperatures listed above are historically accurate, climate change may lead to uncharacteristic conditions during your trip, which are beyond our control. Your guides will assess conditions on the ground and make decisions to ensure the group's safety and enjoyment.

Where will we stay?

Accommodation will include one night in a hotel in Ouarzazate before the trek and two nights in a hotel in Marrakech at the end of the trip. During the trek, you will camp under the stars.

- You will be provided with a foam mattress, but you'll need to bring your own sleeping bag suitable for temperatures as low as 0°C.
- Shower facilities are available at the hotel, but there are no bathing facilities at camp. Bringing a small pack of baby wipes is recommended.
- A hole-in-the-ground toilet with a privacy tent will be set up at camp. Please bring your own toilet paper and a sealable bag to pack out any used paper for proper disposal at camp.
- Most accommodation will be twin share. If you're travelling with a friend and would like to share with them, let us know. If you're travelling solo, we'll pair you with someone of the same gender and a similar age, where possible.

While accommodation is basic, you'll be rewarded with incredible views, stunning sunsets, and magical nights under the stars!

What is the food like?

During the trek, your meals will be prepared by a chef who will cook simple yet nutritious Moroccan dishes. Breakfast and lunch will be eaten alfresco, while evening meals will be served in a mess tent at camp. Plates, mugs, and cutlery will be provided. When staying in cities, meals will be at the hotel or local restaurants. If you have any dietary requirements, please inform us in advance, and we will do our best to accommodate them.

PRACTICAL INFORMATION



Who can take part?

The minimum age is 18 (or 16-17 if accompanied by a parent/guardian). There is no upper age limit. An ideal candidate is someone who is open minded, positive, flexible and enjoys the challenges of the great outdoors.

How should I prepare?

If you do not already regularly exercise you should aim to start training as early as possible. The best training is hill walking, which will prepare you for the type of terrain you will experience trekking in Morocco.

Julia's House will offer free training walks in the Wiltshire and Dorset countryside, so you can meet your fellow trekkers and test your fitness levels. Other activities which can complement hill walking include running, cycling, gym workouts, boot camps etc.

How is luggage transported?

Your luggage will be transported by porter mules from one overnight stop to the next. As space is limited, we ask that you pack your kit in a soft bag, rucksack, or expedition kitbag. You will also need to bring a small daypack to carry essential items during the day, as you won't have access to your main luggage until the evening.

Health declaration

We require a medical form to be completed by everyone upon registering, and any pre-existing conditions, medications used and other medical issues must be specified. All your medical details are treated in the strictest confidence.

The information will be securely screened by a qualified medical professional and details provided to your tour manager and local guides so our staff are adequately informed and prepared to support you during the trip. By completing our booking form you are giving consent for us to contact you confidentially with any follow up questions regarding your health.

If you declare any medical conditions you may be asked to provide more information or we may request to contact your GP. In the event that your medical issues at the time of booking represent a concern for your safety and wellbeing, or the safety and wellbeing of others in the group, you may be recommended not to take part. If this happens your booking will not be confirmed and the deposit will be refunded.

We must be informed if any conditions or medication change or if new conditions develop. If necessary, confirmation of fitness to travel from your GP or specialist may be required. Please note that we will never unreasonably deny participation on a trip nor contravene the Equality Act 2010.

Health and safety

Your health and safety is our top priority so rest assured that we are taking steps to ensure you not only have a memorable experience, but a safe one too.

We constantly monitor and follow the advice of the British Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office (FCDO) who provide recommendations and advice to British travellers about travel to a certain destination. Health and safety is our top priority so we will **NEVER** operate a trip in an area where there is clear and present risk to our team members, whether that is due to a health outbreak, political instability, natural disasters or anything else. If travel restrictions either in the UK or Morocco prevent safe travel we will look to either postpone or cancel your trip at no cost to you.

With regards to vaccinations, The Different Travel Company and Julia's House cannot provide specific medical advice or recommendations. We recommend speaking to your GP or travel health professional. You can find general health information and advice on vaccinations here: <http://www.fitfortravel.nhs.uk> and <http://travelhealthpro.org.uk>.

Please note that at the time of travel there may be enhanced safety and security measures in airports, bag drop may take longer, and you may need to provide a certificate of health or proof of vaccination. We will inform you about any information pertinent to your travel arrangements. If you have any questions or concerns, please get in touch.

TRIP COSTS AND FUNDRAISING

The registration fee is £350, and then...

Option A: Fundraise or donate

Pledge to raise or donate £1,800 to Julia's House

Option B: Self-fund (pay your own trip costs)

Pay £900 to cover the cost of your trip and then fundraise as much as possible. We would love you to try and raise at least £900.

Option C: Flexi (pay part of your trip costs and fundraise the rest)

Pay £450 towards the trip costs and fundraise a minimum of £1,350 for Julia's House.

80% of your fundraising is due at least 12 weeks before departure and we ask that you raise the remaining 20% by 5th December 2025.

Trip costs are based on a minimum of 15 participants.

FUNDRAISING IDEAS

Most people find fundraising is far easier than they first imagined. We will support you every step of the way to ensure you reach and even exceed your target!

Here are some suggestions:

- Ask your friends, family and colleagues to sponsor you through JustGiving: £400
- Five cake sales at work throughout the year: £40 x 5 = £200
- Car boot sales, eBay auctions or sell some stuff on Facebook Marketplace: £200
- Host a dinner party and charge your friends £10 to come: £100
- Hold a quiz night at your local pub: £250
- Ask your work or local school to hold a non-uniform day: £200
- Ask your local supermarket if you can bag-pack or hold a collection: £100
- Hold a couple of sweepstakes with family, friends and colleagues throughout the year: £100
- Ask local companies to donate prizes for a raffle: £150
- Matched funding through your employer: £300

Total: £2,000 – target exceeded!

This trek is exclusive to Julia's House fundraisers and offers a great opportunity to get off the beaten track in Morocco whilst raising much needed funds for our families. Whether it's your first or fifty-first challenge, we're here to help you along the way. **If you choose to sign up to this challenge, it's really important that you are committed to fundraising or would like to provide a personal donation.**

COME TO OUR FREE INFORMATION EVENING...

Find out if this amazing adventure is for you!

Tuesday 4th February 2025
Corfe Mullen, Dorset | 6pm or 7pm

[BOOK HERE](#)

Tuesday 11th February 2025
Devizes, Wiltshire | 6pm or 7pm

[BOOK HERE](#)

OR SIGN UP TODAY!

Sign up at www.juliashouse.org/morocco

You can also call Sarah on 07557 992310 to secure your place today.

Due to the demand for places on this challenge, we ask you to book no later than 28th February 2024. We may still be able to take bookings after this date subject to availability and potential surcharges.

ATOL Protection

This trip is operated by The Different Travel Company Ltd (ATOL No 6706). This flight-inclusive holiday is financially protected by the ATOL scheme. When you pay you will be supplied with an ATOL Certificate. Please ask for it and check to ensure that everything you booked (flights, hotels, and other services) is listed on it.

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Please see our booking conditions for further information or for more information about financial protection and the ATOL Certificate go to www.caa.co.uk.