



Three Civilisations: Morocco, Andalusia & Portugal

MARRAKECH · CASABLANCA · TANGIER · CHEFCHAOUEN · SEVILLE · CORDOBA · GRANADA · LISBON

13D 10N

25-30 PAX

STARTS KUALA LUMPUR

QATAR AIRWAYS

Follow the enduring Islamic and cultural connections between Morocco, Andalusia and Portugal over thirteen days. Travel from Morocco's Atlantic cities and Rif Mountains across the Strait of Gibraltar into southern Spain, where the Alhambra and Córdoba's Mezquita-Catedral reveal how Islamic architecture continued through changing empires. Continue west into Portugal before the route concludes in Madrid, placing each landmark within the wider history linking North Africa and Iberia. Return Qatar Airways flights, accommodation across the three countries, daily breakfast, selected lunches and dinners, coach transport, ferry crossing, guided entrances and tipping are included. Designed for travellers who want context as much as scenery, this journey explains why these places matter rather than simply moving between famous monuments.

01

Casablanca & Marrakech — two cities, one long first evening

You land in Casablanca and the tour begins immediately — no easing in. The Hassan II Mosque is the right first stop: built on a promontory over the Atlantic, it's the largest mosque in Morocco and one of the few open to non-Muslim visitors. After that, it's a 3-hour drive to Marrakech, arriving in time for the evening at Jemaa El-Fnaa. Expect a long day, but an honest one.

Hassan II Mosque, Casablanca — Built to be seen from sea, its 210-metre minaret is the world's tallest. The interior is open to visitors in guided groups — worth seeing before the medina context later in the trip.

Jemaa El-Fnaa Square, Marrakech — UNESCO-listed and genuinely different at night. The square transforms from a market to an open-air performance space after dusk. Walk it, don't rush it.

MEALS

Lunch

Dinner

OVERNIGHT

Marrakech

02

Marrakech — where the city's history is still standing

A full day in Marrakech, which is what this city needs. The monuments are close together but each deserves real time. The morning is structured; the afternoon is yours — the souks reward wandering more than rushing. Comfortable walking shoes matter here; the medina paths are uneven.

Koutoubia Mosque — The minaret that set the template for the Giralda in Seville and the Hassan Tower in Rabat. You can't enter, but the exterior and gardens read clearly. The historical link to Andalusia becomes obvious here.

Saadian Tombs — Sealed for centuries and only rediscovered in 1917, the tombs are a concentrated example of Saadian craftsmanship. Compact, often crowded — go early.

Majorelle Garden — Yves Saint Laurent restored and preserved what French painter Jacques Majorelle built. The cobalt blue structures and cacti collection are unlike anything else in Marrakech. Good mid-morning visit before the afternoon heat.

MEALS

Breakfast

Lunch

OVERNIGHT

Marrakech

03

Marrakech to Kenitra via Rabat — a long drive worth making

This is a transit day with a substantial stop in Rabat, Morocco's political capital. It's a 3.5-hour drive north, then another hour to Kenitra. Be prepared for a full day on the coach — the stops are well-placed but the distances are real.

Hassan Tower & Mausoleum of Mohammed V — The Hassan Tower is an unfinished 12th-century minaret that was meant to be the world's largest mosque. Alongside it, the mausoleum is one of the finest examples of Moroccan craftsmanship built in the 20th century.

Kasbah of the Udayas — A fortress overlooking the Atlantic and the Bouregreg River, with narrow lanes painted white and blue. Quieter than Marrakech's medina; gives a different sense of Moroccan urban history.

MEALS

Breakfast

Lunch

OVERNIGHT

Kenitra

04

Chefchaouen — the blue city is worth the detour

Four hours from Kenitra to Chefchaouen, then two more to Tangier. This is the most demanding driving day in Morocco — but Chefchaouen earns its place. The blue-painted medina is real, not a tourist construction, and the Rif Mountain setting explains why the town developed the way it did. Give yourself two to three hours here.

Chefchaouen medina — The blue wash dates to the Jewish community that settled here after the 1492 expulsion from Spain. The connection to Andalusia — which you'll see up close in a few days — is here too, in the architecture and the history.

Kasbah Museum — Small ethnographic collection with a rooftop view over the medina. The Andalusian garden inside is worth the entrance fee.

MEALS

Breakfast

Lunch

OVERNIGHT

Tangier

05

The ferry crossing — Africa to Europe in 90 minutes

This is a logistics day, but the ferry crossing is genuinely worth paying attention to. The Strait of Gibraltar is only 14km at its narrowest point. On a clear day you can see both continents from the deck — take that in. After docking in Algeciras it's approximately 4.5 hours by coach into Portugal, arriving in Elvas by evening.

Tanger Med to Algeciras ferry — The crossing takes around 90 minutes. Passport control happens on board; have documents ready.

Elvas, Portugal — A fortified border town with a UNESCO-listed aqueduct. You won't see much of it today, but it's the staging point for tomorrow's Lisbon excursion.

MEALS

Breakfast

Dinner

OVERNIGHT

Elvas

06

Lisbon — the city that sent ships to the edge of the world

A 2-hour drive to Lisbon and a full day in the city before returning to Elvas. Lisbon is compact enough to cover the main sites comfortably on foot. The Belém district is the priority — the monastery and the tower are close together and form a coherent narrative about Portugal's age of exploration.

Jerónimos Monastery — Built to give thanks for Vasco da Gama's successful route to India, it houses his tomb. The Manueline stonework — nautical motifs carved in limestone — is unlike anything in Spain or Morocco. Plan at least 45 minutes inside.

Belém Tower — Small interior, but the riverside position and the Manueline details on the exterior are the point. Best photographed in the morning light.

Commerce Square & Rossio — The gateway Lisbon once used to receive the world; now a good place to walk, have coffee, and orient yourself before the drive back.

MEALS

Breakfast

Dinner

OVERNIGHT

Elvas

07

Seville — Moorish legacy in a Spanish city

Three hours from Elvas to Seville. The city's Islamic past is visible in its most prominent landmarks — the Giralda tower was built as an Almohad minaret, the same architectural tradition as the Koutoubia in Marrakech. That continuity is the thread running through the Andalusia days.

Seville Cathedral & Giralda Tower — The largest Gothic cathedral in the world, built over the site of the city's main mosque. The Giralda's ramp (not stairs) was designed so the muezzin could ride up on horseback.

Plaza de España — Built for the 1929 Exposition, tiled with scenes from every Spanish province. Photogenic and often crowded by mid-morning — worth arriving early.

Barrio Santa Cruz — The former Jewish quarter: narrow lanes, flower-filled patios, good for an hour of walking before dinner.

MEALS

Breakfast

Dinner

OVERNIGHT

Seville

08

Córdoba & Granada — the Mezquita deserves a full stop

Two hours to Córdoba, then two more to Granada. Córdoba was the capital of Islamic Spain at the height of the Umayyad Caliphate — the most advanced city in western Europe in the 10th century. The Mezquita is the reason to stop here, and the entrance fee is included with a city guide. Don't rush it.

Mezquita-Cathedral of Córdoba — Over 850 columns, a cathedral built in the nave, and a level of historical layering that takes time to process. The guide makes a real difference here — use the included visit rather than self-guiding.

Roman Bridge — A 1st-century bridge over the Guadalquivir, restored extensively but still in use. Good vantage point for the city and the Mezquita's exterior.

MEALS

Breakfast

Dinner

OVERNIGHT

Granada

09

The Alhambra, then the long drive to Madrid

The Alhambra is the centrepiece of the Spain section — and it earns it. Allow the full morning here. Entry is timed and managed; the included ticket with city guide covers the Nasrid Palaces and Generalife Gardens. The afternoon is a 4.5-hour drive to Madrid. Las Ventas on arrival is a quick stop — useful for context on Spanish culture, not a long visit.

Alhambra Palace & Generalife Gardens — Built over two centuries by the Nasrid dynasty, with serene water channels, carved plasterwork, and views over Granada. Go at the time on your ticket; the site is strictly capacity-controlled.

Las Ventas Bullring, Madrid — The largest bullring in Spain, its neo-Mudéjar architecture is worth seeing from the outside even if you skip the tour. Context for the city you'll spend tomorrow exploring.

MEALS

Breakfast

Dinner

OVERNIGHT

Madrid

10

Madrid — the capital on its own terms

A full day in Madrid. The city is less obviously shaped by Islamic history than Andalusia, which makes it a useful contrast. The Islamic Cultural Center is the most significant Muslim landmark in Spain's capital — and the Bernabéu is there for those who want it.

Islamic Cultural Center of Madrid — Spain's largest mosque, built in 1992 with Saudi funding. The architecture draws on Andalusian tradition. It's a working mosque and cultural centre — visit respectfully outside prayer times.

Santiago Bernabéu Stadium — Optional interior tour (40€, not included) or a photo stop outside. The stadium is the landmark most recognisable globally; the tour takes about 90 minutes.

Puerta del Sol, Plaza Mayor, Gran Vía — Madrid's civic centre compressed into an afternoon walk. Gran Vía is the main shopping street if you have time before dinner.

MEALS

Breakfast

Dinner

OVERNIGHT

Madrid

Las Rozas Village & departure

A morning at Las Rozas Village Outlet before the transfer to Madrid-Barajas Airport. The outlet has over 100 brands with year-round discounts — worth the stop for anyone who wants a last chance to pick up gifts or personal items. Transfer timing is built around your flight schedule, so the shopping window depends on your departure time — confirm with your guide the evening before.

Las Rozas Village — Around 30 minutes from central Madrid. Mix of European and international brands. Good for last-minute shopping without the time pressure of a city centre stop.

Madrid-Barajas Airport — Allow standard check-in time. Your guide will confirm the transfer schedule.

MEALS

Breakfast

What's Included

DEPARTS FROM
Kuala Lumpur

FLIGHTS
Qatar Airways

GROUP SIZE
25–30 pax

INCLUDED

- [check](#) Return economy class group ticket by Qatar Airways
- [check](#) Airport tax, check-in baggage, and meals on board
- [check](#) Luggage allowance: 23kg per person (max 2 bags per person / total 46kg per pax)
- [check](#) Travel by coach with Muslim tour guide in English
- [check](#) Hotel accommodation: Marrakech – Hotel Relax or similar
- [check](#) Hotel accommodation: Kenitra – Hotel Relax or similar
- [check](#) Hotel accommodation: Tangier – Hotel Tanger Med or similar
- [check](#) Hotel accommodation: Granada – Hotel Albenzaire or similar
- [check](#) Hotel accommodation: Seville – Hotel Bellavista / Abades Benacazon or similar
- [check](#) Hotel accommodation: Elvas – Hotel Estremoz or similar
- [check](#) Hotel accommodation: Madrid – B&B Fuenlabrada or similar
- [check](#) Breakfast daily; Lunch in Morocco only; Dinner pack food in Spain & Portugal only
- [check](#) Alhambra Palace of Granada entrance fee (with city guide)

NOT INCLUDED

- Personal expenses (mini bar, laundry, telephone bills, etc.)
- Porterage
- Optional tours
- Travel insurance
- WiFi on coach
- Others not stated in the itinerary
- Horse Drawn Carriage Marrakech (45€ per carriage, 1–4 pax)
- Horse Drawn Carriage Seville (95€ per carriage, 1–4 pax)
- Flamenco Dance Show Granada (35€)
- Royal Palace Madrid (26€)
- Santiago Bernabéu Stadium tour (40€)

check Mezquita-Cathedral of Cordoba entrance fee
(with city guide)

check Ferry ticket from Tangier Med to Algeciras

check Tipping for driver and guide

THREE CIVILISATIONS: MOROCCO, ANDALUSIA & PORTUGAL – FULL ITINERARY

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