



Southern Morocco & Western Sahara

جنوب المغرب والصحراء الغربية

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Best Places to Eat

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Best Places to Sleep

- ➔ Amouage (p365)
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- ➔ Lunar Surf House (p363)

Why Go?

The Souss Valley, where goats climb argan trees beneath the sun-baked Anti Atlas, draws a line across Morocco. South of this fertile valley, the pace of life in mountain villages and Saharan gateways is seductively slow.

A sense of somewhere really fresh and undiscovered gusts through the region like the spring winds – and you'll want to savour it. On elegantly wrecked seafronts, sip a mint tea and gaze at the wild Atlantic Coast. When trekking, mountain biking or driving through wrinkled Anti Atlas foothills, stop before the next oasis village and appreciate the silence.

The locals, from Chleuh Berbers in the Souss to Western Sahara's Saharawi people, seem determined to complement the landscapes. Their light robes flutter under desert skies, and their dark herds dot rocky hillsides.

Continue even further south to Dakhla for some of the world's best kitesurfing, and an emerging scene for outdoor activities and desert exploration.

When to Go

Agadir

°C/°F Temp

40/104 –

30/86 –

20/68 –

10/50 –

0/32 –

J F M A M J J A S O N D

Rainfall inches/mm

6/150

4/100

2/50

0

Feb Trek the Anti Atlas and hit the Atlantic Coast for winter sun and surf.

Mar See almond trees blossom, celebrated by Tafraoute's harvest festival.

Nov Catch Tal-iousine's saffron festival and Immuouzer des Ida Outanane's olive harvest.



Southern Morocco & Western Sahara Highlights

- 1 Stroll past art-deco relics in seaside **Sidi Ifni** (p390)
- 2 Trek, drive or cycle through the **Anti Atlas** (p374)
- 3 Explore green *palmeraies* at **Afella-Ighir** (p377)
- 4 Visit traditional Berber houses and cycle around **Tafraoute** (p374)
- 5 Hit the medina souq in the bustling trading centre of **Taroudannt** (p366)
- 6 Meander up the accessible part of the western High Atlas at **Paradise Valley** (p365)
- 7 Hang loose in Morocco's premier surf spot, **Taghazout** (p364)
- 8 Taste saffron and argan oil in **Taliouine** (p372)
- 9 Put your feet up on the Sahara's fringes in the *palmeraie* accommodation around **Goulmime** (p395)
- 10 Sail, windsurf or kiteboard on the expansive lagoon at **Dakhla** (p402)