

## Saharan Mini Adventure



Duration: 5 days

A challenging trek against the backdrop of the awe-inspiring Sahara Desert, this short but adventurous trip offers a bite-sized desert experience.

From flat desert floor scattered with ancient fossils, to perfect wind-blown sand-dunes, this trek is diverse and demanding. The vast, unforgiving desert is a truly beautiful place to discover, while the incredible star-strewn night skies are unforgettable, especially with a new moon.

Accompanied by Berber guides and a small caravan of camels, our remote night-camps with camp-fires and Berber singing are often a real highlight of the trip!

### DETAILED ITINERARY

#### Day 1: Fly London to Ouarzazate

Pronounced 'Wazzazat', this busy town on the edge of the desert, famous for its film studios, lies just south of the High Atlas Mountains. We transfer the short distance to our hotel. Night hotel.

#### Day 2: Ouarzazate – Tazerine – Camp

After an early breakfast, we load our gear into the waiting vehicles and set off for the desert. Our drive takes us over the low mountains of the beautiful Jebel Sarhro and then east, passing the small town of Nekob en-route to characterful Tazerine, a small oasis town. On arrival at our start point, we have lunch while the cameleers load up the camels, then set off through beautiful landscapes of palm trees and small sand dunes. We make camp at the edge of the dunes for the night, enjoying the stunning night skies. Night camp.

Drive approx. 3 hours; trek approx. 3 hours

#### Day 3: Desert Trek

The full colour of the landscape erupts as the sun rises. Hot coffee and a good breakfast set us up for a good day's trek. We break camp, load the camels and head off along a dry river, passing through small oases and low sand dunes. The views around us are amazing, with the colourful Jebel Sarhro mountains to the north, and the startling greenery of the palmery threading its way back towards Tazerine. Leaving the river bed behind, we head out into the desert hills, walking through sand dunes. We pass occasional small tamarisk trees that manage to flourish in this harsh environment, providing a little shade. Continuing through the small dunes, we come to our camp in a sheltered spot among the hills. Night camp.

Trek approx. 6-8 hours

## DETAILED ITINERARY (cont.)

### Day 4: Camp – Taghbalt – Ouarzazate

After another amazing night under the stars we set off on the last section of the route, continuing through the low hills until we emerge in open desert, with inspiring views of the barren mountains around us. The terrain becomes firmer underfoot as we walk over hamada, or desert floor, until we reach the small, remote town of Taghbalt. We meet our waiting transport and return to Ouarzazate for an evening of celebrations. Night hotel.

**Trek approx. 4 hours; drive approx. 3 hours**

### Day 5: Fly Ouarzazate to London

An early transfer takes us to the airport, and we fly home.

*Discover Adventure reserves the right to change the route or itinerary for safety reasons should local conditions dictate.*

Copyright DA1998 / Updated 2018

### Discover Marrakech Extension Available – Adds 2 Extra Days

Explore the lively souks and the cultural flavours of vibrant Marrakech from a beautiful, historic riad in the walled city. See website for further information.



## CHALLENGE GRADING

Trips are graded Yellow, Orange or Red, in increasing level of challenge. This trek lies within the **Yellow** range.

The grade is determined by factors such as terrain, distance, climate, altitude, etc. Each colour grade has a **spectrum** which reflects the difficulty of these factors; trip duration, accommodation and living conditions are also taken into account.

The Challenge Factor icon shows the most challenging aspect – the heat, which makes trekking over this terrain much harder.

The grade reflects the overall trip; some sections will feel more challenging than others. Unusual weather conditions also have a significant impact, and not all people are tested by the same aspects.

