# DESERT YOGA & DISCOVERY TRIP

16 -23 OCT



## 16 - 23 OCTOBER 2025 YOGA & DISCOVERY TRIP IN MOROCCO

### + 8 days | 7 nights



Enrich your life with an unforgettable yoga and discovery journey through the captivating landscapes of Morocco and the golden dunes of the Sahara Desert.

Step away from the demands of daily life and immerse yourself in the serenity of this magical destination. Awaken your senses with sun-filled days, explore the vibrant orange sands of the Sahara, and find stillness in the endless desert horizons.

### In this brochure you will find:

Travel itinerary, places you will visit, activities and more. Keep Reading!



#### **Discover Morocco**

## LET THE BEAUTY OF ANCIENT KASBAHS AND THE SEA OF DESERT SANDS INSPIRE YOU

Savor the flavors of traditional Moroccan cuisine and connect with the warmth of local culture. Each day offers the opportunity to restore your body and mind through daily yoga practices, before being guided to stunning and breathtaking surroundings. Morocco gives you an opportunity to foster a deeper connection with nature and yourself. Whether you're seeking adventure, relaxation, or self-discovery, this journey invites you to embrace the magic of Morocco.



### This soulful, authentic trip includes:



- 1-2 Yoga & Mindfulness sessions per day tailored to all levels in english.
- Expert Guided tours to the most beautiful, authentic sites in Southern Morocco.
- Meals: You will be spoilt with traditional Moroccan cuisine for breakfast, lunch and dinner.
- Accommodation
- Transportation from location to location in Morocco.
- Optional activities and outings to explore Morocco at your pace.



## Travel Itinerary

**DATE: 16-23 OCTOBER 2025** 

16th (Thu) - Pick-up at Marrakech Airport

17th (Fri) - Marrakech - Foum Zguid

18th (Sat) - Foum Zguid - ErgChigaga (Sahara)

19th (Sun) - Erg Chigaga (Sahara)

20th (Mon) - Erg Chigaga (Sahara)

21st (Tue) - Erg Chigaga (Sahara) - Agdz

22nd (Wed) - Ait Benhaddou - Marrakech

23rd (Thu) - Drop-off at Marrakech Airport

#### **OPTION:**

EXTEND YOUR STAY WITH 1 OR 2 EXTRA NIGHTS IN MARRAKECH. *CONTACT US!* CHIGAGATOURS@GMAIL.COM







### Morocco's Sahara Desert

#### WE ARE HUMBLED TO SHARE THIS EXPERIENCE.

A message from Ali, you will see the desert not just as a visitor, but through the eyes of someone who calls it home, this is a truly authentic and enriching experience you'll carry with you long after the journey ends. Erg Chigaga invites you to pack your sense of adventure and discover the soul of Moroccos Sahara Desert and hidden treasures.



## Joanne Post Youssef YOGA TEACHER ◆

Joanne is an accredited Yoga Teacher and Art Therapist with a passion for using movement and mindfulness to create transformative and inspiring experiences. With a nurturing spirit, she curates safe, supportive spaces that empower individuals to reconnect with their body, heart, and authentic selves. Join her in the awe-inspiring Sahara Desert, where you'll immerse yourself in the beauty of nature, yoga experience practices that cultivate deep presence, and explore the rich culture of this breathtaking landscape.



## Ali Naji → DESERT GUIDE

Ali, grew up in a nomadic family in the heart of the Moroccan desert, where the endless dunes and vast landscapes were his playground. With deep roots in this timeless land, Ali is dedicated to bring the Sahara to life with captivating stories, sharing the culture, and wisdom of nomadic life. He will lead you to hidden hidden gems, breathtaking sunsets over golden dunes, and starry nights by the fire ensuring an unforgettable journey through Morocco.



## Claudia Stanghellini

Claudia, your group leader, has extensively traveled to Morocco, always with Ali as her guide. In 2024, noticing growing interest in desert yoga tours, Claudia and Ali teamed up to organize the first of its kind, bringing a group from Sweden. Claudia, who supports Ali in logistics and planning, will be your tour guide for this unique journey.



#### **Program Schedule**

PLEASE NOTE: THE BELOW PROGRAM MAY BE SUBJECT TO SOME MINOR ADJUSTMENTS ALONG THE WAY.

#### ◆ Oct 16 - Thursday: Marrakech (Day 1)

Airport pick-up from Marrakech Menara, based on your flight schedule.

Transfer to the hotel.

Welcome Drinks & Dinner.

Accommodation: Hotel in Marrakech.

## ◆ Oct 17 - Friday: Marrakech - Foum Zguid (Day 2) (ca. 520km - 5 ½ hrs drive)

Breakfast: enjoy a traditional Moroccan breakfast.

We will *depart* from Marrakech and journey across the Tizi n'Tichka pass (2,260 meters) in the High Atlas Mountains. This picturesque route is dotted with ancient villages, traditional Berber houses, and impressive Kasbahs.

After crossing the Atlas Mountains we will proceed directly to Tazenakht, a charming village famous for its traditional Berber carpets and textiles. There will be an opportunity to visit a local carpet workshop, where you can observe the intricate craftsmanship involved in creating these beautiful textiles. In this village, age-old techniques are passed down through generations, with women artisans using natural dyes and high-quality wool to produce their masterpieces.

A leisurely lunch will be enjoyed along the way.



#### ♦ Oct 17 - Friday: Marrakech - Foum Zguid (Day 2)

Afterward, we'll continue our journey and arrive at Foum Zguid in time for sunset. Foum Zguid marks the final village before venturing into the vast Sahara. Time to land and ground.

Sunset Yoga/Mindfulness: Embracing the elements of nature as we ground into our surroundings and ignite the element of gratitude.

Welcome to a group dinner.

Accommodation: Hotel in Four Zguid with a beautiful pool to refresh the body.



## ♦ Oct 18 - Saturday: Foum Zguid - Erg Chigaga (Day 3) (3 hrs off-road drive)

Morning Yoga: A soft morning flow to embrace the power of the moment, followed by a traditional Moroccan breakfast.

Relax by the pool before enjoying a delicious outdoor lunch.

After lunch we'll set off on an exhilarating 4x4 adventure into the heart of the desert. Beginning in Foum Zguid, we'll drive across vast, desolate landscapes, rugged plateaus, and sparse vegetation. Along the way, we'll pass the arid expanse of Lake Iriki, a salt flat that, after rare rains, briefly transforms into a shallow lake. As we journey on, the terrain shifts from rocky plateaus to undulating sand dunes, making for an exciting and dynamic ride.



#### ◆ Oct 18 - Saturday: Foum Zguid - Erg Chigaga (Day 3) (continued)

As we approach Erg Chigaga, the towering sand dunes will rise on the horizon, signaling the final stretch of our journey and our arrival at the heart of the desert and at our camp.

Sunset Yoga: An invitation to connect through guided meditation as we embrace the wisdom of the heart, desert and move through a dynamic flow.

Dinner at the Biyouac, Gather around the bonfire for live nomadic music.

Accommodation: Erg Chigaga Luxury Desert Camp (each tent has an en-suite bathroom).

#### → Oct 19 - Sunday: Sahara desert (Day 4)

Sunrise Journey: (Optional) An invitation to wake up early and climb the fine sand of the dunes barefoot, here we contemplate and connect to nature.

Morning Yoga Flow with Joanne, followed by a traditional Moroccan breakfast.

Enjoy optional desert activities such as quad biking and sandboarding, or simply relax at the camp. Take some leisure time to unwind with a good book, capture the stunning surroundings through photography, or soak in the tranquility of the desert.

In the afternoon we will embark in a dromedary ride to reach the summit of the tallest dune at Erg Chigaga.

Guided Meditation with Joanne on top of the Dune, a time for graditude.

Dinner together at the Bivouac.

Accommodation: Erg Chigaga Luxury Desert Camp (each tent has an en-suite bathroom).



#### ♦ Oct 20 - Monday: Sahara Desert (Day 5)

Sunrise on top of the dunes: indulge in stillness.

Morning Yoga, to awaken the spirit followed by a traditional breakfast.

Desert activity: 4x4 ride to a nomad camp or similar activity.

Lunch according to activity program.

Leisure time at the camp to relax and unwind.

Sunset Yoga Flow: An invitation to embrace the spaciousness around us, moving through the elements expansion and connection.

Dinner together at the bivouac.

Erg Chigaga Luxury Desert Camp (each tent will have an en-suite bathroom).



◆ Oct 21 - Tuesday: Erg Chigaga - Mhamid - Tamegroute - Agdz (Day 6)
 (2 hrs off-road to Mhamid + 187km 3hrs Mhamid - Tamegroute)

Morning yoga and mindfulness followed by a traditional breakfast.

Right after breakfast, we'll head to Mhamid El Ghizlane, a charming desert village and gateway to the Sahara. The 4x4 route from Erg Chigaga to Mhamid is a journey through the Sahara Desert. The terrain is harsh and remote, with no villages or major landmarks along the way. The drive is challenging, requiring careful navigation through shifting sands and desert tracks. It takes around 2 hours to reach Mhamid.



#### ◆ Oct 21 - Tuesday: Erg Chigaga - Mhamid - Tamegroute - Agdz (Day 6) *(continued)*



We will enjoy some lunch in the Mhamid area.

After lunch and after a short drive, we'll arrive in Tamegroute, a renowned craft center famous for its green pottery. We'll stop at one of the local pottery workshops, where you can observe the traditional ceramic-making process which has been passed down for generations. Should you wish, you'll have the opportunity to purchase some of the well-known and highly regarded Tamegroute ceramics. Each piece is handmade, making every item unique and unlike any other.

From there, we'll continue to Agdz, a small town in the Draa Valley, celebrated for its lush palm groves and dates production.

Sunset yoga and embodied movement to awaken our senses.

We invite you to dinner together.

Accomodation: Hotel in Agdz



#### → Oct 22 - Wed: Agdz - Aït Benhaddou - Marrakech (Day 7) (ca. 260km - 4 ½ hrs drive)

Sunrise yoga/Meditation followed by a traditional breakfast.

We will depart from Agdz and make our way to Aït Benhaddou, a UNESCO World Heritage Site, where we'll stop for a visit. This fortified clay village, one of the best-preserved in Morocco, has served as the backdrop for films such as Lawrence of Arabia, Gladiator, and Babel. A local guide will lead you through the village, sharing fascinating stories about its history, architecture, and its origins as a key stop on ancient trade routes. You'll learn about the traditional construction techniques that have allowed the village to endure the harsh desert conditions for centuries and hear stories of the families who have lived here for generations.

Lunch in Aït Benhaddou area.

We will head back to Marrakech in time for sunset.

(Tentative: Sunset Yoga or a meditation practice to ground into the body after travelling and find a closure for the trip)

Last evening Dinner together.

Accommodation: Riad in Marrakech Medina or close to the airport for those leaving early day after

Oct 23 - Thu: Marrakech (Day 8)

Traditional breakfast.

Free day in Marrakech.

Transfer to Marrakech Menara airport according to flight schedule.



### Price Information

PER PERSON FOR A DOUBLE ROOM (TWINS WHERE POSSIBLE)

- EARLY BIRD: 1180 EUR (13500 SEK)
- REGULAR PRICE: <u>1340EUR (15400</u> <u>SEK)</u>
- Single Room: additional 60EUR extra/night (limited availability)
- Price includes; full board accommodation, transportation from location to location in Morocco, all yoga classes and activities (except quad biking)



## Bookings

ARE YOU READY TO EMBARK ON THIS JOURNEY?

Contact us today! ChigagaTours@gmail.com

## EARLY BIRD 12% DISCOUNT BEFORE APRIL 30 2025 ◆



## What is not included in the price:

THIS TRIP EXCLUDES THE EXPENSES BELOW

- Flights: you will be responsible to book your own flights.
- Drinks, wine and alcohol consumption
- Quad biking in the desert (optional)
- Entrance to tourist attractions
- Tip for your guide/drivers (optional but recommended)

## **Flight Information**

YOU WILL BE RESPONSIBLE TO BOOK YOUR OWN FLIGHTS

IF YOU ARE COMING FROM STOCKHOLM HERE ARE OPTIONS FOR DIRECT FLIGHTS.

STOCKHOLM - MARRAKECH +

OCT 16: Ryanair DIRECT Arlanda - Marrakech

12:10 - 16:30

MARRAKECH - STOCKHOLM ◆

OCT 23: Ryaniar DIRECT Marrakech - Arlanda

05:45 - 11:45

DISCOVER MARRAKECH BY ADDING 1 OR 2 EXTRA NIGHTS!







## **Explore Marrakech!**

EXTEND YOUR STAY WITH 1 OR 2 EXTRA NIGHTS IN MARRAKECH.

If you'd like to extend your stay before or after your yoga tour, please reach out to us. We'd be delighted to arrange additional nights at our selected hotel in Marrakech. We're also happy to offer recommendations for things to see and do while you're in the city.



#### A PERSONAL NOTE FROM THE TEAM

## + ABOUT US



Desert Chigaga Tours was founded by Ali in 2024, following over 15 years of experience in Morocco's tourism industry.

Prior to launching his own company, Ali collaborated with several tour agencies until he finally took the step to start his own business.

Ali is fluent in Arabic, French, English, Spanish, and Italian.

The connection to Sweden is through Claudia, the group leader who has traveled to Morocco with Ali many times and assisted in the company's launch. Claudia will be, supporting Ali in logistics, planning and making magic happen along the way.



## Ali Naji +

#### DESERT GUIDE

Born into a Sahrawi family of nomadic heritage, Ali spent much of his childhood in the heart of the Erg Chigaga dunes. His early years in the desert shaped his deep connection to its vast landscapes and unique culture. When a severe drought forced his family to settle in the village of M'hamid, Ali's love for the desert never waned. With over 15 years of experience as a desert guide, Ali has an intimate

With over 15 years of experience as a desert guide, Ali has an intimate knowledge of the region, which he delights in sharing with travelers from around the world. Known for his passion, expertise, and warm hospitality.





In 2024, he took a bold step forward, founding Desert Chigaga Tours to offer personalized and authentic desert experiences.

Whether it's discovering hidden gems, watching breathtaking sunsets over golden dunes, or sitting under a sky full of stars around a crackling fire, Ali's insight will make your trip unforgettable.

Ali's goal is to help visitors discover the magic of the Sahara while fostering a deeper appreciation for its culture, history and natural beauty.



### Joanne Post Youssef

YOGA TEACHER ◆

Joanne is an Australian - Lebanese Yoga Teacher and Art Therapist based in Sweden, dedicated to creating spaces that inspire healing, connection, and personal growth. Her approach blends yoga, mindfulness, and therapeutic practices to guide individuals toward self-discovery and authentic expression.

With over 500 hours of training in Hatha Yoga, Authentic Flow, Yin Yoga, and Trauma-Informed Yoga, Joanne integrates techniques for emotional release, self-awareness, and inner peace.





Her work is rooted in compassion, creativity, and community, empowering others to reconnect with themselves and cultivate a deeper sense of balance and wellbeing.

Passionate about mental health and wellness, Joanne continually expands her knowledge to offer transformative experiences that foster growth, authenticity, and a harmonious connection between mind, body, and heart.

You are invited to return home to yourself-empowered, connected, and at peace.



#### WELCOME THE VIBRANT CITY

## MARRAKECH



MARRAKECH is a vibrant city where ancient history meets modern energy. Its colorful souks offer a shopping paradise, with handcrafted goods, spices, and textiles that reflect the city's rich heritage. Historic oriental palaces and stunning exotic gardens add to its timeless charm, while sleek hotels and trendy cafes highlight the modern side. The iconic Jemaa el-Fnaa square pulses with life, especially at night, and modern Marrakech boasts chic rooftop bars and a lively nightlife scene. A traditional Hammamexperience offers a taste of Moroccan relaxation and culture. There's always something to explore, whether it's cultural, historical, or contemporary.



#### **♦** Booking

This proposal will be considered accepted on your payment of a 20% Registration Fee.

To enjoy the Early Bird offer the Registration Fee should be paid to us no later than March 31. The Registration Fee is not refundable in case of cancellation.

Balance via bank transfer no later than September 16 (30 days before departure). Balance is not refundable after September 16.

Please contact us at ChigagaTours@gmail.com to initiate the booking process.

#### **♦** Traveler's Responsibility

Travelers are always responsible upon receipt of documentation, to check immediately that all the information is correct. If something results incorrect, the traveler must immediately notify us at ChigagaTours@gmail.com

The traveler is responsible for finding out what applies regarding passports, visas, certificates, etc. before the trip.

#### ♦ Insurance

We recommend you check the conditions of compensation for cancellation with your own insurance company.

