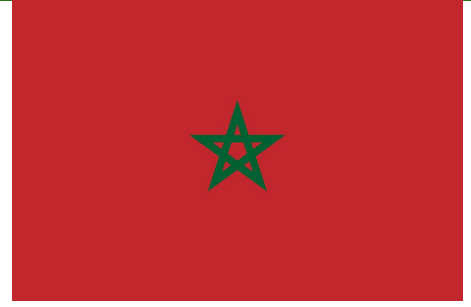


# Country: Morocco

**Capital city:** Rabat  
**Largest city:** Casablanca  
**Currency:** Moroccan dirham  
**Languages:** Arabic & Berber  
**Population:** 36.47 million(2019) World Bank

The red background on the Moroccan flag represents hardiness, bravery, strength and valour, while the green represents love, joy, wisdom, peace and hope; it also represents the color of Islam and the pentagram represents the seal of Solomon. The five branches also represent the pillars of Islam.



## Altitude:

Mount Toubkal, mountain peak in the Atlas Mountains is the highest point (13,665 feet [4,165 metres]).

## Climate:

Morocco's climate can be divided into two parts: The northwest and the southeast. In the southeast, the climate is arid and poorly populated. The northwest has a mild climate, and 95% of the Moroccan population lives in these regions. Along the Mediterranean coast, the climate is typically Mediterranean and supports all types of typical Mediterranean vegetation. Summers and Winters are moderate. Moving towards the Rif Mountain range, climate gets more continental in character, with colder winters and hotter summers. At elevations above 1,000 metres (3,300 ft), the climate is alpine with warm summers and cold winters. Rainfall is much higher on the west side than it is on the east side.

## Natural Resources:

Phosphates, zinc, manganese and iron ore. The Rif domain containing traces of tungsten, tin, cobalt, titanium, zinc and antimony.



## Unique Biodiversity:

Morocco has a wide range of biodiversity. Part of the Mediterranean basin, has exceptional concentrations of endemic species undergoing rapid rates of habitat loss, conservation priority thus being crucial. Avifauna of Morocco includes a total of 454 species, five of which have been introduced by humans, and 156 are rarely or accidentally seen. [Read more.](#)

Morocco is home to six terrestrial ecoregions: Mediterranean conifer and mixed forests, Mediterranean High Atlas juniper steppe, Mediterranean acacia-argania dry woodlands and succulent thickets, Mediterranean dry woodlands and steppe, Mediterranean woodlands and forests, and North Saharan steppe and woodlands.

Reptiles - Viper, the Moroccan Worm Lizard, the Banded Toed Gecko, the Atlas Dwarf Lizard, the Atlas Ocellated Lizard, the Moroccan Fringe-toed Lizard, Simon's Desert Racer, the Green Psammodomus, the High Atlas Day Gecko, the Moroccan Day Gecko, Colosi's Cylindrical Skink, Manuel's Skink, and the Mountain Skink.

Endemic amphibians include Moroccan Spadefoot Toad, the Moroccan Midwife Toad, and the Moroccan Painted Frog.

Endemic mammals include the Moroccan Jird, the Occidental Gerbil, Hoogstraal's Gerbil, the Moroccan Gerbil, and the Greater Short-tailed Gerbil.

Freshwater fish such as Moroccan Spined Loach, the Lake Ifni Trout, the Draa Trout, Moroccan Blenny among others

607 vascular plant species exclusive to Morocco include Atlas Cypress, Atlas Poppy, Dandelion-leaved Sage.

Other two primary predators of northern Africa, Atlas bear - Extinct, Barbary leopard - **critically endangered**

West African crocodile - **persisted** in the Draa river until the 20th century.

The Barbary macaque, a primate endemic to Morocco and Algeria - **facing extinction**

## Bordering Countries:

Morocco has a coast by the Atlantic Ocean that reaches past the Strait of Gibraltar into the Mediterranean Sea. It is bordered by Spain to the north (a water border through the Strait and land borders with three small Spanish-controlled exclaves, Ceuta, Melilla, and Peñón de Vélez de la Gomera), Algeria to the east, and Western Sahara to the south. Since Morocco controls most of Western Sahara, its de facto southern boundary is with Mauritania.

**BARBARY LION**(A SUBSPECIES TO MOROCCO & ITS NATIONAL EMBLEM). HUNTED TO EXTINCTION IN THE HIGH ATLAS MOUNTAINS IN 1922.

The **Atlas bear** and **African bear** was an extinct population or populations of the

The **African leopard** is the nominate subspecies of the leopard, native to many countries in Africa. It is widely distributed in most of sub-Saharan Africa, but the historical range has been fragmented in the course of habitat conversion. Leopards have been recorded in North Africa as well.

The **West African crocodile**, **desert crocodile**, or **sacred crocodile** is a species of crocodile related to – and often confused with – the larger and more aggressive Nile crocodile.

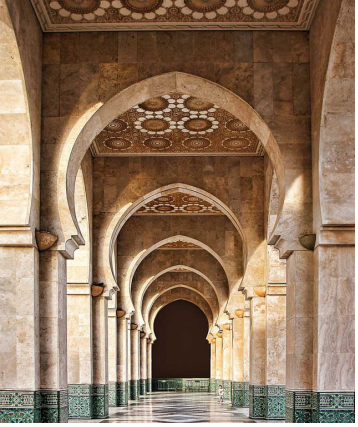
**BARBARY MACAQUE - FACING EXTINCTION**



**Birds** are a group of warm-blooded vertebrates constituting the class **Aves**, characterised by feathers, toothless beaked jaws, the laying of hard-shelled eggs, a high metabolic rate, a four-chambered heart, and a strong yet lightweight skeleton. Birds live worldwide and range in

## Official Holidays:

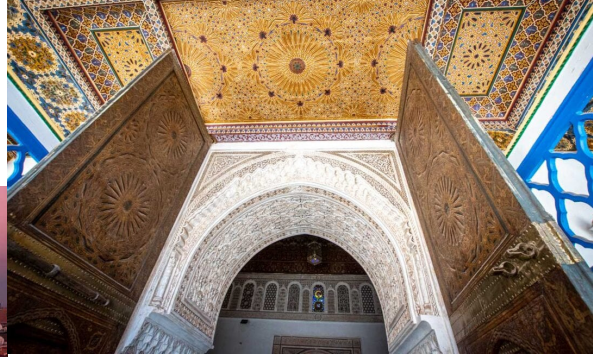
Jan 01	New Year's Day	National Holiday	
Jan 11	Proclamation of Independence	National Holiday	Anniversary of the Independence Manifesto of 1944
May 01	Labour Day	National Holiday	International Workers' Day
May 24	Eid Sghir	National Holiday	End of Ramadan
May 25	Eid Sghir Holiday	National Holiday	
Jul 30	Enthronement	National Holiday	King Mohammed VI's coronation in 1999
Jul 31	Eid Kbir	National Holiday	Feast of the Sacrifice
Aug 01	Eid Kbir	Government Holiday	Banks and Government only
Aug 14	Oued Ed-Dahab Day	National Holiday	Allegiance Day
Aug 20	Revolution Day	National Holiday	Marks King Mohammed V's exile in 1953
Aug 20	Fatih Muharram	National Holiday	Islamic New Year
Aug 21	Youth Day	National Holiday	
Oct 29	Eid Al Mawled	National Holiday	Birthday of Prophet Muhammad
Nov 06	Green March Day	National Holiday	
Nov 18	Independence Day	National Holiday	National Day



**HASAN II MOSQUE, CASABLANCA**  
Built by more than 10,000 craftsmen, the mosque features the tallest minaret in the world (210m), the finest materials from across Morocco – marble from Agadir and cedarwood



**DJEMMA EL-FNA SQUARE, MARRAKECH**  
Inscribed in UNESCO's Representative List of the Intangible Cultural Heritage of Humanity, it is the heart of mystical Marrakech. Dating back too over 1000yrs, it is a gathering place of storytellers, fortunetellers, street performers, teeth collectors, and, tourists.



**BAHIA PALACE, MARRAKESH**  
offers a glimpse of 19th century Marrakech.



**BLUE GATE/BATBOU JELOUD, FES**  
Fes is the former capital of Morocco and one of the most authentic towns you can find in the Kingdom.



**CHEFCHAUEN MEDINA**  
– the Blue Town of Chefchaouen.



**SAHARA DESERT**



**TODRA GORGE, ATLAS MOUNTAIN**



**CHOUARA TANNERY, FES**  
the largest of the city's several tanneries and operates since the 16th century.



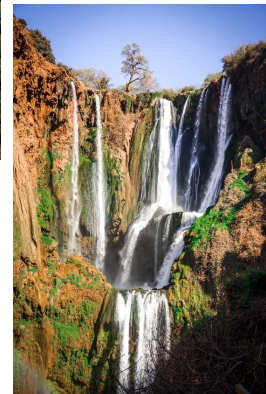
**AIT BEN HADDOU**  
fantasy desert castleA UNESCO World Heritage Site,



**AL ATTARINE MADRASA, FES**  
built between 1323 and 1325 by the Marandi sultan Abu Sa'id Uthman II. He's one of Morocco's most renowned sultans known to hate war and be an art and craftsmanship patron.



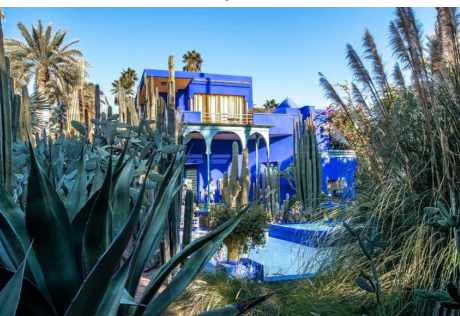
**VOLUBILIS**  
The ruined Roman city is Morocco's best-preserved archeological site and a UNESCO World Heritage Site since 1997.



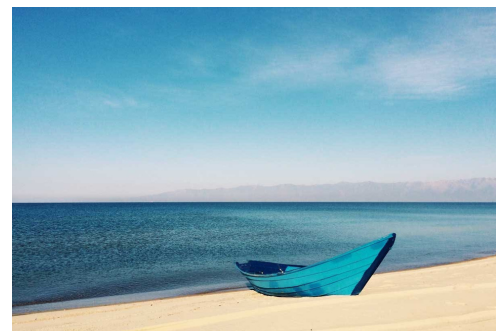
**OUZOUUD FALLS**



**HIGH ATLAS MOUNTAINS**



**MAJORELLE GARDEN, MARRAKECH**



**MEDINA OF ESSAOUIRA**  
once a sleepy fishing village, eventually grew into the significant seaport town that is today. A Unesco World Heritage

**FAMOUS LANDMARKS**

## FUN FACTS

There are no camels in Morocco only dromedaries

Moroccan national team became the first African and Arab country to make to the 2nd round of a World Cup when they did so in 1986

Marrakech is called the red city, because of the colour of its houses and walls. It is obligatory in many areas to use the rose-coloured paint

Friday is a couscous day!

The Hasan II Mosque is set on an outcrop extending over the ocean following verse of the Qur'an, asserting that 'the throne of Allah was built on water'.

Chefchaouen medina is blue because its first inhabitants were Jewish. For them, the blue symbolizes the sky and reminds them of God.

On the inside, the Blue Gate is actually green – the color of Islam.

Al Attarine Madrasa translates to "the madrasa of perfumes"

While the crumbling clay walls of Ait Ben Haddou are hardly fit for modern life, five families still call the fortress their home.

Mint tea is called "Berber Whisky" too!

The famous gladiatorial scene in Gladiator was filmed in Ait Ben Haddou

## TRADITIONAL/ INTERESTING FACTS

Under Moroccan Constitutional Law, no party can have an absolute majority

The best way to greet people is to say, Salaam alaykum ( peace be upon you)

It is the only Islamic country where women's rights are enshrined in the constitution

Arranged or semi-arranged marriage is still very common in Morocco

football is the popular sport in morocco.people love to remember the Premier League in England, the time Morocco beat Scotland in the World Cup and Manchester United. Ask someone if they support Barcelona or Real Madrid and you will have a friend for life.

The language spoken is not actually Arabic, it is Darija an Arabic dialect. Think Latin and Italian as a comparator

Mint tea is the national drink.

Berber women tattoo their faces as a decoration and also to show their marital status

Men wear yellow babouche (slippers) on holidays and feast days

The toughest footrace on earth, the Marathon des Sables, takes place in Morocco

The most famous of Moroccan dishes is couscous.

Other popular dishes include- Pastilla, Tajine, Harira.

Chicken is the most widely eaten meat.



MINT TEA/BERBER WHISKY



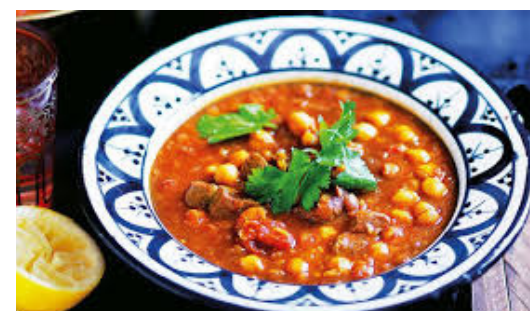
TAJINE



PASTILLA



COUSCOUS



HARIRA