DAKHLA

Morocco's Oasis of Ocean and Desert

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DAKHLA - MOROCCO'S OASIS OF OCEAN AND DESERT





Nestled on a narrow peninsula along Morocco's Atlantic coast, Dakhla is a captivating blend of serene lagoon waters, endless Sahara sands, and vibrant water sports culture. Located in the disputed Western Sahara, roughly 550 km south of Laayoune, this former Spanish colony (once known as Villa Cisneros) boasts a rich history and a laid-back atmosphere. Renowned as a global hub for kitesurfing, windsurfing, and surfing, Dakhla's lagoon and consistent winds attract adventurers year-round. Beyond the waves, visitors can explore stunning natural sites like the White Dune, Asmaa hot springs, and oyster farms, or immerse themselves in local culture at the annual Sea and Desert Festival. With its mild climate, pristine beaches, and growing tourism infrastructure, including the upcoming Dakhla Atlantique Port, Dakhla offers an authentic escape for nature lovers, thrill-seekers, and those seeking tranquility in a unique Moroccan paradise.

this city guide provide our very cellected tours and activities to help you get best time of your life :

- 1. Kitesurfing and Windsurfing Lessons
- 2. White Dune and Desert Safari by 4x4
- 3. Dragon Island (Herné Island) Boat Tour
- 4. Camel or Horseback Riding on the Beach
- **5.QUAD BIKING in the Dunes**
- 6. Yoga Retreat at Om Yoga Dakhla

About booking

Booking tours and activities is simple and secure with our trusted partners, GetYourGuide and Viator. Using the links provided in our guide, you can explore a wide range of experiences

To book, click on the GetYourGuide or Viator link for your chosen activity. You'll be directed to their user-friendly platforms, where you can browse detailed tour descriptions, check availability, and select your preferred date and time. Both sites offer filters for price, duration, and tour type, ensuring you find the perfect fit. Once you've chosen, enter the number of participants, provide payment details, and receive instant confirmation via email. Most tours offer free cancellation up to 24 hours before the start, giving you flexibility







KITESURFING AND WINDSURFING LESSONS

Dakhla, Morocco, is a premier global destination for kitesurfing and windsurfing, thanks to its unique geography where the Atlantic Ocean meets a sheltered lagoon and consistent trade winds blow over 330 days a year. The Oued Eddahab lagoon, with its flat, turquoise waters and steady 20-30 knot winds, creates ideal conditions for both beginners and advanced riders. Located on a peninsula in the disputed Western Sahara, Dakhla's mild climate (20-25°C year-round) and uncrowded spots make it a haven for wa<mark>ter sports</mark> enthusiasts. Lessons are offered by professional schools like Dakhla Attitude, Kiteboarding Club Dakhla, Pro Kite Morocco, and Ocean Vagabond, catering to all skill levels. These schools provide high-quality equipment, certified instructors (often IKO or VDWS accredited), and lessons in multiple languages (English, French, Spanish, etc.). Sessions typically last 2-4 hours, with prices ranging from \$50-\$100 for beginners and \$80-\$150 for private coaching. Group lessons (2-4 people) are common for cost savings, while multi-day packages (3-7 days) offer comprehensive learning for around \$300-\$600.

Highlights

- World-Class Conditions The lagoon's shallow, flat waters are perfect for beginners learning to control kites or boards, while nearby ocean waves (e.g., Foum Labouir) challenge advanced riders.
- Consistent winds from March to November (peaking April-June) ensure reliable sessions, with "Pointe de Dragon" and "Lassarga" as top spots for pros.
- Tailored InstructionBeginners: Start with kite control on land, progressing to water starts and basic riding. Lessons emphasize safety, wind theory, and equipment setup.
- Intermediate/Advanced: Focus on jumps, tricks (e.g., backrolls, grabs), or wave riding. Private coaching refines techniques with video analysis at some schools.
- Kids' Programs: Schools like Dakhla Attitude offer sessions for children (8+ years), using smaller kites and extra supervision.





• Top-Notch FacilitiesSchools provide modern gear (e.g., Duotone, North, Cabrinha kites; Fanatic boards) included in lesson prices, with wetsuits and harnesses suited to Dakhla's





- conditions.
- Many centers, like Kiteboarding Club Dakhla, are beachfront with amenities like storage, showers, and lounges. Some, like Ocean Vagabond, combine lessons with eco-lodge stays.
- Stunning SceneryRiders glide between desert dunes and the lagoon, with views of the White Dune and occasional dolphin or flamingo sightings. Sunset sessions are particularly breathtaking.
- Vibrant CommunityDakhla's water sports scene fosters a welcoming vibe, with schools hosting BBQs, yoga sessions, or downwind group trips. Events like the Dakhla Sea and Desert Festival (February) feature kitesurfing competitions.
- Accessibility and SafetyLessons are beginner-friendly, requiring no prior experience. Instructors prioritize safety with rescue boats and radio communication.
- Most schools are a short drive from Dakhla's airport (served by Royal Air Maroc) or city center, with transfers often included.

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EXCLUSIVE BEGINNERS' KITESURFING ADVENTURE IN DAKHLA

PRIVATE KITE COACHING

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The White Dune and Desert Safari by 4x4 is one of Dakhla's most iconic tours, offering an unforgettable journey through the region's stunning desert and coastal landscapes. Located about 30 km northeast of Dakhla city, the White Dune is a striking natural formation rising from the Oued Eddahab lagoon, surrounded by turquoise waters and often dotted with flamingos. This half-day or full-day 4x4 adventure, typically organized by operators like Dakhla Ride Adventures, Go Booking Tours, <mark>or Medo</mark> Viajes Dakhla, extends into the vast Imlili Desert, showcasing dramatic dunes, hidden lakes, and rugged terrain. Tours are guided by local experts familiar with the region's unique ecosystem and history, costing \$50-\$150 per person depending on group size, duration (4-6 hours), and inclusions like meals or tea breaks. Suitable for all ages, this excursion combines adventure, nature, and cultural insights, making it a must-do for tourists visiting Dakhla.

Highlights

- White Dune ExplorationMarvel at the White Dune, a towering sand formation offering panoramic views of the lagoon and Atlantic coast. Its stark contrast with the turquoise water makes it a photographer's dream.
- Spot pink flamingos and other migratory birds, especially during winter months (December-February).
- Imlili Desert AdventureVenture into the Imlili Desert, known for its rolling dunes and serene isolation. Discover hidden saltwater lakes and unique rock formations, a testament to the Sahara's diversity.
- Learn about the region's nomadic heritage and geological history from knowledgeable guides.
- Porto Rico Beach StopVisit Porto Rico Beach, a pristine stretch along the Atlantic, perfect for a refreshing walk or quick dip. Its untouched beauty and crashing waves contrast with the calm lagoon.
- Authentic Saharan ExperienceEnjoy traditional Moroccan tea or snacks (often included) served in the desert, enhancing the cultural immersion. Some tours offer camel ride add-ons for a true Bedouin vibe.



- Engage with local guides who share stories of Dakhla's history as a former Spanish colony (Villa Cisneros) and its role in Western Sahara.
- Thrilling 4x4 DriveExperience an exhilarating ride over dunes and off-road trails in sturdy 4x4 vehicles, driven by skilled professionals ensuring safety and fun.
- Tours are customizable, with options to focus on photography, wildlife, or adventure.

BOOK HERE :

DAKHLA : WHITE DUNE SAFARI DAY TRIP BY JEEP 4*4

DAKHLA WHITE DUNE TOUR 4X4















3. DRAGON ISLAND (HERNÉ ISLAND) BOAT TOUR

The Dragon Island Boat Tour is a must-do activity in Dakhla, offering a peaceful escape to an uninhabited island in the Oued Eddahab lagoon. Known locally as Herné Island, it's a short boat or catamaran ride from Dakhla's coast, with some tours allowing a walk across at low tide. This 3-4 hour excursion, priced at \$30-\$60 per person, includes snacks and is perfect for snorkeling, seashell hunting, and soaking in the island's pristine beauty. Operators like Dakhla Trips and Ocean Vagabond provide professional crews and comfortable vessels, ensuring a relaxing experience.

Highlights

- **1. Pristine Beaches and Crystal Waters**
 - Relax on Dragon Island's untouched sandy shores, surrounded by turquoise lagoon waters ideal for swimming and wading.
 - The island's serene isolation offers a perfect retreat from busier tourist spots.
- 2. Snorkeling and Marine Life
 - Explore shallow waters with provided snorkeling gear, spotting colorful fish, crabs, and occasionally sea turtles.
 - Dolphin sightings are common during the boat ride, adding excitement to the journey.
- **3. Seashell and Fossil Hunting**
 - Wander the island's shores to collect unique seashells or small fossils, a favorite activity for kids and adults alike.
 - Guides often point out the best spots for finding natural treasures.
- 4. Scenic Boat Ride
 - Enjoy a leisurely cruise across the lagoon, with views of Dakhla's desert dunes and distant White Dune.
 - Catamaran tours, like those by Ocean Vagabond, offer a luxurious and stable ride.
- 5. Eco-Friendly Experience
 - Operators emphasize sustainability, encouraging visitors to preserve the island's natural state by removing all waste
- removing all waste.
- Snacks (e.g., dates, carrot cake, juice) are served with minimal environmental impact.

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DAKHLA CATAMARAN TOUR





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4. CAMEL OR HORSEBACK RIDING ON THE BEACH

CAMEL OR HORSEBACK RIDING ALONG DAKHLA'S PRISTINE BEACHES OFFERS A UNIQUE WAY TO EXPERIENCE THE REGION'S STUNNING BLEND OF ATLANTIC COASTLINE AND SAHARA DESERT LANDSCAPES. THIS ACTIVITY, OFTEN ORGANIZED BY **OPERATORS LIKE RANCH DES DUNES OR DAKHLA RIDE ADVENTURES, TAKES YOU ALONG ISOLATED BEACHES BORDERED BY TURQUOISE WATERS AND GOLDEN DUNES, PROVIDING A PEACEFUL YET ADVENTUROUS CONNECTION** TO DAKHLA'S NOMADIC HERITAGE. SUITABLE FOR ALL AGES AND SKILL LEVELS, THESE RIDES LAST 1-2 HOURS AND COST APPROXIMATELY \$20-\$40 PER PERSON, OFTEN **INCLUDING TRADITIONAL MOROCCAN TEA AND A LOCAL GUIDE FOR CULTURAL INSIGHTS. WHETHER ON A CAMEL.** EMBODYING THE SPIRIT OF THE SAHARA, OR ON HORSEBACK FOR A FASTER-PACED RIDE, THIS **EXPERIENCE IS PERFECT FOR FAMILIES, COUPLES, AND CULTURAL EXPLORERS SEEKING AN AUTHENTIC TASTE OF** DAKHLA'S NATURAL BEAUTY.

HIGHLIGHTS

- SCENIC BEACH RIDESTRAVERSE DAKHLA'S UNTOUCHED ATLANTIC BEACHES, WITH VIEWS OF CRASHING WAVES ON ONE SIDE AND TOWERING DUNES ON THE OTHER, CREATING A BREATHTAKING BACKDROP.
- SUNSET RIDES ARE PARTICULARLY MAGICAL, WITH THE SKY CASTING VIBRANT HUES OVER THE LAGOON AND DESERT.
- CULTURAL IMMERSIONENGAGE WITH LOCAL BEDOUIN TRADITIONS THROUGH CAMEL RIDES, REFLECTING THE REGION'S NOMADIC HISTORY. GUIDES OFTEN SHARE STORIES ABOUT DAKHLA'S PAST AS A SPANISH COLONY (VILLA CISNEROS).
- ENJOY A TRADITIONAL TEA CEREMONY, TYPICALLY SERVED DURING A BREAK, ENHANCING THE CULTURAL EXPERIENCE.
- ACCESSIBLE FOR ALLNO PRIOR EXPERIENCE IS NEEDED; CAMELS AND HORSES ARE WELL-TRAINED, AND GUIDES ENSURE SAFETY WITH GENTLE ANIMALS SUITED FOR BEGINNERS, KIDS (8+), AND ADULTS.



- RIDES ARE TAILORED TO YOUR PACE, FROM LEISURELY STROLLS TO TROTTING FOR MORE EXPERIENCED RIDERS ON HORSEBACK.
- WILDLIFE AND NATURESPOT COASTAL WILDLIFE LIKE
 SEABIRDS OR OCCASIONAL DOLPHINS ALONG THE SHORE,
 WITH THE LAGOON'S FLAMINGOS VISIBLE IN THE DISTANCE
 DURING WINTER MONTHS.
- THE SERENE SETTING OFFERS A CHANCE TO DISCONNECT AND SOAK IN DAKHLA'S UNSPOILED ENVIRONMENT.
- PHOTO OPPORTUNITIESCAPTURE STUNNING IMAGES OF YOURSELF RIDING AGAINST THE DRAMATIC DESERT-OCEAN CONTRAST, PERFECT FOR MEMORABLE KEEPSAKES.
- GUIDES OFTEN ASSIST WITH PHOTOS, ENSURING YOU GET THE BEST ANGLES OF THE LANDSCAPE.

BOOK HERE

DAKHLA: CAMEL RIDE

DAKHLA: HORSEBACK RIDING TOUR

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5. QUAD BIKING IN THE DUNES

Quad biking in Dakhla's sprawling desert dunes offers an adrenaline-pumping adventure through the Sahara's breathtaking landscapes, where golden sands meet the Atlantic coast. This thrilling activity, typically organized by operators like Dakhla Ride Adventures (dakhlarideadventures.com), Majourneys (majourneys.ma), or Maroc Day Pass (marocdaypass.com), takes you across diverse terrains, including towering dunes, wild beaches, and the shimmering Oued Eddahab lagoon. Tours last 1-4 hours, with prices ranging from \$30-\$80 per person, including well-maintained automatic quad bikes (e.g., Yamaha 350cc), safety gear, and guided instruction. Suitable for all skill levels, including beginners (minimum age 16 to ride, younger as passengers), these excursions often include hotel transfers and cultural stops, such as tea breaks with nomadic families. Quad biking is perfect for thrill-seekers and nature lovers eager to explore Dakhla's unique desertocean wilderness.

Highlights

- Exhilarating Dune RidesPower through Dakhla's golden sand dunes, navigating steep slopes and open desert trails for an adrenaline rush reminiscent of the Paris-Dakar Rally.
- Automatic quads make it easy for beginners to handle varied terrains, from sandy dunes to rocky paths, with routes tailored to skill levels.
- Stunning Coastal and Desert SceneryRide along the lagoon's turquoise waters and untouched Atlantic beaches, with stops at iconic spots like the White Dune for panoramic views.
- Sunset tours offer mesmerizing vistas as the desert glows under golden skies, ideal for photography.
- Cultural EncountersSome tours, like those by Maroc Day Pass, include stops at nomadic communities, offering insights into Saharawi traditions and lifestyles. Enjoy mint tea or snacks with locals for an authentic cultural experience.
- Safe and Accessible AdventureProfessional guides





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DAKHLA: QUAD TOUR WITH PANORAMIC VIEWS

provide safety briefings and helmets, ensuring a secure ride. Tours cater to all levels, with practice sessions for first-timers.

- Well-maintained quads and guided routes minimize risks, with operators prioritizing eco-conscious exploration to preserve Dakhla's fragile desert ecosystem.
- Customizable ExperiencesChoose from short 1-2 hour rides or half-day adventures, often combined with visits to attractions like Porto Rico Beach or Asmaa Thermal Hot Spring.
- Options like Dakhla Ride Adventures' "Ride or Die" dune challenge cater to thrill-seekers, while lagoon-side cruises suit those seeking scenic beauty.



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6. YOGA RETREAT AT OM YOGA DAKHLA

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The Om Yoga Dakhla Retreat, hosted at the Ocean Vagabond Lagoon ecolodge in Dakhla, Morocco, offers a rejuvenating escape combining yoga with the serene beauty of the Sahara Desert and the Oued Eddahab lagoon. Set on a narrow peninsula along the Atlantic coast, this retreat is ideal for those seeking to blend wellness with adventure, particularly kitesurfing, in one of the world's top water sports destinations. Om Yoga Studios, partnered with Ocean Vagabond, provides daily classes in a variety of yoga styles, including Hatha, Vinyasa, Yin, Aerial, and Power Yoga, catering to beginners and advanced practitioners alike. Retreats are offered in flexible 3-, 5-, or 7-day packages, with prices starting at approximately \$300-\$700, including accommodation in pacha lodges, organic meals, and unlimited yoga classes. Single sessions are available for \$10-\$20. The retreat's beachfront yoga hut, with lagoon views, creates a tranquil setting for relaxation and self-discovery, often complemented by kitesurfing sessions, massages, and ecoconscious amenities.

Highlights

- Diverse Yoga OfferingsEnjoy a range of classes, from energizing Vinyasa and Power Yoga to restorative Yin and Aerial Yoga in hammocks, led by certified instructors like Nabil Scally (Bikram, Hatha, Aerial) and Aurélie Martin Scally (Vinyasa, Yin).
- Specialized 30-minute "before" and "after" kitesurfing sessions focus on warm-ups, breathing exercises, and stretching to enhance performance and recovery, preventing post-kitesurfing stiffness.
- Stunning Lagoon-View StudioPractice in a modern, airy, whitewashed studio with floor-to-ceiling glass walls overlooking the lagoon, offering a calming atmosphere, especially during sunset classes.
- Reviews praise the studio's tranquil design and instructors like Charlotte for their professional, welcoming guidance in Aerial Yoga, making it accessible even for beginners.
- Kitesurfing and Yoga SynergyCombine yoga with kitesurfing through tailored retreats, leveraging Ocean Vagabond's ION Club-certified nautical center for equipment rentals and lessons. Morning yoga prepares the body for water sports, while evening sessions promote relaxation and muscle recovery.
- Guests report feeling "fresh, vibrant, yet calm" after classes, with yoga enhancing their kitesurfing experience by improving flexibility and reducing soreness.
- Eco-Lodge ExperienceStay in Ocean Vagabond's pacha lodges (single, double, or triple rooms with private bathrooms), blending modern comfort with authentic Moroccan charm. Enjoy world-class cuisine, a lively beach bar, and massage facilities, all steps from the lagoon.
- The retreat emphasizes sustainability, encouraging guests to preserve Dakhla's pristine environment.
- Community and Wellness Focus The retreat fosters a warm, family-like atmosphere, with healthy, organic meals (vegan/vegetarian options) served communally. Reviews highlight the "loveliest people" and "heavenly" setting, with guests leaving "replenished and serene."
- Additional offerings include meditation, breathing workshops, and early morning beach walks, perfect for holistic wellness and connecting with Dakhla's natural beauty.





BOOK HERE :

OM YOGA DAKHLA - OCEAN VAGABOND LAGOON



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