



## **TANGIER: MOROCCO'S** VIBRANT GATEWAY TO AFRICA









Overview: Nestled at the northern tip of Morocco where the Mediterranean Sea kisses the Atlantic Ocean, Tangier is a captivating blend of cultures, histories, and modern allure, making it a must-visit for your Merzouga Best City Guide. Just 20 miles from Spain across the Strait of Gibraltar, this bustling port city has been a cultural crossroads for centuries, drawing Phoenicians, Romans, Arabs, and Europeans, as well as iconic artists like Henri Matisse and writers like Paul Bowles. With its colorful medina, lively souks, stunning beaches, and a revitalized charms, perfect for day-trippers from Europe or travelers exploring the northern coast.

#### Why Visit Tangier:

- Cultural Melting Pot: Tangier's history as an international zone in the early 20th century left a unique fusion of Moroccan, Spanish, French, multilingual vibe.
- Strategic Location: A short ferry ride (1-2 hours) from Tarifa or Algeciras, Spain, makes Tangier an ideal entry point to Africa or a day trip from Europe. It's also the northern hub of Morocco's highspeed Al Boraq rail, connecting to Fes, Rabat, and Casablanca.
- Creative Legacy: Once a haven for bohemian artists, writers, and rock stars like Mick Jagger, Tangier's laid-back cafe culture and artistic spirit continue to inspire, with modern creative hubs like Cinéma Rif.
- Modern Transformation: Recent developments, including Tangier-Med port, a new marina, and a renovated corniche, have revitalized the city, blending old-world charm with contemporary flair.

#### Top Attractions & Experiences:

- The Medina & Grand Socco: Wander the labyrinthine streets of Tangier's medina, a vibrant maze of whitewashed houses, bustling souks, and hidden cafes. Start at Grand Socco (Place du 9 Avril 1947), a lively square with street vendors and historic landmarks like Cinéma Rif, North Africa's first arthouse cinema. Explore nearby Mendoubia Gardens for a tranquil escape with ancient trees.
- Kasbah & Museum of Moroccan Arts: Perched in the medina's northwestern corner, the Kasbah's Dar el Makhzen palace houses the Museum of Moroccan Arts and Antiquities, showcasing ceramics, silks, and a Roman mosaic of Venus from Volubilis. Stroll the Sultan's Garden for fragrant orange trees and sea views.
- Caves of Hercules & Cap Spartel: A 15-minute drive west, the Caves of Hercules, linked to Greek mythology, offer dramatic ocean views. Nearby, Cap Spartel's lighthouse marks the meeting of the Atlantic and Mediterranean, perfect for sunset hikes or picnics in its leafy reserve.
- Tangier's Beaches: Relax at Tangier City Beach, lined with cafes, or head to quieter Achakkar or Malabata for golden sands and Atlantic waves. Summer brings a lively vibe, ideal for sunbathing or camel rides along the shore.
- Cafe Culture at La Terrasse des Paresseux: Soak in Tangier's bohemian spirit at this iconic Boulevard Pasteur lookout, dubbed "Idlers' Terrace." Sip mint tea, watch ferries cross the Strait of Gibraltar, and enjoy people-watching with historic cannons as backdrop.
- Culinary Delights: Savor Moroccan tagines, fresh seafood, or b'stilla (savory pastry) at spots like Le Nabab or El Korsan for upscale dining with sea views. Street food stalls offer msemen flatbread and mint tea. For a modern twist, try French-Asian fusion at Le Fabrique.
- Cultural Events: Time your visit for Tanjazz (September), a worldclass jazz festival with concerts in historic venues, or the Tangier International Latin Festival for dance and music.



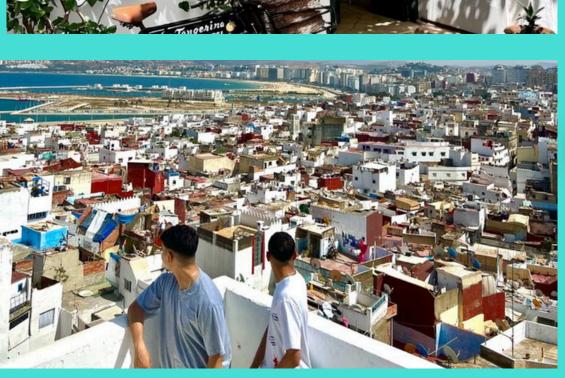


## **SECRETS OF THE KASBAH" WALKING TOUR**

Overview: Dive into the heart of Tangier's historic medina with the Secrets of the Kasbah Walking Tour, a captivating journey through the ancient Kasbah district, perched above the city's vibrant port. This 2-3 hour guided experience unravels the hidden stories, cultural treasures, and architectural gems of Tangier's fortified quarter, where centuries of Phoenician, Roman, Arab, and European influences converge. Perfect for history buffs, culture enthusiasts, and curious travelers, this tour is a must-do highlight for your Merzouga Best City Guide, offering an intimate glimpse into Tangier's soul. What to Expect:

- Duration: 2-3 hours, typically offered morning (9:00-11:00 AM) or late afternoon (3:00-5:00 PM) to avoid midday heat and capture the medina's lively ambiance.
- Start: Meet your local guide at Grand Socco (Place du 9 Avril 1947), Tangier's bustling main square, or a designated medina gate like Bab el Kasbah. Small groups (4-10 people) ensure a personalized experience.
- Route
  - Kasbah Entrance: Enter through Bab el Kasbah, a historic gate, and step into the medina's labyrinthine alleys, where whitewashed walls and colorful doors create a picturesque maze.
  - Dar el Makhzen Palace: Visit the former sultan's palace, now the Museum of Moroccan Arts and Antiquities, showcasing intricate mosaics, carved cedar ceilings, and artifacts like Volubilis' Venus mosaic. Learn about Tangier's royal history and its role as a diplomatic hub.
  - Sultan's Garden: Stroll through this fragrant oasis of orange trees and fountains, offering panoramic views over the Strait of Gibraltar and tales of past rulers.









- Hidden Corners: Explore narrow alleys like Rue des Siaghins, uncovering hidden cafes, artisan workshops (e.g., weaving, leather), and historic homes once frequented by artists like Henri Matisse. Guides share stories of Tangier's bohemian era, from Paul Bowles to the Beat Generation.
- Kasbah Square & Lookout: End at Place du Matin, a charming square with sea views, where you can sip mint tea at a local cafe or browse stalls for handmade crafts.
- End: Conclude at the Kasbah or return to Grand Socco, with tipe from your guide for nearby dining (e.g., Le Nabab) or further medina exploration.

### Highlights

- Insider stories of Tangier's Kasbah, from ancient forts to its 20th-century international zone days.
- Stunning views over the medina, port, and Strait of Gibraltar.
- Cultural immersion through artisan encounters and museum treasures.
- Authentic medina ambiance, with vibrant alleys and historic charm.

## **BOOK HERE:**

TANGIER HALF-DAY GUIDED CITY
TOUR

4 HOURS DELUXE GUIDED TOUR OF TANGIER + CAMEL RIDING + TEA.





# C 2. "WHERE TWO OCEANS MEET" – CAP SPARTEL & HERCULES CAVES

Overview: Gear up for an exhilarating 4x4 desert tour through Merzouga's Erg Chebbi dunes, a must-do adventure for exploring the Sahara's golden sands and cultural treasures. This off-road experience takes you across towering dunes, to nomadic villages, and ancient fossil sites, offering a thrilling blend of adrenaline and heritage. Ideal as a standalone activity or part of a Merzouga-focused itinerary, it's perfect for adventure seekers wanting to dive into the desert's wild beauty.

#### What to Expect:

- Duration: 2-4 hours, typically run in the morning (8-11 AM) or late afternoon (3-6 PM) to avoid peak heat and capture the best light for photos.
- Start: Begins in Merzouga, at the edge of the Erg Chebbi dunes, where you'll hop into a sturdy, air-conditioned 4x4 (e.g. Toyota Land Cruiser) with a skilled local driver-guide
- Route
  - Erg Chebbi Dunes: Tackle the 150m-high dunes with heart-pounding off-road drives, weaving through sandy valleys and cresting steep slopes. Pause at panoramic viewpoints to snap photos of the vast, golden desert
  - Nomadic Villages: Visit a Berber nomadic family in a remote settlement, sipping tea and learning about their traditional way of life in the harsh Sahara.
  - Khamlia Village: Stop in Khamlia, a Gnaoua community, for a short performance of their rhythmic, spiritual music rooted in Sub-Saharan African heritage.
  - Fossil Sites: Explore nearby quarries filled with 350million-year-old marine fossils, remnants of an ancient seabed, with optional visits to local workshops crafting fossil keepsakes.
- End: Return to Merzouga, ready for further activities like of camel trek, desert camp stay, or relaxation at your local accommodation.
   Highlights:
- Thrilling dune-bashing across Erg Chebbi's dramatic landscape.
- Authentic encounters with Berber and Gnaoua cultures.
- Discovery of ancient fossils in the desert's geological past.
- Breathtaking Sahara vistas, perfect for photography.



## **BOOK HERE:**

TANGIER: GUIDED CITY TOUR
AROUND MAIN POINTS OF
INTEREST

FROM TARIFA: TANGIER DAY
TRIP WITH LUNCH AND FERRY

















## \*3. CAMEL RIDE ALONG THE ATLANTIC

Experience the thrill of a camel ride along Tangier's stunning Atlantic coastline, a unique adventure that blends Morocco's desert traditions with the refreshing breeze of the ocean. This 1-2 hour excursion, perfect for your Merzouga Best City Guide, takes you across the golden sands of Tangier City Beach or the quieter shores of Achakkar and Malabata, offering a scenic and cultural twist to the classic Saharan camel trek. Ideal for families, couples, or solo travelers, this activity combines coastal beauty with Berber heritage, making it a memorable highlight of Tangier's vibrant offerings.

#### What to Expect:

- Duration: 1-2 hours, typically offered in the morning (9:00-11:00 AM) or late afternoon (3:00-5:00 PM) to enjoy mild weather and golden light for photos.
- Start: Meet your guide and camels at a designated spot on Tangier City Beach (near the corniche) or quieter beaches like Achakkar (15 km southwest) or Malabata (10 km east). Tours are led by local Berber handlers, ensuring authentic insights and safe handling.
- Experiences
  - Camel Trek: Mount a dromedary (single-humped camel) and follow a guided route along the Atlantic shore. Feel the gentle sway as you ride across soft sands, with waves crashing nearby and views of Tangier's skyline or distant Cap Spartel.
  - Scenic Route: On Tangier City Beach, pass lively cafes and the modern marina, with the medina's whitewashed walls in the backdrop. At Achakkar or Malabata, enjoy quieter sands framed by dunes and rolling hills, evoking a mini-Sahara by the sea.
  - Cultural Touch: Guides share stories of Berber camel herding traditions and Tangier's coastal history as a trading hub.
     Some tours include a brief stop for mint tea or a photo session with your camel against the ocean.
- End: Return to the starting point, with options to explore nearby cafes (e.g., along the corniche) or continue to other Tangier attractions like the Kasbah or Caves of Hercules.

### **Highlights:**

- Unique blend of desert-style camel trekking with Atlantic ocean views.
- Stunning coastal scenery, from bustling city beaches to serene shores.
- Authentic Berber interaction, with insights into Morocco's nomadic culture.
- Perfect for Instagram-worthy shots of camels silhouetted against the sea.

## **BOOK NOW**

TANGIER: CAP SPARTEL AND HERCULES CAVES TRIP WITH CAMEL RIDE

TANGIER: ACHAKAR BEACH
SUNSET CAMEL RIDE &
MOROCCAN DINNER

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## 4. TANGIER FLAVORS: FOOD & CULTURE TOUR

Savor the vibrant soul of Tangier with the Tangier Flavors: Food & Culture Tour, a 3-4 hour culinary journey through the medina's bustling souks and hidden eateries, perfect for your Merzouga Best City Guide. This guided experience blends Morocco's rich gastronomic heritage with the city's multicultural history, offering tastes of traditional dishes, street food, and insights into Tangier's Berber, Arab, and European influences. Ideal for foodies and culture enthusiasts, this tour transforms Tangier's flavors into a delicious exploration of its past and present.

### What to Expect:

- Duration: 3-4 hours, typically offered late morning (10:00 AM-1:00 PM) for lively market vibes or early evening (4:00-7:00 PM) for sunset dining, avoiding peak midday heat.
- Start: Meet your local guide at Grand Socco (Place du 9 Avril 1947), Tangier's vibrant square, or a medina gate like Bab el Fass. Small groups (4-8 people) ensure an intimate experience.
- Route & Tastings:
  - Petit Socco: Begin in this historic square, once a bohemian hub for writers like Paul Bowles. Sip mint tea at Café Tingis and sample msemen (flaky flatbread) with honey or amlou (almond-argan paste) from a street vendor, learning about Tangier's cafe culture.
  - Souk Stalls: Wander the medina's food market, tasting olives, preserved lemons, and local cheeses like jben. Guides explain spice blends (e.g., ras el hanout) and Morocco's role in ancient trade routes. Try harira (lentil-tomato soup) or bissara (fava bean soup) from a tiny stall.
  - Traditional Eatery: Stop at a family-run restaurant for b'stilla (savory-sweet pigeon or chicken pastry dusted with cinnamon) or a seafood tagine, reflecting Tangier's coastal bounty. Hear stories of the city's international zone era and its culinary fusion.
  - Hidden Gems: Visit a medina bakery to see khobz (round bread)
     baked in communal ovens or taste sfenj (Moroccan doughnuts) fresh
     from the fryer. Sample chbakia (honey-soaked sesame pastries) at a
     sweet shop, paired with insights into Ramadan traditions.
  - Rooftop or Cafe Finale: End at a rooftop terrace with views over the medina and Strait of Gibraltar, enjoying a full meal (e.g., lamb couscous or vegetable tagine) or dessert like kaab el ghzal (almondfilled "gazelle horns"). Guides share tales of Tangier's modern culinary scene, influenced by French and Spanish flavors.
- End: Conclude in the medina or Grand Socco, with recommendations fo evening spots like Le Nabab or beachfront cafes along the corniche.

## **Highlights:**

- Diverse tastings, from street sfenj to upscale b'stilla, showcasing Tangier's culinary range.
- Cultural stories linking food to Tangier's Berber, Arab, and European heritage.
- Vibrant medina exploration, from souks to hidden bakeries.
- Stunning rooftop views over the city and sea, paired with a hearty meal.





## **BOOK HERE:**

TANGIER STREET FOOD TOUR

AUTHENTIC LUXURY, PRIVATE,
TANGIER TOUR AND COOKING CLASS





## 5. SUNSET BY THE SEA – PRIVATE COASTAL DRIVE

Experience the magic of Tangier's coastline with the Sunset by the Sea – Private Coastal Drive, a 2-3 hour journey along the Atlantic and Mediterranean shores, crafted for your Merzouga Best City Guide. This exclusive tour takes you from Tangier's vibrant corniche to the dramatic cliffs of Cap Spartel and the mythical Caves of Hercules, culminating in a breathtaking sunset over the ocean. Perfect for romantics, photographers, and travelers seeking a serene escape, this private drive blends scenic beauty, cultural insights, and Tangier's unique position at the crossroads of two seas.

#### What to Expect:

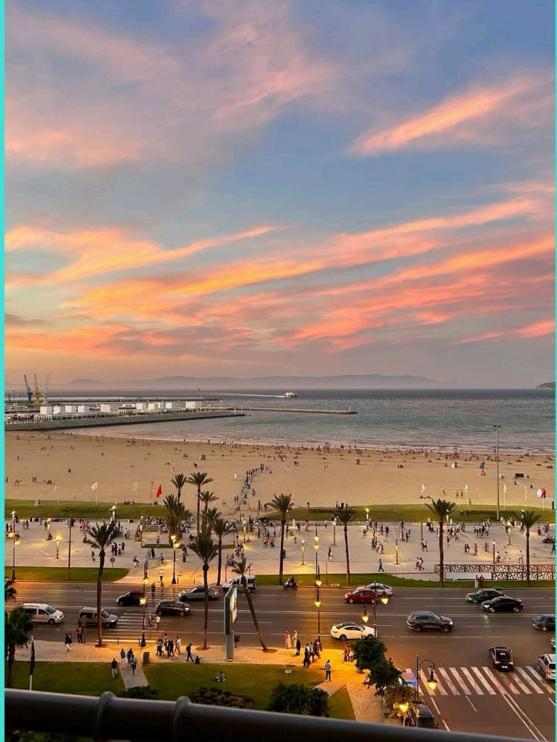
- Duration: 2-3 hours, starting in the late afternoon (4:00-5:00 PM, adjusted for sunset times) to capture the golden hour and end after dusk. Ideal for small groups or couples (1-4 people).
- Start: Your private driver-guide picks you up from your Tangier hotel, riad, or a central point like Grand Socco in a comfortable, air-conditioned 4x4 or sedan.

#### **Route:**

- Tangier Corniche: Begin along the modern Avenue Mohammed VI, passing the bustling Tangier City Beach and Tanja Marina Bay, with views of ferries
- Cap Spartel: Drive 15 km west to Cap Spartel, where the Atlantic meets the Mediterranean. Stop at the iconic 1864 lighthouse for photos and a short walk through the leafy reserve, learning about Tangier's maritime history from your guide.
- (Hercules supposedly rested here). Explore the cave's ocean-carved opening shaped like Africa, and hear tales of its Phoenician origins. Perfect for a quick 20-30 minute stop.
- Sunset Stop: Settle at a scenic lookout (often near Cap Spartel or Achakkar Beach) to watch the sun dip below the horizon, painting the sky in hues of orange, pink, and purple. Enjoy a private moment with mint tea or snacks provided by some operators, soaking in the tranquil coastal views.
- End: Return to Tangier by dusk, dropped off at your accommodation or a recommended restaurant like El Korsan for a seafood dinner with sea views.

### **Highlights:**

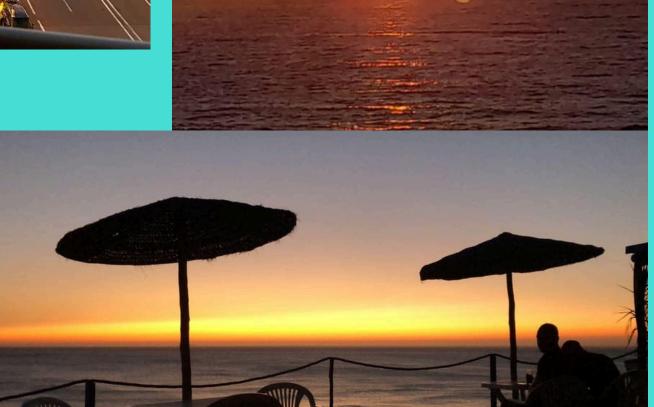
- Stunning sunset views over the Atlantic and Mediterranean convergence.
- Iconic stops at Cap Spartel lighthouse and the Caves of Hercules.
- Private, tailored experience with a knowledgeable driver-guide sharing Tangier's coastal history.
- Scenic drive along beaches and cliffs, perfect for photography.



## **BOOK HERE:**

TANGIER: SUNSET, TEA, CAMEL RIDE, CAPE SPARTEL AND CAVES.

THE KASBAH BY NIGHT





**6. TANGIER MEDINA** TREASURE HUNT (GREAT FOR **GROUPS & FAMILIES)** 





**Embark on an exhilarating Tangier Medina** Treasure Hunt, a 2-3 hour interactive adventure through the vibrant alleys of Tangier's historic medina, crafted for your Merzouga Best City Guide. Perfect for groups and families, this engaging tour transforms the medina's labyrinth into a playful quest, blending exploration, cultural discovery, and teamwork. Solve clues, uncover hidden gems, and immerse in Tangier's multicultural heritage, from Berber roots to European influences, making it an unforgettable experience for all ages.

#### What to Expect:

- Duration: 2-3 hours, offered morning (9:00-11:00 AM) or early afternoon (2:00-4:00 PM) to enjoy the medina's lively atmosphere and avoid peak
- Start: Gather at Grand Socco (Place du 9 Avril 1947), Tangier's bustling main square, where your guide provides a treasure hunt map, clues, and a briefing. Ideal for groups of 4-12 (families, friends, or team-building groups).
- - (riddles, puzzles, or photo challenges) leading through the medina's
  - Cultural Stops: Clues guide you to key sites, such as a traditional bakery making khobz bread, a spice vendor's stall in the souk, or the Mendoubia Gardens' ancient fig trees. Learn about Tangier's history
  - Moroccan spices, bargaining for a small souvenir (with guide assistance), or snapping a creative photo at a medina mural. Guides share stories of Berber, Arab, and European influences, tailored for kids and adults.
  - scenic spot, like a rooftop cafe or Kasbah Square, with mint tea and a
- dining (e.g., Café Hafa for sea views) or further exploration like the

### **Highlights:**

- Fun, interactive treasure hunt engaging all ages with puzzles and
- Exploration of Tangier's medina, from bustling souks to serene gardens.
- Cultural insights into Tangier's Berber, Arab, and European heritage.



## **BOOK HERE:**

**TANGIER FULL-DAY GRAND TOUR** 

**TANGIER: GUIDED TOUR OF THE MEDINA SOUKS** 





<u>www.inagafay.com</u>

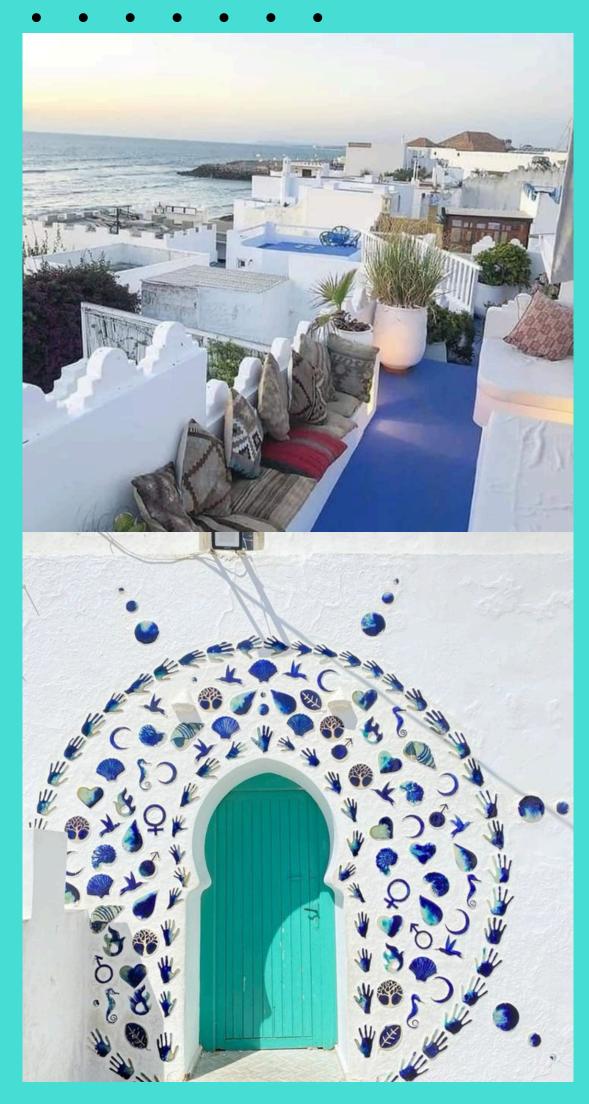


# 7. ASILAH ESCAPE: ART BY THE OCEAN (HALF-DAY OR FULL-DAY)

Embark on a captivating journey to Asilah,
Morocco's artistic gem on the Atlantic coast, 45 km
south of Tangier. This tour, offered as a half-day (4-5
hours) or full-day (7-8 hours) experience, highlights
Asilah's medina, adorned with vibrant murals, historic
Portuguese ramparts, and serene beaches. Perfect for
your Merzouga Best City Guide, it's a cultural escape
blending art, history, and coastal beauty, ideal for art
enthusiasts, families, or those seeking a relaxed
contrast to Tangier's bustle or Merzouga's dunes.

#### What to Expect:

- Duration
- Half-Day: 4-5 hours (e.g., 9:00 AM-1:00 PM or 2:00-6:00 PM).
- Full-Day: 7-8 hours (e.g., 9:00 AM-4:00 PM), including lunch and beach time
- Start: Pickup from your Tangier hotel, riad, or port in a private air-conditioned vehicle (1-6 people). Meet your local guide for a scenic 45-minute drive to Asilah, with views of the Atlantic coast.
- Itinerary
- Medina Art Walk: Explore Asilah's compact, whitewashed medina, an open air gallery with colorful murals painted during the annual Asilah Arts Festival (July/August). Wander cobbled streets past blue-and-green keyshaped doors and art galleries, learning about the festival's history since 1978, when artists like Mohammed Melehi transformed decaying walls into canvases. Visit the Raissouli Palace, a 1909 Moorish mansion hosting art exhibitions, with its dramatic sea-view terrace.
- Portuguese Ramparts & Borj Al Kamra: Stroll along the 15th-century
  Portuguese walls, offering panoramic Atlantic views. Climb the Borj Al
  Kamra bastion for photos of crashing waves and the medina's indigo-white
  charm. Hear tales of Asilah's Phoenician, Roman, and pirate past, including
  the notorious Raisuli.
- Seaside Promenade (Half-Day): Walk Asilah's breezy promenade, lined with fishing boats and cafes. Snap photos of the harbor or relax with mint tea at a seaside snot like La Perle
- Beach Time & Lunch (Full-Day): Visit Paradise Beach (7 km south) or Sidi Mghait Beach (15 km south) for golden sands and shallow waters. Enjoy of picnic or lunch at a beachfront restaurant (e.g., Casa Garcia for seafood tagine or couscous). Optional activities include a camel ride or shell collecting along the share.
- Cultural Stops (Full-Day): Visit the Church of San Bartolome (1925), a rare Catholic site in Morocco, or the Jewish Cemetery to explore Asilah's Sephardic heritage. Stop at the Hassan II Cultural Center for local crafts of exhibitions
- End: Return to Tangier, dropped off at your accommodation or o
- Highlight
- Vibrant street art and murals in Asilah's medina, a living gallery.
- Historic Portuguese ramparts with stunning Atlantic vistas
- Relaxed beach time at Paradise or Sidi Mahait (full-day)
- Cultural insights into Asilah's Phoenician, Portuguese, and Moroccan heritage.
- Flexible half-day or full-day options for all travelers.



## **BOOK HERE:**

**FROM TANGIER: ASILAH CITY TOUR** 

FROM TANGIER: FULL-DAY
TANGIER, ASILAH, & CAPE
SPARTEL TOUR









## 8.ANGIER CITY TOUR BUS HOP ON - HOP OFF

Tangier City Tour Bus Hop On - Hop Off
Overview: Explore Tangier at your own pace with the
Tangier City Tour Bus Hop On - Hop Off, a flexible and
convenient way to discover Morocco's vibrant coastal
gateway, perfectly suited for your Merzouga Best City
Guide. This double-decker, open-top bus tour offers
two routes covering Tangier's historic medina, modern
corniche, and scenic outskirts, including Cap Spartel
and the Caves of Hercules. With a 48-hour ticket, audio
guides in eight languages, and frequent stops, it's ideal
for solo travelers, families, or groups seeking a hasslefree introduction to Tangier's cultural and natural
highlights. This tour complements Merzouga's desert
adventures with Tangier's urban and coastal charm.
What to Expect:

- Duration:
  - Tanger Ville Route (Blue Line): ~1 hour, covering the historic city center.
  - Espartel Route (Red Line): ~1 hour 40 minutes, exploring coastal outskirts
  - Ticket valid for 48 hours, allowing unlimited hops on/off across both routes
- Start: Board at any designated stop (e.g., Port of Tangier, Grand Socco/Place 9 Avril) by showing a printed voucher. Buses run daily 9:00 AM-5:00 PM (November-March) or 9:00 AM-6:00 PM (April-October)
- Routes & Stops
  - Tanger Ville Route (Blue Line): Focuses on the city's historic and modern core. Key stops include:
    - Port of Tangier: Near the ferry terminal, ideal for day-trippers from Spain
    - Grand Socco (Place 9 Avril): Gateway to the medina and
    - Palais Moulay Hafid: Historic palace with cultural
    - Tombeaux Phéniciens: Ancient tombs with sea view
    - Place Faro: Scenic square with Portuguese cannons.
    - Tanger City Mail: Modern snopping hub near the train station
    - Marina: Revamped waterfront with cafes
  - Espartel Route (Red Line): Explores coastal and natural sites. Key stops include:
    - Socco Alto: Shopping center near the city's edge.
    - Parc Perdicaris: Forested park with Strait of Gibraltar views
    - Mediterranean convergence.
    - of Africa" opening.
    - Donabo: Access to Cap Spartel's natural reserve.





## **BOOK HERE:**

TANGIER CITY TOUR BUS HOP ON -HOP OFF

TANGIER: HOP-ON HOP-OFF
SIGHTSEEING BUS



