GASABLANGA

The Beating Heart of Modern Morocco

Suivez le guide !

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The Hassan II Mosque in Casablanca, Morocco, is a breathtaking architectural masterpiece and a must-visit landmark for any city guide. As one of the largest mosques in the world and the only one in Morocco open to non-Muslims, its guided tour offers a unique opportunity to explore its grandeur and cultural significance. Below is a detailed description tailored for inclusion in a city guide

The Hassan II Mosque, perched dramatically on a promontory overlooking the Atlantic Ocean, is Casablanca's crown jewel and an iconic symbol of Moroccan craftsmanship.

Commissioned by King Hassan II and completed in 1993, this architectural marvel, designed by French architect Michel Pinseau, is the secondlargest mosque in Africa, with a capacity for 105,000 worshippers (25,000 inside the prayer hall and 80,000 in the expansive courtyard). Its 210-meter minaret, the tallest in the world, is topped with a laser beam pointing toward Mecca, making it a striking city landmark visible from afar.

The guided tour is the only way for non-Muslims to explore the mosque's stunning interior, offering an immersive 45-minute journey through its sacred spaces. Available in multiple languages (English, French, Spanish, Italian, and German), tours are conducted several times daily, typically in the morning (9 AM, 10 AM, 11 AM, and noon) and occasionally in the afternoon (2 PM or 3 PM, with additional summer tours at 4 PM). During Ramadan, tours are limited to mornings (9 AM and 11 AM).

INAGAFAY AGENCY



1. HASSAN II MOSQUE GUIDED TOUR







BOOK HERE :

CASABLANCA: HASSAN II MOSQUE PREMIUM TOUR WITH ENTRY <u>TICKET</u>

SKIP THE LINE HASSAN 2 MOSQUE PREMIUM TOUR ENTRY TICKET INCLUDED









1 2. CITY HIGHLIGHTS TOUR

Discover the vibrant heartbeat of Morocco's economic capital with the Casablanca City Highlights Tour, a 4-6 hour journey through the city's iconic landmarks, historic districts, and scenic coastal vistas. Perfect for first-time visitors or those with limited time, this guided tour—available in private or small-group formats—captures the essence of Casablanca's blend of modernity, tradition, and Art Deco elegance. Led by knowledgeable local guides, the tour unveils the city's rich history, from its 7th-century Berber roots as Anfa to its bustling present as a cosmopolitan metropolis of over six million.

Tour Highlights:

- Old Medina: Step into the historic heart of Casablanca, where narrow alleys brim with colorful souks, spice vendors, and traditional crafts. Explore the 18th-century ramparts and absorb the lively atmosphere of this authentic neighborhood.
- Habous Quarter (New Medina): Wander this charming 1930s district, built by the French, featuring clean streets, Mauresque architecture, and artisan shops selling olives, textiles, and pastries. Visit the nearby Mahkama du Pacha, a stunning Hispano-Moorish courthouse (exterior only).
- Royal Palace (Exterior): Admire the ornate gates and lush gardens of this royal residence, a symbol of Morocco's monarchy, located near the Habous Quarter. Note that the palace is closed to the public.
- Mohammed V Square: Stroll through the administrative hub of Casablanca, designed by French architect Henri Prost, surrounded by Art Deco buildings, law courts, and the statue of Marshal Lyautey. It's a lively spot for people-watching.
- Aïn Diab Corniche: Enjoy a scenic drive or leisurely walk along this trendy seaside promenade, dubbed Morocco's "Miami." Take in Atlantic views, visit beachfront cafés, or spot the El Hank Lighthouse.

BOOK HERE :

CASABLANCA: FULL-DAY CITY EXPLORATION WITH HOTEL PICKUP

CASABLANCA CITY NIGHT TOUR AND TRADITIONAL MOROCCAN DINNER



- Notre Dame de Lourdes Church: Explore this 1950s Catholic church, a rare sight in Morocco, known for its modernist design and vibrant stained-glass windows by French artist Gabriel Loire.
- Central Market: Dive into the bustling energy of this vibrant market, where vendors sell fresh produce, seafood, and spices. Sample local street food or mint tea for a taste of Casablanca's culinary scene.





3. MOROCCAN COOKING CLASS

Dive into the heart of Moroccan cuisine with a Moroccan Cooking Class in Casablanca, a 3-4 hour hands-on experience that brings the flavors o<mark>f North</mark> Africa to life. Perfect for food lovers and cultural explorers, this intimate class—often hosted in a local's home or a dedicated culinary space—teaches you to create authentic dishes like tagine, couscous, and Moroccan salads using fresh, seasonal ingredients. Led by passionate local chefs, such as those from Taste of Casablanca or Traveling Spoon, these classes offer a warm, family-style atmosphere, blending culinary skills with insights into Morocco's Berber, Arab, and Mediterranean heritage.

What to Expect:

- Market Visit (Optional): Many classes begin with a guided tour of a bustling Casablanca market, like the Central Market or a neighborhood souk, where you'll select fresh produce, spices (think saffron, cumin, and cinnamon), and proteins with your host. Learn to navigate the vibrant stalls and discover local shopping traditions.
- Cooking Session: In a home kitchen or professional setup, roll up your sleeves to prepare a multi-course meal. **Common dishes include:**
 - Tagine: Slow-cooked stews like chicken with preserved lemon and olives or lamb with prunes, cooked in traditional conical pots.
 - Couscous with Seven Vegetables: A Friday staple, showcasing Morocco's love for hearty, communal meals.
 - Salads: Taktouka (tomato and roasted pepper) or zaalouk (eggplant and tomato), vibrant with chermoula marinade.
 - Moroccan Bread: Learn to knead and bake traditional flatbreads or msemen (flaky crepes).
 - Desserts: Simple treats like cinnamon-dusted orange slices or pastries like gazelle horns.









- Dining: Sit down to enjoy your creations, often paired with Moroccan mint tea, in a relaxed setting—either a traditional Moroccan living room or a tranquil patio.
- Cultural Insights: Guides share stories of Moroccan culinary traditions, from the influence of Berber and Jewish heritage to the art of spice blending, making this as much a cultural immersion as a cooking lesson.

BOOK NOW

CASABLANCA: FOOD TOUR WITH TASTINGS IN QUARTIER HABOUS

COOK MOROCCAN FOOD & TRY ON TRADITIONAL CLOTHES LIKE <u>A LOCAL</u>

PRIVATE MOROCCAN COOKING **CLASS IN CASABLANCA WITH A** LOCAL EXPERT







🚘 4. DAY TRIP TO RA<mark>BAT</mark>

Escape the hustle of Casablanca for a full-day trip to Rabat, Morocco's serene capital, just an hour away along the Atlantic coast. This 6-8 hour private or smallgroup tour immerses you in Rabat's rich tapestry of history, culture, and architecture, from ancient Roman ruins to UNESCO-listed landmarks. As one of Morocco's four imperial cities, Rabat blends a laidback seaside vibe with vibrant souks, royal monuments, and blue-and-white medinas, making it an ideal day trip for history buffs, culture enthusiasts, and those seeking a contrast to Casablanca's urban energy.

Tour Highlights:

- Hassan Tower: Marvel at this 12th-century minaret, an unfinished masterpiece intended to be the world's largest, surrounded by 200 columns and the tranquil esplanade of Yacoub Al Mansour.
- Mohammed V Mausoleum: Admire this architectural gem, the resting place of King Mohammed V and his sons, featuring intricate zellige tiles, white marble, and stained-glass windows.
- Kasbah of the Oudayas: Wander this UNESCO World Heritage Site, a 12th-century fortress with narrow, blue-and-white streets, lush Andalusian gardens, and panoramic views of the Bouregreg River and Atlantic Ocean.
- Chellah Necropolis: Explore this hauntingly beautiful site, blending Roman ruins (Mauretania Tingitana) with medieval Islamic tombs, set amidst wild gardens on the Bouregreg River.
- Rabat Medina: Stroll through the vibrant old town, less hectic than Casablanca's, with ancient ramparts, souks selling textiles and leather goods, and the architecturally rich Rue des Consuls.
- Royal Palace (Dar El Makhzen): View the exterior of this grand residence, home to the king's offices, the Imperial College, and the Ahl Fas mosque (entry restricted).
- Optional Salé Extension: Cross the Bouregreg River to Salé, Rabat's sister city, to explore its historic medina, Jewish Mellah, and artisanal workshops specializing in woodwork and leather.





BOOK HERE :

FROM CASABLANCA: RABAT IMPERIAL CITY DAY TRIP

PRIVATE DAY TRIP TO RABAT DEPARTURE FROM CASABLANCA







🚘 5.DAY TRIP TO MARRAKECH

Embark on an unforgettable full-day trip to Marrakech, Morocco's enchanting "Red City," located 150 miles (243 km) south of Casablanca. This 10-12 hour private or small-group tour immerses you in Marrakech's vibrant souks, historic palaces, and lively squares, offering a whirlwind taste of its Berber, Arab, and French colonial heritage. Known for its rose-hued walls and bustling medina, Marrakech is a sensory feast, perfect for travelers seeking culture, history, and adventure in a single day from Casablanca. Tour Highlights:

- Jemaa el-Fnaa Square: Dive into the heart of Marrakech's UNESCO-listed medina, a bustling open-air theater of snake charmers, storytellers, musicians, and food stalls. Explore nearby souks for spices, leather goods, and lanterns.
- Koutoubia Mosque: Admire the exterior of this 12th-century landmark, Marrakech's largest mosque, with its iconic 77-meter minaret and lush gardens, a masterpiece of Almohad architecture.
- Bahia Palace: Wander this 19th-century palace, showcasing intricate zellige tiles, carved stucco, and serene courtyards, reflecting Morocco's opulent royal past.
- Saadian Tombs: Discover these hidden 16th-century mausoleums, adorned with colorful tiles and marble, housing the remains of Saadian sultans.
- Majorelle Garden (Optional): Visit this vibrant botanical oasis, created by French artist Jacques Majorelle and later restored by Yves Saint-Laurent, featuring exotic plants, cobalt-blue structures, and a Berber museum (extra entry fee, ~70 MAD).
- Menara Gardens (Optional): Stroll this peaceful 12th-century retreat with its reflective pavilion and Atlas Mountain views, ideal for a quick escape from the medina's bustle.







Why Take This Trip? Marrakech's kaleidoscope of colors, sounds, and scents makes it a must-visit, distinct from Casablanca's urban pulse. The day trip offers a curated glimpse of its iconic sites, with guides sharing stories of sultans, traders, and artisans. Travelers rave about the medina's vibrancy and the tranquility of sites like Majorelle Garden, with one calling it "a magical escape into Morocco's soul." Though fast-paced, the tour balances iconic landmarks with authentic moments, making it ideal for those short on time but eager for Marrakech's magic.



Nearby: Before returning, browse Jemaa el-Fnaa's evening food stalls for quick bites (kebabs, ~20 MAD) or visit Café de France for rooftop views. For a longer stay, consider an overnight tour with a camel ride or Atlas Mountains excursion.

BOOK HERE :

MARRAKECH FULL-DAY EXCURSION FROM CASABLANCA

MARRAKECH BEST DAY TRIP FROM CASABLANCA



Tour Highlights

- Medina and Outa el-Hammam Square: Wander the cobblestone alleys of the UNESCO-listed medina, where every wall, door, and staircase is painted in vibrant shades of blue, a tradition rooted in Jewish beliefs symbolizing the sky and divinity. Relax in the lively square, home to the 15th-century Great Mosque with its octagonal minaret and charming cafés.
- Kasbah Museum: Explore this historic fortress in the medina's heart, featuring lush gardens, a small ethnographic museum, and a tower with panoramic views of the blue city and Rif Mountains.
- Ras El Ma Waterfall: Visit this serene spring just outside the medina, where locals wash clothes and artisans draw inspiration, offering a peaceful spot to soak in the natural beauty.
- Spanish Mosque (Optional): Hike 20-30 minutes to this hilltop mosque for stunning city views, best at sunset but feasible earlier for day trippers.
- Artisan Shops: Browse souks for handwoven rugs, leather goods, Berber jewelry, and spices, with



6.DAY TRIP TO CHEFCHAOUEN

Embark on a captivating full-day trip to Chefchaouen, Morocco's "Blue City," from Casablanca, a 10-12 hour adventure to one of the country's most picturesque destinations. Nestled in the Rif Mountains, 209 miles (340 km) northeast of Casablanca, Chefchaouen is renowned for its bluewashed buildings, serene atmosphere, and rich Berber, Jewish, and Andalusian heritage. This private or small-group tour is ideal for photographers, culture enthusiasts, and travelers seeking a tranquil escape from Casablanca's urban pulse.







opportunities to meet local weavers and craftsmen. Why Take This Trip?

Chefchaouen's ethereal blue streets, set against the rugged Rif Mountains, create a magical, almost otherworldly experience. The city's relaxed vibe, influenced by its Spanish and Jewish history, contrasts with Casablanca's bustle, offering a serene escape. Travelers praise guides like Youssef and drivers like Sofian for their storytelling and safe navigation, with one calling it "a photographer's paradise worth the drive."

BOOK HERE:

FROM CASABLANCA: SHARED DAY **TRIP TO CHEFCHAOUEN**

CHEFCHAOUEN DAY TRIP BY HIGH-SPEED TRAIN FROM CASABLANCA



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Embark on a fascinating full-day trip to Fez, Morocco's cultural and spiritual capital, located 180 miles (290 km) northeast of Casablanca. This 10-12 hour private or small-group tour immerses you in the UNESCO-listed Fez medina, one of the world's largest car-free urban zones, brimming with ancient mosques, souks, and artisan workshops. Known for its 9th-century heritage and intellectual legacy, Fez offers a deep dive into Morocco's Berber, Arab, and Islamic history, perfect for travelers seeking authenticity and cultural richness in a single day from Casablanca.

Tour Highlights

- Fez Medina (Fes el-Bali): Explore the labyrinthine alleys of this UNESCO World Heritage Site, home to over 9,000 streets filled with spice vendors, leather tanneries, and colorful souks. Key stops include Bab Boujloud, the iconic blue gate, and bustling Talaa Kebira street.
- Al-Qarawiyyin University and Mosque: Visit the exterior of the world's oldest continuously operating university (founded 859 CE), a cornerstone of Islamic scholarship (non-Muslims view from outside).
- Chouara Tannery: Witness artisans at work in this historic leather tannery, where hides are dyed in vibrant vats, offering a glimpse into Fez's traditional craftsmanship.
- Bou Inania Madrasa: Admire this 14th-century Islamic school, showcasing intricate zellige tiles, carved stucco, and cedar woodwork, a masterpiece of Marinid architecture.
- Nejjarine Museum of Wooden Arts (Optional): Explore this restored caravanserai displaying Morocco's woodworking heritage, with a rooftop café offering medina views (entry ~20 MAD).
- Merenid Tombs (Optional): Visit these hilltop ruins for panoramic views of Fez's sprawling medina and surrounding hills, ideal for photos if time allows.

Why Take This Trip?

Fez's ancient medina is a living museum, offering an unparalleled glimpse into Morocco's medieval past. Unlike Casablanca's modernity or Marrakech's bustle, Fez feels timeless, with its artisan traditions and scholarly legacy. Travelers praise guides like Mohammed for navigating the medina's maze and sharing stories of sultans and scholars, with one calling it "a step back in time." Though the 3-3.5 hour drive each way is significant, the immersive experience of Fez's souks, tanneries, and monuments makes this day trip a cultural highlight, ideal for those craving history and authenticity.

INAGAFAY AGENCY









BOOK HERE :

FEZ GUIDED DAY TRIP WITH LUNCH FROM CASABLANCA

PRIVATE DAY TRIP TO FEZ FROM CASABLANCA











8.SPA AND PRIVATEHAMMAM EXPERIENCE

Indulge in a luxurious Spa and Private Hammam Experience in Casablanca, a 2-3 hour retreat that blends Morocco's ancient bathhouse traditions with modern spa pampering. Perfect for travelers seeking relaxation after exploring the city's vibrant sights, this private experience offers an authentic Moroccan hammam—complete with steam, exfoliation, and massage-in an intimate, upscale setting. Hosted at premier spas or riads, this activity provides a serene escape, showcasing Morocco's wellness heritage rooted in Berber and Arab rituals. Whether you're chasing adventure, romance, or breathtaking photo ops, this tour delivers unforgettable moments and authentic Moroccan charm.

Includes:

- Hotel pickup & drop-off
- Professional guides
- Safety gear & instruction
- Refreshments & traditional mint tea

Experience Highlights

- Traditional Hammam Ritual: Begin in a heated steam room to open pores, followed by a full-body scrub with Moroccan black soap (sabon beldi) and a kessa glove to exfoliate dead skin, leaving you refreshed and radiant.
- Ghassoul Clay Wrap (Optional): Enjoy a nourishing body mask with mineral-rich ghassoul clay, sourced from the Atlas Mountains, to detoxify and soften skin.
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- Massage: Relax with a 30-60 minute massage using argan oil, often infused with rose or orange blossom, tailored to your preference (relaxing, deep tissue, or aromatherapy).
- Private Setting: Unlike public hammams, private sessions ensure exclusivity, ideal for couples, solo travelers, or small groups. Facilities include marble-tiled steam rooms, tranquil relaxation areas, and plush robes.
- Moroccan Ambiance: Immerse yourself in a setting adorned with zellige tiles, tadelakt walls, and ambient lighting, accompanied by mint tea or herbal infusions post-treatment.



BOOK HERE :

CASABLANCA: SPA AND PRIVATE HAMMAM PACKAGE WITH CAR TRANSFER

CASABLANCA SPA AND PRIVATE HAMMAM PACKAGE WITH CAR TRANSFERS