

Suggested Packing List and Advice for Morocco

Most of my tours operate in the months of April through May and September through October so the packing list below fits those months best, however most of the advice is appropriate for the winter months also. *For specific item suggestions for December through February tours refer to the last page.*

Morocco will be warm to hot in the months of April through May and September through October. It will be primarily sunny. While rain is highly unlikely there is no way to predict exact weather.

The best general advice is:

Pack light

Pack layers

Pack comfortable

Pack practical

Pack light and practical- Most places people will help you with your bags but it is warm to hot, surfaces often uneven and **lots of stairs especially in the riads**. We will be moving every 1-2 nights. Pack smart, pack practical. Bring only what you need and repeat outfits, nobody will think less of you. Laundry services will be available most places if needed.

Pack layers –for Morocco packing layers is simplified to a lightweight jacket, sweater and/or long-sleeve shirt and at least 1 pair of pants. I usually travel on overnight flights wearing pants and have my fleece jacket readily available for when the plane gets cold.

Pack comfortable - Morocco is a casual destination where comfort should trump style, so pack smartly and don't bring several outfits per day.

Now let's get a bit more specific....

Footwear –

A MUST is good walking shoes – whatever shoe you can wear comfortably while walking for hours; walking on uneven surfaces or taking a light hike.

Sneakers or lightweight hiking shoes – Many people prefer wearing a sneaker, light hiking boot or a walking shoe. A closed-toed shoe such as these is beneficial to have for any tours in the winter months since the temperatures can be cold at night.

Sandals – whether walking/athletic-style pair for walking, and/or a bit dressier pair for evenings or just to have for days without much walking

Flip flops – for around the pool, at the beach or if you like to wear after showering

Please avoid heels; flip flops as walking shoes; shoes with delicate materials or shoes that cannot get a little dirty or wet.

The narrow maze-like “streets” of the medinas are uneven, sometimes wet, can be slippery, and are incredibly crowded at times with people, working animals such as donkeys and produce stacked and displayed everywhere.

What I bring: I take 2-3 pairs of shoes – a flat sandal mostly for a change from my day footwear or when I want something a tad dressy, a Teva-type sandal (my must have), and in winter a pair of sneakers. I have worn my Teva-type sandals every day, but one cold night in January, for all 5 trips. One of the gals I travelled with last Sept wore sneakers every day. To each their own.

The main point is - be practical and comfortable, Some days we will be walking A LOT. We will have some dusty conditions at times, wet conditions, uneven terrain or cobblestones and stairs.

Purses/Bags/Packs

Cross-body purse/bag or fanny pack style – one that is always zipped and that you carry in front of you is the best choice. Those that are slash-proof provide extra safety/security. I use a small cross-body bag similar to some offered by Baggalini. Amazon has many options from \$9-45.

A small day pack or bag – something you can have near you in the car/van or carry if necessary which might have water, umbrella, any medication you need, power bank, sunglasses, tissue, etc..

Here's what I recently bought and used in May from Amazon- G4Free 10L/15L Hiking Backpack Lightweight Packable Hiking Daypack Small Travel Outdoor Foldable Shoulder Bag(Black)

Clothes - for the warmer months the key word is lightweight material, cotton or any lightweight breathable or wick-away material works best.

Morocco is a majority Muslim country and locals dress conservatively. Opt for longer or less revealing clothes than you might wear back home.

Dresses and skirts – those at least knee-length or longer are the best. Avoid plunging necklines, strapless, backless or anything showing too much skin.

Pants and capris – think comfortable and light weight for spring, summer and fall trips. Jeans are good any time of year except summer. If you choose to wear leggings it is probably best to wear them with a longer t-shirt, tunic or oversized shirt as some leggings are quite revealing body wise.

Long-shorts: I wear shorts but they are loose fitting and knee length. Shorts are okay but not above mid-thigh or shorter and not as form fitted as bike shorts.

Shirts: anything that is lightweight and not too skimpy. Regular tank tops, t-shirts that are sleeveless, cap sleeve, short-sleeve or long sleeve. Like dresses, avoid strapless, backless or anything showing too much skin.

Jacket/Sweater - a sweater or fleece jacket or the equivalent

Scarf/Pashima- handy to have a scarf handy to cover shoulders or knees if not otherwise already covered and can be helpful to cover from sun or cool temperatures in the evening when a jacket is too much.

Other things to pack for Morocco

Swim suit: best if not too revealing so no thongs. Instead modest bikinis or better yet a tankini top with swim shorts or modest 1-piece.

Sun hat or cap: the sun will shine bright so a hat helps protect eyes and face from the sun and give you some shade.

Small travel umbrella – just in case or to use as shade if needed (I always pack one no matter where I go)

Plug adaptor: Morocco uses standard two prong round European plugs. I like the ones which come with USB ports so charge phones, cameras and everything else with just one adaptor.

Power bank: Because the days will be long and we will spend many hours in the car and making several stops along the way, a power bank will ensure you can continue taking photos until you can recharge at night .

Sunglasses: polarized one protect the best.

Sunscreen and SPF Lip balm

First aid & medications -obviously any prescriptions you take you should bring enough for the trip length (have in Rx bottles or a written RX to show if ever questioned. Available medications, brands and products in Morocco may not be the same as back home. Any OTCs you use, a few bandaids and ointment...etc...

I pack a small TSA sized cosmetic bag with the following:

diarrhea medication like Lomotil, and Pepto Bismal

a few band-aids and Q-tips

small tube ointment like Neosporin with antibiotic
eye drops

allergy med like Benadryl or Claritin

few single serving packs of rehydration powder

safety pins

Advil or Tylenol

a few cough drops

a few cold tabs like Sudafed or Dayquil.

Flonase

Epi-pen

Nail clippers

Most of these I bring just enough to hold me over until I can get to a pharmacy.

If you get motion sickness then bring some Bonine or Dramamine.

TALK TO YOUR DOCTOR to see if they want to send you with any medications helpful to have when traveling abroad.

WHAT NOT TO BRING:

NO CBD or marijuana products even with prescriptions

Purses(meaning where you would keep your money, passport or anything of importance) that don't close such as the basket-style or anywhere a hand can slip in easily like ones that don't have a zipper.

Expensive jewelry

Clothes or shoes for their fashion statement over practicality or those that need special care

Any make-up that is more than you would wear to lunch or to run errands back home

Hair dryer- most hotels have them and even ones with dual voltage don't always work great

Revealing clothing and skimpy bathing suits

We may encounter children in the villages or at nomad camps so if you would like to bring sweets or colored markers or pens, etc.... please feel free to do so but certainly your choice.

Specific Suggestions for Winter Tours

Because temperatures can dip down into the high 30s and 40s you should just increase the weight of your clothes and include a few more items. The same rules apply though

Pack light – meaning don't overpack

Pack layers

Pack comfortable

Pack practical

In addition to the suggestions above which are applicable no matter the weather, here are some items to bring in winter:

A set of thermal or “long underwear” – I like Cuddles brand

Pants and jeans

A few short-sleeve T-Shirts

Long-sleeve T-shirts

Socks

Closed-toed shoes

A hat for warmth more than sun

Gloves

A scarf for colder winds

A fleece vest

A puff jacket of medium to heavy-weight fleece jacket

Raincoat as it can also function as a wind breaker