



THE MOROCCAN HIGH ATLAS TOUBKAL RANGES

MOUNTAIN COUNTRY AND VALLEY HIKES

PRIVATE ANY DAY DEPARTURES FROM



THE UPPER VALLEYS OF THE TASSA OUIRGANE NATIONAL PARK

LEVEL OF DIFFICULTY:-GRADE ONE



BETWEEN EASY TO MODERATE, GOOD BOOTS RECOMMENDED. YOU NEED TO BE REASONABLY CONFIDENT OF YOUR FITNESS AND ENDURANCE LEVELS, PREFERABLY HAVING HAD PREVIOUS EXPERIENCE OF TREKKING AT ALTITUDE AND VARIATIONS OF CLIMATE. FULL SUPPORT TEAM. CLEARLY THERE ARE MANY DIFFERING FACTORS THAT CONTRIBUTE TO THE DIFFICULTY OF A PARTICULAR HIKE, INCLUDING LENGTH OF DAY, TERRAIN, ALTITUDE AND WEATHER CONDITIONS. SINCE THESE FACTORS ARE NECESSARILY VARIABLE, ANY SYSTEM OF GRADES CAN ONLY PROVIDE A GENERAL INDICATION. WE HAVE TRIED TO MAKE OUR SYSTEM AS CLEAR AS POSSIBLE, BUT IT CANNOT ACCOUNT FOR PERSONAL ABILITIES OR EXPERIENCE.

2DAYS/1NIGHT OBTKT08m

DAY 1: KASBAH TAMADOT - IMI OURGLAD - TIZI N'TACHT - TIZZIANE. At around 9 in the morning we set out with our



mountain guide in a taxi from this beautiful hotel overlooking the steep, forested river valley of the Mizane for a short drive to our trailhead of Imi Ourghlad (1430m) in the Assif n'Ait Mizane Valley. Here we alight from our vehicle, with the Jbels Toubkal, at 4167m the highest peak in the Maghreb, Aguelzim (3948m) and Aksouâl (3847m) looming before us, to set off from 1740m up in a south-westerly direction for a 2hour acclimatisation hike through the upper valley and up switchback mule tracks alongside the Aourirt n'Igouine (2187m) to the Tizi n'Tacht (2000m), where, once through this col, we shall stop for a field picnic and admire the surrounding green valleys and naked peaks. Thence a slow hike for about 3 hours southwest alongside the Adrar

Agouni (2456m) down along mule tracks to the Assif n'Ouissedene Valley, passing by the hamlets of Aït (*tribe of*) Ouaougmounte and Aït Ouissa'dane to arrive at the red clay village of Tizziane (1700m) after some 5 hours for our overnight accommodation in a Berber Gîte d'étape. Whilst our dinner is being prepared, we shall take a short circle hike down the valley between the Goundafa and Azzadene Ranges, with the Jbels Biiguinnoussene (3045m), Aguelzim and Toubkal before us, passing by the terraced villages of Tahaliouine and Agouninane until we reach the village of Aït Aïssa (*Jesus*), where we'll turn back via the village of Zougouart for our dinner at Tizziane. LD.



DAY 2: TIZZIANE - TASSA OUIRGANE - MARIGHA - KASBAH TAMADOT. After our Berber breakfast, we now set off at 9



o'clock north up the Assif n'Ouissedene Valley, passing the escarpments of Tafernt on to the isolated hamlet of Azerfsane and up into the Tassa Ouirgane National Park of junipers and redwoods. Here, near the Forestry Watchtower, we shall stop for our picnic around midday in the home of the village headman, perhaps to see and photograph the "mouflon" - wild, short-fleeced mountain sheep that graze in this area. Once refreshed, we set off around 1:30 to continue our easy hike to the salt mines at Marigha. Here the Berber peoples have been mining salt by their traditional method used unchanged for centuries. You'll probably see them riding from village to village, selling their salt from the back of their donkeys. You should also, depending on the time of day, get to see those delightful Berber women sitting on their haunches for a chat after gathering wood. From here

we join our transport at 3:30 back to the Kasbah by 4pm. Essentially; this walk takes you up and down a maximum of 600 metres and is not at all strenuous. It does take you up into charming hidden valleys and to meet the mountain Berber families in their own environment. BL.



OUR PRICES WILL INCLUDE: Private transportation Kasbah Tamadot/Imi Ourghlad-Marigha/Kasbah Tamadot. An experienced licensed bi-lingual mountain guide throughout. A field picnic lunch. Field picnic lunch - fresh Moroccan salad, cheese, tinned tuna fish*, mint tea, bread, fruit. *If **vegetarian or vegan** please pre-advise. Medical and Accident Insurance.

OUR PRICES WILL NOT INCLUDE: Accommodation pre & post, nor transfers from/to Marrakech. **SHOULD YOU NOT HAVE ALREADY BOOKED YOUR TRANSFERS TO/FROM AND ACCOMMODATION IN THE DELIGHTFUL KASBAH TAMADOT, WE SHALL BE DELIGHTED TO DO SO FOR YOU.** Gratuities to driver and guide. Any expenditure of a personal nature. Bottled or gaseous water, nor anything not specifically mentioned in the itinerary.

IT IS RECOMMENDED YOU BRING WITH YOU: Good trainers or walking boots. Rambler pole (optional), hats, sunscreen, sunglasses; nibbles and/or power bars; hygienic 'wipes'. Walking socks; day pack 'bum bag', insect repellent, camera and filled water bottle, possibly some biro's and sweets for the local mountain Berber children.

Should you wish to hire a mule to accompany you on this hike, there'd be an additional sum to pay per beast.