

Rural Morocco

Tour Organiser: Martin Jamieson

Saturday 13th to Friday 26th March 2027

Tiznit is similar in latitude to the Canary Islands, and the quiet roads through beautiful countryside to the local villages have been renewed just for us to go cycling there. It might be a culture shock to us Brits leaving cold wet busy roads behind in the UK. Morocco is not in the EU so those who are at the limit for days in the EU can come safely. We are staying in a lovely small Riad (small hotel) in the walled city of Tiznit, with cycling in beautiful countryside, along the Atlantic coastline, and a day trip to the Anti Atlas mountains. Bikexplore doesn't often repeat a tour, but we think that this location combined with the weather is fantastic. Includes a NEW RIDE DOWN A BEAUTIFUL GORGE.

You can bring your own bike or hire

Itinerary

Saturday 13th March 2027 Arrive in Morocco at Agadir

Flights from London Gatwick arrive at Agadir airport, and it is approximately 100km to Tiznit. We have a coach and also a truck for the bikes. Sit by the pool and enjoy a light supper.

- No cycling
- Accommodation: Riad
- Meals: (D)

Sunday 14th March 2027 Aglou Plage and guided evening walk round Tiznit

Breakfast is usually outside at tables beside the swimming pool. The Riad has just 10 rooms, and is shaped like a U around the pool, with a nice garden area. We will reassemble our bikes before setting out for the coast. Starting along the city wall and following the ancient route which is west of the main road. Fully tarmaced and complete (unlike google suggests) it's a quiet cycle ride with little traffic and you will descend most of the way. Just before Aglou Plage head right for the port area. After a kilometre there are buildings on the left where there is a basic and good cafe. From here you can walk down to the small port and

small wooden fishing boats. Returning to the main road, head right and descend further into Aglou itself. There is a wide promenade at the sea front and 5 cafes (all owned by the same person) You can walk the promenade or explore the beach. We return by the same route.

- Route distance: 41.0km
- Route altitude gain: 366m
- Accommodation: Riad
- Meals: (B, D)

Monday 15th March 2027 Tighmi

We cycle east from Tiznit and after 22km turn south into a lovely narrow valley and a gradual ascent to Tighmi. We then go north with a further 140m of a more steep climb onto a lovely quiet plateau with views to the Atlas Mountains. Then a gradual descent back to Tiznit

- Route distance: 91.0km
- Route altitude gain: 1147m
- Accommodation: Riad
- Meals: (B, D)

Tuesday 16th March 2027 Atlantic Coast and Arbaa Sahel

Heading to the south west of Tiznit this route takes an inland route parallel to the coast along a good road. The first part has a steep climb through switchbacks followed by 2 smaller climbs but it does afford good views all around. You will pass the small town of Souk El Arbaa Du Sahel where there are shops and basic cafe should you want to stop. Heading towards the coast is mostly downhill as you descend to Gourizm. Now for the Atlantic Coast. This is a lovely ride with hills falling to the sea on the right and the sight and sound of breakers on the left. The coast road finishes at Aglou, and lunch will be taken at a suitable point along the coast. Into Aglou where you skirt the northern edge before returning to Tiznit along the Ancien Route.

- Route distance: 82.0km
- Route altitude gain: 876m
- Accommodation: Riad
- Meals: (B, D)

Wednesday 17th March 2027 Massa National Park

Heading east towards the coast and then north to Oulad Noumer and then the Oasis at Massa. Here you will see fields of mint and donkeys laden with the harvest.

- Route distance: 96.0km
- Route altitude gain: 805m
- Accommodation: Riad
- Meals: (B, D)

Thursday 18th March 2027 Souk and Cook

Walking around the large indoor market and experiencing the northern African souk is an experience in itself. We help pick up a wide selection of fresh ingredients then return to the Riad. Here the staff help with the food preparation and we construct our own individual Tajines. This might be the highlight of the holidays for foodies. If that is not your thing then the staff will do it for you.

- No cycling
- Accommodation: Riad
- Meals: (B, D)

Friday 19th March 2027 La Barrage

This was a favourite day on previous tours. We cycle east from Tiznit on the road to Taфраout before turning north and along to the top of the dam where we have panoramic views. Here we will regroup, have a snack and take a few photos. The return cycle follows the river valley and is more fertile. We saw nomads and their camels on this stretch last time.

- Route distance: 79.0km
- Route altitude gain: 997m
- Accommodation: Riad
- Meals: (B, D)

Friday 19th March 2027 La Barrage Alternate Route for extra distance

Optional additional 12km across quite barren countryside to the ruins of Kasbah Da Omar, and returning by the same route adds on 24km and 304m

- Route distance: 103.0km
- Route altitude gain: 1301m
- Accommodation: Riad
- Meals: (B, D)

Saturday 20th March 2027 THE BEST DAY EVER

It is a lot to live up to with the title for today. I found this gorge in 2026 while doing a recce for new routes. We start from the edge of the Anti Atlas mountains and immediately enter the gorge. I was thrilled with the views of the red rocks as the road twists and turns through the narrow canyon. We cycle down the length of the gorge, and visit the hamlet of Aoukerda with very narrow paths between the houses. Then at the bottom there is a tunnel through to the next canyon valley! i don't think that my photographs do it justice

- Route distance: 72.0km
- Route altitude gain: 1258m
- Accommodation: Riad
- Meals: (B, D)

Saturday 20th March 2027 THE BEST DAY EVER Alternate Route for extra distance

I have arranged a transfer by bus and lorry from Tighmi to Tiznit, but it is a nice route to cycle if you feel up to it.

- Route distance: 114.0km
- Route altitude gain: 1616m
- Accommodation: Riad
- Meals: (B, D)

Sunday 21st March 2027 Mountains - new route through a beautiful small narrow valley.

The start of the ride takes you through the bustling heart of Tiznit, heading out via the suburbs rather than the main road. Arriving at the main road you head south with wide views all around towards Bounnamane. This runs along a wide valley and although you are climbing it hardly feels like it. If you fancy a break you can divert via the town (the route takes you that way) where there are shops and several cafes all serving tea and coffee. Returning to the road the cycling gets steeper passing water wells and cacti to reveal an amazing view across the plain below; stop a while to admire this. A switch-backed descent takes you onto the plain. Another climb (look back for great views) , followed by a swift descent that levels a bit for an extensive easy run towards Souk El Arbaa Du Sahel where there are a few shops and basic tearooms before the final section back to Tiznit.

- Route distance: 95.0km
- Route altitude gain: 1225m
- Accommodation: Riad
- Meals: (B, D)

Monday 22nd March 2027 Historical walking tour of Tiznit

Starting from the Riad our host Aby explains the culture and heritage of the the fabulous walled city.

- No cycling
- Accommodation: Riad
- Meals: (B, D)

Tuesday 23rd March 2027 South to Sidi Ahmed Ou Moussa

Very much a cycling day in quiet remote roads and far away from tourism

- Route distance: 101.0km
- Route altitude gain: 1275m

- Accommodation: Riad
- Meals: (B, D)

Wednesday 24th March 2027 Lakhsass to Sidi Ifni and the Atlantic coast

We transfer by coach to Lakhsass where the ride starts at 921m. The road has been recently tarmaced and is predominantly downhill, a lovely ride. There is a steeper descent with great views before arriving in the small town of Tioughza, where there are several small cafes.

Continuing onwards the road continues to descend with a final climb over the ridge and into the coastal town of Sidi Ifni, an old town built by the Spanish. Then, we continue north following the coastline towards Lagzira for a late lunch. Once we have explored Sidi Ifni, a transfer takes you and your bike back to Tiznit.

- Route distance: 88.0km
- Route altitude gain: 983m
- Accommodation: Riad
- Meals: (B, D)

Thursday 25th March 2027 Gateway to the Sahara to Sidi Ifni

Guelmim is the gateway to the Sahara. From here we cycle north across the desert plain for 12km and then into a valley between the hills. This takes up a long valley with views to the mountains (Masjid Amgdoul) on our right. Then a gentle descent to Sidi Ifni for a late lunch. This is our last day of cycling so we will transfer back to the Riad and get the bikes packed away.

- Route distance: 57.0km
- Route altitude gain: 1040m
- Accommodation: Riad
- Meals: (B, D)

Thursday 25th March 2027 Gateway to the Sahara to Sidi Ifni Alternate Route for extra distance

The extra km from Tighmert are very fast because the land is so level

- Route distance: 88.0km
- Route altitude gain: 1192m
- Accommodation: Riad
- Meals: (B, D)

Dates and Prices



Cost

- Land only price: £1950

Payment Schedule

A deposit of £400 per person is payable upon booking, with the final balance of £1,550 per person to be paid by 12th December 2026.

Price includes:

- 13 nights accommodation in a Riad
- 13 breakfasts
- 13 dinners
- English speaking host
- One group return airport transfer with bike

Price does not include:

- lunches
- cafe stops
- drinks
- Gratuities for Riad staff
- Travel insurance

Cancellations

Written Notice Received

Cancellation Charge

before 12/12/2026

£400 Deposit

after 12/12/2026

£1,950 cost of tour

The price of £1950 (land only) is based on a minimum number of 8 people taking part in the holiday. If there are insufficient bookings by Saturday 12th December 2026, we will contact you and return all monies paid.

Holiday Information

Accommodation

We are staying in one traditional Riad with 8 bedrooms set within the walls of Tiznit, known as the Silver City, in southern Morocco. Accommodation is based on two people sharing twin or double rooms.





Meals, Health and Diet

MEALS

Breakfast is included with both Moroccan and European options offered.

Dinner is also included and the Riad can cater for vegetarians, glutenfree and lactose free diets. The restaurant has a

fusion cuisine of Moroccan and Indian flavours that reflects the cultural heritage of the owners.

We will pay for our own lunches, café stops and beverages. Often there will be options for procuring lunch, but please carry sufficient food and water to last you all day if necessary. Most places are happy to accept credit cards but please carry some cash just in case.

Health - do remember to pack any medications that you need.

Diet - Please advise the tour organiser of any dietary requests in your Booking application, and can you also remind the tour organiser of any dietary requests and health issues at the start of the tour

Rides and Rest Days

Daily distances vary between 41 and 101km, and some days are hilly. It is important to understand that this trip is classified as experienced and is suitable for regular cyclists capable of riding 30 - 60 miles every day in hilly terrain. Traffic on rural roads should be light. You will be issued with a Plotaroute link for all of the route maps, and these can be downloaded in to many different formats. There will be no obligation for participants to keep together in one large group whilst on the road. You will be free to ride at your own pace, with or without company, and to stop where you wish for photographs etc. We will regroup at intervals and for snacks mid- morning and afternoon, as required. Our host and backup driver speaks excellent English and will be on hand to help at lunch times and to assist with translation and provide information and advice as necessary. On the road I do not maintain a regular position in the group but try to keep informed of the location of all the members and will be carrying a mobile phone for this purpose.

Area

Staying in Tiznit we cycle in all directions from this as our base, and the surrounding countryside has small villages with good roads but very little traffic. We also use a bus and lorry to transport us further afield and extend the range of cycling destinations

Travel

There will be one airport transfer (a bus and a lorry for the bikes) arranged to bring everyone from Agadir Airport to Tiznit (about 100km), and the same for the return journey at the end of the tour.





Travel to the start and from the finish is not included in this holiday. Thus, it is very important that you note that neither your Tour Organiser nor Bikexplore are responsible for you in any way until the appointed time at the designated meeting point.

Potentially a tour may be cancelled (e.g. if it does not attract the minimum numbers) so please do not commit to any travel arrangements until you have received confirmation that the tour will go ahead. In the event of cancellation Bikexplore will only be responsible for refunding you the cost of the tour itself.

Communication

Prior to the tour communication will be by email, but shortly before the tour we will set up a WhatsApp group. During the tour after dinner I will give a daily update on plans for the next day, and we will use WhatsApp to communicate details like café stops, meal arrangements, places of interest and any emergencies on route. Ideally everyone will bring a smart phone and be happy to be included in the group. We will also use WhatsApp to share photographs.

Cycles and Equipment

TYPE OF BIKE

A touring cycle, gravel bike, hybrid, tandem, recumbent or lightweight road bike would all be suitable for most of this holiday. However, a gravel bike (or touring bike) would cope better if we come to any unpaved or rough sections.

MAINTENANCE

You should ensure your cycle is well maintained, paying particular attention to wheels, tyres and brakes. A low bottom gear (eg. small chainring the same size or smaller than the largest cog on your rear wheel) is recommended. Mudguards are optional but demonstrate respect to those who are following you in wet weather. Lights are recommended in the very unlikely event of arriving back late and useful if walking outdoors at night. A bell is advised and bring a bike lock for security. Water bottles are required to ensure you are hydrated at all times. You must carry sufficient spares and tools to deal with punctures and minor repairs, including two inner tubes, spare gear and brake cable, split link and spare brake pads. There is a tiny bike shop beside the Riad but none when we are out cycling. You are advised to use 28mm tyres, or larger, to suit the variable terrain.

HIRE

Hire bikes are not included in the tour, but I can share details of a shop in Agadir that will provide gravel bikes and the Riad also has a few bikes available to hire.





Weather Clothing and Culture

The average maximum temperature in Tiznit during March is 21 degrees C, while the average rainfall for the whole month is 27mm. In comparison figures for London are 11 degrees and 31mm.

Do bring thin layers, so you can cover for sun protection if necessary. Diane and I like open water swimming, and there will be some opportunities to swim or just paddle if you would like to join us. Please only do what you are safe and comfortable with. A swimming costume, goggles and microlight towel would not add much weight to carry.

Please carry waterproof clothing and sun screen.

Helmets are optional, but are recommended.

Travel Insurance and Vaccinations

Holiday costs have risen so we strongly recommend purchasing travel insurance in case you have to cancel for any reason.

You should be up to date with vaccinations and boosters as recommended for the UK. Do check the government website for Morocco for any recommendations that are relevant to you. Please do bring any medications that you need to use, and also make the tour organiser aware of any health issues.

Passports, Visas and Monies

Your passport must be valid for at least 3 months after your entry date.

British citizens may visit Morocco for up to 90 days without a visa

Morocco operates a closed currency, so it is best to withdraw cash when you arrive (and carry a small amount of Euros). Most lunches and cafe stops expect one payment for the group, so we usually contribute 10-15 euros per day in cash to cover these costs. Very few places will take credit cards

Tour Organiser Contact Details

Tour Organiser - Martin Jamieson

I have organized tours for over 12 years, usually planning the route, booking the hotels, and organising luggage transfer myself.

I like to cycle for the social company, scenery and food. Originally I ran one tour a year but I am now retired and enjoy being able to organise more tours each year. Any queries please contact me at mdjamieson@hotmail.co.uk

