

# Live Drâa Tafilalet Like a Local

# TABLE OF CONTENTS

INTRODUCTION 01 I 02

OUARZAZATE 03 | 04 | 05 | 06 | 07 | 08 | 09 | 10

ERRACHIDIA 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18

USEFUL INFORMATION 43 | 44

ZAGORA 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 | 26

TINGHIR 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 | 31 | 32 | 33 | 34

MIDELT 35 | 36 | 37 | 38 | 39 | 40 | 41 | 42



- Ouarzazate
- Errachidia
- Zagora
- Tinghir
- Midelt

# Introduction

Between ancient Ksours and Kasbahs, villages and archaeological remains, rock engravings and Tumuli, museums and ruins of medieval cities, the region of Drâa Tafilalet is deeply rooted in the history of humanity for thousands of years. From prehistoric times to the present day, the region has seen the arrival of its first Berber inhabitants from the East several millennia ago, who carved the Tifinagh; the Berber alphabet in the rocky walls of Four Chenna about forty kilometers from Zagora. The descendants of these Amazighs have lived for thousands of years alongside Israelites from the East and black Africans who arrived through the caravan trade in this arid but hospitable region where the legendary generosity of its inhabitants moves all its visitors. All these peoples have brought their stone to the building and made Drâa Tafilalet what it is today can authentic region with a rich and diverse history. For example, despite its tourist village, the visit of Ksar Ait Benhaddou near Ouarzazate the visitor in a medieval atmosphere. The village of Tazrouft in Midelt where Abu Salim Al Ayachi, a Muslim scholars, immerses the visitor in Sufism. The shadow of the Pasha Glaoui seems to still hover in Ouarzazate and Tinghir through the remains of Sijilmassa, denote for their past the glorious past of this city once prosperous thanks to the caravan trade. Some of the largest and best located Ksours, built to be fortresses against external attacks are now rehabilitated by the state or tourist investors to the delight of residents and tourists. We can mention the Ksar Ait Benhaddou. The Ksar Ait Benhaddou. The Ksar Amazrou in Zagora... Several Kasbahs have also had the chance to obtain a restoration. This is the Kasbah of Taourirte in Ouarzazate and the Kasbah Atman or Moussa in Midelt... to name a few. The Drâa Tafilalet region abounds in historical and archaeological sites, each more surprising than the last. Here is a selection of 30 sites that you can visit during your stay.

# **Province of Ouarzazate**

Between oases, Kasbahs and lush valleys, the province of Ouarzazate offers majestic landscapes. The city; capital of the cinema became an essential place for great international shootings. Its Ksours and its hundred-year-old Kasbahs have become exceptional shooting scenes.



been a UNESCO World Heritage Site since 1987. This beautiful community village is a compact and closed habitat set on the southern side of a hill. A mosque, a public square for festivals and traditional dance and areas for slaughtering cereals make up the public part. Private spaces are composed of houses and Kasbahs. A strong Amazigh Jewish community resided in the Ksar until 1970. Thanks to its exceptional state of preservation and its authenticity, it has been used as a set for the shooting of several films such as Lawrence of Arabia (1961), The Diamond of the Nile (1986), Gladiator (2001), Kingdom of Heaven (2004)...

#### **Useful information**

Site open for free

19.1 °C

All types of vehicles

Ait Benhaddou, Ouarzazate 45000 had a military and commercial function. It was extended in the 19th century by Hmmadi Glaoui (brother of Thami Glaoui, pasha of Marrakech) whose government lasted until his death in 1937. His son Mohamed El Mahdi managed the affairs of Taourirte until independence. In 1972, the Kasbah of Taourirt was bought by the municipality of Ouarzazate. Since the restoration of some parts testifying to its former greatness, it has become an essential tourist center of the city. We can mention the reception room in the city style, the courtyard and the facade decorations. The Kasbah has four parts: the southeast part occupied by the center for conservation and rehabilitation of heritage, the northeast part restored in 1996 or green to visitors and the part occupied by the inhabitants and finally the central part in ruins.

#### Informations Pratiques



20 dhs





19.4 °C



All types of vehicles



Avenue Mohammed V Ouarzazate 45000



#### **Atlas Studios**

At 4 km from the center of Ouarzazate, the Atlas studios were opened in 1983 and cover an area of 20 hectares. They have hosted the shooting of famous films such as Asterix and Obelix: Mission Cleopatra, Kundun by Martin Scorsese, Gladiator by Ridley Scott or Prince of Persia. The studios have impressive Egyptian sets.

#### The CLA Studios

Less grandiose than Atlas Studios, CLA Studios was created in 2004. They are worth a visit, as they have two large film sets and impressive exterior decors of Jerusalem and reconstructions of Mecca. CLA Studios hosted the filming of "Kingdom of Heaven".



#### **Informations Pratiques**

Ü

Adults 50 dhs / Kids 40 dhs

X

1H

₩ 19 °C

All types of vehicles

(Marie

Route de Marrakech Ouarzazate 45000

# The Oasis of Skoura

Cette palmeraie est célèbre par sa position sur l'une des routes touristiques des milles Kasbahs allant de Ouarzazate à Arfoud en passant par Tinghir. Dans cette oasis d'une superficie de 25 km2, on cultive palmiers dattiers et arbres fruitiers; amandiers, oliviers et grenadiers... Située à 40 Km à l'est d'Ouarzazate en direction de Kelaat M'Gouna sur la N10, c'est le premier point de passage vers la route qui mène à Kelaat M'Gouna, les gorges de Dadès et de Todgha. Elle puise dans l'Oued Skoura et utilise le système d'irrigation des Khettaras. Quelques Kasbahs ornent également le paysage tel que la Kasbah Amridil, érigée au 17e siècle. Encore préservée, elle a été transformée en musée avec une partie dédiée à l'hébergement. On retrouve aussi d'autres vestiges tels que des ruines de Kasbahs, l'artisanat local, des lieux de culte musulman et juif, des cimetières...



#### **Informations Pratiques**

Ō

Site open for free



2H



17.8 °C



All types of vehicles



Skoura 45502



# Kasbah of Telouet

Former home of the Pasha Glaoui, the splendid Kasbah of Telouet built in the 19th century lies 77 km from Ouarzazate on the road leading to Ksar Ait Benhaddou. This jewel of Amazigh architecture and Arab-Moorish style testifies to the greatness of the former Caids of the Atlas. This prestigious and refined Kasbah consisted of a castle, fortress and caravansary. It is now in a state of neglect, having been abandoned to the hazards of the climate since 1956. Only the main residence and some annexes remain of the magnificent Kasbah that tourists can still visit.



#### **Informations Pratiques**



Site open for free



2H



19.4 °C



All types of vehicles



Kasbah de Telouet, P1506 Telouet 45252

# Museum of Cinema

Opened in 2007, the Museum of cinema was built on the site of an old film studio built in 1981. Located in front of the Kasbah Taourirt and next to the artisanal complex of Ouarzazate, the museum covers two hectares and exhibits different sets of famous films. It traces the history of the great films that were shot in the city of Ouarzazate. At the entrance of the museum, visitors are welcomed by two gigantic statues of pharaohs. Inside, there are settings referring to different civilizations. A guided tour allows you to visit the different rooms and shooting areas, including the arena of ancient battles, such as the one where the role of "Gladiator" was filmed in Ouarzazate.



#### **Informations Pratiques**



30 dhs, free for children under 7 years old



...





All types of vehicles



Av. Mohammed V Ouarzazate 45000



# **Province of Errachidia**

The Tafilalet hosted Sijilmassa, the first Islamic kingdom of Morocco. Later, it will witness the rise of the Alaouite dynasty which still reigns over Morocco. Its Ksours and Kasbahs and its cultural, spiritual and natural heritage can be visited almost all year round.

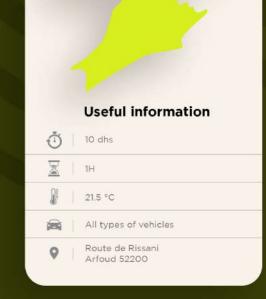
# Merzouga

Located 35 km from Rissani and 50 km from the Algerian border, Merzouga is the village that adjoins the Erg Chebbi, the highest dunes in Morocco. 22 kilometers long and 5 km wide, the dunes of Erg Chebbi reach 150 meters high. From this height, the views of sunset and sunrise are exceptional. Around the dunes, there is a green palm grove that stands out among the orange of the sand. Besides the dunes, the Dayet Sriji lake is also an interesting place to visit. Depending on the season, it hosts flamingos and a great biodiversity of migratory birds. The pictures of the dunes from the lake are iconic. In the evening, the dunes darken and the sky takes over. The sky is illuminated with as many stars as there are grains of sand in the dunes. Then begins the ritual of the campfire at the bivouac, punctuated by the songs of folk troops. The city of the dunes remains the ultimate and most beautiful step for the numerous visitors of the region.

# Useful information Useful information Starting at 500 dhs per night One full day and one night 22.3 °C 4×4 and quad Merzouga - 52202

# Arfoud and its Tahiri Museum of Fossils

Last stop before the desert of Merzouga, Erfoud is home to 500 varieties of fossils in an area of 100 km2 dating from 550 to 250 million years ago (in the Paleozoic or primary era) when southeast Morocco was under the sea. The area is rich in ammonites, rostros and trilobites that disappeared 65 million years ago. Five kilometers along the Rissani road, the Brahim Tahiri Museum of Minerals and Fossils in Erfoud, which can be spotted by life-size replicas of dinosaurs outside, exhibits Morocco's rich geological heritage. Fossils dedicated to the exhibition and other common trilobite fossils for sale.



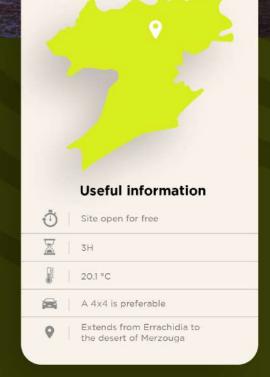
# The Ruins of Sijilmassa

Sijilmassa was, during the medieval period, a large and very prosperous city due to the caravan trade with Sub-Saharan Africa (Sudan, Senegal and the Ghana Empire) whose valuable goods (gold, ivory, ostrich feathers and slaves...) went as far as Fez, Marrakech and Andalusia. It was also the capital of the first Islamic kingdom in Morocco. It was destroyed by the quarrels between claimants to the Merinid throne at the end of the 14th century. The ruins of the walls still remain, preserved on the northern edge of the city, which lies at the entrance to the city of Rissani, in southeastern Morocco.

# Useful information Useful information Useful information Site open for free | 2H | 20.1 °C | All types of vehicles | Entrance to the city of Rissani

# The Ziz Gorge and Valley

The Ziz Gorge lies in the heart of limestone cliffs on the Ziz River which irrigates its palm groves and oases. In perfect harmony with nature, nomads and sedentary Berbers live along the Ziz, taking advantage of its water for crops and cattle breeding. Errachidia is one of the stopover towns along the Ziz Gorge and is a perfect place to visit. Kasbahs are present in the valley including the Kasbah of Ifri where the dam forms a magnificent pond lined with palm trees. The gate of Erfoud closes the crossing of the Ziz and announces the beginning of the desert.



# The Rock Engravings of Taouz The rock engravings date back thousands of years and are an indication of the first human presence in the region. The engravings of Taouz are located 21 km south of Merzouga. Similar engravings have been found in the Alnif region, 95 km from Rissani. The **Useful information** illustrations show cattle and antelopes accompanied by human beings or writings in Tifinagh. The main scenes are grouped on a Site open for free large slab of quartzite in an inclined plane, isolated animals are scattered throughout the rest of the site. They can be discovered during 4X4 hikes or on camels.

All types of vehicles

Taouz 52202

#### The Khettaras

This thousand-year-old system of underground irrigation and equitable water management has served in the great Tafilalet for centuries. It is in this region where the largest concentration of Khettaras lies. The Khettara is a set of tunnels, wells, separated by 10 m from each other, and dedicated to the ventilation and extraction of soil but also for cleaning and maintenance of the gallery. This ecological system can drain the water from the network in a constant speed towards the surface thanks to the action of gravity. The gallery is dug manually by the workers with a slight inclination of less than 5 or 6 millimeters per meter. An interesting example is open to visit near El Jorf on the road leading from Erfoud to Tinghir. The keeper of the Khettara will lead you into this now dry tunnel to give all the explanations on this ingenious system.

#### **Useful information**



Site open for free



2H



20.1 °C



All types of vehicles



Errachidia 52000

# **Province of Zagora**

Gateway to the desert, Zagora was the stop for trade caravans between Morocco and Sub-Saharan Africa. From Zagora, 52 days of walking in the desert were enough to reach Timbuktu, the spiritual capital of Mali. The valley of the Oued Draâ (the longest river in Morocco) was indeed a strategic point of trade between Morocco and Sub-Saharan Africa. This made it a customs center for this prosperous trade in the 16th century. The territory of the province also includes the fabulous desert of Erg Chegaga in M'hamid El Ghizlane and its biodiversity of Damax and Dorcas gazelle partly recovered.

# The Village of M'hamid El Ghizlane and its Adventure Desert

Located 58 km south of Zagora, the village of M'hamid El Ghizlane is an oasis that marks the last stage to the desert of fine sand. Nicknamed the village of the 7 ksours, M'hamid El Ghizlane is home to 7500 inhabitants. The oldest; the Ksar of M'hamid dates back 400 years. In the nearby Ksar Talha, visitors can admire the museum of the 7 ksours where one can find, among other things, utensils, wells, a traditional oven and pottery dating from the last century. The terraces of the Ksours and Kasbahs offer a breathtaking view of the palm grove of M'hamid El Ghizlane. The desert is located about fifty kilometers from the village, or 2 hours by 4X4. It will be necessary to cross two types of plateaus of vegetation before the dunes. It is about Hamada, plateau of stones and the Reg: plateau of cultivable vegetation where we find Tamaris and Acacia trees. The dunes commonly called Erg Chegaga are 600 km2. With its three plateaus offer the experience of the wild desert and one of the most beautiful starry skies in the world. You can admire the Polar Star and the constellations of the Ursa Minor and Ursa Major...

#### **Useful information**

5 | Starting

Starting at 500 dhs per night

X

One full day and one night

23.9 °C

4x4 and dromedary

0

M'Hamid El Ghizlane 47402

# The Rock Engravings of Ait Waaziq in Tazarine

It is one of the most important and interesting sites of engravings in Morocco. Located at 20 km from Tazarine and 90 km from Zagora, the engravings made by incision or fine polishing of the rock are well elaborated. They date back to the end of the Neolithic period (6000 years BC). The images represent the wildlife of the time when this arid zone was a savannah. We find elephants, rhinoceroses, antelopes as well as giraffes, waders and fish. A stone art interpretation center has been built on the site to help visitors discover this ancient art.



#### **Useful information**

Ť

Site open for free

X

A day

23.9 °C

4X4

9

70 km north of Zagora Tazarine 47703

# Joudour Sarial MUSIC SCHOOL PLAYING FOR CHANGE

#### Joudour Sahara

Joudour Sahara Cultural and Tourism Center was established in 2016 with the goal of preserving and promoting the rich heritage of the Draa Valley while enriching the lives of young people. Joudour Sahara is comprised of a diverse local and international team dedicated to creating positive change in the community through dynamic initiatives and programming:

- Music school offering weekly classes in guitar, percussion, singing, ensemble performance and traditional Ahidous, Gnawa, Rokba, Akalal and Chamra styles.
- Community development Joudour Sahara has become a leader in M'hamid El Ghizlane by encouraging girls and women to participate in social and cultural activities. Also, workshops on sustainable architecture, videography, photography and sound recording are organized for youth.
- Environment Joudour Sahara is becoming a national leader in combating desertification at the local level, through water management, building solutions and oasis revitalization. The Sahara Roots Foundation project won the Holcim Foundation's Global Bronze 2021 Award for Sustainable Construction.

#### **Useful information**

GUIDE I

Site open for free

All types of vehicles

23.7 °C

Joudour Sahara M'hamid El Ghizlane 47402

# The Zaouia Naciria

The Zaouïa Naciria of Tamegroute was founded in the 16e century and developed a century later by M'hammad Ben Nacer. It became one of the most influential and radiant Zaouïas for Sufi culture in Morocco and played an avant-garde role in the various fields of science and thought, in addition to its religious and social mission. The Zawiya is adjoined by a library of manuscripts considered among the richest in Morocco and the Islamic world. Founded by Al Imam Abou Al Abbass Ahmed Naciri, it will reinforce the role of the brotherhood as a radiant spiritual center where scholars, ulama and tolbas in search of knowledge will converge, attracted by the collections of books, parchments and precious manuscripts gathered there.

#### **Useful information**



Site open for free



Half a day



23.9 °C



All types of vehicles



Tamegroute 47602

# Kasbah Oulad Othmane

Historical building dating from 1754, the Ksar Oulad Othmane is located at 40 km on the road going from Agdz to Zagora. Its former name Kasbah Oulad Al Arabi from that of its builder, became Kasbah Oulad Othmane from the name of the founder of the Douar. It is located in a strategic position, along the national road N°9 overlooking the Draa valley and the mountain in the background. Transformed today into a guest house with a typical decor of the region, the Kasbah welcomes tourists from all walks of life.

#### **Useful information**

Ō

Site open for free

X

2H

24 0

(ES)

All types of vehicles

0

Oulad Othmane 45050

### Ksar with 45 Kasbahs

Located on the road linking the valley of Draa to that of Ziz, the village of "45 Kasbahs" was once a stopover for the nomads of the tribes Ait Atta. The Kasbahs of Nkob have been restored and maintained and some of them have been converted into guest houses, offering an undeniable charm to this peaceful village. The oasis of date palms and fruit trees offers another pleasant panorama. Nkob is also the starting point or arrival point for hikes in the Jbel Saghro and the canyons of Jbel Amoum.

#### **Useful information**

Ů I

Site open for free





All types of vehicles



On the road linking the Drâa valley to the Ziz valley



# **Province of Tinghir**

From the valley of Todgha to the valley of roses passing through the Dades Gorges, the province of Tinghir offers a multitude of breathtaking landscapes. In this beautiful region, the Berbers have been living for thousands of years with an original way of living. The Ksours and ancient Kasbahs of Tinghir alone deserve a prolonged stop. This province was also the scene of great battles against the French armies during the protectorate such as the battle of Bougafer. Below are a few tourist sites that you should visit during your stay.

# Gorges of Todgha

limestone cliffs carved by the Oued Todgha for millennia. Rising up kilometers, the Todgha Gorges hold an essential place in the valley.

# **Useful information** Site open for free 18.9 °C All types of vehicles R 703 near the city of Tinghir

# Valley of Roses

Located between Kelaa des M'Gouna and Boumaine Dades, the bloom in April and adorns the hills of a bright pink. A few days rose is cultivated for consumption in the form of rose water and for



#### **Useful information**

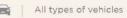


Site open for free











Tinghir 45200

# Monkey's Paws The Gorges of Dades

green oases.

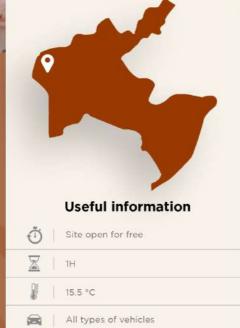
# **Useful information** Site open for free 2H30 15.5 °C All types of vehicles Boulmane Dadès 45150

A few kilometers from the Tissadrine road that leads to the Dades Gorge, a landscape of high ochre-colored limestone plateaus appears amidst trees. On the horizon appear small Berber villages. From the town of Boumaine Dades, this rocky landscape is also called "brain of



# Dinosaur Traces at Tiguayine

Arriving from the Todgha Gorge, before reaching the entrance to the Dades Gorge, precisely 12 km from the town of Boumalne Dades, is the site of Tiguayine where the visitor can admire the traces of dinosaurs. To see them more closely, you must cross the plots of land cultivated with vegetables, cereals and some fruit trees before arriving at a path that faces a cliff. This clay cliff was once covered by several layers of sediments that have preserved, until today, the traces of sauropod dinosaurs that lived between the Middle Jurassic (201 to 145 million years) and the Upper Cretaceous (-145 to -66 million years).



Canyon, 15 Km from

Boumaine Dadès 45150

# Historical Memory Center of The Resistance and Liberation of Tinghir

This space in downtown Tinghir inaugurated in 2014 aims to promote the history of the resistance against the French occupier in the last century. It has a museum that presents the sultans and kings of the Alaouite dynasty, the events of national resistance, the space dedicated to the battle of Bougafer as well as ethnographic documents and remnants of weapons used in the battle of Bougafer. A library where publications of former resistance fighters, members of the liberation army and other national and international institutes are presented is located on the second floor. Finally, there is an audio-visual room, a computer room and a meeting and workshop room for students, researchers and associations.



#### **Useful information**



Site open for free



2H



25 °C



All types of vehicles

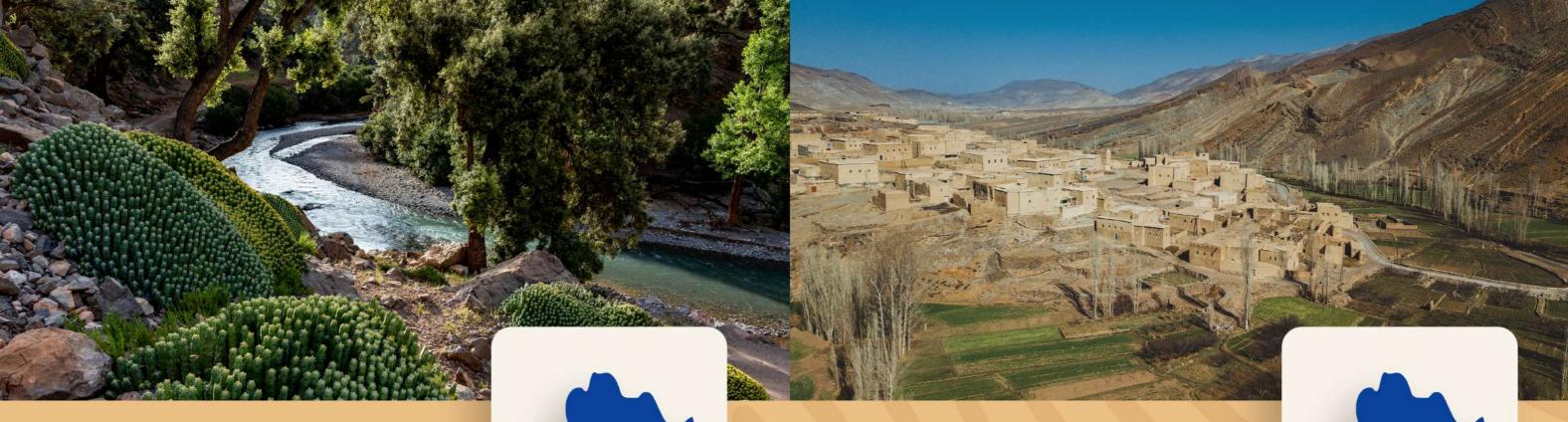


Tinghir city center 45800



# **Province of Midelt**

The city of Midelt which in Berber means protected pasture, was founded by the French in 1918. The inhabitants of the province of Midelt are mostly Berber and live in a vast territory composed of a mountainous massif, green valleys, the national park of the Eastern High Atlas... The cultural and religious heritage composed of Ksours where Jews and Muslims cohabited with their mosques, zaouias and synagogues denote the co-existence of these Jewish and Muslim Berbers. Here are some of the places not to be missed in the province.



# **Assif Melloul**

Located in the northern part of the Moroccan Atlas at an average altitude of 2300 m, Assif Melloul is part of the watershed of the Oum Errabii wadi, the main tributary of Morocco that extends from the Middle Atlas to the Atlantic Ocean. It is the territory of the tribe of Ait Hdiddou where time seems to have stopped. In the surroundings are wild landscapes, summits and high nomadic plateaus and the gorges of Assif Melloul dug by the Oued which separate the central High Atlas from the Middle Atlas.



#### **Useful information**

Ü

Site open for free

X

2H hiking

23 °C

ON FOOT

9

Separates the High Atlas from the Middle Atlas

#### **Imilchil**

The famous village of Imilchil perched at 2200 m altitude is a must and also a region suitable for hikers. It is a grouped habitat with houses built in adobe. Its moussem of engagement, organized between the end of August and the beginning of September of each year, gathers the Berbers of the area in a commercial and festive atmosphere placed under the blessing of the saint Sidi Ahmed Oulmaghani and knows the participation of folk groups coming from various cities. The festival generates an important commercial and tourist activity giving a breath of fresh air to the region and is the meeting place where more inter-tribal links are woven.



#### **Useful information**



Site open for free



Half a day



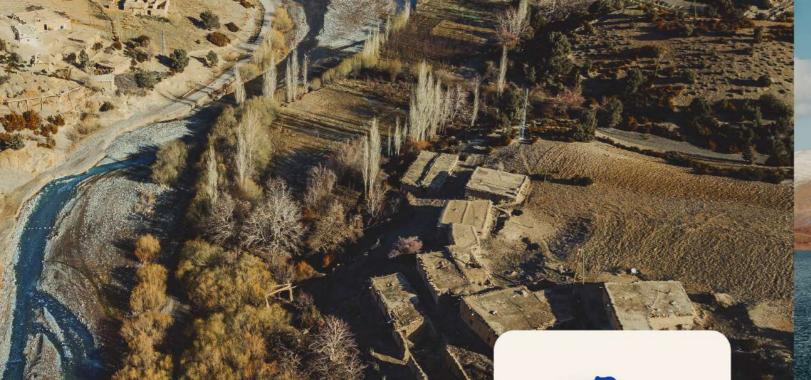
19 °C



All types of vehicles



200 km from Midelt



#### Zaouiate Sidi Hamza

Located 70 km south of the city of Midelt, the village of Tazrouft, also called the village of 100 poets, is an agglomeration of mud houses near the Almohad citadel. Abou Salim El Ayachi (born in 1628 in the Ait Ayach tribe and died in 1681 of the plague) lived in a multi-storey house in the village of Tazrouft. This scholar, writer and Sufi was also a great traveler who brought back from the East and elsewhere precious works constituting a library of manuscripts. This great library, one of the most important of the kingdom, was enriched by a descendant named Abu Hamza. Abu Salim El Ayachi was buried in the cemetery of the valley.



#### **Useful information**

0

Site open for free

X

1H

20 °C

All types of vehicles

....

70 km from Midelt

# The National Park of The Eastern High Atlas

With an altitude of 3000 m, the Jbel Aberdouze and the Ait Yahya valley form with the Imilchil lakes region and the Assif Melloul valley, the 48000 ha National Park Reserve of the High Atlas Oriental. The biodiversity, landscapes, culture and traditions of the Berbers of the mountain are a treasure to explore. The park occupies a territory with three distinct compartments: the plateau of lakes Isli and Tislit - in the west, the mountainous area in the center and the ridge of Jbel Aberdouz in the east. Several species enrich the animal population of the park: the Magot Monkey, the Cuvier's Gazelle and the Wild Boar as well as a hundred species of birds. The vegetation includes forests of cedar, holm oak and juniper... The park is also distinguished by its cultural heritage, especially by the famous moussem of engagement organized around the lakes of Isli and Tislit next to the village of Imilchil.



#### **Useful information**

Ů

Site open for free



Half a day



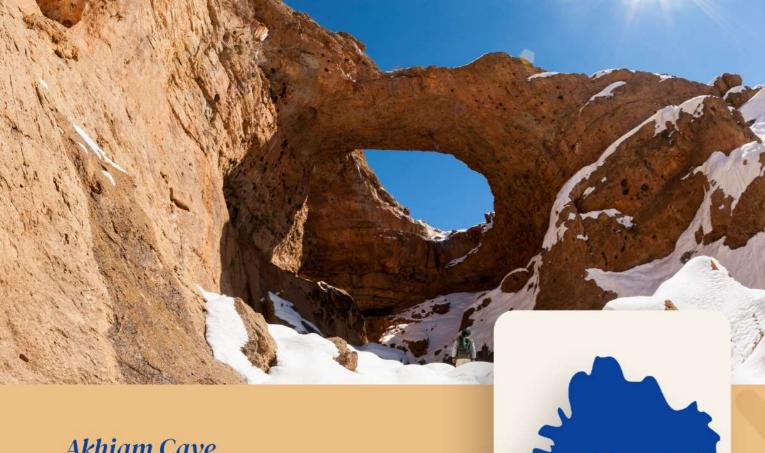
19 °C



All types of vehicles



12 km from Imilchil



#### Akhiam Cave

Located 7 km from the village of Agoudal in the direction of the Dades Valley, the Akhiam cave is perched at 2690 m altitude. It is accessible through a track of vast plains surrounded by mountain peaks that can be traveled on foot, by bike, by car or by donkey. The cave of Akhiam has a beautiful waterfall full of Berber legends. The nature of the lamellar rocks and the presence of faults and geological fractures due to the chemical and mechanical reactions of water have led to the appearance of karstic geomorphological patterns of all sizes such as wells. This has led popular cultures to weave many tales around the caves, most of which are full of legends.



#### **Useful information**

Site open for free





20 °C



On foot



Agoudal 52403

# The Thermal Springs

Hammat Moulay Ali Chérif is a hot spring spa located 40 km from the city of Errachidia. The spring waters are rich in sulfur, salts and minerals. The temperature of the sulphurous waters reaches up to 53°C. The bathing there is recommended for the benefits in case of rheumatism, arthritis, intestinal atonies... As for Hammat Moulay Hachem, it is located 4 km from Hammat Moulay Ali chérif, its water is recommended for digestion. It is a flagship destination for national tourists seeking a spa treatment. In addition to the two resorts, there are also open-air thermal springs with thermal water points overlooking impressive landscapes.



#### **Useful information**









On foot or by car



Tawahit 52450



# Useful Information

To help travelers enjoy their stay, below is some useful information about the region's facilities and infrastructure.

#### Climate

Morocco is located on a single time zone GMT + 1. During the month of Ramadan, Morocco switches to GMT. The Drâa Tafilalet region is no exception to the rule.

#### **Local Time**

Le Maroc se trouve sur un seul fuseau horaire GMT + 1. Pendant le mois de Ramadan, le Maroc passe à l'horaire GMT. La région Drâa Tafilalet ne déroge pas à la règle.

### Spoken Languages

In the Drâa Tafilalet region, the population speaks Berber and Arabic. Signs are in French and Arabic, sometimes in Tifinagh. Guides, hotel and guesthouse staff speak French, English and other languages due to the region's touristic vocation.

#### Hotels

The Drâa Tafilalet region is famous for the diversity of its landscapes ranging from palm groves to desert, passing through the High Atlas mountains or the desert plateaus.

This panorama makes it possible to imagine any kind of accommodation. In total, the Draa Tafilalet region has 311 classified hotels with a capacity of 16,727 beds, 2,322 inns, 1,767 guest houses, 627 cottages, 307 tourist residences and 88 pensions.

Ouarzazate offers Palaces and 5-star hotels but also charming guest houses. In the villages and tourist sites, it is more common to find inns and guesthouses.

Some Kasbahs offer accommodation for tourists. In the deserts of M'hamid and Merzouga, bivouacs or desert tents have long been the only "rudimentary" accommodation, in the Tuareg way of spending the night under the stars.

For some years, luxury camps, equipped and heated like a 5-star hotel room are offered to the well off tourists. But in general, accommodation and catering in the Draa Tafilalet region remain affordable and suitable for all budgets.

# Air Transport

The Drâa Tafilalet region has two international airports; Ouarzazate and Moulay Ali Chérif in Errachidia and a national airport; in Zagora. These airports are connected to Casablanca by frequent flights. Especially since new terminals have been put into service in 2019 in Errachidia and Ouarzazate. A new generation of transport services has been offered to travelers. In addition, a new terminal was born at the airport of Zagora now equipped with modern technology.

# Shuttle from The Airport To The City Center

From the airport, it is easy to find different types of transportation on the way out, whether it is cabs or tourist land transportation.

#### Tourist Land Transportation

The region has an extensive network of land-based tourist transporters offering a variety of options ranging from 4x4 all-terrain vehicles to 60-person buses. The CTM (Compagnie du Transport au Maroc) offers routes connecting the region's cities. Ouarzazate is connected to Zagora, Errachidia and Tinghir and Errachidia to Midelt and Errachidia to Zagora via Ouarzazate... Comfort is assured, speed is controlled, but you will have to plan for a long trip with stops in the cities.

# Travel Agencies

For visitors looking for adapted trips, there are plenty of travel agencies in the region. Several programs are offered, and customized trips can also be made. The travel agent takes care of all the details: advice, hosting and accompaniment, reservations, travel and transportation...

### **Emergencies**

POLICE	TÉL	19
FIREMEN	TÉL	15
ROADSIDE ASSISTANCE	TÉL	177
PHONE INQUIRIES	TÉL	160

