



# - 15<sup>th</sup> SAHARA ZAGORA TRAIL -

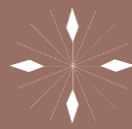
Trip & Trail: desert and palm groves



- RUNNING RACE  
TRAIL & TRIP -  
FROM 29th oct to 5th nov. 2018

8days  
/7n.





# 15<sup>TH</sup> SAHARA ZAGORA TRAIL

GROUP OF 8 TO 16 PEOPLE

-From Monday 29th October to Monday 5th November  
2018 -



CLIQUEZ POUR LANCER LA VIDÉO

TRAIL - SATURDAY 3RD NOVEMBER  
10 / 27 / 52 KM





# 1 | SUMMARY OF YOUR TRIP

Trip & Trail

## 15th Sahara Trail Zagora

Desert & palm groves

8days/7n.



Desert, oasis  
& palm groves



Riad & kasbah,  
Homestays,  
Bivouac in the desert



3 racetracks : 10 / 27 / 52 km  
All levels, no time limit



Meet  
& share  
With the locals



Guided running race in small  
groups from Marrakech to  
Ourzazate

Discover an authentic Morocco and live a real immersion in the very South among traditional kasbahs, Dades gorges, oasis and desert.

You will arrive in Marrakech and leave from Ouarzazate. You will stay in a homestay accommodation in a remote oasis, before walking down Draa Valley and its luxurious palm groves.

Zagora welcomes you in a friendly atmosphere where a trail is organized by Lahcen Ahansal, 10 times champion of the Marathon des Sables.

After the trail, in the evening, enjoy a party in the middle of the desert, and then sleep in Ouarzazate.

### Why booking this tour:

- A human-sized trail with a family-friendly atmosphere, no competitive mind, the trail is within everyone's reach. 15th edition in 2018 !
- This trip offers a wide variety of landscapes: desert, palmgroves, oasis, ancient kasbahs.
- Meet and share with the inhabitants. You will enjoy the Southerns' warm welcome.

Change of scenery guaranteed !

- LAHCEN AHANSAL -

Organizer of Zagora Sahara Trail,  
10 times champion of the Marathon  
des Sables



### USEFUL INFORMATION :

- \* Daily trail , 3 racetracks offered
- \* 10, 27 or 52 km
- \* No time limit, either walk or run
- \* Drop: 200/300 m
- \* Altitude : 700 m
- \* T° in November : 22 to 28°C

Accommodation: homestay, kasbah & bivouac in  
a tent  
Half-board except in Marrakech





## 2 | DETAILED ROUTE

From Monday 29th october to Monday 5th november 2018

29/10  
Marrakech

Arrival of your flight in Marrakech.  
Your trip organizer picks you up at the airport and takes you to your 3-star hotel with swimming pool, in the Hivernage district.

Free time and dinner in Marrakech.  
First night in your 3\* hotel in double room (breakfast included).



30/10  
Ait Benhaddou

Mountain road & Ait Benhaddou kasbah



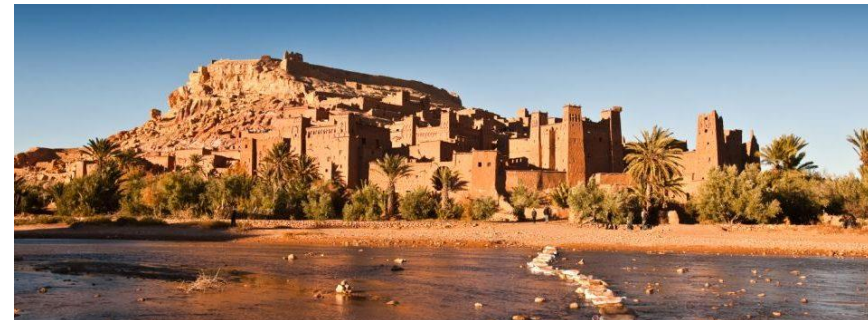
4h00  
180 km

After breakfast, in the morning, enjoy a free time in Marrakech. Visit the gardens and palaces of the kasbah, stroll through the souks ... Around midday, your 4x4 drivers will pick you up at your hotel.

Leave for Ait Benhaddou (a 4-hour drive). You will go across the impressive Tizi n'Chika pass (2200 m), before taking a narrow road that will lead you to the small village of Telouet. Visit the ruined palace of the former Pasha Glaoui and the salt mine nearby (still working today).

Hit back the road and visit the Kasbah of Ait Benhaddou, a Unesco World Heritage site, well-known for the movie Lawrence of Arabia. Enjoy a panoramic view at the top of the fort!

Dinner and night in a guesthouse in Ait Benhaddou. Terrace with breathtaking views on the ksar.





## 2 | DETAILED ROUTE

31/10  
Dades

### Skoura palm grove & Dades High Valley



2h30  
160 km

After breakfast, we will take you to **Skoura palm grove**, the widest palm grove in **Morocco (52 km<sup>2</sup>)** ! Small mud kasbahs, nice irrigated crops, craftsmen in Ouled Arbia and an amazing view on snowy Atlas (you may see the first snows).

Then, go ahead in Dades Valley along the road called the **route of the Thousand kasbahs**.

Once you've crossed the pass, there you are in **Kelaa M'Gouna at 1400 m altitude**, a village in Rose Valley, where you can see citadels and meadows. Go for a small walk and explore the area: landscapes are worth every penny!

Keep progressing along a nice trail in Rose Valley towards **Boumalne Dades**, the meeting point of Saghro nomads and the berbers from High Atlas. Have a break and share a cup of mint tea with the nomads.

Stops, visits & meetings at your convenience : your driver adapts to your wishes..

Dinner and night **on the edge of Dades gorges** in a traditional guesthouse.



01/11  
Dades/  
Fint

### Dades Gorges & immersion in Fint Oasis

Dades Gorges are a paradise for hikers, because they're much less visited than the Todgha ones, and they are much more untamed.

Define the day before with your guide the route of your 3-hour hike. Explore the narrowest and most impressive part of Ait-Oudinar and the very wild Sidi Boubkar Gorge. Then, in Ait-Mouted, visit the beautiful casbah of Glaoui, and have a look at the cliff of Tamlalt nicknamed "Monkey Fingers".

Around noon, drive to Ouarzazate.



2h20  
144 km







## 2 | DETAILED ROUTE

### 01/11 Fint Oasis

Arrival at the remote oasis of Fint, situated only 10 km from Ouarzazate: a green paradise in the middle of the mountains. Rachid and his family welcome you to their traditional home and take you for a guided walk to the oasis: the perfect opportunity for you to discover rural life and field labour.

Depending on your arrival time, a 1-hour short run around the oasis is offered.

Women will prepare you a traditional dinner and if you feel like cooking, you are very welcome to give them a helping hand!

Homestay & party with your hosts: berber songs and dance !



### Immersion in Morocco's ancient history

### 02/11 Zagora

In the morning, share a delicious breakfast with Rachid's family and enjoy the oasis mild weather – you can even participate to the bread baking.

After breakfast, leave for Zagora by bus and go across the outstanding [Draa Valley](#), ancient kasbahs and palm groves. Have a break by visiting an [ancient kasbah](#) through its small streets and its mud houses.

Once you are in [Zagora](#), meet your trail organizer [Lahcen Ahansal](#), 10 times champion of the [Marathon des Sables](#). Bibs will be handed out.

Lunch in a small local restaurant (not included), and go for a walk in the palm grove, or visit the cooperative kasbah: a real Aladdin's cave.

Dinner and night in a kasbah in Zagora palm grove.



2h40  
163 km



# 2 | DETAILED ROUTE

03/11

Zagora Trail

Sahara Zagora trail - 3 racetracks 10 / 27 / 52 km

Breakfast at 7am at your accommodation after a good night's sleep.  
Get ready for the upcoming trail and attend the briefing at the starting point.

Start of the 3 racetracks at 9am (confirmed the day before).

**Breathtaking trail :** gardens in the palm grove, small mud villages, sandy and rocky soil, little mountainous terrain for a 360° spectacular panorama on Draa Valley...  
We provide you with drinks and snacks all along the race.

Your room is booked until 3:30pm, the opportunity for you to enjoy a soothing shower after your trail. You will be able to rest in the **hammam**, an unusual experience (not included, 10€ max).

Attend the award ceremony in the late afternoon and go to Ahansal's bivouac in the heart of the desert, 20km away from Zagora.

A party is organized after the race ! - We reserve you a few surprises.

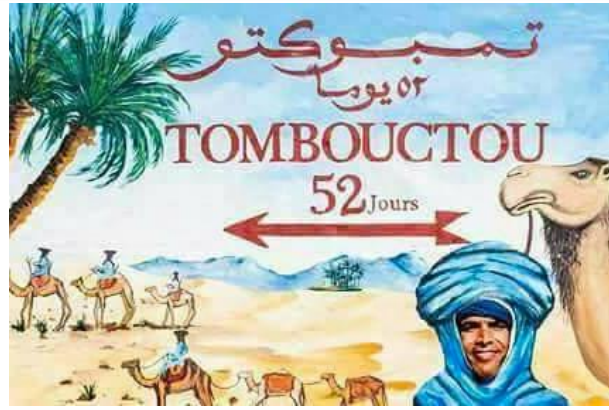
Dinner under the open sky and night in a **bivouac** in a nomad tent.  
(with beds, shared bathroom).







## 2 | DETAILED ROUTE







## 2 | DETAILED ROUTE

04/11  
Ouarzazate

From the desert to Ouarzazate



2h40  
163 km

First have your breakfast in the middle of the dunes, then enjoy a **dromedary ride** in the desert.

Take time to fully enjoy the place before hitting the road back to Ouarzazate. You'll pass by **Foum Zguid** and its palm grove, and you'll discover along the road abandoned film sceneries. In Ouarzazate, you can visit the **Atlas movies studios**. There, many film sceneries are still preserved, including Asterix&Obelix: Mission Cleopatra. (40 min, not included).

Stay in a nice guesthouse with a swimming pool and a hammam (massages not included, book in advance).

Dinner and night in your guesthouse in **Ouarzazate**.

NB: If you return flight takes off in Marrakech, we can bring you over there. (additional service)



05/11  
Return  
Journey

End of the trip

After breakfast, wander in Ouarzazate streets and make some last shopping until your return flight. We take you to the airport and flight back home.



# 3 | YOUR ROUTE







# 4 | USEFUL INFORMATION

## FORMALITIES

Valid passport  
(valid 6 months before the date of expiry )  
No visa for Morocco.

## MEALS

During the stay

- ♦ Half-board : daily breakfasts and dinners (dinners not included in Marrakech)
- ♦ Traditional Moroccan dishes (soup, tajine, couscous...)
- ♦ During the trail : Snacks and drinks

## EQUIPMENT

What to bring for the trail

For the race : running backpacks with a water bladder reservoir of 1L (mandatory for 27 and 52 km), running shoes & sportswear, sticks (optional), cap, sunglasses, sunscreen, cellphone, survival blanket

To register : medical certificate

## REGISTER

For the Sahara Zagora Trail

- ♦ Be more than 18 yo
- ♦ Medical certificate < 6 months
- ♦ Private travel insurance covering outdoor sports activities.

## TRANSPORT

- ♦ International flights not included
- ♦ Transfers from and to Ouarzazate airport
- ♦ 17-seats recent minibus or 4x4 for journeys
- ♦ 7-seats 4x4 with private driver from Day 2 to Day 4

## ACCOMMODATION

Meet the locals

- ♦ 3 nights in a traditional kasbah in Zagora and Ouarzazate  
→ rooms of 2 people with double beds or twin beds
- ♦ 1 night in a guest house in Dades gorges
- ♦ 1 homestay in Fint Oasis  
→ shared rooms with 2 or 3 beds
- ♦ 1 night in a bivouac in a tent in the desert  
→ shared tents with 2 or 3 beds



# 4 | USEFUL INFORMATION



## Our Authentik Travellers

- EMMANUELLE -  
Your Authentik Traveller travel  
organizer  
& your guide during the trip



- LAHCEN AHANSAL -  
Zagora Sahara Trail organizer, 10  
times champion of the Marathon des  
Sables

### The price includes:

- \*7 nights accommodation in a shared room or tent
- \*Transfers from and to Ouarzazate airport
- \*4x4 private driver from Day2 to Day4
- \*Minibus to Zagora
- \*The Sahara Zagora Trail bib
- \*Snacks and drinks during the race
- \*Daily breakfasts and dinners (except Day1, dinner not included)
- \*The dromedary ride
- \*Guided hike in Dades gorges

### The price does not include:

- \*International flights
- \*Tips (about 20€/pers.)
- \*Personal trail equipment
- \*Dinner: Day 1
- \*Lunches
- \*Entrance tickets to museums/monuments/movies studios in Ouarzazate
- \*Personal shopping (Drinks, souvenirs, hammam...)
- \*Private travel insurance

Individual price  
**680€/pers**  
Flight not include

Group price  
10 people.  
**510€/pers**  
Flight not include

Extra cost for single room = 60€  
Price for a single trail bib= 60€





# 5 | ZOOM ON ACCOMMODATION

Marrakech

3\* hotel with all commodities

- ▶ In the Hivernage district
- ▶ Human-sized hotel with traditional Moroccan decoration
- ▶ Swimming pool
- ▶ Double rooms with king size or twin beds
- ▶ With traditional Moroccan breakfast

Charm  
& comfort







# 5 | ZOOM ON ACCOMMODATION

Ait Benhaddou

Guest house with view on the ksar

- ▶ Traditional house held by Brahim
- ▶ Terrace with a panoramic view on the ksar
- ▶ Traditional lounge restaurant
- ▶ Double or triple rooms with traditional decoration
- ▶ Half-board

Tradition  
& comfort







# 5 | ZOOM ON ACCOMMODATION

## Dades

### Traditional guest house

- ▶ Nice house on the edge of Dades gorges
- ▶ Terrace with a panoramic view on gardens and mountains
- ▶ Traditional living rooms
- ▶ Family-friendly welcome
- ▶ Double room with traditional decoration
- ▶ Half-board



Tradition  
& welcome





# 4 | ZOOM ON ACCOMMODATION

## Fint Oasis

### Homestay – Rachid's family

- ▶ Traditional berber house
- ▶ Large living room where 4 generations of people live together
- ▶ Double/triple/quadruple rooms, private bathroom, heating/conditioning
- ▶ Half-board, meals made by the family (you can participate if you wish)



Discover the  
authentic  
Morocco







# 5 | ZOOM ON ACCOMMODATION

## Zagora

### Kasbahs

- ▶ Traditional kasbah house, peaceful in the palm grove
- ▶ Swimming pool and garden
- ▶ Many living rooms
- ▶ Double comfort rooms with heating/conditioning
- ▶ Half-board

Tradition  
& comfort







# 5 | ZOOM ON ACCOMMODATION

Zagora

## Ahansal Bivouac

- ▶ 20 km away from Zagora, in the desert, between the dunes and the Djebel Bani mountain chain
- ▶ Lahcen and Mohamad Ahansal's fixed bivouac
- ▶ Nomad tents with beds, shared lavatory
- ▶ Large reception tents
- ▶ Half-board : dinner around the campfire, berber songs & dance

Authentic  
Morocco







# 5 | ZOOM ON ACCOMMODATION

## Ouarzazate

### Homestay: charming kasbah

- ▶ Nice kasbah house with garden
- ▶ Swimming pool and terrace with a nomad reception tent
- ▶ Double rooms or suites for 4 people with moroccan craft decoration
- ▶ Hammam included for you- Massages not included
- ▶ Half-board

Tradition  
& charm





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