

## FEZ... WHERE TIME STANDS STILL

Fez is more than a stopover-it transports visitors to a day or a life back in space and time. For travellers passionate about the art of living and eager for a taste of Moroccan ingenuity.



## REASONS TO GO

- A destination for everyone
- An imperial city steeped in history
- The cradle of Moroccan civilisation
- Immediate change of scenery and immersion
- Breathtaking countryside

## ✚ THE INSIDER'S GUIDE

- Themed tours have been organised for a visit to Fez and they are marked with a system of signs. Your clients can take the six following tours on their own: castle walls and fortifications, Fez el-Jdid, the Andalusian shore, Andalusian gardens and palaces, monuments and souks, folk arts.
- The city is flanked by two ancient fortresses named **Borj Nord** and **Borj Sud** and they offer a breathtaking panoramic view of Fez.
- For easy reference, Fez is divided into three districts: **Fez el-Bali** (historic centre), **Fez el-Jdid** (imperial city) and **Fez New Town**.
- Fez was founded in 808 by Moulay Idriss II and is the historic capital of Morocco. It is the **oldest imperial city** in the kingdom.
- **Quaraouiyine University**, built in 859, is the oldest university in the world, older than the University of Bologna (1119) and Oxford (1229). It houses several rare manuscripts.

## THE BEST REASONS TO GO

### Unforgettable places:

- **Bab Boujloud** in the main gateway to the medina. This magnificent archway decorated with Arab-Andalusian tiles is the passageway to **Talaa el Kebira** (the great hill), one of the main thoroughfares of the medina.
- The medina, founded in the 9th century, is a **UNESCO World Heritage Site**. It is a veritable labyrinth with more than 9,000 alleyways containing souks, mosques, madrasas and historic buildings.
- **Artisan workshops** with skills handed down through the ages. As soon as the sun rises, the alleyways of the medina come alive, beating to the pulse of the artisans: **coppersmiths, potters, weavers, tanners, turners, goldsmiths...**



### Heritage and Culture:

- **The Quaraouiyyine Mosque**, the jewel of the medina, is also a symbol of the city of Fez. It houses the oldest university in the world (tour of the outside only).
- **The madrasas** are ancient university residences designed for cultural and religious teaching. Do not miss the **Bou Inania Madrasa**, unique because of its size, its minaret and its hydraulic clock and there's also the **Al Attarine Madrasa**, a gem of Marinid architecture.
- **The Fondouk Nejjarine** is an ancient caravansary that was turned into the **Musée des Arts et Métiers du bois** (Museum of Woodworking). The top floor of the fondouk has an amazing panoramic view of the city's rooftops.
- **The Musée Dar Batha** or **Musée des Arts et Traditions** stretches along the **Boujloud Garden**. This ancient Andalusian palace houses treasures of traditional art from Fez and the surrounding region: sculpted wood, embroidery, tiles, wrought iron, jewellery, coins, rugs.



## Rest and Relaxation:

- Fez is steeped in history, and it shows in **the Andalusian gardens and palaces**, the Arab-Andalusian architecture of the palaces and the refined shaded gardens. Do not miss the **Jnan Sbil Garden, Riad Moqri, Dar Batha**.
- Haut cuisine, a plethora of flavours, the art of living also comes through in the art of cooking: tajines, couscous, sweet, and savoury pastillas ... unique flavours await you throughout your journey to Fez.
- **Traditional hammams** and spas are a chance to discover ancestral treatments and beauty rituals using 100% natural products from the region: essential oils, Fez clay, savon beldi, henna...
- **The hot springs of Moulay Yacoub**, located amid the hills 20 km northwest of Fez. The resort's naturally hot waters contain both sulphur and salt are renowned for their therapeutic properties.
- **The hot springs of Sidi Harazem** are located 15 km from Fez. Sidi Harazem has been a famous oasis since the 16th century, known for its magnesium carbonated spring water containing few minerals.



## Festivals and Events:

- **Musiques Sacrées du Monde Festival (June)**: the festival of peace, dialogue, and uniting cultures and civilisations. Most concerts are held outdoors at different venues around the city: the gardens at Batha Palace, Bab Makina, and Bab Boujloud.
- **The Culinary Arts Festival (October)**: a festival for the art, skills, and rituals of gastronomy. Moroccan cuisine takes the spotlight as done by local Fez chefs as well as grand masters of Eastern cooking.
- **Fez Jazz Festival (November)**: several jazz concerts throughout the day in riads and prominent palaces in the medina.
- **Andalusian Music Festival (February)**: This festival keeps the rich tradition of the Arab-Andalusian musical arts alive, influenced by music from the Maghreb, Andalusia, and the East.



## Excursions and Activities:

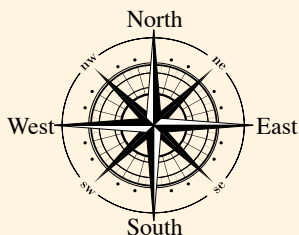
- **Royal Golf de Fès** offers golfers excellent 18-hole courses at an altitude of 700 m in the middle of an immense olive grove at the foot of the Mid-Atlas Mountains.
- **Henri-Leconte Academy** near the centre of Fez. The Academy has a 16 hectare sports facility and professional equipment.
- **Ifrane**, 60 km South of Fez is the “little Switzerland of Morocco”, an ideal place to cool off in the heart of the Mid-Atlas Mountains. A wide range of activities is available through the Pays d’Accueil Touristique’s “**Sur les route des cèdres**” (**Along the cedar route**): hiking in the cedar forest, trout fishing in the lake and skiing in winter on the plateaus of Michlifèn or Jbel Hebri.
- **Volubilis** is the largest archaeological site in Morocco. Do not miss a tour of the ancient Roman city and the majestic ruins in the middle of the countryside.



## AVERAGE TEMPERATURES

Month	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	June	July	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec
Temperature in °C	15	17	19	21	25	30	34	34	30	25	20	15

## MAP OF FEZ



## IN THE AREA

