



Mediterranean to Sahara

TUNISIA



9 days

01-09 June 2024

English speaking tour leader



The 'unforgettable' of the trip:

- The medina of **Tunis**, with its souks and historic mosques
- The mythical **Kairouan**, Islam's fifth holy city
- The Roman temples of **Sufetula** and the imposing amphitheatre of **El Jem**
- The mysterious town of **Tozeur** and the **mountain oases** on the border with Algeria
- The **Chott el-Jerid**, a huge salt lake where mirages are frequent
- The **dunes of the Sahara** at **Douz** and **Ksar Ghilane**, to be admired at sunset on the back of a camel
- The troglodyte houses of **Matmata**, the village of **Chenini** and the ksour around Tataouine
- The imposing *ribat* of **Monastir**, the medina of **Sousse** and the narrow streets of picturesque **Sidi Bou Said**



Kanaga Africa Tours - info@kanaga-at.com
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Day 1: Saturday 01 June

Outward flight/Tunis

Flight to Tunis, arrival in the morning and meeting with Kanaga Africa Tours staff, assistance in changing Euros and possible purchase of a local phone card. Lunch in a restaurant. In the afternoon, stroll through the medina of TUNISI (UNESCO heritage site), discovering its souks (markets), for endless haggling over carpets, fabrics, dried fruit and spices, and a visit to the Zitouna mosque (exterior) or 'mosque of the olive tree', one of the most important mosques in Islam, built in 732 AD. and rebuilt in the 9th century, the Hammouda Pacha mosque (exterior), with its distinctive minaret, the finely decorated madrasas (Koranic schools), including the Slimania madrasa, and the late 19th century cathedral. We also climb onto a panoramic balcony for a view of the entire medina and the Zitouna mosque, and visit the modern kasbah square where the Bay palace, the town hall and the kasbah mosque stand out. Accommodation at the Hotel Carlton or similar and overnight stay in a double room with services.



Welcome to Tunisia!

Day 2: Sunday 02 June

Tunis/Kairouan

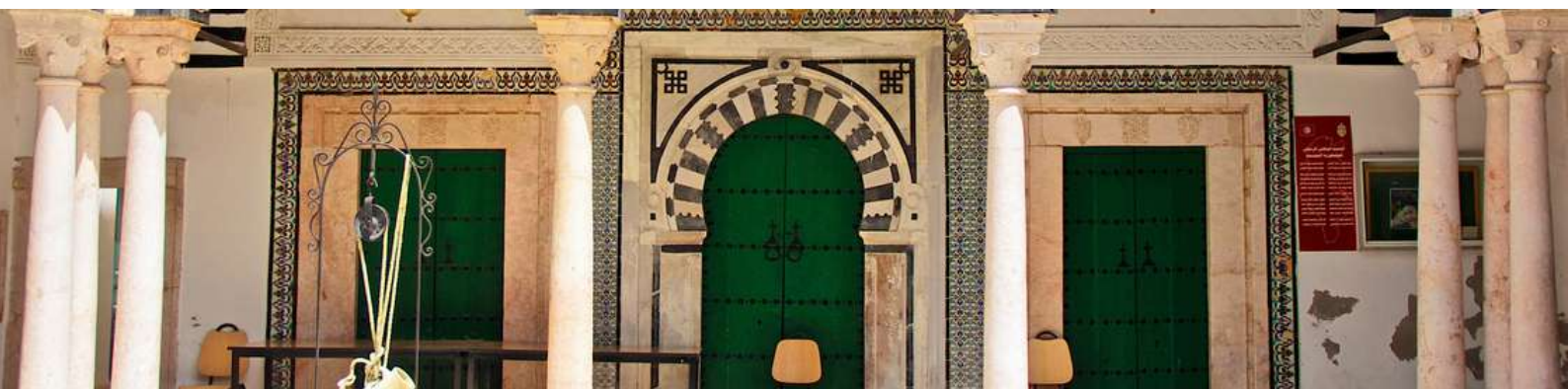
After breakfast, departure for the holy city of KAIROUAN (UNESCO heritage site): visit to the Great Mosque, originally built in 670 A.D. and therefore the oldest in the whole of Africa, with its marble courtyard and a portico supported by columns typical of Aghlabite architecture, the medina, with its white walls interspersed with blue doors, the Bir Barouta, a well where water is extracted by the motion of a camel (water that is thought to be miraculous because it is linked to the source of the Zem Zem well in Mecca), the carpet museum, to get a closer look at this typical art of the city, the Sidi Sahab mausoleum, also known as the 'barber's mosque', because it houses the prophet Mohammed's beard hair, and the Aghlabite basins, cisterns dating back to the 9th century. Lunch in a restaurant. Accommodation at the historic Hotel Continental or similar and overnight stay in a double room with services.



View of the Zitouna Mosque



Kairouan Mosque



Slimania Madrasa



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Day 3: Monday 03 June

Kairouan/Sbeitla/Tozeur

Breakfast and departure for the Saharan regions with a stop en route at the Roman-era site of SUFETULA (Sbeitla), unmissable for the Antonine Gate and the well-preserved temples of Jupiter, Juno and Minerva. Continuation to Gafsa and lunch in a restaurant. In the afternoon, excursion to NEFTA to the vantage point from where you can admire the Corbeille, a deep palm-covered depression that bisects the city. Continue to ONG JEMAL to visit an old set from the Star Wars film and to watch the sunset in the desert (if time does not permit, the visit will take place the following morning). In Tozeur, accommodation at the Hotel Ras el Ain or similar and overnight stay in a double room with services.

Day 4: Tuesday 04 June

Tozeur/Mountain Oasis/Tozeur

After breakfast we leave for the mountain oases towards the border with Algeria, including CHEBIKA, TAMERZA and MIDES, spectacular abandoned villages overlooking imposing palm groves where idyllic waterfalls are hidden. Lunch in a restaurant. In the afternoon, visit TOZEUR, a true pearl of south-east Tunisia, known for its oasis that hides more than 200 springs and is home to some 200,000 palm trees. Visit TOZEUR's palm grove and Eden Palm ecomuseum, the old Ouled el-Hadef quarter, with its characteristic architecture of houses decorated with protruding mud bricks creating elaborate geometric patterns, the Dar Cherait ethnographic museum, with collections of jewellery, costumes and ceramics. Overnight stay at the hotel.



Roman temples of Sufetula



Alleys of Tozeur



Chebika Waterfall



Mountain oasis



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Day 5: Wednesday 05 June

Tozeur/Chott el Jerid/Ksar Ghilane

After breakfast, departure via one of the country's most spectacular roads to CHOTT EL JERID, an immense salt lake some 5,000 square kilometres in size, where mirages are frequent and where it is easy to find the famous Tunisian 'desert roses'. On arrival at DOUZ, a Saharan outpost, we visit the Sahara museum, where we will learn more about the life of the nomads, and the palm grove, the largest in Tunisia where the prized deglat ennur dates are produced. Lunch in a restaurant. Continuation to KSAR GHILANE and excursion on the back of a dromedary (or quad bike) in the GREAT EAST ERG. Accommodation at Campement Zmela or similar, dinner and overnight in double tents with shared beds and modern facilities.



Mountain oasis



Chott el Jerid

Day 6: Thursday 06 June

Ksar Ghilane/Chenini/Tataouine

Breakfast and departure for CHENINI, a beautiful hilltop village with a still-used ksar (fortified granary) and a beautiful whitewashed mosque, and the tombs of the 'seven sleepers', strange five-metre burial mounds. Continuation to DOURET, another spectacular Berber village. Lunch in a restaurant. In the afternoon, we visit KSAR OULED SOLTANE and KSAR EZZAHRA, to admire the groups of ghorfas (fortified granary chambers), where olive oil and wheat were stored by the Berber populations, who in ancient times used these granaries as banks. Upon arrival in TATAOUINE, opportunity to taste corne de gazelle, a typical city sweet filled with nuts and honey, and accommodation at the Sangho Privilege Hotel or similar, dinner and overnight in a double room with services.



Chenini Village and Mosque

Day 7: Friday 07 June

Tataouine/Matmata/El Jem/Monastir

After breakfast, departure for KSAR HADDADA and a visit to its fortified granary, and to MATMATA where we will admire the troglodyte houses, underground dwellings that served to escape the torrid summer heat, where the rooms opened radially from the bottom of a circular well 5 to 10 metres deep. Lunch in a restaurant. In the afternoon, transfer northwards with a stop at EL JEM to admire the amphitheatre of the ancient Roman city of Thysdrus, built around 200 years AD, the third largest in the Romanised world and the largest in Africa, declared a UNESCO World Heritage Site. Arrival in Monastir, accommodation at the Hotel Regency or similar, located directly on the beach and overnight stay in a double room with services.



Ghorfas of ksar Ouled Soltane



El Jem Amphitheatre



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Day 8: Saturday 08 June

Monastir/Sousse/Hammamet

After breakfast, visit MONASTIR: the panoramic view of the ribat, an Islamic fortification dating back to 796 AD, and the monumental mausoleum of Habib Bourguiba, father of the country, made of arches and green domes. Then transfer to SOUSSE, visit its archaeological museum dedicated to Roman mosaics. Lunch in a restaurant. In the afternoon, we visit the medina, a UNESCO heritage site: the intricate alleyways punctuated by 24 small mosques, the covered souk with all kinds of merchandise, the Grand Mosquée, peculiar for not having a minaret, and the ribat, where from the top of its nador (watchtower) we admire magnificent views of the city and the port. Continuation northwards to Hammamet, accommodation at the Hotel Sentido Le Sultan or similar, directly on the beach and overnight stay in a double room with services.



View of the ribat of Monastir



Mausoleum of Habib Bourguiba



Sousse Archaeological Museum

Day 8: Sunday 09 June

Hammamet/Sidi Bou Said/Tunis/Return flight

After breakfast, departure for the village of SIDI BOU SAID, one of the most picturesque corners of the country, with its blindingly white houses punctuated by blue doors and colourful bougainvilleas, situated on the top of a cliff offering magnificent views of the Gulf of Tunis. Stroll through the narrow streets of the village, with a stop to enjoy the famous mint tea with pine nuts. Lunch in a restaurant and transfer to Tunis airport in time for your return flight. End of services.



Village of Sidi Bou Said



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**Individual participation fee in double room
(min. 4/max. 16 pax)**

1,590 €/pax

**in promotion at € 1,490
for bookings before 01/03/2024**

Supplements:

- Enrollment fee: **free!**
- Single room/tent: **220 €**
- Quad bikes in Ksar Ghilane: **on request**
- Day use in Tunis: **on request**
- Extra night in Tunis: **on request**
- Ext. Bardo-Carthage 1d: **on request**

The fee includes:

- English-speaking local guide (4/5 pax);
- English speaking tour leader (from 6 pax);
- French-speaking local guides where necessary;
- Visits and excursions as scheduled;
- All transfers by minibus and 4x4 for desert excursions, including drivers, petrol and tolls;
- Meals as specified in the itinerary;
- 8 nights in a double room with breakfast as mentioned in the itinerary.

The fee does not include:

- Possible Tunisia visa;
- Compulsory cancellation/health/baggage insurance;
- Air flights;
- Drinks and mineral water;
- Meals not included in the itinerary;
- Photographic and video permits;
- Tips and expenses of a personal nature;
- Everything mentioned in 'supplements';
- Anything not expressly mentioned in 'the fee includes'.