

NIGER

DESERT, TRIBES AND TREKS

(19 OR 21 DAYS)



The desert in Niger boasts some of the Sahara's most beautiful dunes; the stark splendours of the Aïr Mountains & Ténéré Desert being one of West Africa's most spectacular sights. Zinder and Agadez are towns of the intriguing, ancient trans-Saharan trade-route and build up of magnificent mazes of mud brick. The Niger River pushes itself through the landscape and the attraction of the fascinating local inhabitants cannot be missed. All this together with extremely friendly people, lively markets and our particular focus on interaction with local people make Niger an undeniable destination. Required fitness level: intermediate to high

Note: home-stays, bivouac, local transport and treks make this trip only suitable for the most adventurous travellers.

This route can be extended camping at the shores of the Niger River on day 17, cruising along the River on day 18 and 19 (reaching Niamey in the evening of day 19). Day 20 will be spent in Niamey and final departure will take place that same evening.

DAY 1:

Arrival in Niamey in the evening

DAY 2:

Niamey - Tahoua (villages and markets)

DAY 3:

Tahoua - Tabalak (trek to the Woodabe camp site)

DAY 4:

Woodabe Camp (participate in chores of the daily life of these nomads)

DAY 5:

Woodabe Camp - Teguidam (trek back to Tabalak and bus/4x4 through the desert)

DAY 6:

Teguidam - Agadez (visit nomad camps, lively local markets and reach Agadez at the end of the afternoon)

DAY 7:

Agadez (explore the town by foot, visit to market, the adobe Mosque and the ancient quarters)

DAY 8:

Agadez - Iferuane (enter into the Aïr Mountains; between October and April the Woodabe Tribes organise beauty contests, known as Gerewol)

DAY 9:

Iferuane - Chiriet (Dunes of Temet; "Blue Mountains").

DAY 10:

Valley of Temet (day of trekking through the Aïr area)

DAY 11:

Arakao (day of trekking)

DAY 12:

Assodé - Timia (day of trekking - beautiful oasis)

DAY 13:

Assodé - Timia (day of trekking - beautiful oasis)

DAY 14:

El Mecki - Agadez (half day trek - falls)

DAY 15:

Agadez - Sahel - Tahoua (full day of transport)

DAY 16:

Tahoua - Filingué - Tilabery (get to know the Songhai people)

DAY 17:

Tilabery - Niamey (villages on the Niger River Shore - cruise)

DAY 18:

Niamey (explore the traditional quarters and markets). In the evening: final departure

DAY 19:

Arrival to European airport in the evening (if travelling with Royal Air Maroc one can visit Casablanca City Centre).

Recommended Period: September - April

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