

2624m



# MARRAKECH ATLAS ETAPE

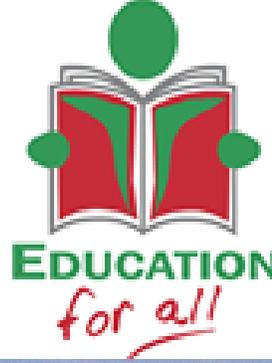
MARRAKECH TO OUKAÏMEDEN (2624m)

CHARITY BIKE RIDE - SUNDAY 26 APRIL 2015



## 3, 4 or 7 Night —

## All Inclusive Cycling Holiday



# Arrival / Day 1 24 & 25 April

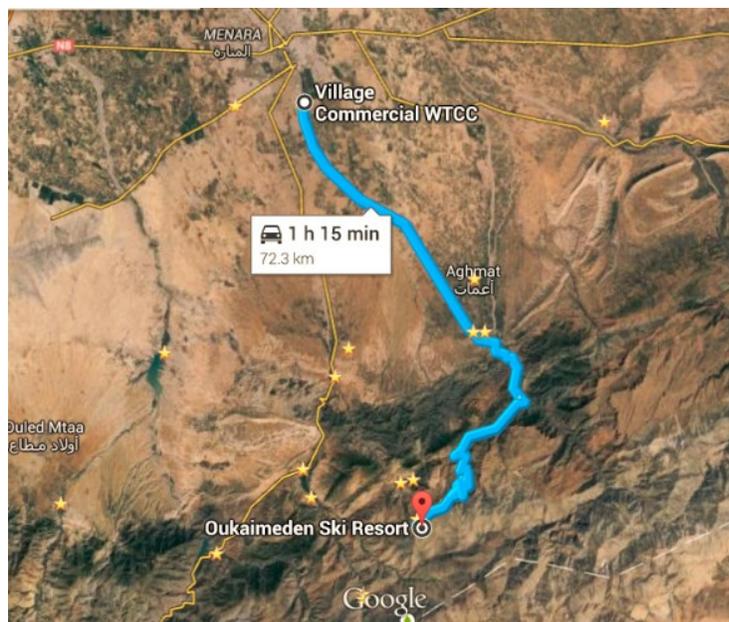
**Route Description**— On arrival into Marrakech airport on Friday 24th April, we will organise your transit to Zalagh Kasbah, your hotel. Once you've checked in, there will be dinner with the other riders at the hotel. On Saturday morning you will be met by the team from AXS to get your bike fitted, before going out for a warm up ride. There will be options for 20, 40 or 60 KM to refresh your legs. It's then back to the hotel for a shower and lunch before a magical Marrakech tour. This tour, by bike, takes you through some of the most interesting parts of the city with a stop in the main square for orange juice. You will then have dinner with Atlas Etape organisers before resting up for Sunday's event.



# Day 2 - The Ouka Day! 26 April

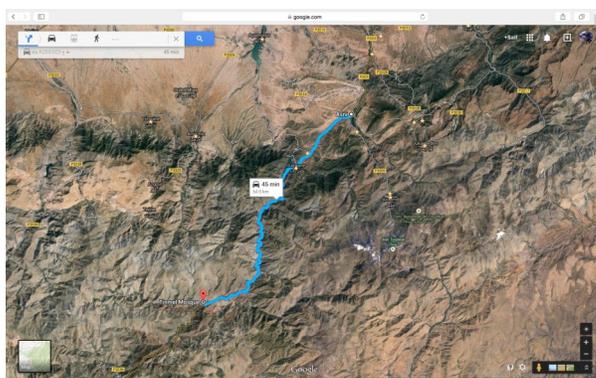
**Route Description**— Sunday has arrived... A big breakfast will be put on to provide you with all the energy you'll need for this monster of a day. The Marrakesh Atlas Etape includes a climb with more altitude gain than any on the Tour de France so you're going to want to stock up at breakfast!

There will be feed stations and water stops along the route. You and 200 other riders, of a mix of abilities, will then take on the countless switch backs and changes in terrain as the route rises to the Moroccan ski resort at Oukaimeden at 2,624m — a climb of 2,129m over 70km. Believe us when we say this really is an achievement of a lifetime. It's then time for the descent and to enjoy the breathtaking scenery along the way back to Marrakesh. You're then able to enjoy and reflect upon your achievement at the finish line with massages available and a thoroughly well earned dinner and a drink or two, should you so wish! You'll then return to your hotel before the next adventure begins...



# Day 3 - Asni to Tinmel 27 April

This day is geared around the benefitting charity of the Marrakesh Atlas Etape; Education for All. You'll be visiting a couple of the boarding houses they support as well as the girls living in those houses. The route starts in the small Atlas foothill town of Asni, where the first house you'll visit is situated. The smooth ride then winds through the mountain passes before taking in a bit of climbing (and some fun descents) through tree covered mountain valleys. You'll pass Ouirgane and the reservoir and wind along the N" Fis river bed. After 55 KM, the final climb leads into Tinmel, a small village in the High Atlas mountains that was the cradle of the Berber Almohad empire in the early 12th century. You'll then visit the second boarding house and have some lunch, before having the option of getting a lift, or riding, the 44km route back to the hotel in Ouirgane. Once at the Ksar Shama hotel it's time to unwind by the pool. Both a hammam and massage spa are available if you would like to treat yourself before everyone meets up for dinner together to recount stories of the last few days.



# Day 4 - Berber Atlas Loop 28 April

The day starts with a visit to the EFA boarding house at Ouirgane, after which you'll wind through the valley, past the turn off to Moulay Brahim and leave the main road for the seldom used quite mountain loop. You'll be stopping after 29 KM at Tazelga where you will enjoy lunch at this tiny mountain Berber town. From there you'll loop around the deep valley gorge to the opposite side of the valley and return back to the main road to Tassloumt covering 22 KM. You'll then climb back up the main road back to Ouirgane having covered an additional 24KM, 75km in total.



The evening will again consist of relaxing by the pool and enjoying a massage at the Ksar Sharma hotel, before another delightful dinner with your new group of best friends and a thoroughly well deserved good nights' sleep!



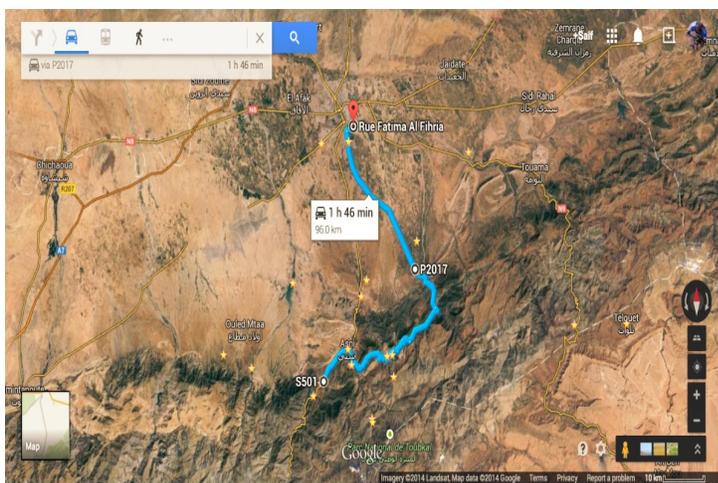
# Ouirgane-Ourika-M'Kech 29 April

The route starts from Ouirgane and takes in breath-taking views of the mountains along the road cutting across towards Ouikaimeden. The sign says 19 KM to the summit but you will be descending towards Marrakech.

The enjoyable and scenic descent will join the main road down the Ourika valley and along the Ourika River, covering 60 KM to a traditional Moroccan restaurant overlooking the valley.

You will go from there through "Scorpion City" and cover another 30KM towards Marrakech for a stop off at AXS headquarters. Here, it'll be time to drop off the bikes and transfer into the city.

You'll then have a free evening to enjoy the city and what it has to offer and will be spending the night in one of the small restored palatial homes (Riads) within the historical walls of the city.



# Marrakech & Palmery 30 April

As you're last full day in Marrakech, it's your chance to enjoy Djemma El Fna, a UNESCO project Masterpiece of the Oral and Intangible Heritage of Humanity. The place is known for its traditional activities: storytellers, musicians, snake charmers and performers. Visit the ancient souk that is functioning in much the same way as it has for the last 500 years. In the evening you will have an off road treat with an AXS Sunset Palmery tour and a traditional Moroccan dinner.



After dinner you will be transferred back to your Riad to enjoy the open areas and a cup of tea, for the perfect relaxing finish your last evening in Marrakech. You will sleep in the company of the many memories made on this unforgettable trip.



# Departure Day 1 May

Friday is the last day of the adventure. If you would like to extend please inform us and we will make arrangements to extend your stay additional days. Otherwise, after breakfast at a time convenient for you, we will transfer you to the airport and bid you farewell.



## Rates and other key information

*Option 1—If you are ... Arriving on Friday leaving on Monday*

*680 € for the 3 Nights / 4 Days*

*160 € for single supplement*

*Option 2 if you are ... Arriving Friday and Leaving on Tues*

*1160 € For the 4 nights / 5 days—including the MAE ride*

*230 € for single supplement (above prices based on shared room)*

*Same schedule as above dropping at airport on Tuesday*

*Option 3 if you are ... Arriving Friday and leaving the following Friday*

*1950 € for the 7 nights / 8 days—including the MAE ride*

*400 € for single supplement (above prices based on shared room)*

*\* Includes bike hire, helmet, hotels, meals, transport, support vehicle and fluids and is based on shared accommodation. If you'd like to bring your own pedals or seat we will fit it for you.*

**Make Your reservation now— contact: [info@argansports.com](mailto:info@argansports.com)**