

THE ANTI-ATLAS & EMERALD OASES

7 Days | Marrakech to Tizi n'Test to Ait Benhaddou

A Custom Real Morocco Gravel Expedition

THE JOURNEY

This 7-day odyssey is a "best-of" Southern Morocco's most dramatic transitions. By starting at the 2,100m crest of the High Atlas, you bypass the heavy climbs and city traffic, launching immediately into a legendary 40km descent. From there, you will traverse the volcanic "Red Gold" saffron fields of the Anti-Atlas, descend into the massive palm groves of the Draa Valley, and weave through the 100,000 palms of the Skoura Oasis before finishing at the world's most iconic mud-brick fortress.

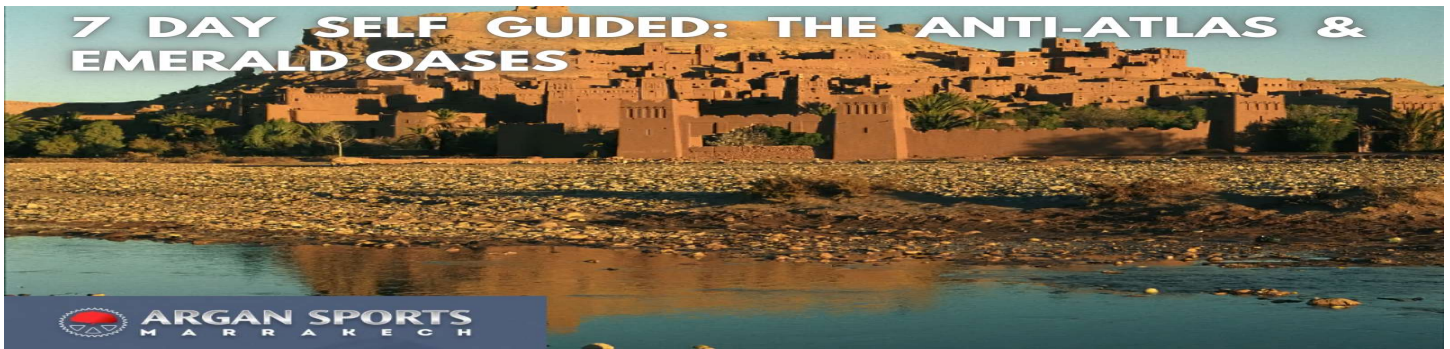
THE DAILY ODYSSEY

Day 1: The Crest of the Atlas (Marrakech to Tizi n'Test to Oulad Berhil)

- Stats: 42km | +150m / -2,100m | 20% Off-Road | ~3.5 Hours

Your journey begins with a private 3.5-hour transfer from Marrakech, climbing the switchbacks to the Tizi n'Test Pass. After a celebratory tea at the "La Haute Vue" café, you'll mount your bikes at 2,100m for a legendary descent. You'll drop through argan forests into the golden warmth of the Souss Valley. The air will change from alpine crisp to desert dry as you reach your sanctuary: a restored 19th-century Pasha's palace filled with peacocks and hidden courtyards. For dinner, try the Kefta Tagine, spiced meatballs simmered in tomato sauce.





Day 2: The Saffron Foothills (Oulad Berhil to Taliouine)

- Stats: 52km | +850m | 30% Off-Road | ~5 Hours

Depart by 8:30 AM to begin a steady climb into the volcanic heart of the Anti-Atlas. You are entering the saffron capital of Africa, where the rocks turn deep purple and iron-red. As you ride, look for the small crocus fields that produce the world's most expensive spice. This is the land of Saffron Tea and delicate tagines infused with almonds. You will finish the day at a charming mountain auberge where the hospitality is as warm as the golden tea served upon your arrival.

Day 3: The Weavers' Spine (Taliouine to Taznakht)

- Stats: 58km | +900m | 40% Off-Road | ~5.5 Hours

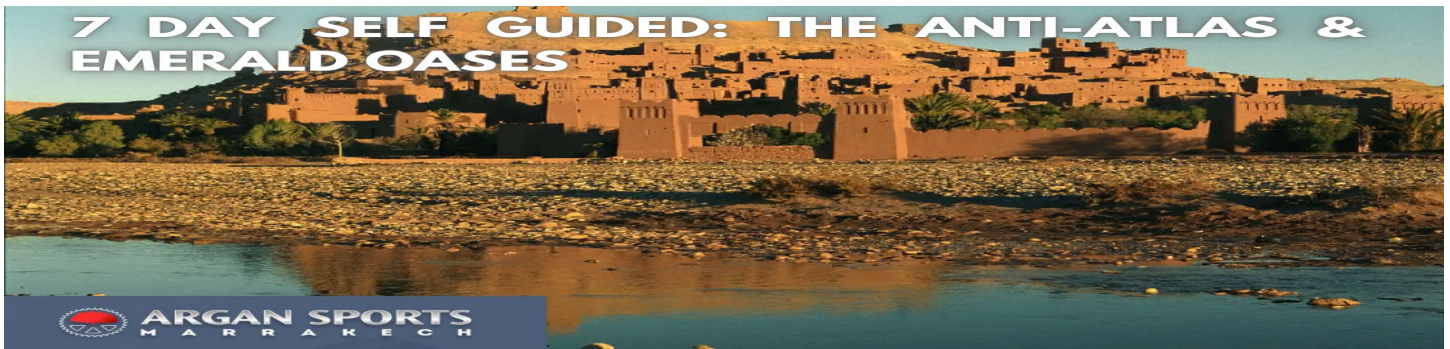
Aim for an 8:00 AM start to navigate the high-altitude ridges of the Siroua Massif. This is a rugged, ancient landscape of volcanic skeletons and fortified granaries (*Agadirs*) that stand like sentinels on the hills. You are heading toward Taznakht, the spiritual home of Ouzgouta Berber carpets. You'll see vibrant wool drying in the sun and weavers at work. This is sheep country, so lunch is often Mrouzia, a savory-sweet lamb tagine seasoned with honey and raisins. You'll stay at a functional trade-town hotel, an authentic hub for mountain travelers.



Day 4: The Gateway to the Draa (Taznakht to Agdz)

- Stats: 65km | +450m / -1,100m | 50% Off-Road | ~5.5 Hours

Enjoy a slower breakfast before departing at 9:00 AM. Today you crest the Tizi n'Taguergoust, where the world opens up to reveal the Draa River—a massive emerald snake of palm trees cutting through the parched desert. You'll descend into the valley, following ancient caravan tracks that feel like a Argan Sports Marrakech | www.argansports.com | WhatsApp +1 832 205 6051



lost world. Your sanctuary is a boutique garden haven tucked deep within a palm grove. Dinner will likely feature Seven-Vegetable Couscous, the traditional meal of the Draa, served under a canopy of date palms.

Day 5: The Oasis Loop (Agdz to Skoura)

- Stats: 55km | +400m | 70% Off-Road | ~5 Hours

Depart by 8:30 AM for a day of "Oasis Hopping." You'll leave the Draa for the Skoura Palmeraie, a 15-square-mile forest of 100,000 palms. You will ride through a labyrinth of narrow mud-brick tracks, passing crumbling fortresses and irrigation channels. Stop at a village stall for Loubia (white beans in tomato sauce) to keep your energy up. Your sanctuary is a boutique garden haven nestled within the Skoura grove, where the air is heavy with the scent of wild mint and almond blossoms.



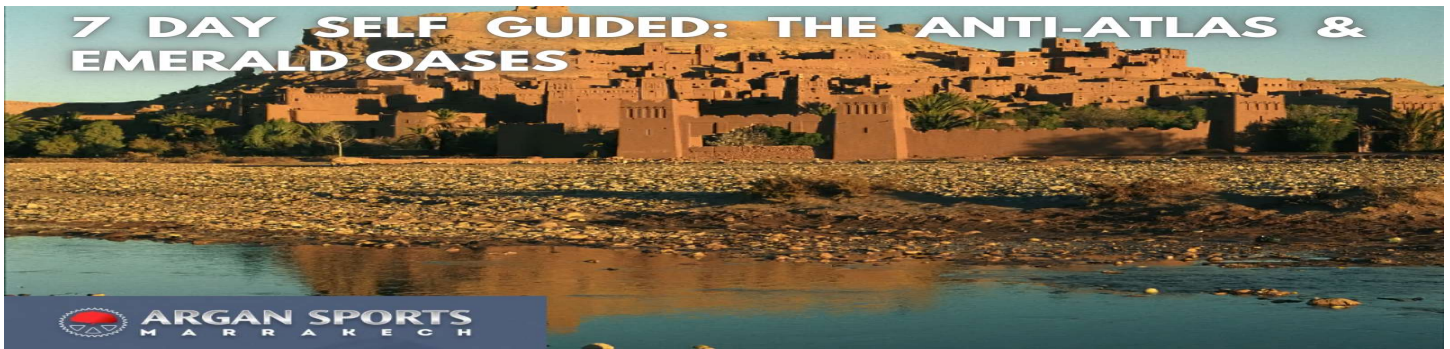
Day 6: The Almond Valley & Movie Sets (Skoura to Ait Benhaddou)

- Stats: 58km | +350m | 60% Off-Road | ~5 Hours

Leave by 8:30 AM to ride through the "Hollywood of Africa." You'll pass the massive movie sets of Ouarzazate before hitting the wide, fast gravel tracks that lead to the sandcastle-like towers of Ait Benhaddou. As a major heritage hub, the tagines here are world-class—try a Beef Tagine with Prunes for a perfect recovery meal. You'll stay at a traditional mud-brick guesthouse perched directly across from the site, perfectly timed to watch the sunset turn the ancient walls to gold.

Day 7: The Final Morning & Return (Ait Benhaddou to Marrakech)

Argan Sports Marrakech | www.argansports.com | WhatsApp +1 832 205 6051



- **Stats: 0km | +0m | ~0 Hours**

There is no rush today. Spend your morning exploring the ancient alleys of the Aït Benhaddou Kasbah or enjoy a final long breakfast on the terrace. Your private transfer will meet you at midday for the 3.5-hour drive back over the Tichka Pass to your Riad in Marrakech. Your soul will be full of the "Baraka" of the Atlas and the Sahara as you return to the Red City for your final celebratory dinner.

ARGAN SPORTS SELF-GUIDED SYSTEM

- **The Machine:** Rental of a Giant Revolt 2 gravel bike, professionally fitted.
- **Logistics:** All private transfers (Marrakech to Tizi n'Test and Ait Benhaddou to Marrakech) are included.
- **Support:** Expert GPS navigation files and 24/7 WhatsApp Concierge.
- **Accommodations:** 6 nights in curated sanctuaries with Breakfast and Dinner included.

Available Upgrades & Options:

- **Performance Upgrade:** Upgrade to the Giant Revolt Advanced carbon frame for €100 additional for the trip.
- **E-Bike Upgrade:** Available for €200 additional per day.

INVESTMENT

- **Shared Room (2+ Riders):** €1,395 per person
- **Single Room (Part of a Group):** €1,545 per person
- **Solo Traveler (Single Occupancy & Private Logistics):** €1,645
- **Note:** *The Solo Traveler rate includes a dedicated logistics surcharge to cover the fixed costs of private vehicle transfers.*