

Table Of Content

Geographical location	3
Neighbouring cities/countries	4
Significance	5
History	6
Cultural identity	7
Natural resources	8
Key site seeing places (paid and free)	9
- Paid	9
-- Medersa Bou Inania	9
-- Nejjarine Fondouk	9
-- Al Attarine Madrasa	9
-- Dar Batha Museum	10
-- Medersa Sahrij	10
- Free	12
-- Bab Chorfa	12
-- Borj Nord	12
-- Karaouiye Mosque	12
-- Bab Boujloud 'The Blue Gate'	13
-- Andalous Mosque	13
-- Chouara Tanner	13
-- Coin Berbere	14
-- Henna Souk	14
-- Medina of Fez	14
Adventure sports, Local sports, stadiums	16
Spas and relaxation	17
Events calendar	19
Key local guides and tours	22
Transportation hubs	23
Transportation cost	24
Baggage allowance	25
Must try food and local savouries	26

Restaurant & Nightlife	27
Average meal cost	30
Shopping	31
Tourist benefits	32
Essential local apps	33
Driving	34
Travel essentials	35
Essential clothes	36
Local currency	37
Change vendor's commission, ATM charges	38
Staying connected	39
Time Zone	40
Languages	41
Political Scenario	42
Economic Scenario	43
Religious belief	44
Visa requirements	45
Essential vaccination	46
Theft and Safety	47
Embassy/Consulate	48
Accessibility	49
Emergencies	50
Do's and Don'ts	51
Tipping basics	52
Pet info	53
Conclusion	54
Disclaimer	55

Index

1. Geographical location

Fes, the medieval capital of Morocco is sited by the Atlas Mountains. The cultural capital of Morocco, Fez is a northeastern city. The population of Fes is 1.112 million as per 2014 records.



Index

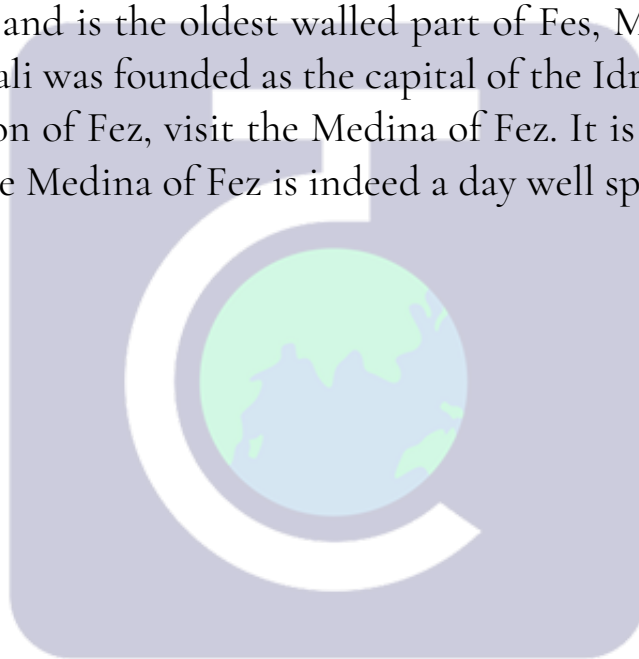
2. Neighbouring cities/countries

The Neighboring Cities Of Fez Are Meknes With An Approximate Distance Of 55 Kilometers, Khenifra With An Approximate Distance Of 140 Kilometers, Rabat With An Approximate Distance Of 175 Kilometers, Tangier With An Approximate Distance Of 210 Kilometers And Casablanca With An Approximate Distance Of 250 Kilometers.



3. Significance

Fez continues the legacy of medieval times and no wonder that it is known as the mysterious city. The city houses many hidden architectural treasures. Where other Moroccan cities are evolving into modern cities, Fez has inhibited into its traditions. Fez is known widely for its riads and to plummet into the history of the imperial city, riads are the best place. Fes el Bali is awarded as the UNESCO World Heritage Site and is the oldest walled part of Fes, Morocco. Between 789 and 808 AD, Fes el Bali was founded as the capital of the Idrisid dynasty. To taste the authentic tradition of Fez, visit the Medina of Fez. It is full of twisted souks, but, a day spent at the Medina of Fez is indeed a day well spent.



Index

4. History

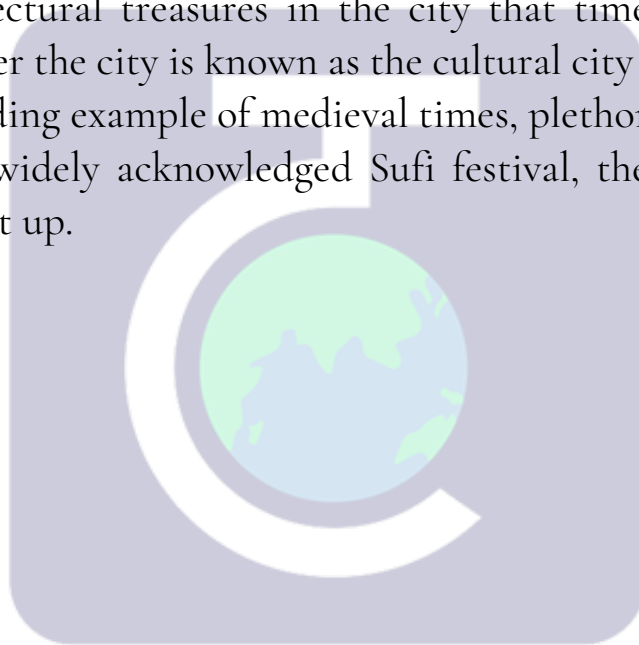
In 808 Idris II founded the oldest Morocco imperial city, Fez. After three centuries under the reign of the Marinid dynasty, it became a significant trading centre and a city whose artistic and intellectual prestige had become popular even in Europe. The imperial city was aggrandized with numerous monuments by the Marinid kings and the Alawid dynasty. Out of which, many exhibits the Iberia-Moorish style architecture and are exceptionally preserved till date.



Index

5. Cultural identity

Dwellers of Fez are very warm and welcoming. If you happen to have a conversation with the owners of the stalls at the Medina of Fez, they may invite you for a cup of tea, typically a mint tea. The traditional dress for men and women in Morocco is called djellaba and Fez is the only Moroccan city where majority of the population still dons it. Fez is history lovers' paradise. There are so many hidden architectural treasures in the city that time is never enough to explore all. No wonder the city is known as the cultural city of Morocco. The rich culture, a perfect leading example of medieval times, plethora of opportunities to unleash raw talent, widely acknowledged Sufi festival, the Fes el Bali and the Medina of Fez sums it up.



6. Natural resources

Fez is home to copious iron ore and coal. The other natural resources found in the city are manganese, lead, salt and phosphate.



Index

7. Key site seeing places (paid and free)**7.1. Paid****7.1.1. Medersa Bou Inania**

The Medersa Bou Inania, a madrasa in Fes, was founded by Abu Inan Faris in AD 1351-56. A perfect example of Marinid architecture, it is acknowledged worldwide. The madrasa serves as both, an educational institution and a congregational mosque.

Address : Rue Talaa Sghira, Fes, Morocco

Location : 34.06224569999999, -4.9827040000000012

Contact : +212 671-732265

Nearest Public Transport : Batha bus station

Entry Fee : 10 MAD per person

Open & Close Timing : Daily- 09:00hrs-18:00hrs

Time Required : 2

Expected Wait Time : 10 minutes

Buy Ticket : No

7.1.2. Nejjarine Fondouk

Nejjarine Fondouk is an exquisitely restored Museum of Wooden Arts and Crafts. In the 18th century, it provided food and shelter to traders. A visit to the museum will give you a prolific view of intricate carvings and breathtaking carved wooden arches.

Address : Place el-Nejjarine, Fes, Morocco

Location : 34.0647944, -4.9758329999999966

Nearest Public Transport : Rcif bus station

Entry Fee : 10 MAD per person

Open & Close Timing : Daily- 10:00hrs-19:00hrs

Time Required : 2

Expected Wait Time : 10 minutes

Buy Ticket : No

7.1.3. Al Attarine Madrasa

The Al Attarine Madrasa was founded by Abu Said in 1325 in the hub of the

medina. This is the most remarkable landmark of the medieval times in the city after the Medersa Bou Inania. It is sited opposite the Kairaouine Mosque where you can experience the best views of the mosque from the roof of the Al Attarine Madrasa, provided you are successful in persuading the caretaker to let you visit go upstairs.

Address : Rue Talaa Kebira, Fes, Morocco

Location : 34.06507880000001, -4.97373349999998

Nearest Public Transport : Rcif bus station

Entry Fee : 10 MAD per person

Open & Close Timing : Daily- 08:00hrs-18:00hrs

Time Required : 2

Expected Wait Time : 10 minutes

Buy Ticket : No

7.1.4. Dar Batha Museum

The Dar Batha Museum is a century old Moorish palace which displays a wide collection of Moroccan arts and crafts including carpets, jewelry, ceramics, leatherwork, and fine embroidery. Earlier a summer palace, this place was converted into a museum in 1916. The superb ceramic collection dating from the 14th century to the present steals the entire limelight.

Address : 5, Place Batha Oued Fejjaline, Fes, Morocco

Location : 34.0605516, -4.982744599999933

Contact : +212 5356-37800

Nearest Public Transport : Batha bus station

Entry Fee : 10 MAD per person

Open & Close Timing : Daily- 12:00hrs-23:45hrs

Time Required : 2.5

Expected Wait Time : 15 minutes

Buy Ticket : Yes

7.1.5. Medersa Sahrij

Built in 1321, Medersa Sahrij got its name from a pool located inside the medersa, as 'Sahrij' in the Arabic means 'pool'. The white and green minarets on top are the highlight of the medersa, along with its interiors that are designed

with religious connotations.

Address : Avenue Moulay Youssef, Ancienne Medina, Fes 30000, Morocco

Zipcode : 30000

Location : 34.046902, -4.9963000000000019

Contact : +212 5356-43040

Nearest Public Transport : Baladia Bus station

Entry Fee : 10 MAD per person

Time Required : 1.5

Expected Wait Time : 10 minutes

Buy Ticket : No



Index

7.2. Free

7.2.1. Bab Chorfa

The gate of Bab Chorfa leads to Fes-Jedid, also known as New Fes and is an extension of Fes el-Bali. This part of the city was founded in the 14th century by the Merinids. The Fes-Jedid is the kingdom full of snake charmers, acrobats and Berber carpets.

Address : Rue Sellaline, Fes 30200, Morocco

Zipcode : 30200

Location : 34.0637228, -4.988023699999985

Nearest Public Transport : Bab Mahrouk Bus station

Open & Close Timing : Daily- Open 24hrs

Time Required : 4

Buy Ticket : No

7.2.2. Borj Nord

The Borj Nord Museum in Fez is housed in a fortress that towers above the city. This fortress was built in the 16th century by Saadian Sultan Ahmed El Mansour. Visit this to enjoy the magical bird's-eye view of the city.

Address : Douar El Magta, Fes, Morocco

Location : 34.0672292, -4.985018599999989

Nearest Public Transport : Dhar Richa bus station

Open & Close Timing : Tuesday to Sunday: 09:00hrs-12:00hrs and 15:00hrs-18:00hrs Monday: Closed

Time Required : 2

Buy Ticket : No

7.2.3. Karaouiyne Mosque

Karaouiyne Mosque is situated in the heart of Fes el Bali. It is the second largest mosque in the country after the Hassan II Mosque in Casablanca. It is also the holiest mosque in Morocco. Though non-Muslims are not allowed to enter the mosque, they can stroll around its outer boundaries.

Address : Fes, Morocco

Location : 34.0649146, -4.973389900000029

Contact : +243 993 738 328
Website : <http://www.alquaraouiine.com/>
Nearest Public Transport : Rcif Bus station
Open & Close Timing : Daily- Open 24hrs
Time Required : 2
Expected Wait Time : 5 minutes
Buy Ticket : No

7.2.4. Bab Boujloud 'The Blue Gate'

The Bab Boujloud, also known as the Blue Gate is a gate that leads to the old medina, Fes el-Bali, in Fez. Surrounded by high walls, this beautiful gate was built in 1913.

Address : Rue Talaa Sghira, Fes, Morocco
Location : 34.0617188, -4.984055000000012
Nearest Public Transport : Bab Mahrouk Bus station
Open & Close Timing : Daily- Open 24 hours
Time Required : 4
Buy Ticket : No

7.2.5. Andalous Mosque

Andalous Mosque is the second largest religious building in the city, and is named after the inhabitants who constructed it. It provides you with 2 libraries and 7 teaching positions. However, non-Muslims are not allowed to enter inside the mosque.

Address : Fes, Morocco
Location : 34.0632251, -4.9681282000000024
Nearest Public Transport : Rcif bus station
Time Required : 1
Buy Ticket : No

7.2.6. Chouara Tanner

Chouara Tanner is a tannery in Fes from the 11th century. Wallets and handbags are made by preserving the skin of sheep, cows, and goats, which are then sold in the souks around the tannery.

Address : Fez, Morocco

Location : 34.0661387, -4.970972800000027

Nearest Public Transport : Rcif Bus station

Open & Close Timing : Daily- 09:00hrs-18:00hrs

Time Required : 3

Buy Ticket : No

7.2.7. Coin Berbere

Visit Coin Berbere to buy some spectacular Moroccan carpets.

Address : 67, Haddadine Talaa Kebira Medina, Fès 30110, Morocco

Zipcode : 30110

Location : 34.06409, -4.980497000000014

Time Required : 0

Buy Ticket : No

7.2.8. Henna Souk

To spend a leisurely evening in Fez, visit Henna Souk. It is a small, yet magical marketplace with breathtaking handicrafts and carpets.

Address : Fes, Morocco

Location : 34.0652232, -4.975245599999994

Time Required : 0

Buy Ticket : No

7.2.9. Medina of Fez

Shopping in the Medina of Fez within the twisting souks is undoubtedly a bizarre experience. Only an audacious can walk through the confusing souks of the medina. The medina has 4 different quarters and is known widely for the handicrafts. Shopping here is more fun when you haggle, as only a few stores will charge you with fixed prices.

Address : Fes, Morocco

Location : 34.06139690000001, -4.977949200000012

Time Required : 0

Buy Ticket : No



Index

8. Adventure sports, Local sports, stadiums

Fez's most popular sports are Football and Golf. The imperial city is home to two well renowned football teams, MAS Fez (Fes Maghrebi) and Wydad de Fes (WAF). Both the teams play in the Botola, the highest tier of the Moroccan football system. Both the teams play their home matches at Complexe Sportif de Fes stadium which has a seating capacity of 45,000.

- **The Fez Stadium or Complexe sportif de Fes:**

Address : Fes, Morocco

Location : 34.0023081,-4.9695084999999961

Contact No : +212 611-332848

Open/Close time : Monday, Wednesday, Thursday & Friday: Open 24 hours Tuesday, Saturday & Sunday: Closed

9. Spas and relaxation

Every trip to Morocco is incomplete without indulging in rejuvenating and authentic Moroccan hammam massages. Many 5-star hotels provide spa services, which is open for outsiders too. Unwind yourself at any of the following spa centers after a hectic day at sightseeing.

- **Spa Laaroussa:**

Address : Hotel Riad Laaroussa, 3 Derb Bechara, Fes, Morocco

Location : 34.0632502,-4.979174999999941

Contact No : +212 674-187639

Website : <https://riad-laaroussa.com/>

- **Hôtel Palais Medina & SPA Fès:**

Address : Boulevard Allal El Fassi, Fes 30000, Morocco

Location : 34.0475214,-4.993189600000051

Contact No : +212 53890-0900

Website : <http://www.atlas5stars.com/>

- **Aditi Yoga:**

Address : 48 Derb Ben Aich, Fes 30110, Morocco

Location : 34.0617811,-4.9818292999999585

Contact No : +212 624-977302

Website : <http://www.aditiyoga.ma/>

- **Le Spa du Palais Faraj:**

Address : Palais Faraj, Arsat El Hammoumi, Fes, Morocco

Location : 34.0572723,-4.976237699999956

Contact No : +212 5356-35356

Website : <https://palaisfaraj-fes.com/#holderSlide>

- **Riad Rcif– Hammam & Spa:**

Address : Avenue Mohamed Ben El Alaoui, No. 1 Takharbicht Laayoune Rcif 30200 Fes, Morocco

Location : 34.06149690000001,-4.9755053999999745

Contact No : +212 610-488118

Website : <http://www.riadrcif.com/hammam-et-spa/>

- **Spa by Cinq Mondes:**

Address : 5 Derb Ben Slimane Zerbtana Fes Maroc, Fes, Morocco

Location : 34.061723,-4.980661999999938

Contact No : +212 5357-41206

Website : <http://www.riadfes.com/hammam-massages-fes/>

10. Events calendar

Month

Events

Coptic Christmas

Fez celebrates Coptic Christmas in the beginning of January.

Al Hijra

Al Hijra, the Islamic New Year, is observed as the day when Mohmmmed travelled from Mecca to Medina.

Coptic Easter

Coptic Easter, one of the most important festival in the Coptic calendar, is observed in the month of March.

International Videos Arts Festival

International Videos Arts Festival, an annual event, witnesses a weeklong celebrations in the coast city. Artists from across the globe gather in the city to showcase their artistic skills.

Celebration of Sufi Culture

Celebration of Sufi Culture is an annual event, which is observed in the month of April. Don't

confuse it with the Fes Festival of World Sacred Music, which is held in the month of May.

Marche Maroc Fes

Marche Maroc Fes is an annual event, which aims at unleashing the talents of Moroccan artisans and small-scale entrepreneurs.

Labor Day

Labor Day is observed on May 1st every year.

The Fes Festival of World Sacred Music

The Fes Festival of World Sacred Music is an annual event celebrated in the imperial city of Morocco. The event aims at showcasing major musical traditions in a 10-day celebration.

Ceramic festival

Ceramic festival is an annual event, which is organized in between the months of May and June.

Allegiance Day

Allegiance Day is celebrated on August 14th every year.

King and People's Revolution Day.

Every year, August 20th is observed as King and People's Revolution Day.

Birthday of King Mohammed VI

Birthday of King Mohammed VI is celebrated on August 21 every year.

Ramadan



Ramadan is observed in the ninth month of Islamic calendar and is a month of fasting when Muslims don't eat from dawn to dusk.

Anniversary of the Green March

November 6th is observed as the Anniversary of the Green March. Independence Day

Morocco's Independence Day is celebrated on November 18th every year.

Index

11. Key local guides and tours

One needs to hire a local guide to explore the imperial city of Morocco. To get through the Medina of Fez is a task and you totally deserve a tip of hat if you successfully explore the same without a guide. There are many hidden architectural treasures in Fez and without a local guide, it gets really hard to explore each one of them. Also, to have an insight of the rich culture, tradition and history of the city, one needs a guide.

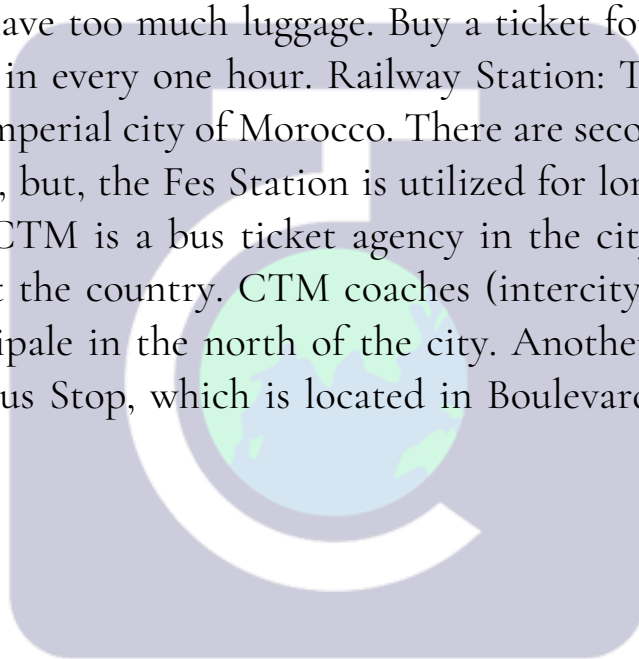


12. Transportation hubs

Airport: Fes Sais Airport is about 15 kilometers from the city. Either hail a taxi or board a bus to get into the city. A bus ride to the city from the airport would cost you 4 MAD and would take around 40 minutes whereas a taxi ride would cost you around 150 MAD from the airport to the centre town and would take around 25-30 minutes. It's a fixed price. So, don't bother to haggle! It is advisable to travel by bus if you don't have too much luggage. Buy a ticket for Bus no. 16. The bus leaves from the stop in every one hour.

Railway Station: The Fes Station is the main station of the imperial city of Morocco. There are secondary stations meant for local connections, but, the Fes Station is utilized for long-distance main-line trains.

Bus Station: CTM is a bus ticket agency in the city of Fes and has bus networks throughout the country. CTM coaches (intercity buses) run from the Gare Routiere Principale in the north of the city. Another very important bus stop in Fez is Rcif Bus Stop, which is located in Boulevard Ben Mohammed El Alaoui.



13. Transportation cost

Taxi: Be vigilant of boisterous taxi drivers in Fez! The Moroccan city offers you two types of taxis, Petit and a Grand one. Petit taxis can accommodate maximum three passengers and a driver, and would cost around 20 dirhams for a 10 minute ride. Don't be surprised if you're asked to pay more at night. From the train station to Bab Boujeloud (34.061715, -4.984053), a petit taxi would cost more or less 10 MAD. Grand taxis (regular Mercedes taxis) don't have meters. But, the fares are regulated. It is advisable to check the rates with tourist board. There is no upper limit for the no. of people that these taxis can accommodate as people would squeeze in, and the taxi driver would try harder and harder to accommodate more people. It would cost you around 150-200 Moroccan dirhams per seat for a ride from Fez to Casablanca. Bus: Exploring the city via bus is the cheapest option in the city of Fez. CTM is the best and safest company for arriving and departing Fez. Bus number 19 and 29 will commute you between Riad RCIF and the McDonalds/Careffour/Barcelo hotel. It would cost you around 3.50 MAD for the journey.

Index

14. Baggage allowance

Prefer exploring the city by either taxi or a cab when carrying a large suitcase. Large suitcases are allowed in the buses but refrain yourself from travelling via same because pickpockets are the regular passengers. One can carry a backpack easily when exploring the city. When riding on the city bus, no additional fee is charged for carrying extra luggage but it is advisable not to carry bulky and too many baggage. Else, keep an eye on your luggage.



Index

15. Must try food and local savouries

Moroccan cuisine is a typical mix of Arabic, Mediterranean, Andalusian and most importantly, Berber cuisine with a little influence of European and Subsaharian. Tagines define Moroccan cuisine. The imperial city, Fez claims that Pastilla, an Andalusian dish was “perfected” in Fez. In the mysterious Moroccan city, tagines, pastillas, Moroccan savory donuts, traditional desserts and camel burgers are a must try.



16. Restaurant & Nightlife

Whilst spending a vacation in the cultural Moroccan city, Fez, dining on an authentic Maghreb cuisine is an unforgettable experience. Engorge yourself at the authentic Moroccan cuisine at the Medina of Fez, Zkak Rouah and Batha.

Food -

Whilst spending a vacation in the cultural Moroccan city, Fez, dining on an authentic Maghreb cuisine is an unforgettable experience. Engorge yourself at the authentic Moroccan cuisine at the Medina of Fez, Zkak Rouah and Batha.

- **The Ruined Garden:**

Address : 15 Derb Idrissy Sidi Ahmed Chaoui Medina 30110, Siaj, Fes, Morocco

Location : 34.0620838,-4.977468499

Contact No : +212 649-191410

Website : <http://riadidrissy.com/>

Open / Close Time : Daily- 13:00hours-21:30hours

- **Cafe Clock:**

Address : 7 Derb el Magana, Fes, Morocco

Location : 34.062295,-4.982966000

Contact No : +212 5356-37855

Website : <http://cafeclock.com/>

Open / Close Time : Daily- 09:00hours-23:00hours

- **Fez Cafe:**

Address : 13, Akbat Sbaa, Douh Fes Medina, Fes 30000, Morocco
Location : 34.061198999,-4.978262999
Contact No : +212 5356-35031

- **Le Palais de Fez:**

Address : 15 Makhfia Ercif A Cote Du Cinema Amal, Fes 30200, Morocco
Location : 34.0603534,-4.971525400
Contact No : +212 5357-61590
Website : <http://palaisdefesdartazi.com/>
Open / Close Time : Daily- 07:00hours to 02:00hours

- **Dar Roumana:**

Address : 30 Derb el Amer, Zkak Roumane, Fes Medina, Morocco
Location : 34.066790999,-4.978652000
Contact No : +212 535741637
Website : http://www.darroumana.com/Dar_Roumana/Home.html
Open / Close Time : Daily- 18:30hours-21:00hours

- **Palais AMANI:**

Address : 12 Derb el Miter Oued Zhoune Luxury Riad, Medina, Fes, 12
Derb el Miter, Fes 30000, Morocco
Location : 34.0675074,-4.972072499
Contact No : +212 5356-33209
Website : <http://www.palaisamani.com/>

- **Restro Numero 7:**

Address : 7 Zkak Rouah, 30200 Fes Medina, Morocco

Location : 34.063447,-4.978722000

Contact No : +212 694-277849

Website : <http://www.restaurantnumero7.com/>

Open / Close Time : Wednesday to Sunday: 19:00hours-23:00hours
Monday & Tuesday: Closed

- **La Mezzanine Restaurant:**

Address : 17 Kasbat Chams, Fes 30000, Morocco

Location : 34.033333,-5

Contact No : +212 5356-38668

- **Fez Lounge:**

Address : 95, Zkak Rouah – Tala Kbira, Fes 30000, Morocco

Location : 34.064921,-4.976887099

Contact No : +212 603-366939

- **Les Jardins de Sheherazade:**

Address : Douh, 23 Arsat Bennis, Fes, Morocco

Location : 34.0588445,-4.978771300

Contact No : +212 5357-41642

Website : <http://www.sheheraz.com/>

Open / Close Time : Daily- 12:00hours-00:00hours

Index**17. Average meal cost**

Economical meal: 40.00 MAD – 80.00 MAD Mid-segment restaurant: 150.00 MAD - 200.00 for lunch and 180.00 MAD - 250.00 MAD for dinner Luxury dining: 300.00 MAD - 400.00 MAD



Index**18. Shopping**

It is advisable to hire a guide if you're not confident enough to walk through the medina of Fez. If you covet for a traditional tannery experience then visit Chouara Tanner. You can buy high quality leather goods which are a lil expensive. Also, visit Chez Hamidou near the tannery to buy some high quality and beautiful cushion covers. Fez is popular for its Moroccan rug.



19. Tourist benefits

On most goods and services in Morocco, 20% is the standard rate of Value Added Tax which is charged. At retail stores, the price is inclusive of VAT. If a tourist makes a purchase of \$50.00 or more at a gift store that has an agreement with the VAT authorities of Morocco, then by filling a tax invoice at the store and getting it stamped, tourist is eligible to claim VAT refund at the airport before departure. All he need to do is represent the form and goods at the airport. Don't pack these gift items in your luggage and keep it in your hand luggage. Also, a tourist is exempted from VAT tax on tourist services like hotel accommodation and meals, if he pays with foreign currency.



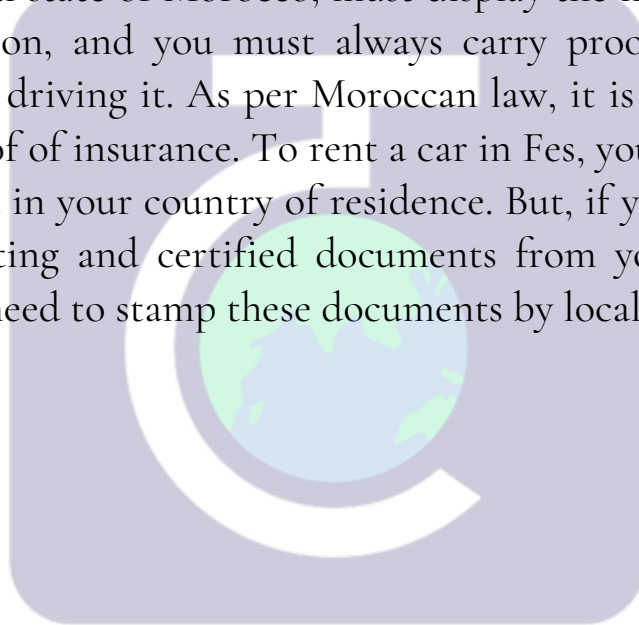
Index**20. Essential local apps**

Download Uber to book a cab or a taxi. To notify your Facebook friends if something goes wrong, download Yalahwy and your friends will mobilize to come at your rescue.



21. Driving

Driving in Fes may not be a good experience for you if you are from a country where drivers abide by the traffic rules and ensure disciplined driving on the road. Seldom people in Fes abide by the traffic rules and driving here may be hazardous to your health because the roads are not well maintained in the city and people drive haphazardly. Every vehicle from another country, which is driven in the imperial state of Morocco, must display the nationality plate of its country of registration, and you must always carry proof of ownership of a private vehicle while driving it. As per Moroccan law, it is mandatory to have a Green Card as a proof of insurance. To rent a car in Fes, you must have a driving license which is valid in your country of residence. But, if you are driving a local car, you need a writing and certified documents from your acquaintance for driving his car. You need to stamp these documents by local city council.



22. Travel essentials

When travelling to Morocco, make sure that you pack a travel adaptor or portable charger. Egypt uses two pronged, rounded plugs with the standard voltage of 220 V. The power sockets are of type C/F. The standard frequency is 50 Hz. As per the theory obligatory in Morocco, you need to carry your official ID at all the times.



23. Essential clothes

When travelling to Morocco, make sure that you pack a travel adaptor or portable charger. Egypt uses two pronged, rounded plugs with the standard voltage of 220 V. The power sockets are of type C/F. The standard frequency is 50 Hz. As per the theory obligatory in Morocco, you need to carry your official ID at all the times.



24. Local currency

Moroccan Dirham is the official currency of Morocco. It is denoted as MAD or Dhs. 1 US Dollar is equal to 9.73 Moroccan Dirham.



25. Change vendor's commission, ATM charges

Authorized banks and Bureau de Change remain the best source of exchanging currency. Nonetheless, one can change currency at hotels too. Also, for convenience, private exchange agencies are located at several areas downtown and in the suburbs. The exchange rate remains constant everywhere. For currency exchange in Fes, get some new “home currency” as torn notes and notes with pen marks are not eligible for exchange. No commission is charged for currency exchange. Also, being a close currency, you can't get dirhams into the country. You need to exchange currency on arrival. There are plenty of ATMs in the city. Recheck with your bank for information regarding the commission on withdrawal of money. Every time you swipe card in different bank's ATM, a fee up to 5% or more is charged. 3000 dirhams is the cash withdrawal limit for a day. Working days for banks in Fes are from Sunday to Friday. On Saturday, banks remain closed. Typical banking hours of banks are from 08:15hrs to 15:45hrs.

26. Staying connected

Be careful while using your “home sim” in Fes as there is very little regulation on pricing, and telecommunication companies tend to charge hyper-inflated prices. INWI is one of the largest telecommunication companies in Morocco. In the airport arrival hall, the company has a booth, where you can purchase a sim card for your unlocked phone. One GB data, 3 hours of local calls and 1000 texts will cost you around 120 Moroccan dirhams. The other two main providers are Maroc telecom and Meditel. A copy of passport needs to be attached with the contract for documentation.



27. Time Zone

Morocco time zone: Western European Time Zone (UTC+00:00).



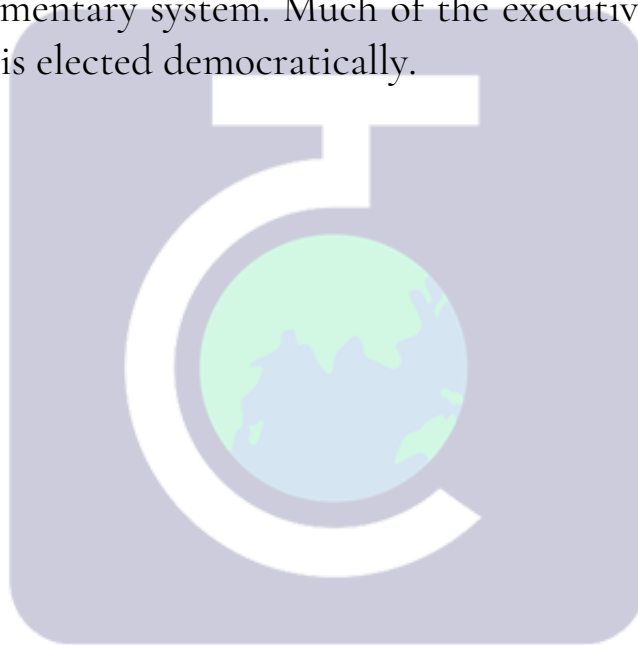
Index**28. Languages**

Darija (the Moroccan Arabic dialect) is spoken widely in Fez. People of Fez are more or less fluent in French too. English is developing especially among the younger generations. Many people in the countryside outside Fez speak Berber dialects.



29. Political Scenario

During parliamentary election in November 2011, the moderate Islamist Justice and Development Party (PJD) lived the unquestionable victory by doubling the number of seats since 2007. Mohammed VI came to power after his father, King Hassan II's death in 1999. His approach is more democratic and liberal unlike his father. Morocco's political system is wisely budding from a strongly centralized monarchy to a parliamentary system. Much of the executive power lies with the king, but parliament is elected democratically.



Index**30. Economic Scenario**

Tourism, education and investment opportunities are three main contributors to the Gross Domestic Product of Morocco from Fez's end. The University of Al Qarawiyyin sited in Fez, is the oldest university in the world and is operational till date. Fez has a plethora of investment opportunities for both visitors and inhabitants.



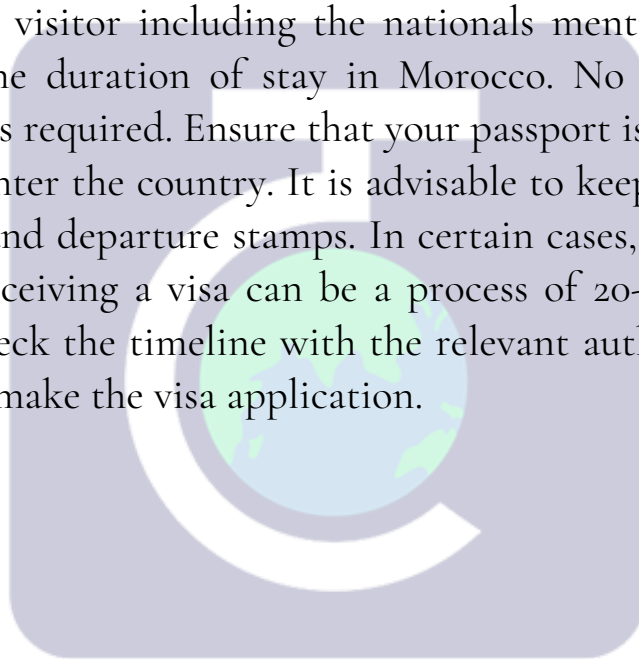
Index**31. Religious belief**

Religious practices of people in Fez involve a syncretism of Islam and traditional folk beliefs. Majority of people living in Fez are Muslims and the vast majority of Muslims are Sunni belonging to Maliki School of jurisprudence. Christianity is worshipped as the second largest religion in Fez and it is existent in the country before the arrival of Islam.



32. Visa requirements

Every visitor apart from British, Canadian, other EU and USA nationals require an entry VISA to enter the diverse country, Morocco. All nationals mentioned before, don't need a VISA for the purpose of tourism for up to 90 days. If you are planning a stay which would last more than 90 days then a resident permit is required, and police department of your residential area in Morocco would issue the same. But, every visitor including the nationals mentioned before, need a passport valid for the duration of stay in Morocco. No additional period of validity beyond this is required. Ensure that your passport isn't damaged and it is stamped when you enter the country. It is advisable to keep 2 pages free in your passport for arrival and departure stamps. In certain cases, it has been observed that applying and receiving a visa can be a process of 20-30 days. Hence, it is essential that you check the timeline with the relevant authority in the country where you intend to make the visa application.



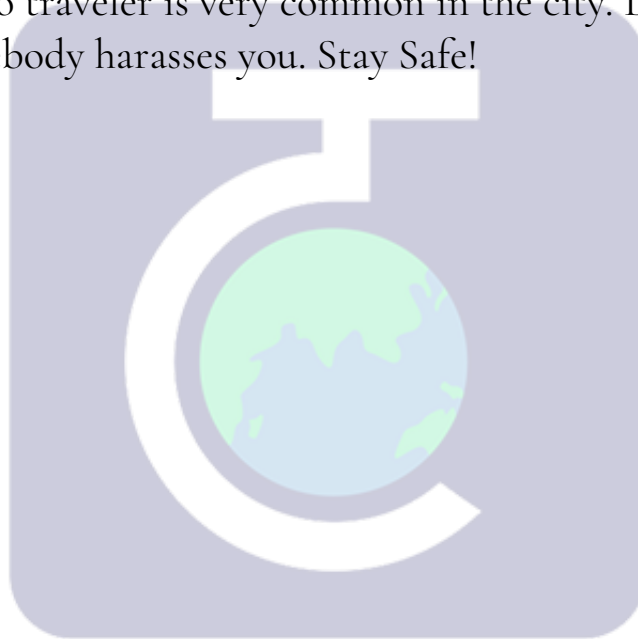
33. Essential vaccination

Every traveler should be up-to-date on routine vaccinations before every trip. These vaccinations include measles-mumps-rubella (MMR) vaccine, diphtheria-tetanus-pertussis vaccine, varicella (chickenpox) vaccine, polio vaccine and your yearly flu shot. No specific inoculations are required before your trip to Fes. Malaria exists but only in rural areas of Chefchaouen Province, where there is a very limited risk; here insect protection measures are a must.



34. Theft and Safety

Trivial crimes are common in the Moroccan city, Fez. These crimes include bag snatching, pickpocketing and filching away of visible jewelry and bags by the motorcyclists. Be cautious when asking for directions and using ATMs as there are high chances occurrence of crime and aggressive begging. Scams like replacing the inferior goods for the actual goods bought, harassing the tourists and especially woman solo traveler is very common in the city. Don't travel alone and inform police if somebody harasses you. Stay Safe!



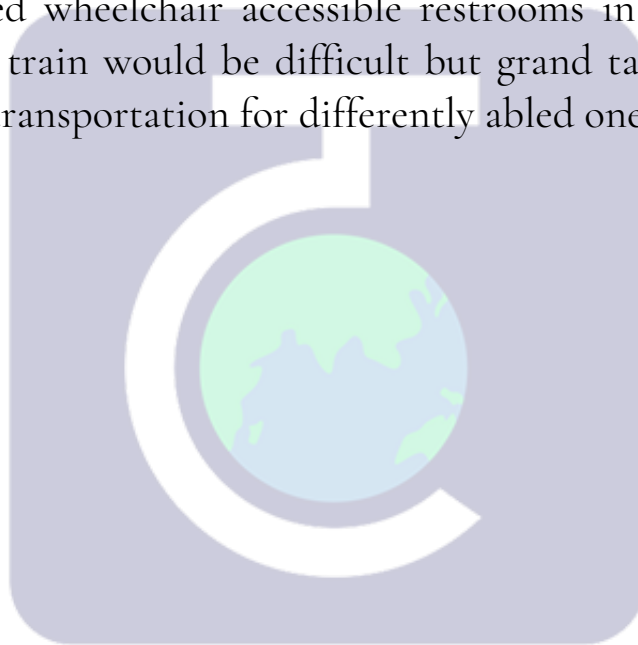
Index**35. Embassy/Consulate**

To know more about foreign embassy consulates in Morocco, click here
<http://embassy.goabroad.com/embassies-in/morocco>



36. Accessibility

Fez is not ‘differently-abled’ friendly. Seemingly it needs a lot of improvement with respect to infrastructure to ensure easy accessibility for disabled. Majority of the tourist attractions in Fez are not accessible by “differently-abled”. Also, cobblestones and potholes are common throughout the city due to poor and old infrastructure. Manual wheelchair is a better option to explore this area. Also, there are very limited wheelchair accessible restrooms in the city of mystery. Traveling via bus or train would be difficult but grand taxis serve as the most convenient mode of transportation for differently abled ones.



Index**37. Emergencies**

- Hospitals Hospital Center University Hassan li NOTE: All health insurances and travel insurances are accepted here. Hospital Ibn El Khatib NOTE: All health insurances and travel insurances are accepted here.
- Dial 19 to reach out to police in Morocco.
- Dial 15 for ambulance or fire brigade.



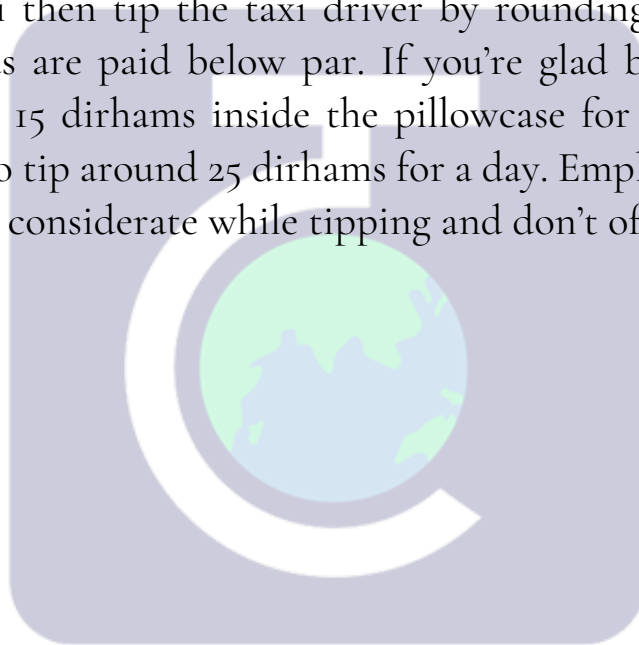
Index**38. Do's and Don'ts**

Dos • Haggle for the best price in Fez. • Carry minimum cash and valuable items whilst exploring the city. • Always keep an eye on your luggage when moving places. • Drink fresh orange juice and mint tea. • It is advisable to carry a certified doctor's prescription along with the medicines to ensure hassle free import clearance. Don'ts • Wear short skirts or indecent clothes. • Hug or kiss in public areas, especially near religious places. • Drink and smoke publicly. • Travel alone at night. • It is advisable that do not carry unsealed/ unbranded food articles as the same may be banned for import.



39. Tipping basics

There is no pragmatism intrinsically regarding tipping in Fes. Moroccans themselves leave a few dirhams on a dinner bill of 150 dirhams. In the tourist areas, many of the high-class restaurants will add 10% to the bill, therefore check your bill. If you aren't satisfied with the services rendered then don't tip. On contrary, if you receive great services then give more than 10% of the bill. If you hail a meter-run taxi then tip the taxi driver by rounding up to the nearest 5 dirhams. Hotel maids are paid below par. If you're glad by their services then don't forget to place 15 dirhams inside the pillowcase for a day's service. Tour guides are expected to tip around 25 dirhams for a day. Employees and staff in Fes are underpaid. So, be considerate while tipping and don't offend anyone.



40. Pet info

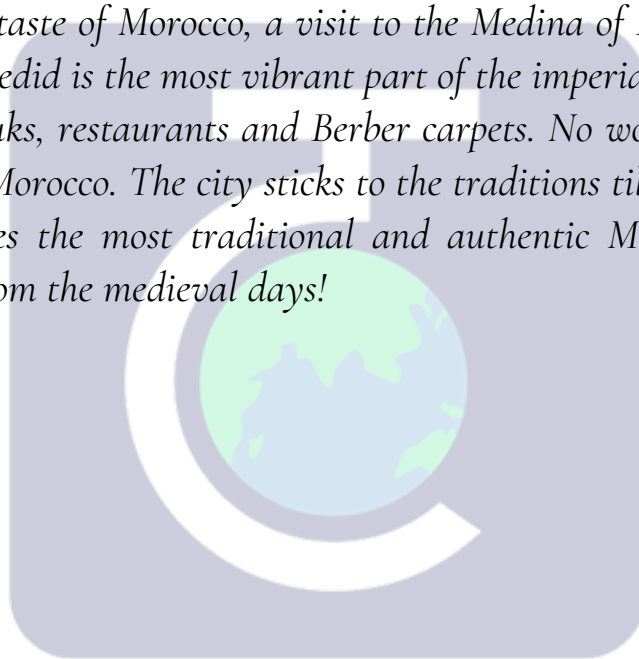
There are a number of hotels in Fes that allow you to get your pet along. If your pet meets the following requirement then Morocco won't quarantine your pet:

- **Pet Microchip:** It is recommended that your pets should be micro chipped with an ISO 11784/11785 pet microchip that has 15-digits and is non-encrypted or should have an identification tag before they are separated from you. Always register your contact information when travelling with pets, so that it is easy to identify your pet.
- **Vaccinations:** Your pet cat or dog must be inoculated for rabies between 30 days and 3 months prior to entry into the country.
- **Veterinary Certificate for Morocco:** If you're travelling from the United States or Canada, a USDA (or CFIA) licensed veterinarian should complete a Veterinary Certificate for Morocco within 15 days of travel for endorsement by the USDA or CFIA. For other nationals, the Governing Authority of the respective country is responsible for the import and export of animals, and endorsing the forms by the Moroccan Embassy in the respective country. This needs to be done within 3 days of entering the country. A copy of the Rabies Certificate should be presented for endorsement along with the forms. Post this, it must be sent to the nearest consulate of Morocco with a check for \$33.0 and a postage paid return envelope. Hence, your pet passport for your dog or cat to enter the country is complete.
- Before entering Fes, ensure that your dog or cat is treated with any internal or external parasite infections.

Index

Conclusion – Why to select this destination

Fez is a Moroccan city meant for history lovers. This city of mystery is home to many remarkable landmarks and monuments from the medieval times and till date they are restored in a healthy manner. The city is acknowledged widely for its riads and it is a perfect place to stay and have an insight of the Moroccan history. Fes el Bali which has been awarded as the UNESCO World Heritage Site is one of the oldest walled part of Fez. To experience the true taste of Morocco, a visit to the Medina of Fez is a must. The New Fez also known as Fes Jedid is the most vibrant part of the imperial city. It is full of snake charmers, acrobats, souks, restaurants and Berber carpets. No wonders that Fez is titled as the cultural city of Morocco. The city sticks to the traditions till date and Fez is one of few places which serves the most traditional and authentic Moroccan cuisine. Fez is bewitching tradition from the medieval days!



Index

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