

TUNISIA

MINUBE TRAVEL GUIDE



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Cheers, The team at minube.net






1

Chebika Mountain Oasis

Lakes

 **Lala:** Chebika is, along with Tamerza and Midès, one of the three most famous mountain oasis in Tunisia. Its main attraction is a picturesque fountain, located at the bottom of an old Berber village, with small palm trees and a waterfall. It feeds a few underground streams and a network of underground channels that supply wells, through which fruit trees are grown in an otherwise completely barren territory. This oasis owes its prosperity to a sophisticated irrigation system that ensures balance and keeps an equitable distribution of water to all fields. There was a curious room (behind the public toilets) which had a peculiar clock consisting of two pitchers that were hung on strings at different heights to allow the water out from one to the other. Based on the time it took to fill the bottom pot, a gate opened or closed the irrigation system. The best way to explore Chebika and the palms is up the rocky path that leads to the ruins of the old city, where there is a magnificent view of the Lower Atlas mountains, forming a canyon of 150 m high with palms at the bottom. Then you go down rock stairs to a beautiful canyon. The path leads to a small waterfall that feeds a spring. Return via the path that runs along the canyon and climb the stairs again. Upstairs is a "touristy" area with stalls selling drinks and souvenirs. We came up here on a 4x4 trip that we hired in Nefta.


A 70 kms de Tozeur, **Tozeur**




2

The Ruins of Dougga

Archaeological Sites

 **Lala:** The Capitol is considered one of the most beautiful Roman buildings throughout Africa. It was built in 167 AD and was dedicated to the gods of Jupiter, Minerva and Juno (the Capitoline Triad). It consists of a sanctuary preceded by a portico, which is accessed via a monumental staircase. In this portico are six preserved fluted columns topped by Corinthian capitals, whose tympanum is carved with the image of a man kidnapped by an eagle. The interior space measures 38.5 meters long by 24 wide. The background houses a colossal statue of Jupiter over 6 feet tall (whose head and feet are exhibited in Room Sousse Bardo Museum) and images of Juno and Minerva. Under them is a three-nave crypt, later used as Byzantine church.

 **Juanma Palacios:** It is one hour from the country's capital by car over good roads which are well marked and


Dougga, **Beja**




3

Port el-Kantaoui Beach

Beaches

 **Miskita:** The best part of Tunisia are the blue waters so clear and warm. It's a calm place that still isn't fully exploited by tourism. There's also a luck factor, since we were told there was a lot of seaweed on some other local beaches. Our only gripe was the two jellyfish which stung us, but the mosquitos were basically non-existent. The hotel staff gives you a cream which takes the sting away. You can also do jet-ski, be towed by boats, go sailing, etc. But afterwards, there's nothing better than laying down a comfortable chair with a comfortable mat on under a sun umbrella doing nothing more than listening to the surf and getting a tan.

 **bele:** We were five couples who went with our kids and we had a great time. Even though we noticed that they're very sexist. I think the shops there try to get every penny out of the tourists there (bread for today, nothing for tomorrow). Our


Tunis



4

The Baths of Carthage

Ruins

 **Virtu:** The truth is that with an organized excursion you do not have much time for anything, and in my case I had a few hours less to visit the city. It is a pity that the baths have not been better preserved because in their time they must have been impressive, for this reason they were the second highest in importance throughout the Roman Empire.


Cartago, Túnez, **Carthage**



6

Bourguiba Mausoleum

Historical Monuments

 **Iamaga:** The Bourguiba family mausoleum is one of the main attractions of Monastir. It was built in 1963 and later expanded. The former Tunisian president and his family rest here. This huge and beautiful marble building with a gold dome has two 20 metre tall minarets flanking its sides. But the most striking is the wide promenade that leads to the mausoleum, which is lined with Tunisian flags. Do not miss it.

☎ 21 671 341 077 - Mausoleo de Habib Bourguiba, **Monastir**



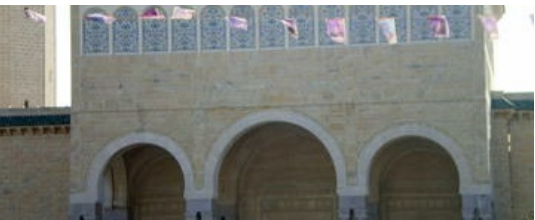
5

Djerba Beach

Beaches

 **Iantoni:** When I was at the beach I went to a club hotel ideally situated. Never been to Tunisia nor in Djerba but I found it all very pleasant. The beach is very good and, above all, the sea is beautiful! The Mediterranean with its green and blue, and a rather pleasant temperature ... Just thinking about this I want to go again!


Djerba



7

Bourguiba Mosque

Mosques

 **Iamaga:** The town of Monastir has several interesting mosques, oftentimes very modern. Undoubtedly, the most important is the Great Mosque. I was particularly struck by the great "Tower of Faith," the Islamic tower that calls the people to prayer. It is difficult to go beyond the main courtyard, but it costs nothing to try

Rue Habib Bourguiba, **Monastir**



8 Cities Kairouan

Lenka Skalosova: This mid-sized city is located in Tunisia. Its main attractions are the Medina (old market), The Great Mosque (one of the oldest in the world), and Sidi Saheb zaouia ("Mosque of the Barber"), which is home to the tomb of a companion of the Prophet. Supposedly, they have had three of the hairs of his beard preserved as relics.

Al-Qayrawan



9 Mosques Zitouna Mosque

lamaga: All the mosques in Tunisia pay homage to Ez-Zitouna, the city's main mosque. The building that we can see today is a fascinating fusion of buildings from different periods, with columns and capitals from ancient Carthage, an Ottoman minaret and Zirid domes. Non-Muslims are only permitted to access the central courtyard, from which you can make out the hypostyle hall. However, just from seeing this one, you get an idea of the grandeur of it. Although I personally prefer the smaller and more accessible mosques, it is also good to contemplate those more formal and monumental mosques. A recommended place if you go to the capital.

Rue Jamaâ Ezzitouna, Túnez, Túnez, **Tunis**


10 Caves Matmata Troglodyte Houses

diana r s: Matmata troglodyte houses are definitely a must-visit place. The structure alone is impressive, with a central courtyard of different emerging "corridors" dug on the land itself and leading to the different rooms. They usually have a lot of animals out the front of the house, such as chickens, horses, donkeys ... The lifestyle they have may surprise you, as it seems to be one of extreme poverty. In time you realise that for them the things we consider essential are completely unnecessary in their daily lives.

Matmata, **Matmatat-al-Jadidah**

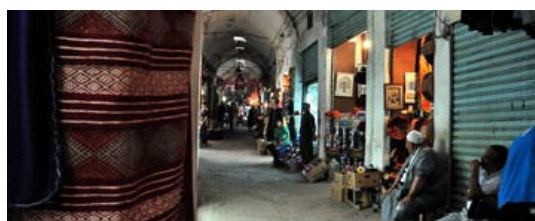

11 Temples Kairouan Great Mosque

SerViajera: Muslims come to Kairouan not only from other Tunisian cities, but from different parts of the Arab world. The fourth most important mosque for Muslims in the world after Mecca, Medina and Jerusalem, the Grand Mosque of Kairouan which was built in the ninth century, is the oldest in North Africa. It is visited for several reasons. Located on the edge of the medina, when you almost leave the city, a huge tower-minaret stands out against the clear sky. Surrounded by brown and bare walls, from the outside it does not look like the typical Moroccan or Turkish mosques: in fact it looks more like a fortress. But upon entering the courtyard with marble slabs one is amazed by its beauty. Impressive is the colonnade that surrounds the courtyard, the endless arches, and gateways to the prayer hall. The Grand Mosque was, for me, an incredible discovery. Not only for its architecture but because it also exudes an atmosphere of infinite recollection.

Grand Mosque Kairouan, Kairouan, Túnez, **Al-Qayrawan**


12 Of Cultural Interest Sea Door (Bab el Bahr)

lamaga: The puerta del mar, which is now called France's Door is what divides the fascinating Medina of Tunis with the modern part of the city. Its appearance is majestic, and is reminiscent of the old forts or Ribats that were found in that area. It's the perfect entry to the magical world of shopping and markets. I recommend that you take a moment to admire its beauty and majesty. It was as if we entered into a medieval fortress, when in fact we'd come to toil away our money!

21 671 840 622 - Medina, **Tunis**


13 Shopping Centres The Souks of Tunis

Jonathan Gil Ruiz: While on vacation a few years ago, my partner and I were in the wonderful African country of Tunisia. Amongst the other places we visited, the bizarre in the capital has incredible bathrooms and a door leading out to the desert, a place where getting lost is an adventure and an authentic satisfaction.

Zoco de Túnez, **Tunis**


14 Deserts Desert of Douz

myphotoworld: The Douz desert is quite an experience: cross impressive dunes, showing great courage (rewarded by the discovery of breathtaking landscapes) and experience thousands of adventures. It is like a book because it gives you the chance to step into the shoes of Indiana Jones or desert explorers, in a fabulous setting.

dunas de douz, **Duz**

15 Historical Monuments Roman Amphitheatre of El Jem

lamaga: The Roman amphitheater in El-Jem is the largest in Africa and the fourth largest worldwide. In my opinion it is better preserved than the Coliseum in Rome, because at least it is possible to go down to the sand and go through the aisles. The lion pits are preserved and the complicated system of cisterns. It's a must see if you visit Tunisia, its size and beauty are really impressive. It represents the best legend of the Roman Empire in this country along with the baths of Carthage and the Bardo Museum in Tunis. One

El-Jem, Túnez, **El Jem**

16 Lakes Chott el Djerid

Andres Gamiz Jimenez: South of Tunisia and the Sahara desert trail we found a huge desert. It wasn't a sand dessert, but rather one made of salt. Chot El Jerid extends dozens of kilometers and we crossed it through a long, straight road. At one point we stopped on a "strategic" path at a souvenir stall (mostly desert roses), in the middle of nowhere. I was struck by these strange, yet cheerful services in contrast to that remote and lonely place. A worn down, destroyed boat shows that this salt desert located in southern Tunisia was


P16, **Tozeur**



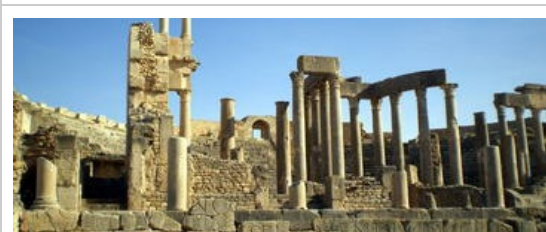
17

Ribat

Palaces

 **antartida:** We went to Tunisia with a friend ve has lived there for over 25 years and now lives in Spain. His family lives in Monastir, so we chose this town to make our start. His family was amabilissima and they treated us like kings, they had a fleet of taxis and the family was dedicated to it. The first day we spent at Monastir, for its souk, by the port, we smoked shisha at a café and had tea. And then we went to visit the Ribat. It's great. Next door is the cemetery of Monastir, where the father of our friend happens to be buried. We went to visit his grave. Most are made of tiles, or sometimes just a pile of sand. We saw a funeral, and there was a line of people waiting for the dead relatives to give them bread. We were told by our friend that was a tradition. Then we entered the Ribat, with amazing views of the city and the ocean. It was constructed in the year 796. You can access everything. We climbed up the highest tower, Nador and the views were amazing. One could see the immensity of the ocean, the promenade next to the cemetery and the mausoleum of Bughiba, a type of mini Taj Mahal, which was constructed in Bourguiba for burial. It is worth a visit, and my friend told me that was the scene from Life of Brian.


☎ 21 671 561 693 - Monastir, Túnez, **Monastir**



18

Dougga Roman Theatre

Historical Monuments

 **Beya Jebali:** There are many historical monuments that attract attention in Tunisia but today I will make reference to Dougga, a declared World Heritage by UNESCO in 1997. It is 100 kilometers from the capital and they are the best preserved ruins in North Africa. Visiting Dougga is reliving the past and you will be surprised by the scale of the buildings. There are circuits that lead to it and excursions. If you can rent a car and take time to visit it, is better. And bon voyage!

Dougga, Beja



19

Túnis-Carthage International Airport

Airports

 **Lala:** Tunis-Carthage International Airport is located about 8km from both the Tunisian capital and the ancient city of Carthage. Although the country has several airports, this is undeniably the most popular and receives thousands of passengers each year. The international code is TUN, and companies that operate here include Tunisair, Air Europa, Alitalia, Air France, and Lufthansa, among others. There are duty free shops, cafes, bank, money exchange offices and rental car offices. If you fly in from Europe, you'll have to present your passport and fill out the little visa card. They will give you a receipt that you must be careful not to lose, as you'll have to give it back when you leave the country. To get to the downtown from the airport, you can take a taxi (between 4 and 7 DNT), orBus 35 which drops you off at the Avenue Habib Bourguiba (0.60 DNT, every half hour).


☎ 21 671 754 000 - Aéroport International Túnis-Carthage - Aeropuer...




20

Streets of Sousse

Streets

 **lamaga:** The center of Sousse is an amalgam of narrow whitewashed streets, with surprising hills. Tunisian family life takes place in the houses - in the patios - an inheritance of all Spanish 'Al-Andalus'. The small streets are cool and calm and in them you can find the other side of Tunisians: men and women and traditional family. There is a great contrast with the open and talkative marketers souk.

 **Mouadh Layouni:** The streets of Sousse it's a good place for tourists to learn about islam


Sousse, **Susah**



21

Tunis Central Market

Markets


 **lamaga:** The capital of Tunisia is a show of aromas and voices. It's the ideal place to find out about this market! Among the stalls there's meat, spices and couscous, and we also found black-kohl-dye you can line your eyes with, as well as henna and natural sponges. Of course, the most interesting thing to do was to go to the stalls of spices and seeds. Spices like cardamom, pepper, cinnamon and saffron, which are all used in Tunisian cuisine, are places in large felt sacks. Put your fingers in the seed bags, smell the scents of jasmine and musk, you won't be rushed.

Tunis



Deserts

Oung the Djemel


 **Lenka Skalosova:** After our visit to the Tamerza Chebika oasis we started the trek on 4x4's on the desert dunes to Oung The Djemel, where there are still things left from where they shot the movie Star Wars Episode I: The Phantom Menace. On the way we stopped to see the dune from the movie The English Patient. All dune bashing was fun and spectacular. People who like attractions like the roller coaster, I recommend it.

Túnez, Túnez, **Tunis**

23

Carthage

Ruins

 **Aorijia :** You will feel the weight of history in the ruins of Carthage, but only if you love it. If not, what will call your attention is the havoc and extreme carelessness that have developed over time in a place that should be of importance. With the passage of time, some looting can be understood. What is extremely disappointing is to find that this UNESCO World Heritage Site (1979) has been ignored to the point of obvious decline. The ruins are scattered, often at the side of the road and, more often still, buried under the Tunisian "jet".

Carthage

Tozeur



Mosques

Great Mosque of the Jem

Lala: Next to the craft center and the main entrance of El Jem amphitheatre stands the Grand Mosque. Entry is forbidden to tourists and non-Muslims, but from the amphitheater there is a good view of the minaret and arched courtyard. The entrance is also preceded by a portico with three arches, and the door is decorated with filigree carved in stone. Next to the minaret is a mausoleum.

☎ 21 671 909 264 - Route de Sfax, El-Jem 345, Túnez, **El Jem**

Beaches

Zarzis Beach

marseo: Zarzis is a small village in southern Tunisia, just below the Gulf of Gabes. There are hardly any tourists here, only Spaniards, so it is a very quiet town. It has beautiful, clean beaches and the town is small and lovely. The weather here is usually a bit better than in the north of the island, and stays hot well into autumn.

Jarjis, **Jarjis**

Of Cultural Interest

Souk de la Laine (Jewelry Market)

ANADEL: I recommend this place to you when you go to Tunisia. You should try to arrive in good time and explore the Medina in the area where there are no tourists, the type of shops and the atmosphere are completely different from the other part. It is very interesting to see how they live and develop their life there, the area of the "jewels" is fantastic, it is not known if they are old and do not look very good, but it is worth taking a look.

Medina, **Tunis**

Viewpoints

Ras Qatarjamah Viewpoint

Olga: Continuing the tour around the Tunisian coastal town of Sidi Bou Said, I discovered another of its good viewpoints is the one right next to Ras Qatarjamah Lighthouse, which is called the lookout. The views are breathtaking and I'd personally recommend it to anyone who wants to get the best views of the bay of Sidi Bou Said with the Mediterranean Sea in the background. The place is not paved because it has only recently started to receive tourists. The guide took us to precisely this viewpoint because it was one of his favorites and receives the least number of people.

Avenue Taleb Mehiri, s/n, **Sidi Bou Said**

Theaters

Theatre Municipal de la Ville de Tunis

Lala: The National Theatre is one of the city's most emblematic buildings and is almost opposite the Catholic Cathedral, in the the middle of Avenida Habib Bourguiba. It's a good example of art nouveau architecture of the colonial city, designed by French architect Ferdinand Resplandy JE and built in 1902. It has been declared a historic monument. The original building had capacity for 1,000 spectators, in 1912 it was enlarged to 1,200 but kept the original facade. It seems to be made of meringue that highlights its arched galleries (forming ground floor access, and on top forming a balcony) and is decorated with white floral plaster reliefs and fantastic figures by the sculptor M. Belloc. Masters of opera have performed here and it's still the main place for performances/cultural events in the country, with an extensive program of theater, music (classical music concerts and Arabic), screenings, lectures, etc.

Av. Habib Bourguiba, **Tunis**

Streets

Rue Jamaa Ezzitouna

Lala: Zaytuna Zamaa Street, along with rue de la Kasbah, is one of the most important streets in the Medina. It's lined with souvenir shops, although you can find the same things but much cheaper in the back streets. The road rises steeply from the Place de la Victoire to the Great Zaitouna Mosque. The whole area is a very busy and crowded. You can find shops selling Nabeul pottery, handmade talismans from Fatima, cages, stuffed camels, and more. The vendors speak virtually any language (they say: "hello ... Spanish? ... Italian? .. as you walk by). At the top of the street, there are several typical pastry shoppes and Café Ez- Zaytuna, where you can have a mint tea and smoke a hookah. At the end of the street, you can see the eastern gallery of the Great Mosque which is lit up at night. From here, turn right, and you'll find the carpet store " Au Palais d'orient ", which I'd suggest entering only to climb to the roof and enjoy the good view of the mosque

Rue Zamaa ez Zitouna, **Tunis**

Deserts

Sahara Red Desert

Sergio Moreno Juan: After hundreds of km in 4x4 in the scorching sun, in 4x4 tracks amid the barren landscape of Tunisia, after 3 punctures in just six hours, we finally arrived in Douz, the gateway to the desert. The most beautiful desert imaginable, the red desert of Sahara. Peace, vastness, the endless silence, solitude, a beautiful orange hue even more beautiful at sunset ... an indescribable feeling and of course the people. A true wonder and anti-stress remedy.

Douz, la puerta del desierto, **Duz**

Streets

Tozeur to Kebili Road

Iamaga: The road between Tozeur and Kebili, situated to the southwest of Tunisia across the huge salt lake Chott El Djerid, the largest in Africa. Apart from the obvious attractions that go hand in hand with a very special landscape, I could not help noticing the curious places along the way. They are always located close together (remember we are on the edge of the desert), shops that sell the famous desert roses, black sand or just a bottle of water. What is definitely strange, there is no doubt about it, are the signs in Spanish that are scattered everywhere "cheaper than Carrefour", "cheaper than the whole one hundred" ... Even Tunisian posters flaunt their good humor and tireless spirit of sellers and merchants.

GP16, Tozeur, **Qibili**



32 Shops Palais du Jasmin

Lala: Palais du Jasmin is another perfume shop that is a part of Souk el-Attarine, in the medina of Tunis. We had visited a similar shop the day before, so we knew how it worked. But this store did not seem as nice. Apart from buying all kinds of scents and perfumes of a thousand smells different, they also sell essential oils, soaps, and attractive glass jars for decoration. It is one of the few places where you are allowed to pay in euros, and the price is fixed (no haggling allowed).

Souk el Attarine, Tunis



33 Of Cultural Interest Sousse Square

lamaga: The cozy little square of Sousse breathes the characteristic charm of the Tunisian villages. Full of life, vendors everywhere, children playing, the sound of prayers from the mosque, beautiful women covered ... It's a nice place to rest, sitting at the fountain or in one of its benches. From there, you can see a peaceful sunset, enveloped by the Rabat mosque. Near it is the medina and many restaurants and tea houses.

Mouadh Layouni: It's a beautiful place between the big Musscow and the Ribat of sousse.shop. Places to go. places to eat, restaurants and so many things and if you play Pokemon go is it good good good place to catch Pokemon.

Sousse, Susah



34 Citadels Tozeur Medina - Suburb of Ouled El HadeF

Lala: The medina of Tozeur is basically formed by the neighborhood Ouled el-HadeF, the oldest in the city, which has remained virtually unchanged since the 16 century. It is 50 m from Central Market , along Av Kairouan. Built in the 14 century to house the HadeF clan, enriched by the caravan trade. The medina is not very big, a few covered streets and small squares, but it is known for its unique traditional architecture that uses brick projections on the facades of buildings, forming a characteristic geometric decoration. This style is special to Tozeur Tozeur. Apart from walking the narrow streets and seeing the little shops of the souk , the small Museum of Archaeology in the former koubba of Sidi Bou Aissa. The best preserved areas of the medina are left (east) of the museum, which houses the former governor's palace. Also within the Medina mosque and Sidi Sidi Lakhdar Ben Abib Galeb.

Ave. Kairouan, Tozeur



35 Of Touristic Interest Sahara: Sunset in the Dune of Offra

Lala: Given the sweltering heat and the scorching sun that usually characterizes the desert, all excursions / tours such as camel rides, quads, or buggy are usually scheduled early in the morning or late in the afternoon, so with the tour comes the added appeal of watching the sunrise or sunset in the desert. Our group chose the afternoon, we went to the Great Dune at 16h for the camel ride by the "sea of sand", so we had a chance to see the sunset. It's reddish, and is seen between the winding sections of the dunes and the changing color is a beautiful show. The only problem was that there was a horrible sandstorm (apparently in spring they are very common), so it was quite uncomfortable because the whole time we were in the dunes were literally eating sand.

Duna de Offra, Duz



36 Markets Souk El Grana

Lala: If we had not been guided by a local Tunisian we do not think we would have visited this souk, among the maze of tunnels and streets of the medina. It was Sunday afternoon (day off), so Medina was deserted, and this further souk is in a rather quiet residential area. It is located on a side street off the popular and busy Rue de la Kasbah. It is worth a walk around, because in this area the houses are typical Andalusian architecture, as it was built by them in the fifteenth century when Muslims and Spanish and Portuguese Jews were expelled from Spain (why it is nicknamed "Andalusian quarter"). White walls, blue windows, doors studded ... It looks like Sidi Bou Said. It is a Historical Monument of Tunisia.

Souk Al Grana, Tunis



37 Streets Habib Thameur Street

Olga: Thameur Habib Street is the principe shopping street on the shore of the town of Sidi Bou Said, one of my favorites on my trip in 2007. Here you can find all kinds of souvenirs and typical shops, and of course you need to practice the best and most popular art in Tunisia, which is bartering and haggling. Most souvenirs are hand made by its vendors. Personally I liked the bird cages which were impressive. I think they are all rated depending to the work of the craftsman himself.

Calle Habib Thameur, s/n, Sidi Bou Said



38 Beaches Sousse Beach

Olga: Sousse beach in the caribbean seems completely isolated from everything, with fine white sand like flour and the Mediterranean Sea bathing its shores. Keep in mind that the city of Sousse is the second largest in Tunisia and has a lot of hotels, hence its beach is very well maintained and they are constantly cleaning it. In my case the part of the beach from my hotel was well kept and guarded by hotel employees, even though we had the area of our hotel blocked off and they would not let people who did not belong to the complex enter.

Avenue Habib Bourguiba, s/n, Susah



39 Streets Avenue Habib Bourguiba

Olga: The Avenue Habib Bourguiba, aside from being one of the longest streets in Tunis, is also one of the most popular. It's lined with cafes, stores, modern hotels, and colonial-style buildings, which is why it's popularly known as the Champs Elysees of Tunisia. Personally, I was really impressed by the colonial buildings, a striking contrast with the old Arab buildings.

☎ 21 671 840 622 - Avenue Habib Bourguiba, s/n, Tunis



40 Of Cultural Interest Hammamet Historic District

Marilo Marb: Although Hammamet is one of the cities most visited by tourists in Tunis, it still keeps an old gem inside - its old neighbourhood. Close to crowded hotels, tourist racking and haggling, there are whitewashed adobe houses among narrow streets, passageways under arcs with some inaccessible areas by any mode of transportation other than animals. All you'll find is a site stuck in the past where you can breathe peace and the smell of the Mediterranean.

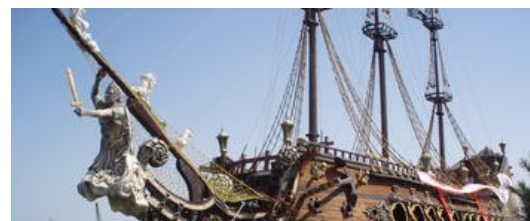
Hammamet, **Hammamet**



41 Squares Place du 14 Janvier

lamaga: Place du 14 Janvier is another good example of the modernization taking place in the Tunisian capital. It has a clock at the center, and an inverted pyramid as its main monument. Of course, it's not comparable to the old part of the Medina, but it's worth walking around this area and having a look at the modern side of the city.

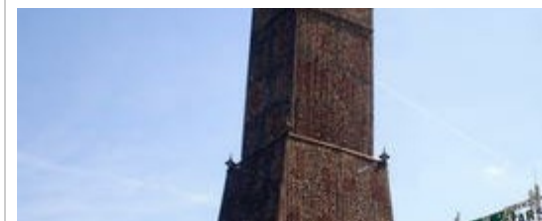
Place du 7 Novembre, **Tunis**



42 Of Touristic Interest Pirate Boat Tour

Olga: One of the excursions which is usually offered to the tourist that is wandering around the port of Sousse is the tour of the coast that is almost at the pirate ship. It is also offered in different hotel or at the beach or at the pool at the hotel. This tour usually lasts about three hours and costs about 25 to about 13 per person (of course though it depends on who is offering it and if you are registered or not, because if for example You buy it at the hotel is much more expensive). The tour takes including food which is usually based on fried chicken and fish, fruit and soft drinks Coca-cola type or water. Personally I think it's worth doing because it is also quite fun and you stop the ship at sea to have a swim and the duration of the tour you spend watching the dolphins with whom you're crossing.

Puerto de Sousse, s/n, **Susah**



43 Historical Monuments Clock Tower

Lala: At one end of Avenue Habib Bourguiba, you'll find the Place du 14 Janvier 2011 and the Clock Tower. It is an imitation (relatively speaking) of Big Ben and was built to commemorate the independence of Tunisia on November 7th. It is built in wrought iron and is surrounded by an ornamental fountain. This place has become a popular meeting point for young Tunisians, especially in light of the recent revolution.

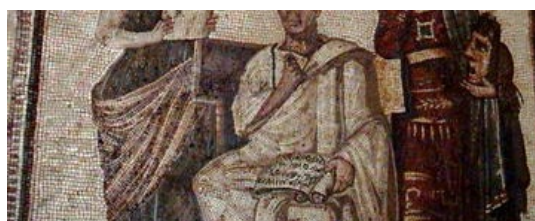
Place du 7 Novembre, **Tunis**



44 Tourist Information Tunisian National Tourist Office

Lala: Tunisian National Tourist Office is found in the Place du 14 Janvier 2011 on the corner of Avenue Mohammed V in Tunis. It's a small two-story building with a white facade that is easily missed as it is surrounded by much bigger buildings and large trees. You can stop here to pick up a map of the city and get some information about places to visit.

Place du 7 Novembre, **Tunis**



45 Of Cultural Interest Virgil and the Muses Mosaic

lamaga: The Virgil and the Muses Mosaic is the most famous mosaic on display in the Bardo Museum, and is considered the best Roman mosaic in the world. It shows Virgil writing the Aeneid, accompanied by two of the Muses: Melpomene for tragedy, and Clio for epic poetry. It was originally located on the floor of a third-century Roman house in Sousse, and it is the only surviving portrait of Virgil. He looks thoughtful and concerned, perhaps aware of the enormous responsibility that comes with writing the Aeneid, the book that chronicled the origins of the Roman people. The room is fascinating and has a mosaic showing the divinities of the days of the week, and another the signs of the zodiac.

Bardo, 2000, **Tunis**



46 Viewpoints Viewpoint of Giving the Annabi

Olga: The viewpoint of Dar el Annabi is one of the most curious places that can be visited in the village of Sidi Bou Saïd, because while you are taking a tour of the streets of the village you see the difference between the white colors of the facades of the houses and blue windows, Arabic symbols and the contrast with the blue sea. There is a staircase to reach the lookout inside Dar el Annabi and, since it is one of the highest in the area, the views are great. You can see the roofs of the various houses around which gives you a better idea of how the Tunisians live. I thought that the panoramic views were fantastic!

☎ 21 671 727 728 - Dar el Annabi, **Sidi Bou Said**



Unusual Places Great Dune of Offra

Lala: The Great Dune of Offra is must-see for every tourist who visits the city of Douz. From here various excursions to the dunes of the Sahara desert begin (buggy rides, camel rides, bikes, quads, ATVs, etc.). Around the dune a tourist area has been created, with hotels and tour agencies, which is 3 km from Douz. The Sahara is the largest desert in the world and has different types of landscape (rocky, sea salt and sand). However, the sand dunes (or "erg") are the landscape that are inevitably associated with the desert, perhaps influenced by major film productions. The Great Dune of Offra is just a small "tail" belonging to the Grand Erg Oriental, extending from here to Morocco. However, the vast sand before us was really impressive, the soft sand dunes are extremely thin, they are shaped by the wind and change color depending on the sunlight. The scenery was wonderful (despite a sandstorm) and the sunset was indescribable.


Zone Touristique, **Duz**



47

Squares

Kasbah Square


 **Lala:** The Place de la Kasbah is a huge square opposite the Place du Gouvernement, at the western entrance to the medina. It was remodeled in 1988 when the new City Hall (Hôtel de Ville) opened. The square is a large paved esplanade crowned by a curious modern concrete monument (I can't tell you what it is, as the sign was written in Arabic). This is where the Kasbah once stood. Today only the old mosque remains. Other buildings on the perimeter of the square are the Ottoman Hospital and Sadiki College.

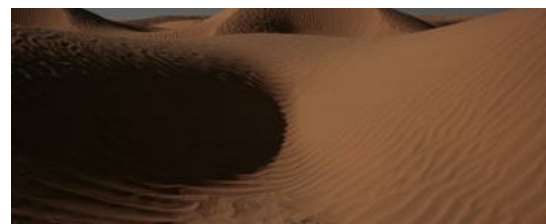


48

Streets

Habib Bourguiba Avenue, Sousse


 **Olga:** Habib Bourguiba Avenue is one of the most important streets to be found in the city of Sousse, and it is also where you will find the majority of the Sousse promenade, which overlooks the Mediterranean Sea. In my opinion, the most important thing about this avenue is its fantastic location, going right along the Sousse beach and creating the city's promenade. This avenue meets Avenue Hedi Chaker and joins both the avenues together to form one of the most important avenues in the city of Sousse. They are important in terms of tourism demand as they take up the majority of Sousse's beach.



49

Nature Reserves

Jebil National Park


 **Gutxi Haitz Céspedes Murias:** Rent a car in Tunisia, from a local home, no European agencies. Miles of empty roads, going nowhere ... A handful of houses in the middle of misplaced infinite sand, making the most of a jet of hot water spurting up from the ground. Leave everything behind you and walk through the desert, between the dunes, toward your own destiny.



50

Historical Monuments

Zauia - Abu Zama El-Belaoui Mausoleum


 **Lala:** In this zaouia or mausoleum lies the tomb of the famous Abu el-Belaoui Zamaa (Ibn Abi Ubayd Zamaa The Arqam The Balaoui), companion of Muhammad who died in the battlefield 50 km away from Kairouan, before the city was established. Although the original mausoleum dates from the 7th Century, this one is from the 17th Century, around which the Sidi Sahab mosque and a madrasa were constructed. The mausoleum is located in the northwest corner of the yard, and under the dome lies the tomb of Sidi Sahab, splendidly clad in green and white. The zaouia is a sacred place for Muslim worshipers and it is also an important place of pilgrimage. Tourists are prohibited from entering inside. However, if you pay the small price of a dinar, there is often a man who will offer to enter the mausoleum with your camera to take a picture for you.



51

Mosques


Mosque of Sidi Sahab

 **Lala:** This important mosque is located 1.5 miles northwest of the Medina, and is one of the most important places in this region, as it contains the [poi = 153431] mausoleum of Abu Zama el-Belaoui [/ poi] (sahab or companion of the Prophet Muhammad). You can access it via a highly decorated marble hallway that leads to a stunning central white courtyard. The mausoleum lies in the courtyards, and at the opposite end of the courtyard you can visit the tomb of the architect Mosque Sidi Okba. The mosque was built around the important shrine during the 17th Century, under the leadership of Mohamed Bey. A madrasa was also constructed in the same year (it means religious school). The most striking thing about the mosque, in addition to its beautifully decorated courtyards, is its high minaret with an impressive dome interior.



Villages

Tamezret


 **Lala:** Tamezret is a picturesque village located on top of a hill overlooking El Dahar, just 10 km from Old Matmata by road from Douz and Kebili (C-104). It is a stone village, whose houses have excavated parts underground. Unfortunately, this is being lost because the residents are moving into new concrete houses, and the village is deteriorating gradually. The maze of streets was recently paved with tiles, in the upper part of town is the main square, with the city, the mosque and a typical cafe with Berber decoration.



Of Cultural Interest

52

Lighthouse of Ras Qatarjamah


 **Olga:** Qatarjamah Ras lighthouse sits right at the end of the Avenue of Taleb Mehiri, one of the extremities of the village of Sidi Bou Saïd. This is one of the least visited monuments. According to our guide this lighthouse was built on the ancient Ribat Sidi Bou Saïd. Most striking is that it was almost hidden between the vegetation and the area. Right next to this lighthouse is the Ras viewpoint Qatarjamah, where you get fantastic views of the Gulf of Tunis.



Turkish Baths

53


El-Kachachine Hammam

 **Lala:** The Hammam The Kachachine is in the heart of the medina, one of the souk booksellers. It is easily recognizable by its doors that are painted with stripes of black, green and red. This is one of the most famous Turkish baths in the ancient city, dating from the Ottoman period. The Turkish bath is a complete ritual where hygiene is combined with relaxation. Similar to the Roman baths, going through different kinds of sauna rooms where the temperature is variable, it is amazing to see how people rub the body vigorously with horsehair gloves for a complete exfoliation of the skin.



Of Touristic Interest

Ride in Horse


 **Olga:** We were offered a kind of excursion combining horseback riding, camel riding and a horse wagon. The horseback ride was quite comfortable as the instructor taught you to ride and lead the horse in a way that was not too fast. It's great fun, the landscape is not the same as the Sahara desert, not so hot. Here you constantly see olive trees since the ranch is located just outside the city of Sousse in an area full of olive trees. I have recommended it to everyone who is visiting Tunisia as it's a good way to ride a horse or camel without going through the full heat of the desert.

Rancho de caballos, camellos y dromedarios a las afueras de Sousse, **Sousse**



Historical Monuments

Hot Springs Licinianan

 **Lala:** The Licinianan thermal baths, or winter baths, were built in the 3rd century, but reformed in the 5th. Because of its great size, these baths are considered to be one of the most important Roman spas in Maghreb, this is due to the variety of treatments offered there, such as; a gym, hot room, warm room, cold room, dry heat, massage, etc.). Everything here is quite well preserved. Its structure respects the symmetrical distribution around the warm and cold rooms. The main entrance can be found 6 feet above the floor of the baths, via a staircase that goes down to a room surrounded by a portico with 12 columns, paved with mosaics and geometric decoration. A hall gives way to the left to the cold room, which occupies the center of the building, and the warm room (around which all the other rooms opened), and then spent the hot room.

Dougga, **Beja**



Airports

Habib Bourguiba International Airport


 **Lala:** Habib Bourguiba International Airport is located about 9km west of the city of Monastir. A taxi ride from the city center costs about 5 DNT and takes about 20 minutes, or you can take a train (the station is about 200 meters from the terminal). It is an international airport and offers no domestic flights. Companies that operate here include Tunisair, Karthago Airlines, Nouvelair Tunisia, Air Berlin, and Transavia, and destinations include Paris, Dusseldorf, Berlin, Munich, Bilbao, Madrid, Milan, and Amsterdam. Keep an eye out for the porters, who will "help" you with your bags without asking, before asking for a substantial tip (they wanted 10 DNT from us!). There are a number of shops where you can do some last-minute shopping to try to get rid of your dinars before leaving the country; these are souvenir shops with the same merchandise you can find in any souk in the country, but at higher prices. After the police check in the departure

☎ 21 673 524 800 - Aéroport International de Monastir Habib Bourguib...



Cemeteries

Cemetery Beduin

 **Lala:** At the entrance of the Bedouin village of Sabria is the cemetery, which tourists are forbidden to approach and access. It doesn't look like a tourist attraction, in fact, it doesn't differ much from other cemeteries in Tunisia unless it is completely surrounded by sand, in full Sahara dunes. All graves are arranged in rows in the same position: Looking to Mecca. The particularity of Muslim cemeteries is that the bodies are buried directly in the ground, wrapped in a sheet just scented (no coffin), so there are no major tombs.

Sabria, **Duz**



Harbors

Monastir Marina


 **Lala:** Monastir is a nice coastal town bathed by the warm waters of the Mediterranean. Located in the Gulf of Hammamet, it is one of Tunisia's main tourist resorts for both Tunisians and foreign tourists. One of the most beautiful places in Monastir is the marina filled with luxurious yachts and boats. There surrounding neighborhood also has a lots of elegant houses decorated in white and blue. I felt more like I was in the south of Spain than in Tunisia!

☎ 21 673 462 305 - Monastir, Monastir, Túnéz, **Monastir**



Of Touristic Interest

Ride in Calesa along the Offra Great Dune


 **Lala:** Another excursion that can be done in the desert from Douz is the carriage ride through the Sahara. The tour leaves from the Great Dune Offra , about 3 kilometres from the city centre, and lasts approximately one hour (\$10/person DNT). It's fun because they dress you up in a robe and a turban, attire typical of the desert Berber tribes. Usually it moves in a kind of caravan. The camels go first, and finally the carriages. Well, the "carriage" is actually a covered wagon, pulled by a small horse, the wheels are tires, and the seats are covered with typical striped blankets. They have two rows of seats, with little space between them. The guide sits in the first seat, and the back is for two passengers (it's quite uncomfortable because there's almost no legroom). It's quite a light walk if you don't want to ride a camel.

Zone Touristique, **Duz**



Streets

Cap Monastir


 **Lala:** At the end of the promenade, there's an old port in the luxurious urbanization of Cap Monastir. The houses are small apartment chalets that are well maintained (some sported the sign "sold"), with whitewashed walls that make the windows stand out and turquoise railings (as in Sidi Bou Said). There's a Marbella-style beautiful marina and a promenade on the seafront that's full of bars and restaurants. The area's upmarket and high priced but it's very nice to go for a walk and drink or eat on the terraces.

Route de la Falaise, **Monastir**



Viewpoints

Sidi Chabaane Viewpoint

 **Olga:** Among the many tourist deals offered by the seaside village of Sidi Bou Saïd are their viewpoints, which are located in many different streets. The best of these viewpoints is Sidi Chabaane which is located at one end of Sidi Bou Saïd. From this viewpoint you can get the best views of the different attractions such as Sidi Bou Said marina, Mersa beach and Abu Said al-Beji mosque, among others.

Rue Sidi Chabaane, s/n, **Sidi Bou Said**



61 Cemeteries
Koubba Sidi el Mezeri Cemetery

Lala: The Koubba Sidi el Mezeri Cemetery is one of the most striking spots in Monastir and is located next to the Citadel on a small plateau above the Mediterranean Sea. One of the things that draws your attention is the fact that the graves are all white and perfectly aligned. This is because Muslims must always be buried facing Mecca. Among all the identical graves there is one exception: the Mausoleum of Habib Bourguiba (former president of the country), a grand marble building inspired by the Taj Mahal.

Rue Mohammed Slim, **Monastir**



63 Of Touristic Interest
Making Handmade Bread

Olga: Of all the many trips that I did during my journey around Tunisia, the one I most learned from was the one that allowed me to see how the old Arab tribes that remain in the wilderness used to live. I arranged the trip through my hotel. Among the many curiosities that I found, the greatest thing that I saw was a camel drinking Coca-Cola . One of the most typical activities of the women was making artisan bread in an oven in the land that was shaped like a bowl or vase, but we got to try the bread and it was very good and quite hot by the way lol ... But as we were discovering about their daily lives, we also saw how they used the camels to collect water .

Rancho de caballos, camellos y dromedarios a las afueras de Sousse, **Su...**



62 Of Touristic Interest
Streets of Monastir

Iamaga: Like any other tourist destination in Tunisia, Monastir hustles with a market and business negotiations. That is, this is not a quiet town, especially because it is the preferred destination for Europeans who want to bask in the sun on the beaches while staying in a cheap hotel. We went during Easter, and although the beaches were not at their best, we could walk along them pretty quietly. You will see posters and interesting expressions, though it is less wild than other small towns in the area, like Sousse.

Monastir



64 Valleys
L'oued Khalled Valley

Lala: Of all the remains of ancient cities of Thugga, this one definitely has the most evocative power: Their settlement dominates the surrounding landscape because it's on a 600 meter high hill. Its dimensions are impressive at 65 hectares, and the things there are well-preserved. This archaeological site occupies the eroded hillside on a large olive grove. There are fields of grain (mainly wheat) and the deep valley. Dougga combines its majestic buildings with beautiful surroundings.

Dougga, **Beja**



Things to see in Tunisia


- | | | |
|---|---|---|
| 1. Chebika Mountain Oasis | 2. The Ruins of Dougga | 3. Port el-Kantaoui Beach |
| 4. The Baths of Carthage | 5. Djerba Beach | 6. Bourguiba Mausoleum |
| 7. Bourguiba Mosque | 8. Kairouan | 9. Zitouna Mosque |
| 10. Matmata Troglodyte Houses | 11. Kairouan Great Mosque | 12. Sea Door (Bab el Bahr) |
| 13. The Souks of Tunis | 14. Desert of Douz | 15. Roman Amphitheatre of El Jem |
| 16. Chott el Djerid | 17. Ribat | 18. Dougga Roman Theatre |
| 19. Tunis-Carthage International Airport | 20. Streets of Sousse | 21. Tunis Central Market |
| 22. Medina of Tunis | 23. Carthage | 24. Great Mosque of the Jem |
| 25. Zarzis Beach | 26. Souk de la Laine (Jewelry Market) | 27. Ras Qatarjahmah Viewpoint |
| 28. Theatre Municipal de la Ville de Tunis | 29. Rue Jamaa Ezzitouna | 30. Sahara Red Desert |
| 31. Tozeur to Kebili Road | 32. Palais du Jasmin | 33. Sousse Square |
| 34. Tozeur Medina - Suburb of Ouled El Hade | 35. Sahara: Sunset in the Dune of Offra | 36. Souk El Grana |
| 37. Habib Thameur Street | 38. Sousse Beach | 39. Avenue Habib Bourguiba |
| 40. Hammamet Historic District | 41. Place du 14 Janvier | 42. Pirate Boat Tour |
| 43. Clock Tower | 44. Tunisian National Tourist Office | 45. Virgil and the Muses Mosaic |
| 46. Viewpoint of Giving the Annabi | 47. Kasbah Square | 48. Habib Bourguiba Avenue, Sousse |
| 49. Jebil National Park | 50. Zaouia - Abu Zama El-Belaoui Mausoleum | 51. Mosque of Sidi Sahab |
| 52. Lighthouse of Ras Qatarjahmah | 53. El-Kachachine Hammam | 54. Habib Bourguiba International Airport |
| 55. Monastir Marina | 56. Cap Monastir | 57. Hot Springs Licinianas |
| 58. Cemetery Beduin | 59. Ride in Calesa along the Offra Great Dune | 60. Sidi Chabaane Viewpoint |
| 61. Koubba Sidi el Mezeri Cemetery | 62. Streets of Monastir | 63. Making Handmade Bread |
| 64. L'oued Khalled Valley | | |



1

Lala Kahlia Restaurant

Restaurants

 **Lala:** It was the last day of our holiday in Tunisia, and we were feeling fed up with the same old food over and over again (coleslaw, chicken, and orange) in hotel buffets and restaurants, so we decided to try to eat something a little different. We didn't have a long time - we'd be going to the airport at 3pm - so we ate in the Lala Kahlia restaurant, the a la carte restaurant located in the Hotel Monastir Center, where we were staying. The restaurant is in a small building, separate from the main hotel, and right across from the pool. We were the only customers, and the chef paid us a lot of personal attention, perhaps thinking we were rich tourists! The menu offered several options of meat and fish. We had octopus and calamari, which were delicious, to start, followed by a grilled sea bass (OK but not amazing) and a beef tenderloin (although it was tender, it had too much gristle). The funny thing was dessert: I wanted a variety of fruit, and the chef offered us what I thought was a fruit salad, but when the chef brought it to our table, it was ... an apple, three oranges, a banana and a few strawberries. Whole pieces, unpeeled! The truth is that this is not a cheap option in Tunisia, a country where you can eat for 3 or 4 euros. We paid 20 euros a head, but we ate pretty well, and you have to keep in mind it's a la carte restaurant of 4 star hotel in one of the touristy areas of the country. We also ordered a small


☎ 21 673 467 800 - Ave. Habib Bourguiba, **Monastir**



4

Restaurants

Phenix de Carthage

 **miguel a. cartagena:** From the fascinating capital of Tunis in the direction of Sidi Bou Said, there's a place where you can enjoy fine traditional country food. In a resort, Restaurant Le Phenix de Carthage serves typical Tunisian cuisine as well as Asian and European cuisine and a variety of very good desserts and sweets. The couscous is a speciality here that you cannot pass up. You have the opportunity to host events and ceremonies in their indoor spaces or outdoor covered ones. There's also a swimming pool, terrace, gabezos and other items of Mediterranean décor. It is located near the ruins of Carthage Archaeological Park and a few miles from the charming village of Sidi Bou Sai on the border of the sea. It really is an ideal place for a stopover while visiting Tunisia to enjoy the exotic cuisine of the country.


☎ 2167173 455 571 732 791 - Rte de Maâlga 2016, **Carthage**



5

Restaurants

Restaurant La Falaise

 **Zai Aragon:** A luxurious spot, frequented almost entirely by the local elite. The decor is modern, with spacious interiors. It has two terraces on the seafront, offering a breathtaking view of the Mediterranean. The location and atmosphere are perfect for a romantic evening, but in my opinion, the food doesn't stand out too much.


☎ 21 643 215 - R. Sidi Dhrif, la Corniche | 24 rue trouidi bab saadoun, ...



2

Cafés

Sidi Chabaane Café

 **Olga:** The Sidi Chabaane Café is in the street of the same name (Calle Sidi Chabaane) and probably one could say that the second most important coffee is in the Tunisian town of Sidi Bou Said, after the famous Café des Nattes, also known as Café de las Esteras. Like all Tunisian cafes it is very quiet and people gather - our guide told us that many men play any of the typical local games such as dominoes or chkoba. It is also typical to smoke a water pipe with different flavors of snuff, nicotine is cleaned by passing through the water, and supposedly it is much healthier, it is usually called hookah. It is really worthwhile to sit on the deck and watch the breathtaking views. The most requested are the two small terraces that overlook part of the city with the sea in the background and provide a good overview of the main street, curd shops selling all kinds of souvenirs and stalls where you can, and should, practice the difficult art of haggling for a


Rue Sidi Chabaane, s/n, **Sidi Bou Said**



3

Culinary Interest

Comida en Sousse

 **lamaga:** Although Tunisia's varied cuisine is vast, especially in regard to wines, meats and sweets, the national dish is couscous. Served with vegetables or meat, it can be delicious. But be careful with some of the varieties! Tunisians tend to eat very spicy couscous with a red sauce that looks very appetizing at first sight. It's a good idea to shun more touristy restaurants in favour of local ones but you are never sure what you will get. One of my first experiences with the couscous in Tunisia proved disastrous for this reason - fifteen people tried to eat my dish and only one could! And he was from Tijuana! The dish was very tasty, but for the rest of that day we ate bread and drank coke ...


Susah



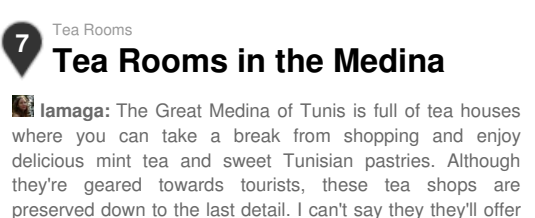
6

Restaurants

Le Pêcheur

 **María Salazar:** I recommend this restaurant. We chose it because there were quite a few people eating inside. All the food was very delicious and cheap. It's next to the Medina and has a very cool terrace. We had a Tunisian salad, a pizza and cordon bleu. The only negative was the amount of cats around. Otherwise, everything was great.

Center ville, **Hammamet**



7

Tea Rooms

Tea Rooms in the Medina

lamaga: The Great Medina of Tunis is full of tea houses where you can take a break from shopping and enjoy delicious mint tea and sweet Tunisian pastries. Although they're geared towards tourists, these tea shops are preserved down to the last detail. I can't say they they'll offer a relaxed, home-like atmosphere because they are always full of people and quite noisy. But, they are a perfect place to take a break and chat over what you bought in the Medina.


Be careful of the prices! They can go a lot in high season and

Medina, **Tunis**

8

Cafés

Café Sidi Bou Hdid

 **Fernando Díaz:** Within the walls of the Hammamet Media, you'll find this cute little café. It has various areas where you can have a tea or smoke a hookah. It also has a chill-out zone with fluffy pillows and a covered area for when the weather isn't great. I suggest going around sunset and checking out the views from the enclosed area.

☎ 21 672 280 040 - La Medina arabe , **Hammamet**



Restaurants

Dar El Jeld

Zai Aragon: Dar el Jeld restaurant is located in the Medina, very close to Kasbah square. It's a very nice restaurant, with Tunisian food and Arabic décor (which was very ornate). As is the custom here, before our meal they brought us several starters on the house, so keep that in mind when choosing the dishes. The cous-cous is very good here, and the sweets.

☎ 21 671 560 916 - 5-10, Rue Dar El Jeld, Túnez, Túnez, **Tunis**



Culinary Interest

Pastelería Segni, Kairouan, Túnez

SerViajera: Beautiful Kairouan , besides being famous for its Grand Mosque and rugs, is also proud of its 'makrouh', a pastry stuffed with dates, almonds, dipped in honey or nuts and absolutely exquisite. The makrouh you can buy everywhere, but the best bakery is called Segni and is inside the medina. The place looks like something out of a French film from the 30s. Naturally, in the Segni Bakery makrouh are a little more expensive, but have a different flavor. It is also a pleasure to walk around the store and choose cakes as if they were objects of art and take them for eating after-dinner wrapped in a neat little box at your hotel.

Avenue 7 Novembre, Kairouan, **Al-Qayrawan**



Restaurants

Dar Belhadj

Simonetta Clucher - Sulle Strade del Mondo: Dar Belhadj is a lovely restaurant in the medina, not far from Zitouna Mosque, that's perfect for a romantic dinner. Don't be fooled by the gritty entrance...the interior is all linen tablecloths, elegant dishes, and refined flavors. Don't miss the mixed starters plate drizzled with fresh lemon juice and mint!

☎ 71 200 894 - 17 rue des Tamis Medina, Túnez, Túnez, **Tunis**



Cafés

Des Nattes O El Kahwa Al Alya Café

Olga: Without a doubt the best cafe in the town of Sidi Bou Saïd is Café des Nattes. It is decorated with columns painted in green and red, which for those who do not know, are the colors of Islam. And I personally recommend trying the mint tea with pine nuts and a hookah which, for those who do not know, is a water pipe with which you can smoke different flavors. However, what caught my attention were the terraces, though it is impossible to find a free table lol. The views were much better in Cafe Sidi Chabane, because here you can only see streets, but never mind.

Rue Habib Thameur, s/n, **Sidi Bou Said**



Tea Rooms

Tea Rooms

Iamaga: Do not leave Sousse without trying a delicious mint tea. A secret blend of green tea, cardamom, sugar and mint makes a delicious tea. Accompanying it with a hookah fruit or candy or a date cake is the best way to end the evening. Laughing I fill the cup of tea once, and again, and again ... Any place is good to try the national drink. It is always delicious!

Sousse, **Monastir**



Restaurants

Le Lido Restaurant

Olga: Since I work in a travel agency, I spend the day selling almost anything. There are many destinations, and many people that don't want to spend too much decide to choose Tunisia. This is due to its climate and good prices. So useful that I knew I was called a few friends and clients who had been long ago, who recommended strongly that I passed by the restaurant Le Lido de Sousse and the truth is it was a real success loved by all four of us that went! The food was very well prepared, with good flavors and even though the dishes were typically Arab, they really were not too strong of flavors. The specialty is fish, because in addition to being in front of the port of Sousse it looks like you're eating something freshly caught! It was perhaps the price for the prices you find in Tunisia, so perhaps it was a bit pricey, but then as always, you pay for quality!

☎ 73 225 329 - Sousse, **Susah**

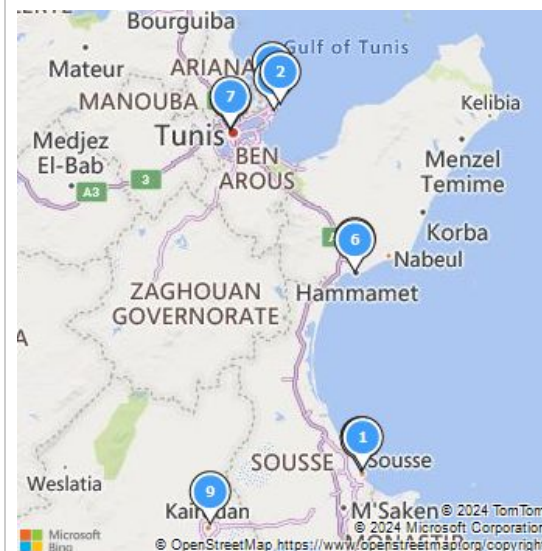


Cafés

El Juj Café

Lala: Cafe "The Juj" is the busiest coffee bar in the city Tozeur and is situated in Liberation Square (Plce de la Libération) , at the entrance to the Medina . Although it has no sign outside, you can easily spot it because of its terrace, which has tables in the square and under the arcades of the building, almost always occupied by both tourists (buses stop here) and by locals. The dining area is a bit dull, as it is devoid of any decoration (there are only a few metal tables) but the terrace is a pleasant place. Here it is typical to drink a natural lemonade, freshly made. It's cool and very refreshing (although quite sweet), and costs 1 DNT. They also have all kinds of soft drinks and of course, tea.

Place de la Liberation, **Naftah**



Places to eat in Tunisia

- | | |
|-------------------------------------|------------------------|
| 1. Lala Kahlia Restaurant | 2. Sidi Chabaane Café |
| 3. Comida en Sousse | 4. Phenix de Carthage |
| 5. Restaurant La Falaise | 6. Le Pêcheur |
| 7. Tea Rooms in the Medina | 8. Café Sidi Bou Hdid |
| 9. Pastelería Segni, Kairouan, T... | 10. Dar Belhadj |
| 11. Tea Rooms | 12. Le Lido Restaurant |



1

Hotels

Yadis Ksar Ghilane Campsite hotel

 **Ignacio Izquierdo:** Crossing the desert to reach this luxurious oasis is really worth the effort. On one side, you're surrounded by a sea of sand dunes which is a welcome change from the more steppe-like deserts in other parts of Tunisia. This particular oasis is home to rooms, but each room just happens to be a desert tent. Outside, you're in a magical oasis setting but once you enter the tent you find a space that's tremendously comfortable to spend the night: an enormous bed, tea tables, a large bathroom, and even AC! The rest of the facilities are good, too...there's a pool and a tower where you can enjoy the views. I'd suggest getting up early to watch the sun rise over the dunes.

 **Cristina E Lozano:** This place really combines desert and luxury (well, all the luxury to be expected in a desert). You sleep out in camp-style tents but all have a shower and bath, firm floors, and enormous king-size beds. The best part, though, aren't the rooms but rather the giant swimming pool surrounded by palm trees that's perfect for a nighttime swim while you gaze up at an unspoiled night sky. If you're a fan of sunrises, this hotel is also a good choice. You can go to the top of the tower on the


☎ 21 675 621 870 - Ksar Ghilane, **Duz**



2

Hotels

Monastir Center hotel

 **Lala:** The Monastir Center hotel is located on the Avenue Habib Bourguiba, five minutes from the waterfront. It's a four-star hotel, but looks can be deceiving ... when we arrived and saw the building, the reception and outdoor pool looked great, but the hotel itself was pretty lousy. The lobby is quite spacious and bright, with high ceilings, and a sofa area. From here you can access the pool, two hotel bars, and a buffet restaurant where breakfast is served. The outdoor poolside area was very nice, with a bar and some tables. There's also a small stage where, in high season, they put on shows at night (so be careful if your room is overlooking it). The furniture is very basic and functional: two beds with bedside tables, a desk, TV (a luxury in Tunisia) and wardrobe. There was also air conditioning, but we didn't need it. The bathroom had modern tiles, suggesting it had been recently renovated. It was small, with a shower cubicle rather than a bath, and


Avenue Habib Bourguiba, **Monastir**



3

Hotels

Yadis Ibn Khaldoun Hotel

 **Lala:** Ibn Khaldoun Hotel is a 3-star hotel in the center of Tunis. However, it is about a 40 minutes' walk from the real tourist area (Place de la Victoire), and a taxi costs about 3-4 DNT (about 2 euros). It was our first hotel in Tunisia and the truth is that I didn't like it at first but after experiencing others on our tour of the country I have to say that it wasn't too bad. From the outside, the building looks pretty run down. It's 11 floors high and the facade, which should be white, is completely dirty. The reception, though, is all polished and gleaming marble. The room was pretty small and shabby. The furniture was yellowish wood, and it had two single beds pushed together, with bedside tables and a small desk with a mirror and trunk. On the table was a TV (not available in all Tunisian hotels). The floor was carpeted and the bedding and curtains looked a bit tacky with their identical floral blue pattern. The bathroom was quite nice, though. It was


30 Rue du Koweit, **Tunis**



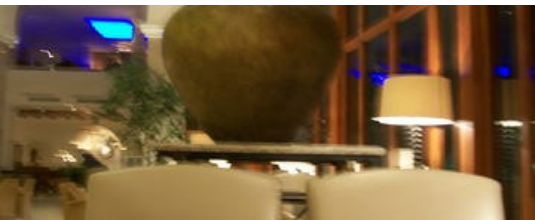
4

Hotels

Hotel Riu Marco Polo

 **Maria Salazar:** The rooms are spacious and have a terrace with a view of the ocean. Upon arrival they give you the all inclusive wristband that gets you anything you want. I couldn't enjoy the pool because there wasn't good weather but I really wanted to. For the breakfast and dinner buffet, you must be punctual because they start to remove the food when runs out. It's a bit far from downtown to walk but there are taxis available right at the door. If you do not want to be disturbed in the morning, you can put the sign on the door. If not, the cleaning lady might surprise you!

☎ 21 672 244 222 - B.P 35 hammamet, **Hammamet**



6

Hotels

Mövenpick Resort & Marine Spa Sousse

 **Zai Aragon:** The Mövenpick hotel has everything that a luxury tourist can expect: from a glitzy reception decorated with palm trees, to the staff uniforms. On arrival you are greeted with tea and orange blossom scented towels to refresh you. The rooms are very big, has a spa and outdoor pools, breakfast with more than 100 tables ... At the reception one can find a piano bar, which is very popular in this area and what I am looking at right now.


Boulevard Du 14 Janvier Bp 114, **Susah**



5

Hotels

Tunisia Palace hotel

 **Zai Aragon:** The best part of the hotel is the location: in the center and very close to the entrance to the Medina (Puerta de France). The rooms and the bathroom are spacious. The bed is comfortable and the curtains cover just the right amount of light. The worst part: you can smoke in the rooms and it smells like snuff (there are small details that show that the hotel has seen better days, and the decor is somewhat outdated, but it shows that when it opened it must have been a great hotel. The restaurant is open to the public. During the day the sun shines through the glass roof, a game with the lights.

13, Avenue de France, Tunis 1000, **Tunis**



7

Hotels

Golf Beach Hotel

 **cyriane:** On the island of Djerba in Tunisia, Golf Beach Hotel is a 3 star hotel, very welcoming, which has beautiful architecture inspired by Menzel Djerbians. An ideal place for family gatherings. To emphasize: the quality of the rooms, catering, hospitality and the many activities available! The only downside is that the hotel is a bit outside the city: 7 km from Midoun and 25 km from Houmt Souk, even if the hotel is well served by taxis, which allow easy access!


Djerba, **Djerba**



Vacation Resorts

8

Zona Residencial de Cartago

 **Lala:** The ruins of Carthage were declared a World Heritage Site by UNESCO [/ b] in 1979, but not everything in Carthage is ruined. Currently the 13 kilometer periphery is one of the most luxurious and exclusive in Tunis. It's lined with elegant mansions and embassies. One of the things that stuck out to me is that the Presidential Palace (where the President of the Republic lives) can be found right next to the Antonine Baths, which are protected by a long white wall. Our tour guide warned us not to take pictures because it's forbidden to photograph any official building (including this one). The whole environment is monitored with cameras and armed police officers. When we got to the bus in front of the main gate of the palace it was amazing. It's beautiful, and I couldn't help remembering the movie "Empress Sissi."

Ave. Habib Bourguiba, **Carthage**



Hotels

9

Maison Dorée Hotel

 **SerViajera:** Excellently located on Ville Nouvelle (I walked back at night without any problems). This hotel is a great option for budget travelers. With a French atmosphere that's decadent and antiquated, but very clean and comfortable, the Maison Dorée has rooms on several floors, connected by a grand staircase. The rooms are all different. I was there twice: The first time I was there I stayed in a room with curtains, decorations and red bedspread. The second time I was in another room that was painted blue with yellow details. All rooms are spacious, with high ceilings, ceiling fans (some even have air conditioning) and comfortable bathrooms. The hotel also has a restaurant that serves good Tunisian dishes.

☎ 21 671 240 632 - 3 rue el-koufa, Ville Nouvelle, Túnez, **Tunis**



Hotels

12

Rosa Beach Hotel

 **lamaga:** The Hotel Rosa Beach is a very economical option and can be recommended for those travelling to Tunisia in large groups, as there are many offers for such trips. With a varied buffet restaurant, where you can find both international cuisine and Tunisian dishes and good facilities (pool, disco, gym ...) it is a good choice. The best point: it is on the beachfront and close to bus stops. The worst point: the poor condition of the beach.


Skanes Monastir, - Monastir 5000 - Túnez , **Monastir**



Hotels

13

Mouradi Tozeur Hotel

 **Miskita:** Well, it's not one of the most well-known hotel is Tunes, nor is it a five star hotel, and it's surely not a hotel that would make the huge hotels in the area jealous. However, this hotel does offer impeccable service and generous, the pool amazing, especially when you come from desert hotels two stars, and the small apartment in which we stayed, very cute. The only downside is that in summer, at least for what we come to know us, sauna, indoor pool ... Everything was closed, which was a bummer. I, to Tunisia, I am looking forward. I just need to find somebody to go with!


☎ 21 676 453 500 - Zone Touristique, 2200, Tozeur , Tunisie, **Tozeur**



Hotels

10

Sahara beach hotel

 **johana:** We arrived, and they immediately offered us a little welcome cocktail ... there are great pools, sun loungers, umbrellas, everything you need to relax! Then, there's the huge restaurant, with a huge array of options for breakfast - little pancakes with jam or sugar, different breads ... in addition, there is an indoor pool and several restaurants, bars, shops, and a nightclub. You'll never feel bored!


Monastir



Hotels

11

Erriadh Hotel


 **SerViajera:** This little hotel is a surprising and delightful discovery. In Houmt Souk, the largest city Djerba the Erriadh is located in one of the old funduqs, with typical strengths of Djerba. A beautiful courtyard shaded by a huge bougainvillea, the hotel rooms are very clean, with windows overlooking the patio and ceiling fans. Bathrooms are private, and generous hot water.

☎ 2 167 565 756 - Rue Mohammed Ferjani s/n, Houmt Souq, **Djerba**

Hotels

14

El Mouradi Hotel Africa Tunis


 **Miguel Egido:** El Mouradi is probably the best hotel in Tunisia. As soon as we arrived we realized we had found the perfect place to stay. It's quiet, the wifi works in all the rooms, and the views are amazing. My room was on the 17th floor, but the hotel has 22 in total. Great.

50, Avenue Habib Bourguiba, **Tunis**

Hotels

15

El Mouradi El Menzah Hotel

 **Damaso:** In the tourist area of Hammamet, not to be confused with the village area of Hammamet. Although the distance is approx. 7 km, the 2 areas do not have anything to do with each other. Here are hotels located almost directly on the beach. The hotel is four star, but you have to take into account a country that is not governed by European standards. The rooms have sea views and pool, very clean indeed. Dealing with Spanish tourists is a bit passive. Most tourists are Germans, Italians and French and they don't

Nabul



- Places to stay in Tunisia
1. Yadis Ksar Ghilane Campsite...

2. Monastir Center hotel

3. Yadis Ibn Khaldoun Hotel

4. Hotel Riu Marco Polo

5. Tunisia Palace hotel

6. Mövenpick Resort & Marine S...

7. Golf Beach Hotel

8. Zona Residencial de Cartago

9. Maison Dorée Hotel

10. Sahara beach hotel

11. Erriadh Hotel

12. Rosa Beach Hotel

13. Mouradi Tozeur Hotel

14. El Mouradi Hotel Africa Tunis

15. El Mouradi El Menzah Hotel