

Adventure Travel
4x4 Expeditions
Consultancy
Training



OneLife Adventure

www.onelifeadventure.co.uk

Western Sahara Explorer

7th – 22nd March 2026

Western Sahara.... little known and little visited about sums up this territory – well, here's your chance to rectify this ! join us as we explore the deep south of Morocco. After the cessation of the decades-long armed dispute between Morocco and the Polisario Front in 1991, this territory has remained un-explored. Since our first expedition here in 2010 it has quickly become a firm favourite of guests – a mixture of salt/silt flats, rolling hammada, sand dunes, rocky jebels and archaeological sites complete with pot fragments, flint tools and rock engravings. It's wild and remote but remains safe and free from trouble. Read LRO's John Pearson's [Epic Western](#) article on our website to get a taste of this fascinating destination.

This is a completely new route for 2026. Taking the new autoroute to Agadir we quickly descend Morocco to reach the Atlantic Ocean at Sidi Ifni to start off with a Moroccan classic – Plage Blanche beach drive. After a coffee in TanTan we continue to Laayoune on a mix of tar and beaches. Swinging inland, we'll following a dune line south before descending into the salt pans of Sebkat Aridal.

We then head towards Smara, crossing the Zemmour, a huge hammada extending all the way to Mauritania. We pause in the Jebel Winselwan, which is one of Morocco's most prolific pre-Islamic rock engraving sites, to find the art here. Driving conditions remain varied, mainly rock and sand with many dry river crossings. From the main town Smara we then descend into the Oued Seguiet al Hamar before crossing the Krab Hawa flats and reaching Jdiriya. Continuing north we cross the Draa valley to Assa, at the foot of the Anti Atlas mountains. We climb up the Gorges d'Ait Mansour – a huge cleft through these intensely folded mountains before reaching Tafroute and then on to Marrakech as we head home.

The route is a mix of hammada, with some dunes and mountains, remote and wild. While the pistes north of Smara are used, but to the south things get seriously empty! It's very different to the rest of Morocco, free of the "*bon-bon stylo*" hassle that unfortunately mars elsewhere, it's exciting desert travel under warm blue skies, definitely a trip for those who want to be amongst the few who have explored this remote, western edge of the Sahara.





Adventure Travel
4x4 Expeditions
Consultancy
Training



www.onelifeadventure.co.uk

Summary

Start point	Tarifa, Southern Spain
Finish point	Tarifa, Southern Spain
Number of days	16 days, 16 nights - meet night of 6 th March.
Approx. distance	3500 kilometres in Morocco
Road conditions	Mixture of sand, gravel and rock tracks, some local roads.
No' of vehicles	Maximum of 6 vehicles or 12 adult guests plus our support vehicle.
Accommodation used	Accommodation will be predominantly wild campsites. In some places we may use organised campsites or auberges, where good toilet/shower facilities are available.
Specialist equipment - vehicle	A well maintained and serviced 4x4 vehicle fitted with underbody protection. A CB radio must be fitted. Tyres of All Terrain or Mud Terrain tread patterns are most suitable. Front and rear recovery points and a full set of recovery equipment (strops and shackles) is essential along with a spade. A winch is not essential. A total fuel range of 800 km is required, (jerry cans are OK), and water capacity of 60 l each. A vehicle fridge is recommended for cold drinks and keeping food fresh for extended periods.
Specialist equipment - camping	Either roof (preferable) or ground tents are suitable. You will need good quality sleeping mats if using ground tents, along with sleeping bags. You should bring your own chairs, table, stove, pans, cutlery and utensils. Clothing can be light as the days will be hot, however you should bring some warm and windproof outer wear. Protection from the sun and UV is needed.
Passport	Required for Morocco and transit countries. France and Spain follow Schengen area rules and your passport must have a 'date of issue' less than 10 years before the date you arrive and have an 'expiry date' at least 3 months after the day you plan to leave the Schengen area. If you renewed your passport before 1 October 2018, it may have a date of issue that is more than 10 years ago. NOTE: For 2026, the European Union's new Entry/Exit System (EES) will have begun. When travelling into and out of the Schengen area, for short stays, you may need to have your fingerprints and your photo taken, also answering the Schengen Border Code questions. If you enter the Schengen area through the Port of Dover, this information will be taken at the border, before you leave the UK. You may also need to provide either your fingerprint or photo when you leave the Schengen area. You will NOT need the new ETIAS system visa that will come into effect in Q3 2026.
Visa	UK residents, travelling as tourists, do not need a visa to enter Morocco or the Schengen area (which includes France and Spain) for up to 90 days in any 180-day period



Health

- Small first aid kit advisable.
- Hepatitis A, Tetanus, Polio, Typhoid vaccinations are recommended; confirm needs with your doctor.

Cost of living

A lot less than the UK - 1 GBP = approx' 12 Dirham, with diesel at 15-16 dir/l. ATM's are present in large towns and cities but are not always reliable. Bureau de Change facilities can be found at the border. You will need to bring cash, to change upon entry to Morocco. Vehicle insurance may be bought at the border if required.

Weather

Generally dry and warm with low humidity, occasionally very hot in the valleys during the days but it can be cool in the hills and at night. Dust can reduce visibility during the spring period.

Marrakesh	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Average daily temp °C	18	20	23	26	29	33	38	38	33	28	23	19
Rainfall mm	25	30	35	25	15	10	5	5	10	25	30	30

Food and Shopping

Food is readily available in Morocco, but choice will be restricted compared to the UK. Opportunities to buy food in Western Sahara are non-existent, once beyond Laayoune and Smara. Meals can be cooked either individually or communally, the choice is yours. We can assist you with purchasing food in country, as necessary and will co-ordinate shopping for group meals.

Schedule and Pace

The route and timings are not fixed. We will be free to break journey, stop and explore, as you desire. We aim to be in the campsite by 17.00 on most days to allow us to relax and enjoy the experiences of the day. The daily distances driven vary due to the terrain and ground conditions but a typical day will be 2-3 hours driving in the morning, 1 hour for lunch and then a further 2-3 hours driving. For the transit from Tangiers to Agadir we will use the autoroute network and this will take approximately 1.5 days. There will be one rest / non driving day during the trip when you'll be free to explore or rest as you choose.

Outbound shipping

The crossing from Dover to Calais is made by ferry and is included in the expedition price. You are free to specify your own preferred dates and times and this route will give you the option of enjoying France and Spain on the way down. We can also offer an option to take a Brittany Ferries crossing from Portsmouth/Plymouth to Santander/Bilbao at additional cost, please contact us for a quote. This is a cost-effective option, saving the diesel cost, tolls and a long drive down, the dates of the trip are timed to coincide with Brittany Ferry sailings.



Adventure Travel
4x4 Expeditions
Consultancy
Training



OneLife Adventure

www.onelifeadventure.co.uk

Inbound Shipping

The return crossing from Calais to Dover is made by ferry and is included in the expedition price. Again, you are free to break the return journey and specify the ferry dates and times allowing you to extend your holiday as you choose.

Note – The transit sections to and from the start/finish points are unsupported by OneLife Adventure, but we welcome you to join us as we drive down to/from these points of the trip – perfect while you get used to driving “on the wrong side” and we’ll assist where we can with any problems on these legs. Accommodation, meals and refreshments you take during this transit stage are not included.

Cost

- £ 1699 per person – for the first 2 adults (based on 2 sharing), **inclusive of ALL ferry crossings.**

Ask us for a quote for Brittany Ferries, we credit you the Channel crossing, you simply pay the difference.

The expedition price includes **flexible return ferry crossing from Dover to Calais and from Spain to Morocco, all campsite/accommodation costs and full backup and guiding from the support team.**

- *If one adult and one under 16 only then the price is for 2 adults*
- *Under 16's - £350 each*
- *Adult single supplement, add £625*
- *For each additional adult up to a maximum of 4 per vehicle add £450*
- *It does not include your fuel, food, snacks, drinks, vehicle insurance and personal spending.*

**FOR MORE INFORMATION OR
TO BOOK YOUR PLACE ON THIS
EXPEDITION
PLEASE CONTACT US**



NUMBERS ARE LIMITED – maximum of 6 vehicles or 12 adults !

OneLife Adventure Expedition Rating System

Sahara Occidental Explorer

The whole territory is remote, the terrain is predominantly flat/gently rolling sand and rocks with many oued's. Some low mountain ranges exist and near Laayoune there are dunes.



Longer days occasionally and high content of off road driving, recoveries likely and moderate levels of off road skills needed.



80% wild camping +, weather or environment requires some technical clothing/equipment, suitable for experienced families with older children.



OneLife Adventure, Barn House, Back Lane, Tholthorpe, N Yorks, YO61 1SN, United Kingdom

Mobile +44 7776 140626

info@onelifeadventure.co.uk

Office +44 1347 830188