# MAURITANIAN BEST TOURS

Est. 2005 · Guided by Locals

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## 8-Day Itinerary

Mauritania: Iron Ore Train, Sahara Desert & UNESCO Sites

EUR 2,200 per person · Private 4x4 Tour · English-Speaking Guide

**DAY 01** | **Arrival in Nouakchott & Journey to Azoueiga (Tallest Dunes)**

**09:00** **Nouakchott City Tour**

Pick-up from your hotel. Visits include:

- Central Market
- National Museum
- Camel Market

**10:30** **Departure for Adrar Region**

Starting from Nouakchott, we begin our northbound journey across the desert of the Adrar region. Several stops will be made for photography and short breaks.

**13:30** **Lunch in Akjoujt**

Enjoy a peaceful lunch stop in Akjoujt before continuing the drive.

**16:00** **Arrival in Azoueiga**

After approximately 2 to 3 more hours of driving, we reach Azoueiga, home to the tallest sand dunes in Mauritania.

**Afternoon & Evening — Desert Experience**

- Admire the stunning views of the dunes
- Relax in the serene desert atmosphere
- Enjoy tea at sunset
- Settle into your pre-set desert camp
- Dinner and campfire under the stars

**Overnight:** Desert camp in Azoueiga

## DAY 02 | Azoueiga → Tifoujar → Terjit (The Hidden Oasis)

**Morning** **Departure from Azoueiga**

After breakfast, we begin a 4-hour drive toward Terjit Oasis.

**Midday** **Arrival at Terjit Oasis**

Upon arrival at The Hidden Oasis, you will explore:

- The lush palm groves
- The natural canyon
- The fresh spring water flowing from the rocks

**Lunch** **At the Water Source**

Enjoy a peaceful lunch beside the natural water source, surrounded by greenery and cool shade.

**Afternoon** **Relax & Oasis Experience**

Take time to relax, walk around the oasis, or enjoy tea under the palm trees.

**Evening** **Transfer to Jemal Camp**

After the oasis experience, we drive to Jemal Camp, where you will enjoy dinner and a calm evening in the desert.

**Overnight:** Jemal Camp

## DAY 03 | Terjit → Mhairith → Ouadane → Richat Structure (Eye of Africa)

**Morning** **Drive from Terjit to the Richat Structure**

After breakfast, we begin a 4-hour journey across the desert towards the Richat Structure, the famous Eye of Africa. Along the way, we pass through Mhairith, known for its peaceful palm groves and traditional oasis life.

**Midday** **Explore the Richat Structure**

Upon arrival, we explore this spectacular circular geological formation — one of the most iconic natural wonders in Mauritania. Time for photography, walking around the site, and enjoying the panoramic desert views.

**Afternoon** **Drive to Ouadane**

After the visit, we drive 1 hour back to Ouadane, one of the oldest caravan towns in the Sahara.

**Check-In & Lunch — Vasque Hotel, Ouadane**

We arrive in Ouadane and check into Vasque Hotel. Enjoy a traditional lunch and take time to rest.

**Evening** **Visit the Historical Town of Ouadane**

We explore the ancient town, including:

- The old mosque
- Stone houses and desert architecture
- The ruins of the ancient caravan city
- The “Street of Scholars,” known for its rich history

**Overnight:** Vasque Hotel, Ouadane

## DAY 04 Ouadane → Tanouchert → Chinguetti

**Morning** **Drive from Ouadane to Chinguetti**

After breakfast, we depart for a 3-hour journey toward Chinguetti. We make short stops along the way to stretch, enjoy the open desert, and take photos.

**Arrival** **Visit to the Ancient Library**

Our first stop is one of Chinguetti's historic libraries. The librarian will present ancient manuscripts and share the deep history of this UNESCO World Heritage Site.

**UNESCO Walking Tour of the Old Town**

We explore:

- The Old Quarter of Chinguetti
- Traditional stone architecture
- The Grand Mosque of Chinguetti, one of the oldest mosques in Mauritania and a masterpiece of desert Islamic architecture

**Lunch** **Lunch in Chinguetti**

Enjoy a traditional Mauritanian lunch in the hotel.

**Afternoon** **Sunset at the Sand Dunes**

We head to the nearby dunes to relax and watch the sunset over the Sahara, with tea served in the Mauritanian tradition.

**Evening** **Check-In**

Settle into your accommodation in Chinguetti.

**Overnight:** Eden Hotel, Chinguetti

## DAY 05 Chinguetti → Rock Paintings → Atar → Choum → Tmeimichat (Iron Ore Train)

**Morning** **Rock Paintings & Drive Toward Atar**

After breakfast, we depart Chinguetti and visit the ancient rock paintings, an important archaeological site reflecting early Saharan history. We continue the drive toward Atar and then to Choum, enjoying desert landscapes along the way.

**Midday** **Journey to Tmeimichat**

We proceed toward Tmeimichat, passing by remarkable sites like The World's 2nd Largest Monolith – an impressive natural formation rising from the desert.

**Afternoon** **Arrival in Tmeimichat**

Please prepare the following for the Iron Ore Train journey:

- Snacks
- Protective equipment: mask and sunglasses
- Warm clothing
- Personal bags secured

Your guide will explain boarding procedures, safety, and how to make the experience comfortable.

**Evening** **Board the Iron Ore Train**

We board the legendary Iron Ore Train, one of the longest trains in the world. The journey lasts approximately 9 hours, crossing the Sahara Desert. During the ride:

- Enjoy panoramic desert views from the open wagon
- Experience the raw beauty of the Sahara
- Watch the sunset over the desert horizon
- At night, enjoy a breathtaking sky full of bright stars

*Important Note on Wagon Availability: We will always do our best to secure a place on the open ore wagon, but availability is not 100% guaranteed. If it is not possible, you have two safe alternative options: (1) Ride in the passenger wagon attached to the train, or (2) Continue by 4x4 vehicle — the car will remain with you until boarding is confirmed.*

| **Overnight:** | On the Iron Ore Train (open wagon or passenger wagon) |
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## DAY 06 Nouadhibou: Relaxation After the Train Journey

**Morning** **Arrival in Nouadhibou**

After completing the Iron Ore Train experience, we should arrive in Nouadhibou in the morning.

### Hotel Check-In & Rest

We head directly to the hotel for check-in. Enjoy:

- A long, refreshing shower
- Time to rest and recover after the overnight train journey
- A slow, relaxing morning

**Afternoon** **Free Time to Unwind**

Take the afternoon at your own pace:

- Relax at the hotel
- Enjoy a light walk
- Optional local exploration

**Evening** **Visit to Cape Blanc**

In the evening, we visit Cape Blanc, known for its serene coastal views and peaceful atmosphere. A perfect place to end the day with cool ocean air and beautiful scenery.

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| **Overnight:** | Hotel in Nouadhibou |

## DAY 07 — Nouadhibou → Banc d'Arguin National Park (Arkeiss / Iwik)

### Morning

- Departure from Nouadhibou after breakfast.
- Scenic drive to Banc d'Arguin National Park (approx. 5 hours), a UNESCO World Heritage site known for its vast coastal landscapes and rich marine life.

### Lunch

- Lunch stop in Arkeiss, a small tent camp at the edge of the park.

### Afternoon

- Continue to Iwik, a traditional Imraguen fishing village where locals still fish using ancestral methods in harmony with nature.

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| **Overnight:** | Overnight stay in a camp in Iwik or Arkeiss, surrounded by ocean and silence. |

## DAY 08 — Banc d'Arguin (Arkeiss) → El Mamghar → Nouakchott

### Morning

- Departure from Arkeiss toward El Mamghar (approx. 2 hours).
- Birdwatching along the coast: flamingos, pelicans, and other migratory birds in one of West Africa's most important ecosystems.

### Lunch

- Seafood lunch in El Mamghar, freshly prepared by local fishermen (around 1:00 PM).

### Afternoon

- Drive to Nouakchott (approx. 3 hours).
- Visit the Nouakchott Fish Market, a lively and authentic view of local daily life.

### Evening

- Return to the hotel or proceed to the airport.
- End of the tour / flight preparation.

# Package Cost – Inclusions & Exclusions

| Included | Excluded |
|---|---|
| • Airport pick-up and drop-off<br>• 4x4 private Toyota Hilux with A/C<br>• Accommodation (Hotel or Tents)<br>• Experienced English-speaking guide<br>• Three full meals per day<br>• All entrance and activity fees<br>• Mineral water throughout the entire trip | • E-visa: €55 (paid on arrival)<br>• International flights<br>• Personal expenses |

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| **Tour Price** | **€2,200 per person** | Payment: Cash on the first day of the tour, or optionally in advance via Western Union or MoneyGram. |

For bookings and enquiries, contact us directly:

**WhatsApp / Phone:** +222 27272759
**Website:** mauritanian-best-tours.com
**Languages:** Arabic, French, English

*5 Stars on TripAdvisor and GetYourGuide · Operating since 2005*