



riad mur akush  
marrakech

## Welcome to Riad Mur Akush! Connect with us!

Instagram: @riadmurakush

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/riadmurakushmarrakech>

Whatsapp: 00212 641-909728

Thank you for booking to stay with us. We have put together this guide to help you make the most of your stay in Riad Mur Akush and Marrakech. You will find information about the riad and also some recommendations or suggestions based on our own experience, that we think you may find useful.

Our *riad* is a traditional “medina” house with 6 guest rooms, 2 terraces, a courtyard and a large salon. We have a very capable team that will take care of you and will be happy to help you with anything you need. Feel free to ask questions, we can book restaurants, hammams or other activities for you. Have a chat with us and pick our brains on anything. Any problems or requests? Please let us know!

Check in is at 15 hrs and check out is at 11 hrs.

### **Rooms:**

Each room has a reversible air-conditioning unit which cools or heats your room depending on your requirements. If you need help setting it, please let us know.

We also provide special waterproof heaters for the bathrooms, which can be found in your room. For the rooms with a fireplace, please let us know if you would like this lit and we would be happy to do this for you.

All rooms have a safe, hair dryer and luxurious toiletries.

We also offer extra blankets and pillows for you and if there is anything else you will need, let us know.

## Meals at Riad Mur Akush:



### Breakfast:

Breakfast is included in your room rate and can be enjoyed whenever you want (we serve breakfast from 7am - 11am), anywhere you like - the courtyard, the terrace, the dining room or your room. If you are checking out earlier than 7am, please speak to us, as we will be happy to make alternative arrangements.



### Dinner (or lunch):

You can enjoy a relaxing evening “staying in” and one of our cooks will prepare your meal especially for you. We ask that you book dinner a couple of days in advance, especially if you are booking for your first evening here (which we recommend), to make sure we get it right for you.

We take into account any preferences, dislikes, allergies or dietary

requirements and we are happy to cater for vegetarian/vegan guests.

Once you are here at the riad, you can simply book for dinner the night before, or that morning at the very latest.

As we purchase the ingredients fresh from the morning market and base our dishes on what is fresh that day, the list below is only an indication of what we can prepare for you.

Each meal is prepared for a **minimum of 2 people at a time** and our kitchen limits us to two different types of main courses per night.

## **SAMPLE MENU**

1st course - (one of the options below)

### **Moroccan salads**

(a selection of cooked vegetables cooked with spices)

### **Homemade Soup or Harira**

### Main course

(one of these options, depending on market availability and seasonality)

### **Chicken tajine or couscous**

(with almonds and/or dates, olives, preserved lemons)

### **Chicken kebabs**

### **Fish tajine**

### **Lamb tajine or couscous**

(with prunes or with vegetables)

### **Beef tajine/couscous**

### **Moroccan Meatballs**

(with tomato and eggs)

### **Vegetable and potato tajine (V)**

### **Peppers couscous or tajine (V)**

### **Seven Vegetable Couscous (V)**

### ***Tangia Marrakchia***

*(there is a supplement of 10 euros per person (minimum 2 people) for this special dish and it needs to be ordered 2 days in advance).*

### To finish...

Fruit or dessert with coffee or tea.

A bottle of mineral water is included with your meal.

Wine is also available, but needs to be ordered in advance.

### **Airport collection:**

We can arrange for our driver to wait there for you with a "Riad Mur Akush " sign and drive you to the riad. The cost for this service is 20 euros for up to 4 guests (there is a 5 euros "evening supplement" for collections between 9pm - 6am).

Larger groups can be accommodated with a larger car, please send us the number of guests for a quote.

We highly recommend that you book this service, to make sure you arrive at the riad as quickly and safely as possible.

### **Some information about your airport arrival:**

On arrival at the Marrakech airport, you will go through passport control (this sometimes takes longer than expected but the driver will wait for you) then get your bags from the luggage carousels (Duty free is available there) and finally leave the hall after you pass through the baggage security scanning spot.

You then reach the main airport area (look up, the lights and structure are amazing) and head out of the airport doors to the fresh air.

**This is where the driver will be waiting, as the drivers are not allowed in the building.** Please take a few moments to find him as it can get very busy and he may not be visible straight away.

Train station and bus station collections are also available, please contact me to arrange.

### **WIFI in Riad Mur Akush:**

We offer free fiber optic internet for our guests and have 2 networks.

Please be aware that due to the network limitations here in Morocco, the quality of WIFI is temperamental and can depend on the weather, the time of day etc.

### **Tipping in Marrakech:**

A lot of our guests ask us about tipping and it is a personal matter but since tipping is a way of life in Morocco (local people tip as well), I hope the suggestions below will be helpful.

**Restaurants:** Normally a 5-10% tip is expected on restaurants, but some of them now include a 10% tip in the bill (Maison Arabe near us do this too), so please check this before tipping.

Taxis: If your driver has used the meter, then tip to the closer 10-20 Dhr. If you have agreed on a price in advance, there is no need for a tip.

Drivers on day trips: Depending on how happy you were with your driver you can leave anything between 50-100 Dhr for a day trip, or more for a large group. The drivers are paid a set salary by the car company, so anything extra is much appreciated.

Tipping people who “show you the way”: Ideally one does not want to get lost in the medina, but it can happen. If you find yourself being “shown the way”, by someone who asks for money, then 20-30 Dhrs is more than enough for their services- they will probably ask for 100Dhr, pretend they are angry, say that you insult them and a lot of other theatrics... simply ignore them. It is a good idea to keep some change with you for situations like these. Please do not give money to children.

Tipping the team at **Riad Mur Akush**: If you had a great stay with us and would like to leave a tip for our team, thank you!  
We have a “tip box” on the reception desk where you can leave a “team” tip, which is then shared equally by everyone that works at the riad at the end of each month.  
Everyone really appreciates it.

## WHERE TO EAT

(There are hundreds of good restaurants in Marrakech. This is only a small list of the ones that we like and it is by no means exhaustive)

Restaurants within walking distance to Riad Mur Akush:

**La Maison Arabe** (Around 3-4 minutes walk from our riad)–  
1, Derb Assehbe - Bab Doukkala. Tél: 00212 5 24 38 70 10  
[www.lamaisonarabe.com](http://www.lamaisonarabe.com)

Our neighboring riad with a couple of great restaurants, a more casual outdoors snack area, an atmospheric piano bar. They serve alcohol. They add a 10% service charge on all their food and drink.

**The Moorish (kitchen and coffee)** ( Around 15 minutes from our riad)

166 rue Mouassine - Medina (a few meters after Le Jardin Secret)

This is our “sister” enterprise!

[www.themoorishmarrakech.com](http://www.themoorishmarrakech.com)

A new, fresh and cool space right in the middle of the souks that offers fusion food (mediterranean and moroccan) and great ice coffee and cakes among other things. Great value and great service too.

Well worth a visit for coffee, lunch or dinner. You can order take out and it is delivered at the riad (Suggested delivery tip: 20-30 Dhr)

**M Bacha** (around 3-4 minutes from our riad)

<https://www.mbacha.net/>

They offer Moroccan and Asian menus in a beautiful courtyard. Their food is delicious and the service is really good (no alcohol). They often have a short dance show in the evening. You can order take out from them and they deliver at the riad. (suggested delivery tip: 20-30 Dhr)

**Ma Maison** (around 7 minutes from our riad)

64 Arset Aouzal, Bab Doukkala. Tel: 00212 64 90 71 498

[www.mamaisonmarrakech.com](http://www.mamaisonmarrakech.com)

Italian food with great surroundings and reasonable prices. They offer alcohol.

**Café Arabe** (Around 15 minutes from our riad.)

184 rue Mouassine, Medina. Tel: 00 212 524 42 97 28 [www.cafearabe.com](http://www.cafearabe.com)

A great coffee shop in the old town, it serves Italian and Moroccan food. They serve alcoholic drinks, try their terrace for a nightcap.

**Le Trou au Mur** ( Around 15 minutes from our riad)

39 Derb el Farnatchi, Medina. Tel: 00212 524 38 49 00

<https://letrouaumur.com>

This is the restaurant of Riad Farnatchi, offering good moroccan food with a

modern twist. They are open for lunch and dinner and serve alcoholic drinks.

**Terrace Des Epices** (Around 10 minutes from our riad)

15 Souk Cherifia, Medina.

[www.terrassedeseepices.com](http://www.terrassedeseepices.com)

The Terrace offers a great option for a meal and they have an extensive wine list. The menu is a good all day Franco-Moroccan dining menu. Booking in advance is recommended.

**The Riad El Fenn restaurant** (around 10 minutes from our riad)

Enter the restaurant through the El Fenn boutique on Avenue Fatima Zohra.

<https://el-fenn.com/>

An iconic location on the terrace of Riad El Fenn, booking in advance is highly recommended as it is very popular, but you can also come for a drink and bar menu (without reservations). Great service. They serve alcohol.

**Café 16** (15 minutes from our riad, in the new town direction) –

Place du 16 Novembre, Gueliz. Tel: 00212 524 33 96 70

<https://www.16cafe.com/>

This café is situated in one of the most popular areas of the new town. It serves snacks and coffees, and the best desserts you will have in Marrakech. Its handmade ice creams are worth having too!

Other recommended restaurants accessible by car:

**The Amal Moroccan Restaurant-**

Rue Allal Ben Ahmed et Rue Ibn Sina, Guéliz. Tel: 00212 524 446896

<https://amalrestaurant.wordpress.com>

Lunch only from 12-4pm.

Dinner by special appointment for a minimum of 10 guests.

This is a non-profit association that trains disadvantaged women in restaurant skills. Their food is fresh and well priced. They also offer cooking classes.

Booking is advised, especially on Fridays.

**Le Comptoir Darna.**

Avenue Echouhada, Hivernage (around 25 minutes walk or 5 minutes by taxi - 30 Dhr) Tel: 00212 524 437 702

[www.comptoirdarna.com](http://www.comptoirdarna.com)

Le Comptoir is a legend in Marrakech, but not necessarily for the food (which is also very good). The decoration of this restaurant is amazing and the mind tends to wander from the food to the floor around 10.30pm, when lithe belly dancers descend the big staircase to cavort around the tables for around 30 minutes. Alcoholic drinks are served here.

### **Grand Café de la Poste**

On the corner of boulevard el-Mansour Eddahbi and avenue Imam Malik, Marrakech (25 minutes walk from our riad) -

00 212 524 433 038; [www.grandcafedelaposte.com](http://www.grandcafedelaposte.com).

The décor of the Grand Café, dating from the 1920s, is reminiscent of colonial Morocco. The atmosphere and food are excellent, but the service, not always. They serve alcohol and they sometimes have a jazz band.

### **Le Fondouk –**

55 Souk Hal Fassi, Kat Bennaïd. Tel: 00212 524 378 190 [www.foundouk.com](http://www.foundouk.com)

This is one of the chicest restaurants, with a dark, moody decor that invites you to lounge on cushions pondering the relative merits of a *croquant de chocolat noir*, *coulis de fraises* or glaces de pistache. The food is Moroccan with excursions into French and Italian cuisine.

## **DRINKS**

- Riad El Fenn - Rooftop Bar (<https://el-fenn.com/>)
- Kabana - Rooftop (<https://www.kabana-marrakech.com/>)
- La Pergola - Rooftop jazz bar (<https://www.riad-monceau.com/en/la-pergola/>)
- The Piano Bar of Maison Arabe (<https://www.cenizaro.com/lamaisonarabe/marrakech/dining/piano-bar>)
- The Piano Bar of Les Jardins de la Koutoubia (<http://www.lesjardinsdelakoutoubia.com/>)
- The cocktail bar of Radisson Blu (live music every night) - In the New town - at Carre Eden
- The Nuphar bar at the Naoura Barriere hotel (<https://www.hotelsbarriere.com/fr/marrakech/le-naoura/restaurants-et-bars/nuphar-bar.html>)



## POOL CLUBS

(prices change often so please confirm before you go - Book in advance)

### **Naoura Barrere (Super close to us, an urban hotel with pool)**

Extremely handy for our Riad Mur Akush, this is a very nice hotel with a beautiful pool, only 5 minutes walk from us. The pool day access costs 700 Dhr (not including lunch) - 900 Dhr with lunch.

### **Palais Khum <https://palaiskhum.morocco-ma.website/en/>**

This is a great option for an urban pool day near our riad. They have a lovely coffee shop as well and only 7 minutes from us.

### **The Bakkal Farm <https://bakkal.farm/>**

This is a beautiful organic farm around 35 minutes drive from Marrakech, with a peaceful pool that offers a delicious organic lunch and pool use - 350 Dhr per person.

### **The Park of Olives - <https://leparcdesoliviers.business.site/>**

Around 20 minutes drive from Marrakech is this large park with lots of activities, including a pool. A pool day pass is 300 Dhr per person.

### **Manzil la Tortue - <http://www.manzil-la-tortue.com/>**

This is a great place, a little outside Marrakech. They also serve cocktails. A pool day pass is 300 Dhr per person (including a 2 course lunch).

### **The Inara camp in the Agafay Desert -**

**<https://www.inaracamp.com/smart-deals-and-packages/>**

They offer a day pool pass including lunch for 650 Dhr. This is a very special location, only 45 minutes from Marrakech.

### **Beldi Country Club (<http://beldicountryclub.com/>)**

Some 6 km out of the city the Beldi combines natural olive grove and rose gardens with traditional rural design, a beautiful pool where lunch is served and an enticing spa and hammam. Their day pass costs 400 Dhr and includes access to the pool and a 2 course lunch.

### **Palais Namaskar (<https://www.palaisnamaskar.com/>)**

Around 15 km out of Marrakech, this is a wonderful place to spend a day but the pool. It offers luxurious surroundings, lush gardens and a selection of pools! Their Pool Day Pass costs 600 Dhr per person and includes the use of the pool, a welcome cocktail on arrival and a 2 course lunch.

### **Jnane Tamsna (<http://www.jnane.com/jnane-tamsna>)**

This is a wonderful exclusive hotel with amazing gardens, located in the area of Palmeraie only 15-20 minutes drive from Marrakech. They have a great pool that is open to visitors, but please contact them first to confirm your visit. Their service is not always good, so please keep it in mind. They also serve a simple lunch.

### **Nikki Beach-**

#### **<https://rotana.menu/en/palmeraierotanaresort/nikkibeach>**

Out in the Palmeraie some 5 km from the city centre Nikki Beach presents itself as *the* hip place to be. With a resident DJ, 3 pools and a chic designer look, it is great for dancing into the early hours (they promote themselves as a “day party”). Alcoholic drinks are served here. Access to the pool costs 350 Dhr (no lunch is included).



## **OTHER ACTIVITIES**

### **Hot Air Balloon flights**

A wonderful experience that will stay with you forever. The day starts early in the morning around 5am (to make sure that the conditions are perfect) and finishes with breakfast at a berber house. You will be collected by the riad and driven back at around noon.

Cost: 200 Euros per person. (It includes transport, a generous breakfast and certificate)

**Cooking classes:** A great day out, learning the tricks of the trade. Most classes involve a market visit for the ingredients as well as a meal at the end.

1 - Souk cuisine <http://www.soukcuisine.com/> (60 Euros per person, includes a meal)

2 - Maison Arabe <http://www.lamaisonarabe.com/> (600 Dhr/ 55 Euros per person depending on numbers, includes a meal)

3 - L'atelier Faim d'Epices <http://faimdepices.com/> (550 dHR/ 55 Euros per person). They are based a little outside Marrakech but they collect you from your riad. This is a full day event (from 9am-5pm).

4 – The Amal Restaurant <http://amalnonprofit.org/cooking-baking-classes/>

They offer cooking classes from 9am-1.30pm and baking classes from 2pm-4pm. Booking in advance is required. The cost for each class is 350 Dhr/ 32 Euros for adults and 200 Dhr/18 Euros for children under 10.

### **Photography session:**

You can book Omar, of [@your\\_marrakech\\_photographer](#) for a half day or 2 hour session to shoot you, your family or group of friends, a special event or as a treat. He is reasonably priced and very pleasant young photographer and this is why we recommend him. Booking well in advance is highly recommended. You can book directly with him, or through us.

### **Food tours:**

We really like <https://marrakechfoodtours.com/> who offer a variety of tours and you can book with them online.

### **Dinner at the Agafay desert:**

This is a popular way to experience the Agafay desert (around 45 minutes from Marrakech), see the sunset and have dinner there.

We use a few different camps and at different budgets, from 400 - 900 Dhr per person (transport is charged separately (transport is charged separately.)

### **A Visit to the Hammam (traditional Moroccan bath/spa)-**

Marrakech spas/hammams seem to have perfected the art of pampering! There is a large number of hammam/spas in Marrakech and some



of the best ones are near us. Booking in advance is highly recommended and we are happy to do this for you before you arrive. The establishments we recommend are:

The Heritage Spa - <http://heritagespamarrakech.com>

A really lovely hammam/spa located only 5 minutes walk from our riad. It has great treatments (including its Heritage romance treatment, for couples) and its service is fantastic. They have recently opened a second spa called Holistica Spa -

Les Bains de Alzahara -

<http://lesbainsdeazahara.net>

This is the nearest hammam to our riad, right at the entrance to our derb. It offers good treatments in nice surroundings.

Hammam de la Rose -

<http://www.hammamdelarose.com>

This is another very nice hammam, only 8 minutes walk from our riad and opposite Dar el Bacha. Very polite and good service.

## WHAT TO DO WITH KIDS:

L'Oliveraie de Marigha – <http://www.oliveraie-de-marigha.com/>

Located in the middle of a large olive grove (an hour out of Marrakech), with a large swimming pool, this is a relaxing place where you can spend a full day, swimming, having lunch or drinks and generally relax in its peaceful space.

Cost for the use of the pool: 150 Dhr adults and 100 Dhr children under 12.

Lunch 170-200 Dhr which includes free entry to the swimming pool.

Open all year around from 10am-11pm.

Terres d'Amanar - [http://www.terresdamanar.com/-](http://www.terresdamanar.com/)

A large adventure park with something for all ages, they have specialised

activities for kids from 4 years old and offer a variety of experiences for adults too. It is 35 km outside Marrakech on the road to Asni. The rates depend on the activities that will be chosen, but it works out at around 300 Dhr per person. We can arrange transport for you if you wish.

### **Oasiria Waterpark** – (<http://www.oasiriamarrakech.com/interne.html>)

This is the biggest and most popular water park in Marrakech with a multitude of activities for adults and children alike. They have a shuttle bus that can drive you there for free, collecting from Jemaa El Fna at the Koutoubia Mosque Car Parking (From April to August: 9:30, 10:15, 11:00, 11:45, 13:30, 14:15, 15:00) . Entry prices vary depending on season, age and how long you will stay, from 5-18 Euros.

### **Anima Garden** - <https://www.anima-garden.com/experience/>

This is the garden created by artist Andre Heller and is located around 30 kilometers out of Marrakech. They offer a free shuttle service from Marrakech but must book in advance on-line. A large garden full of surprises for children and adults alike. Entrance fee is 120 Dhr for adults. 60 Dhr for teenagers and free for under 12s.

## **WHAT TO DO WHEN IT RAINS**

Yes, it sometimes rains in Marrakech, especially in the winter months so here are a few ideas of what to do during that time:

- **Stay “in”**. The lounge is a really welcoming place when it rains, borrow a book from our little library and curl up on the sofa - or meet the other guests and play a game of cards or domino. The patio is also a great place to spend some time as we have an electric roof that protects us from the heaviest of rains.
- Visit a hammam**, a great way to spend a few hours being pampered
- Borrow an umbrella from the front desk and brave the markets. Most of the **souks** are covered and you will get great bargains as the shopkeepers will not have so many customers that day.
- Have a **cooking class**.
- Visit one of the large **shopping centers** or supermarkets (we are happy to assist).
- Visit some of the **museums** of Marrakech.

## DAY TRIPS -

**Do not book with another company before you speak with us!**

Private trips with good quality transport. Our rates include the driver and petrol. These prices are for 2 people traveling in the car together (speak to us if you would like the rates for more guests).

**Atlas mountains (village of Imlil)** – Drive time 1.5 hours each way. Visit this authentic Berber village, have lunch in one of its restaurants, maybe go for a short trek. Many interesting photo opportunities on the way and the ability to stop in one of various co-operatives/shops on the way.

Cost for 2 guests: 100 Euros

Extra guests 10 euros each

**Ourika Valley (with the 7 waterfalls)** – Drive time: 1.5 hour each way.

You do not need to visit all 8 waterfalls, but the first 1-2 are easy to get to and you do not need a guide for them. Reaching the higher waterfalls is a bit more physically demanding and you will probably need a guide (will cost around 20 Euros extra for 2-3 hours – you negotiate a price with the guide, locally). Great scenery and photo opportunities on the way.

Cost for 2 guests: 100 Euros

Extra guests 10 euros each

**Ouzoud Waterfalls** - Drive time: 3 hours each way. A lovely trip to one of the most striking waterfalls in Morocco. A network of waterfalls that cascade into one, offering the chance to see it from the bottom and the top through a series of treks, it is surrounded by a fragile ecosystem that is currently under protection from local environmental bodies.

Cost for 2 guests: 145 Euros

Extra guests 15 euros each

**Kasbah of Ait Ben Haddou** - Drive time: around 4 hours each way. Visit the world famous Kasbah, protected by UNESCO and featured in many well known movies. This is a long drive but certainly worth it! If you can start early enough and the conditions are good, you may be able to add Telouet in your

itinerary (it adds 2 hours to the day), and see the deserted Palace of Glaoui.

Cost for 2 guests: 180 Euros

Extra guests: 15 euros each

**Essaouira** – Drive time: 3 hours each way. Visit this coastal town and see a different side of Morocco. It has a real sea-side feel to it and great seafood restaurants. The beach is great for walks and you can get camel rides there as well. Ideal for wind-surfing, Essaouira is known as a “wind-city” with some of the best “waves” around!

Cost for 2 guests: 145 Euros

Extra guests, 15 euros each

An add-on to your Essaouira trip can be arranged, if you would like to visit and have lunch in the Val D’Argan vineyard. <https://www.valdargan.com/>

They offer a quick tour of the winery and give you the option of lunch with their selection of wines (NO vegetarian options). An interesting stop over on the way to Essaouira, please check the reviews and their website to see if this is for you.

Other transport option for Essaouira is to go by bus – no return tickets available but you can get them on arrival from the Essaouira bus station – :

Marrakech to Essaouira daily: 7.45, 9.00, 10.45, 14.45, 16.45, 19.00

Essaouira to Marrakech daily: 9.15, 11.15, 14.15, 17.00, 18.15

## LONGER TRIPS

Morocco desert trips – 2 nights/3 days (sample itinerary):

Day 1 - Depart Marrakech, cross the **Tizi-n-Tichka** pass and head towards the famous **Kasbah of Ait Benhaddou** and **Ouarzazate**. The day finishes in the **Dades Valley** where you stay overnight in a well chosen hotel (dinner included).

Day 2 – Continue the trip to the **Dades Gorge**, the **Todra Gorge** and reach **Merzouga**, where you get introduced to the camels that will take you to the Nomad Desert camp in **Erg Chebbi** (this is a 2 hour ride – if you prefer to take a 4x4 car instead, this can be arranged at a small extra cost, locally). You will be welcomed by the Nomads, have dinner under the stars and be entertained by the drums.

Day 3 – Leaving just before sunrise, you will ride the camels back to **Merzouga** where you start your return journey over the Atlas mountains. You will reach Marrakech in the evening (dinner not included).

The cost of this trip depends on the number of people in the car, but an example of the cost is below (price includes the car, driver, petrol, accommodation, breakfast and dinner (no lunch or drinks are included in this price). These rates are for medium season and are an indication only.

Cost for 2 guests: 1070 Euros (with the luxury camp option)

Cost for 4 guests: 1520 Euros (with the luxury camp option).

We are happy to organise any trip you have in mind so feel free to talk to us about what other options there are. Mohamed, the riad manager, has been a country guide for over 30 years now and he has vast experience and knowledge of all corners of Morocco, with the contacts to go, ensuring that we can offer you great value trips of the best possible quality.



## **Review Riad Mur Akush**

**Have you heard of the saying:**

***'If you are satisfied, tell others and  
if you are not, tell us'***

We want to make sure that you have an excellent 5 star stay in Riad Mur Akush.

So if anything is not as you would expect or how you want, please tell us.

We normally take action very quickly so if something is bothering you (from pillows to light bulbs), please let us know and we will do our best to address any issue.



We aim to offer you a wonderful experience, so if you had a great stay with us, please tell the world and leave a review for us in [www.tripadvisor.co.uk](http://www.tripadvisor.co.uk) or Google, or any other review sites that you use.

As we are a very small independent business, we rely on your reviews extensively, so it will be much appreciated.

Have a wonderful stay in the magical city of Marrakech!