

# RABAT

Rabat, the capital of Morocco, is the second largest city in Morocco after Casablanca and is the centre of government. Located on the edge of the Atlantic Ocean, the most important sights here are the Royal Palace, Mohamed V Mausoleum, the Hassan Tower, the old Medina, the Kasba Oudaya and its gardens, the Mechouar (Royal Palace precinct) and the outside of the Chellah (the Roman name is "Sala Colonia"). The Royal stables also merit a visit.

A licensed guide is recommended in Rabat.



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## VOLUBILIS AND MEKNES

From Fes, take a full day excursion to the ancient Roman ruins of Volubilis sprawled over a wildflower-dotted hillside. Excavated by the French in 1915, these Roman ruins date back to the 3rd century AD and should not to be missed.

Then drive to the Imperial city of Meknes known as the "Moroccan Versailles" and founded in the 17th century by King Moulay Ismail. Meknes is famous for its 25-milelong walls. There are numerous historic sites to see and here we name but a few; The massive gate of Bab Mansour, The Bassin de L'Agdal a massive 400m x 100m pool dating back some 300 years. The Mausoleum of Moulay Ismail is one of only three Moroccan shrines that non-Muslims can visit.

The Bou Inania Medersa, an Islamic educational institution, was built by Merenid Sultan Abu el Hassan and finished by his successor Sultant Abou Inan around 1340 - 1350. This is the Meknes version of the educational institution by the same name in Fez, more beautiful and better preserved than its more famous twin. Meknes is also the wine centre of Morocco with vineyards covering thousands of acres. The wines produced in the region are excellent. We can arrange a tour of a winery wit a tasting. A licensed guide in Meknes is recommended.

