



DISCOVER
OUARZAZATE



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المجلس الإقليمي للسياحة بورزازات

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خریطة سیاحیة ورازات / TOURIST MAP OUARZAZATE

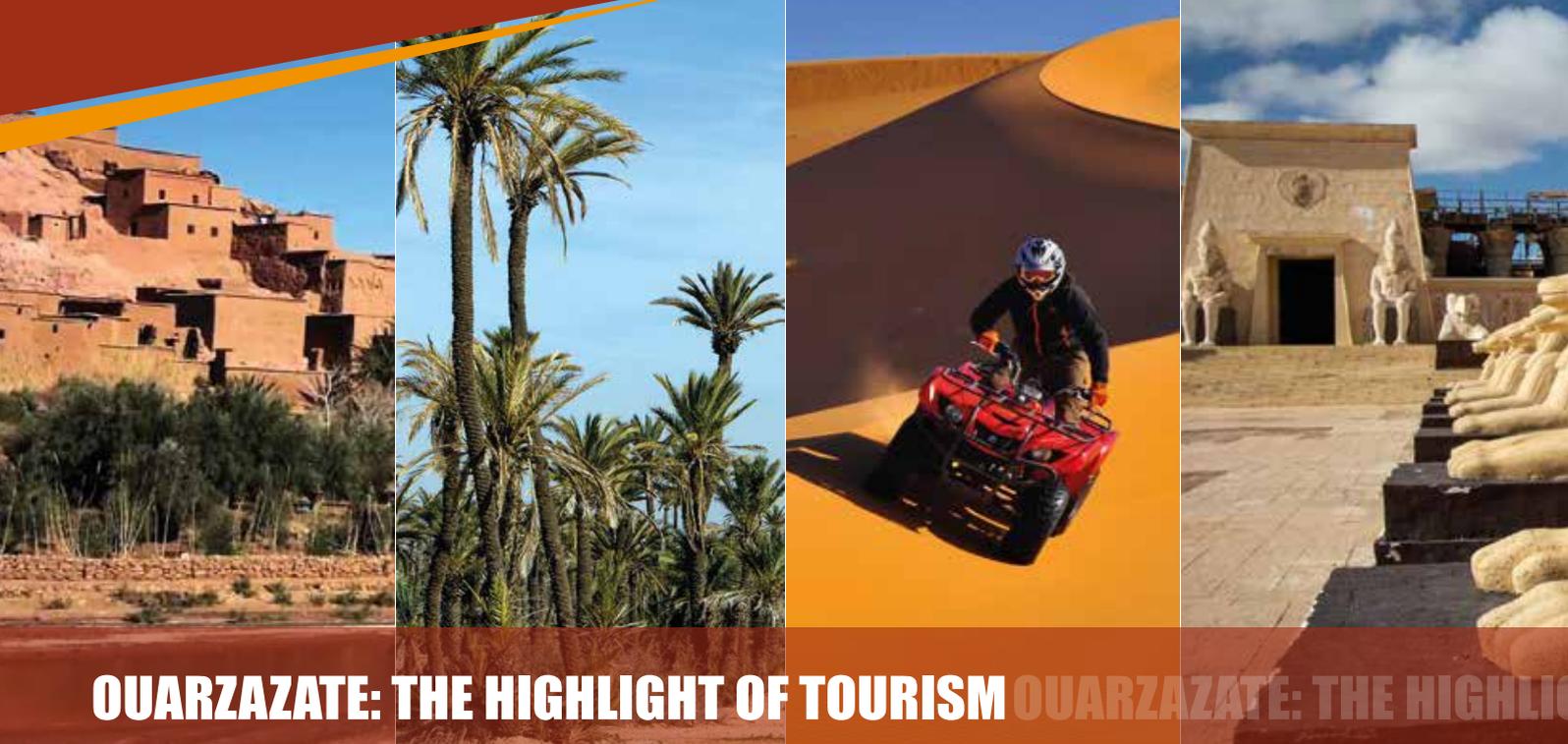


خریطة سیاحیة لإقليم ورازات / TOURIST MAP OUARZAZATE REGION



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 - Hunt / صید
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 - Cities and Villages / مدن وقری
 - Tourist Information / معلومات سیاحیة
 - Tourism Delegation / وفد السیاحة

- (C.R.I) CENTRE REGIONAL D'INVESTISSEMENT
- (I.H) INSTITUT HÔTELIER
- (M.J) MAISON DES JEUNES
- (H.S) HORIZON SOCIALE
- (C.C.S) COMPLEXE CULTUREL ET SPORTIF
- (C.C.I) CHAMBRE DE COMMERCE ET D'INDUSTRIE
- (C.A) CHAMBRE D'ARTISANAT
- (C.A.G) CHAMBRE D'AGRICULTURE
- (F7) LA POSTE
- (HÔPITAL) HÔPITAL
- (CROISSANT ROUGE) CROISSANT ROUGE
- (MOSQUÉE) MOSQUÉE
- (PROTECTION CIVILE) PROTECTION CIVILE
- (SÛRETÉ NATIONALE) SÛRETÉ NATIONALE
- (GENDARMERIE ROYALE) GENDARMERIE ROYALE
- (KASBAH) KASBAH
- (P) PALAIS DES CONGRÈS
- (VUE PANORAMIQUE) VUE PANORAMIQUE
- (STATION SERVICE) STATION SERVICE
- (ÉGLISE) ÉGLISE



OUARZAZATE: THE HIGHLIGHT OF TOURISM

A CITY OF ALL COLOURS

At the treshold of the great south rises the majestic Ouarzazate, a striking blend of oases, kasbahs, mountains and flourishing valleys.

Thanks to its kasbahs and adobe ksours, its green oases and lunar landscapes, its natural scenery of dream, Ouarzazate has become an ideal, exotic tourist destination, for a peaceful, generous and hospitable stay.

The kasbahs, old built of rammed earth with their large towers, transport travellers to a world where time seems to have stopped. The surrounding oases and mountains are full of wonders.

At the gates of southern Morocco, at the crossroads between the valleys of Ounila, Draâ, Dades and Ziz, Ouarzazate was a commercial crossroads for caravans travelling to Fez or Marrakesh from sub-Saharan Africa.

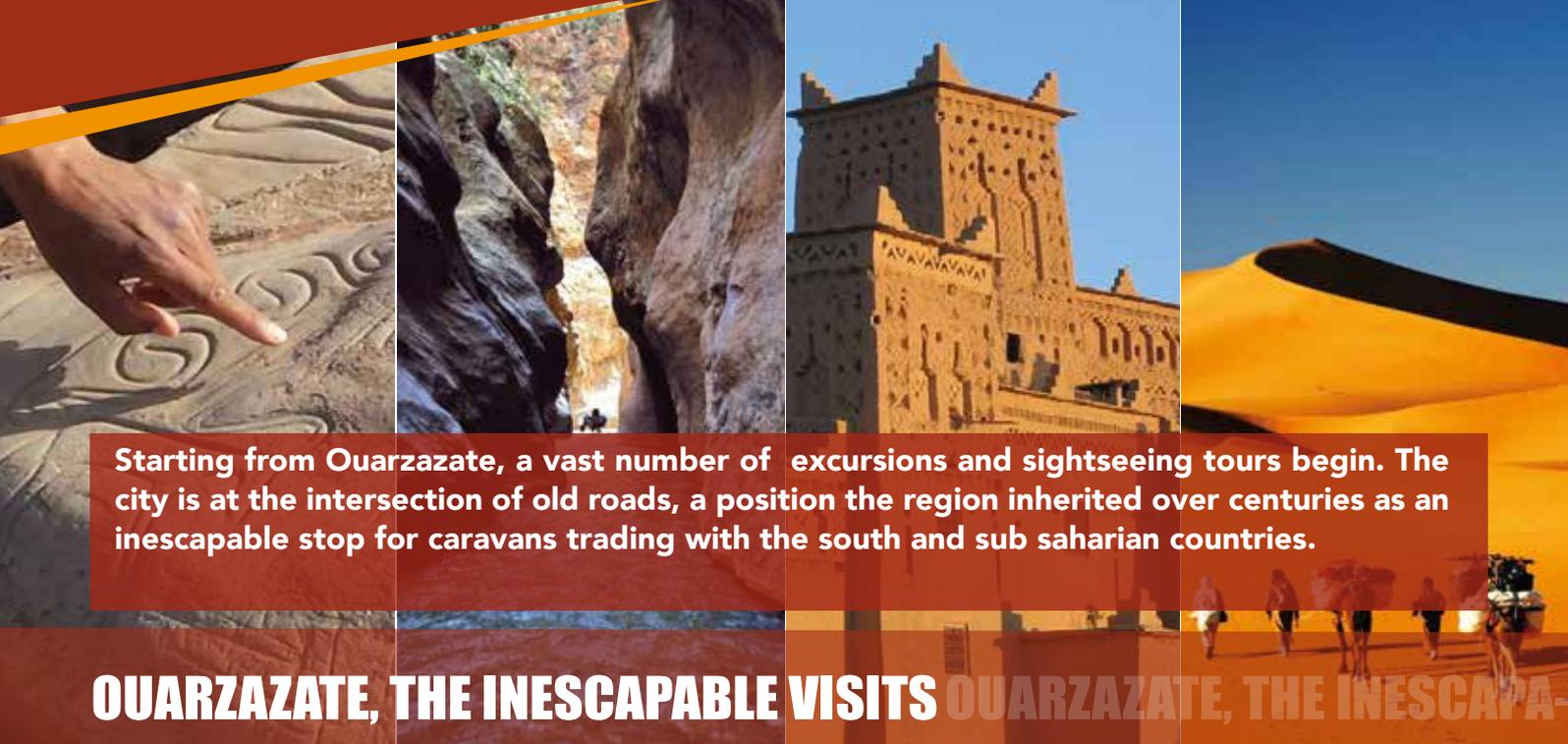
Today, this beautiful region attracts tourists from all over the world, making Ouarzazate, their starting point for the conquest of the great south.

The city and its hinterland attract many visitors: film makers, tourists, writers and painters eager for adventure, seeking serenity and calm during their peaceful trips to the region.

At the geographical level, the region is characterized by desert landscapes, the prevalence of dry streams (wadis), stony plains (regs), Saharian plateaus (hamada) and spectacular sand dunes (ergs).

Ouarzazate is endowed with important tourist infrastructure: luxury hotels, guest houses, inns, stage gites, bivouacs, restaurants, travel agencies, tourist transport or car rental, a convention centre and an international airport.

Ouarzazate is also home to numerous events and festivals and, furthermore, the point of passage of numerous rallies, marathons and hiking.



Starting from Ouarzazate, a vast number of excursions and sightseeing tours begin. The city is at the intersection of old roads, a position the region inherited over centuries as an inescapable stop for caravans trading with the south and sub saharian countries.

OUARZAZATE, THE INESCAPABLE VISITS

THE INESCAPABLE KASBAHS: The most beautiful adobe kasbahs are set in the valleys of Ounila, Draa and Dades. Fortified mansions of the lords, established most often on rocky summits or on the edge of cliffs. The main kasbahs and the best known are Telouet 77 kilometers from Ouarzazate, Ait Benhaddou, listed as a UNESCO World Heritage Site (30 kilometers), Tifoutout (6 kilometers), Taourirt (downtown) and Amridil in the palm grove of Skoura (40 kilometers).

OASES AND PALM GROVES: The oasis is originally a plant formation associated with date palms, emerging in the middle of an arid landscape or at the foot of a desert mountain. In the palm groves of Skoura, Fint and Ighels, fruits and vegetables are cultivated, alongside with aromatic plants and pink laurels on the banks of the wadi. Tinghir oases is certainly one of the most beautiful in Morocco, with its beautiful palm and olive trees and wheat fields .

VALLEYS: Ounila, Todra, Dades, Draa, Toundout and Tassaout, M'goun valleys contain some secrets: ochre villages melting in a multicoloured mountains scenery, terraced orchards, troglodytic ksours and abandoned kasbahs. An incomparable concentrate of beauty in the south of Morocco.

HIKING IN THE ATLAS MOUNTAINS is one of the best trekking activities in the world. Ouarzazate and region offer an amazing scenery constituted of three amazing views: the Massif of M'goun, Sirwa and Djebel Saghro.

M'goun mountain is the second summit of the Kingdom (4,071 meters) after Toubkal (4,165 meters), easy to reach from Ouarzazate. Tabant (Azilal) is also the starting point to walk over M'goun allowing the Great Crossing of the central High Atlas. Visitors are

hikers or simply visitors, willing to see the mountains and their famous Berber villages or enjoy moments of peace.

Sirwa mountain is easily accessible from Taliouine or Taznakhte, while Djebel Saghro should be approached by N'Kob or Iknioun which form a transition access to the High Atlas.

THE GORGES: The Gorges of Dades form a huge limestone block cut with a stroke of sword. Kasbahs embrace the purple, red, fawn colours of rocks. The road crossing Dades, winds its way up in hairpins over a dizzying canyon, enters the private domain of birds and sheep.

The Gorges of Todra, 15 kilometers from Tinghir, are formed by 2 spectacular cliffs 300 meters high, separated by a narrow corridor of about twenty meters. Gorges of M'goun: river waters have cut M'goun mountain in folds, forming a deep gorge with orange ochre peaks. The pink laurel lines the banks and the water flows slowly from the tops.

Sidi Flah Gorges, located in the Municipality of Skoura.

ROCK ENGRAVINGS: The Draa valley is distinguished by its many areas of painted and engraved rock art. Of the 300 Moroccan rock sites, Draa contains more than thirty pieces, scattered throughout the county, and more precisely in the areas of Tazarine, Tinzouline, Tamgroute, Mirde and Tagounite.

DUNES: The dunes of Tinfou in Zagora culminate at 120 meters over an area of 4 hectares. At the gateway to the desert, the dunes of Chegaga in M'hamid and Merzouga, form a magnificent sea of sand. They rise to 300 meters. Their gold colour gives them an attractive appearance.



Throughout the year, the region is lively animated with recurrent varied festivals and many sport events.

EVENTS AT OUARZAZATE

NATIONAL ARTS FESTIVAL OF AHWACH:

Organized every year under the High Patronage of His Majesty King Mohammed VI, this festival is celebrated by the best troops of Ahwach in the historical kasbah of Taourirt. In 2019, more than 700 artists had presented their performance. This dance, which is part of the intangible cultural heritage, contributes to the touristic promotion of Ouarzazate destination.

MARATHON DES SABLES (MARATHON OF SANDS):

This international event takes place every year between late March and early April. More than 1,000 participants from all over the world travel about 240 km of dunes, stony plateaus, trails, wadis, palm groves and mountains.

KELAAT M'GOUNA FESTIVAL OF ROSES :

In the valley of Dades, at the end of the roses harvest, the small town of Kelaat M'gouna becomes the theatre of a hymn to the rose : 3 days of music, traditional dances, parades and exhilarating scents. A festival, or rather a Moussem, that takes place annually, during the rose picking period, at the end of the first week of May.

CARPET FESTIVAL IN TAZNAKHT:

Each year, the city of Taznakht hosts the Carpet Festival for 8 days. The event aims to highlight the values of local crafts.

THE ANNUAL HILOULA OF RABBI DAVID OUMOUCHE:

Born under the name of Rabbi David Ben Moshe, Alias Rabbi David or Moshe for the Jews of Morocco, this righteous (tsaddik) is renowned for his immense knowledge. Every year, thousands of pilgrims from different parts of the world celebrate his memory, especially on the first day of the Hebrew

month «heshvan». From the village of Agouim, a small road of 5 to 6 kilometers leads to the Saint sepulchre, at the foot of the village of Timzerit, province of Ouarzazate.

MOROCCO CLASSIC RALLY : THE HEARTED ROAD OF VINTAGE CARS

The Road of the Heart in vintage cars is a Classic Rally that offers, every March, a challenge of choice with twenty specials to be covered during the six stages of the race through Ouarzazate generally . This Rally is perfectly accessible to new drivers and beginners who want to try this challenge in an old car.

ECO TRAIL MOROCCO:

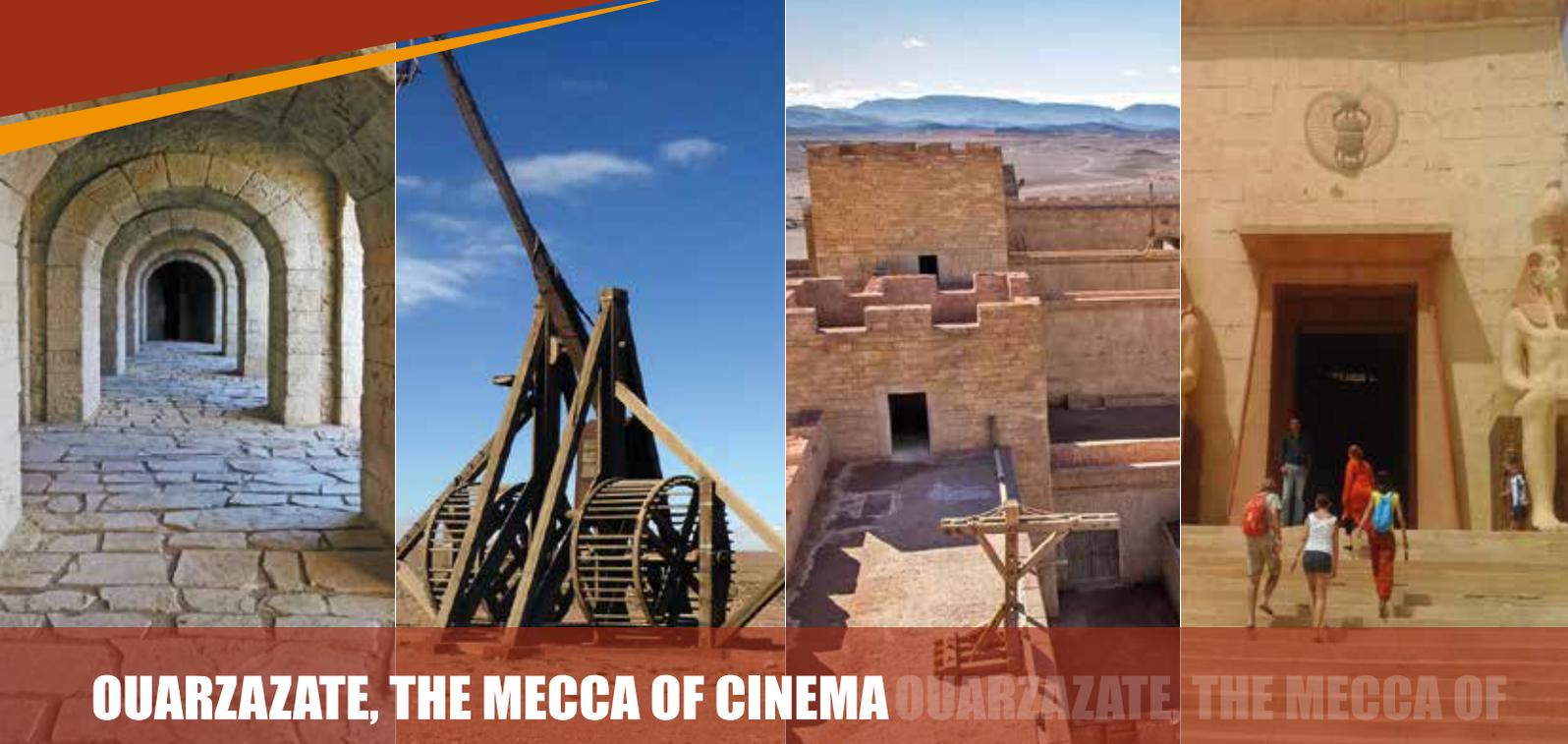
Ouarzazate also attracts athletes who are looking for challenges. Here they will find the opportunity to compete in the annual edition of the Eco Trail Morocco. It is a race that takes place in the middle of nature. Over a distance of 70 kilometers in three stages, with a second stage of a total distance of about 30 kilometers set over three stages.

MOUSSEM OF SIDI DAUD:

Sidi Daoud's moussem takes place during the month of August. It is a religious feast to honor a saint or a marabout. In the district of Sidi Daoud, near the medina, this moussem combines pilgrimage, artisanal crafts souk (market) and singing.

DAYS AND PLACES OF TRADITIONAL MARKETS (SOUK)

- Monday : Skoura
- Thursday : Telouate et Taznakhte
- Saturday : Tarmigt
- Sunday : Ouarzazate



OUARZAZATE, THE MECCA OF CINEMA

Ouarzazate region started to draw the attention of film makers and directors since the early 50's. The diversity of its landscapes, its different ethnic groups living here, its exceptional light, the secure conditions of work and local skilled labour, make of it a favourite shooting destination for world's greatest filmmakers.

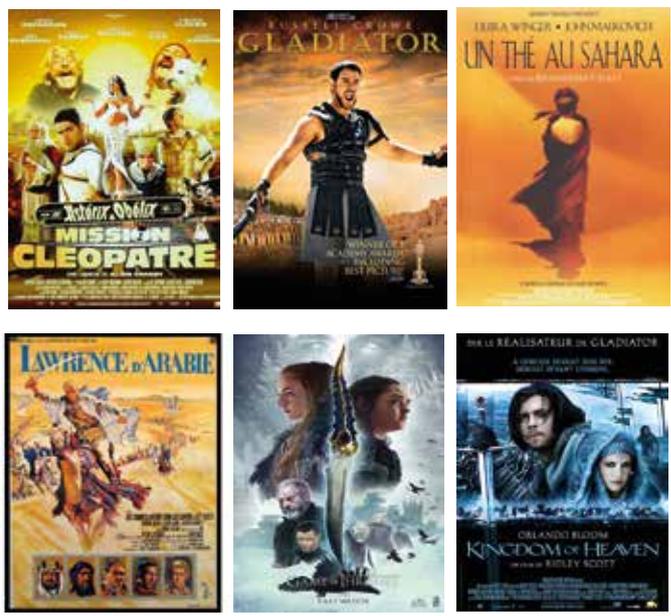
With its magnificent landscapes, exceptional light and ideal climatic conditions, Ouarzazate seduced the world of cinema very early.

Ouarzazate is the Hollywood of Morocco. It has several film studios, including the Atlas Corporation Studio created in 1983 and the Kanzaman Studios. Open to the public, they offer a grandiose spectacle: gigantic pharaohs keep their doors. You can admire sensational film sets, decoration workshops and discover the inside of the film industry.

Louis Lumière shot his "Moroccan knight" there, in 1897. In 1954, it was the turn of "Ali Baba and the 40 thieves" a film by Jacques Becker, with Fernandel.

The famous "Lawrence of Arabia" directed by David Lean in 1962 took over, and from the 80's, the film industry, with the big blockbusters, arrived with great fanfare.

- SOME GREAT BLOCKBUSTERS DIRECTED IN OUARZAZATE STUDIOS :**
- "Lawrence of Arabia" by David Lean
 - "Kundun" by Martin Scorsese,
 - "Jewel of the Nile" by Lewis Teague,
 - "Tea in the Sahara" by Bertolucci,
 - "Gladiator" by Ridley Scott
 - "Kingdom of Heaven" by Ridley Scott,
 - "Asterix and Obelix" by Alain Chabat
 - "Game of Thrones" TV serial ...





EVENTS IN OUARZAZATE AND SURROUNDINGS

Ouarzazate offers many opportunities to go for a ride: on a 4 by 4 wheels , mountain bike, trekking, back camel, quads or simply on foot. The city is also the starting point for many excursions in the surroundings to discover the Moroccan south and its hidden treasures.

Ouarzazate and its hinterland offer a wide range of sport activities including hikes: walking tours of kasbahs, animated lunches in oases, mule or camel rides in the palm grove, quad races, cinema studios, etc... It is even possible to spend the night in a bivouac under equipped Berber tents. An experience that will give you the impression of having a celestial vault at your fingertips and of being able to enjoy a magical sunset or pick the first rays of dawn.

The region is the favourite place to enjoy trekking. The sites are numerous and varied, and all of a rare beauty. Hiking, horse-riding, camel-riding and meandering in the desert or in the Atlas are an enchantment.

From the highlands to the deep valleys of the Central Atlas, you will experience unforgettable mountain biking moments.

In quad, kart, buggy, motorcycle or 4 by 4 wheels, you can go to the discovery of exceptional sites: mountains, desert, valleys, oasis, reg, erg and hidden treasures, etc...

CRAFTS & LOCAL PRODUCTS

- Ait Ouaouzguit's rug is recognized for the quality of its wool, the brilliance of its colours and its small size. The carpet is a rather Berber tradition and more precisely in the Upper and Middle Atlas, where it reached the heights of its reputation (under the name of tazarbit). An important place for craftsmanship and carpet production in particular, Aït Ouaouzguit is composed of several production points: Tamassin, Aït Semgane, Aït Ougharda, Taznakht, Aït Douchen, Znaga and Sektana as bordering points. There are several cooperatives in the region.

- Pottery: several pottery villages (Skoura, Idelsane Tamgroute) produce rustic pottery of great beauty. It is usually made of terracotta in old ovens, which make it different from other cities pottery productions in Morocco. The decorative motifs are often those of henna over female hands: dishes, jars, large jugs.

- Goldsmithery is also renowned in major ceremonies and moussems, where Berber women, dressed in their most beautiful traditional costumes, wear with pride the beautiful Berber jewellery works : fibulas, silver bracelets, amber necklaces...

- The people of Kelaât M'gouna make dagger handles and sheaths out of cedar wood or camel bone, a tradition passed on by their ancestors.

Local products specific to the region are saffron, almond, walnuts, Dades rose, henna, thyme, sage, yellow bee honey and capers ...



PRACTICAL INFORMATION

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- Province of Ouarzazate 00212 (0) 5 24 88 22 18
- Provincial Council of Ouarzazate 00212 (0) 5 24 88 73 62
- Territorial Municipality of Ouarzazate 00212 (0) 5 24 88 24 30
- Ouarzazate Provincial Council of Tourism 00212 (0) 5 24 88 23 66
- Provincial Delegation of Tourism 00212 (0) 5 24 88 24 85
- Provincial Delegation of Culture 00212 (0) 5 24 88 29 73
- Investment Regional Center (Centre Régional d'Investissement) 00212 (0) 5 24 88 86 53

- International Airport 00212 (0) 5 24 88 23 83
- Royal Air Maroc 00212 (0) 5 24 89 91 50
- Ouarzazate Bus station 00212 (0) 5 24 89 07 92
- Ouarzazate CTM 00212 (0) 5 24 88 24 27

- French consulate 00212 (0) 5 24 38 82 00

- Emergencies 00212 (0) 5 24 88 21 22
- Hospital 00212 (0) 5 24 88 21 22
- Police department 00212 (0) 5 24 88 20 44
- Royal Gendarmerie 00212 (0) 5 24 88 26 16
- Firemen 00212 (0) 5 24 88 21 15

More information are available on :

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