





# Rabat



- 5 Editorial
- 6 Rabat in history

- 24 The region

8 Rabat, a majestic beauty 12 Rabat, a capital city with its face to the future 16 Rbati craftwork - excellence and sophistication 18 Rabat, cultural capital 20 Things to do in the city 22 Salé, the twin sister 26 Information and useful addresses



# Editorial



Rabat, a city with its face turned resolutely seawards

# Rabat, city of elegance

medina in discovery of its mysterious past.

Whether you're coming to the city as a tourist, on business or to live, you will find Rabat and its region a perfect setting for discovery, shopping and relaxation. Rabat, in all its elegance, guarantees visitors a royal welcome.



Rabat, capital of the Kingdom, is more than worth your attention - a city where tranquillity and discretion go hand in hand with sophistication and the art of good living. A resolutely modern town that has nonetheless preserved all its authenticity, its historical heart combines elegantly with its modernity. It stands proudly at the mouth of the River Bouregreg, its colourful yachting harbour a delight to the eye, its ochre-hued walls surrounded by brilliant green nettle trees with the cries of the seagulls as a background.

A beautiful city justifiably proud of its heritage, Rabat lives and breathes among wide boulevards and luxuriant parks. It is the country's political and administrative centre and its seat of government, containing the royal palace and the embassies to the Kingdom, and the many fine edifices that adorn it bear magnificent witness to a history reaching back into Antiquity. It is also the cultural capital, with a plethora of museums and exhibitions, and acting as host to major international festivals that draw a wide audience.

On the other side, on the right bank of the river, its twin sister Salé has preserved the memory of the corsairs of bygone days, leading you off into the maze of its

### Rabat in history



Minaret of the Chellah mosque overlooking the mouth of the river

### Historical landmarks

The earliest traces of humanity in Rabat date back to the 8th century BC, on the present-day site of the Chellah. It was the Romans who gave the name to the place, a deformation of the Latin word "Sala" meaning "castle". They set up a river port there, which disappeared with the fall of the Roman Empire.

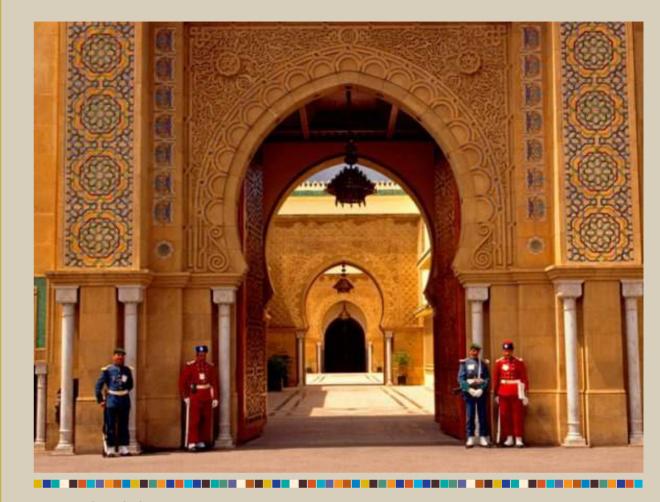
Berber tribes settled there, on lower ground on either side of the Bouregreg. In the 10th century, soldier-monks built a "ribat" (fortified monastery) on top of a thirtymetre cliff on the right bank of the river, an edifice that was later to give the city its name and from which Abd al-Moumen, founder of the Almohad dynasty (Berber tribes from the High Atlas who had been converted to Islam) led his holy war.

In 1150, he helped with the fortification of the kasbah, turning it into a fortress that played a major role in the conquest of Andalusia and in controlling the rest of the Maghreb. This edifice, the present Oudaya Kasbah, was named "Ribat al Fath" (Camp of Victory) in commemoration of the Almohad conquests.

In the late 12th century, the powerful Almohad sovereign Yacoub El Mansour built the. Hassan Tower in the image of the Koutoubia in Marrakech and the Giralda in Seville, and fortified the kasbah, surrounding it with two towering walls entered through five gateways.



View over the Oudaya Kasbah



Entrance to the royal palace



The pillar in Avenue de la Victoire, bearing the inscription "Sois le bienvenue au voyageur" ("Welcome, traveller")

Yacoub El Mansour died before he finished his work, and the city lost something of its allure. The world's largest mosque, the Hassan Tower, was never to be completed. The end of the Almohad dynasty hastened the city's decline.

as their capital in the 13th century, they did not lose their interest in Rabat, building the Chellah Necropolis outside its walls. In the years that followed, Rabat was gradually to become a city of pirates.

6

Although the Merinids chose Fez

It was not until the coming of the Alaouite dynasty that the city regained its former glory. The Royal Palace, Daral-Mahkzen, was built there in 1864 and is still the place where all the Kingdom's foreign guests are received as well as being the seat of government, where over two thousand people live and work.

In 1912, Sultan Moulay Youssef left Fez in favour of Rabat, making it Morocco's administrative capital. Rabat has since become the country's second largest urban area, the seat of government and of parliament.

### Rabat, a majestic beauty



Rabat, a stork's paradise

Rabat has taken care to expand and develop harmoniously. Architectural rigour is apparent everywhere - wide treeand flower-lined boulevards, building rarely more than five storeys high, and administrative and residential districts where tranquillity reigns supreme. The "city of flowers", as Marshal Lyautey liked to call it, is also an authentic Moroccan city, the very opposite of a capital without a soul. If you need convincing, just make your way through the little streets of its medina and the major roads through the new town.

The wall that surrounds the old town is entered through 5 monumental stone gateways (Bab el Alou, Bab el Had, Bab Essoufara, Bab er-Rouah and Bab Zaërs). The largest of these Almohad creations is Bab er-Rouah, its monumental sculpted stone facade standing between two projecting towers. Its inner rooms have been res-

tored and now serve as an exhibition gallery. It was here, in 1960, that the first collective exhibition by Moroccan painters was held, testimony to the burgeoning of artistic creation in the field of modern painting. 200 metres further on, the Ambassadors' Gate (Bab Essoufara) gives access to the mechouar, a vast square where the major celebrations in honour of the King take place and where the royal palace also stands

### The Chellah: Sala Colonia

The Chellah is located about 2 km from the city centre and is made up of the necropolis itself and the ancient city of Sala. The ruins, with their omnipresent birdlife, nesting storks and wild vegetation, must be one of Rabat's most arresting features. Protected by an imposing surrounding wall and accessed through a monumental gateway, the necropolis is an oasis of tranquillity, a peaceful flower-



Changing of the Royal Guard



Mohammed V Mausoleum esplanade



filled garden containing an ablutions room, a zaouia with an oratory, the zellijadorned Merinid minaret, and a series of burial rooms.

The Hassan Tower The remains of the Hassan Tower bear witness to the size of what was to have been one of the largest places of worship anywhere in the Muslim world. Its construction was abandoned upon the death of its founder in 1199, and the Lisbon earthquake in 1755 caused further damage. The mosque comprised a great courtyard laid out over deep, restored cisterns and reaching to the foot of the minaret, and an immense hvpostyle room whose 312 columns and 42 marble pillars were arranged to form

The Hassan Tower

nineteen naves, not counting its lateral porticos. It was on this site that the Mohammed V Mausoleum was built, in fitting tribute to the Nation's liberator.

### The Mohammed V Mausoleum

The design and decoration of the Mohammed V Mausoleum take one's breath away. This masterpiece of traditional Moroccan art, with its painted woodwork, sculpted plasterwork and marble, and chiselled bronze, required all the know-how of the Kingdom's master craftsmen. Mohammed V's tomb is carved from a block of white onvx and stands in the centre of the edifice's lower level. Today, his two sons, the late King Hassan II and Prince Moulay Abdallah, rest in peace alongside him.

### Rabat, a majestic beauty



Architecture from the days of the Protectorate

### The Oudava Kasbah

The Oudava Kasbah is a haven of tranquillity, with its flower-filled little streets, Andalusian garden and Moorish café. The Oudava gateway is built of dressed stone and is regarded as one of the jewels of Almohad art. Most of the remains still to be seen date back to the 12th century, and the kasbah contains Rabat's oldest mosque. Its minaret, adorned with small decorative arcades, is most probably the work of one of the first Alaouite sovereigns. From the ocean side of the old semaphore-station platform at the end of the main street, you can enjoy superb panoramic views over Salé and the Bouregreg Estuary.

In the kasbah's main square, a warehouse built in the late 18th century now accommodates a cooperative where you can watch girls at work weaving carpets.

The Oudaya museum was renovated in 1995 and is housed in a residence built for Moulay Ismail between 1672 and 1694, and in which the sultan stayed during his visits to Rabat.

The museum exhibits rich and varied collections of jewellery, testimony to the extraordinary expertise of Morocco's craftsmen.

### The medina

It takes its name from the Muslims who were chased out of Spain in 1609-1610. Passing through the Andalusian wall, vou find vourself in rue Souiga, between two rows of shops selling traditional craftwork. Rue Souk-es-Sebat is an extension of rue Souiga and is a district of dealers in fine leather goods, fabric sellers and bazaars. Along with these two streets, rue des Consuls is the busiest in the medina. It is lined with craftsmen's

workshops and fabric and carpet-sellers' stalls, and on Thursday mornings, you can witness the Rhati carpet auction. Narrow little alleyways have the habit of opening out on to squares specialising in leather goods, ironware and woven fabrics - markets within the market. In such hidden islets of activity, the craftspeople work according to traditional methods, and the atmosphere is always warm and welcoming.



Avenue Mohammed V



11

Mohammed V Mausoleum fountain



In the rue des Consuls If you want to discover a truly original aspect of the city, rue des Consuls has a fascinating tale to tell. From the 17th century up until 1912, all diplomats and representatives of foreign powers lived in the famous street, putting them just a stone's throw from the slave market at its far end, where they could buy back compatriots who had been taken prisoner by pirates to be sold at auction. It was thus that rue des Consuls rapidly found its vocation as a centre for trade. From the end of the 16th century, the city, under the name of Salé-le-Neuf, included Rabat and excelled at its main activity - piracy. Its corsairs were notorious throughout Europe and held ruthless sway over the Atlantic waves as far as Cornwall, boarding and plundering enemy ships wherever they found them. Captured sailors were sold as slaves to wealthy families in the region. Christians were luckier, as they could be brought back by their countries' diplomats, who had a budget available to them for this very purpose. The taking of Christian ships was the main source of Salé's income, and it became Morocco's leading port, keeping on with its pirating activities and continuing to make foreign ships tremble for several centuries.

## Rabat, a capital city with its face to the future



A new town fully equipped with modern infrastructures

### City of the future

A symbol of the Kingdom's renewed vitality, Rabat is a destination of choice thanks to its top-quality tourist infrastructures, conference centres, restaurants, relaxation areas, beaches, sports facilities and nightlife. On the Corniche, you can sit in the shade on one of the many restaurant terraces and enjoy a delicious lunch facing the ocean.

Resolute in its modernity, Rabat is implementing large-scale projects to make city life pleasant and easy. The development of the mouth of the River Bouregreg is a case in point and will result in the appearance of new tourist and residential districts, with creation of further entertainment, relaxation and shopping facilities. The river itself is a major player in the city's life, providing a whole new range of leisure activities – cruises, restaurants, and excursions along its banks, not to mention its top-of-the-line yachting harbour for sailing enthusiasts.

To make travelling around the city easier, construction of two tramway lines with a total length of 22 km is underway, and new road infrastructures have been launched, including the new Rabat-Salé bridge, the tunnel, and the bypass. The Kingdom's capital will soon be boasting modern zoological gardens meeting all international standards. Apart from its major mission of conservation of endangered species, the zoo will be a centre for recreation and leisure activities.





The Bou Regreg marina



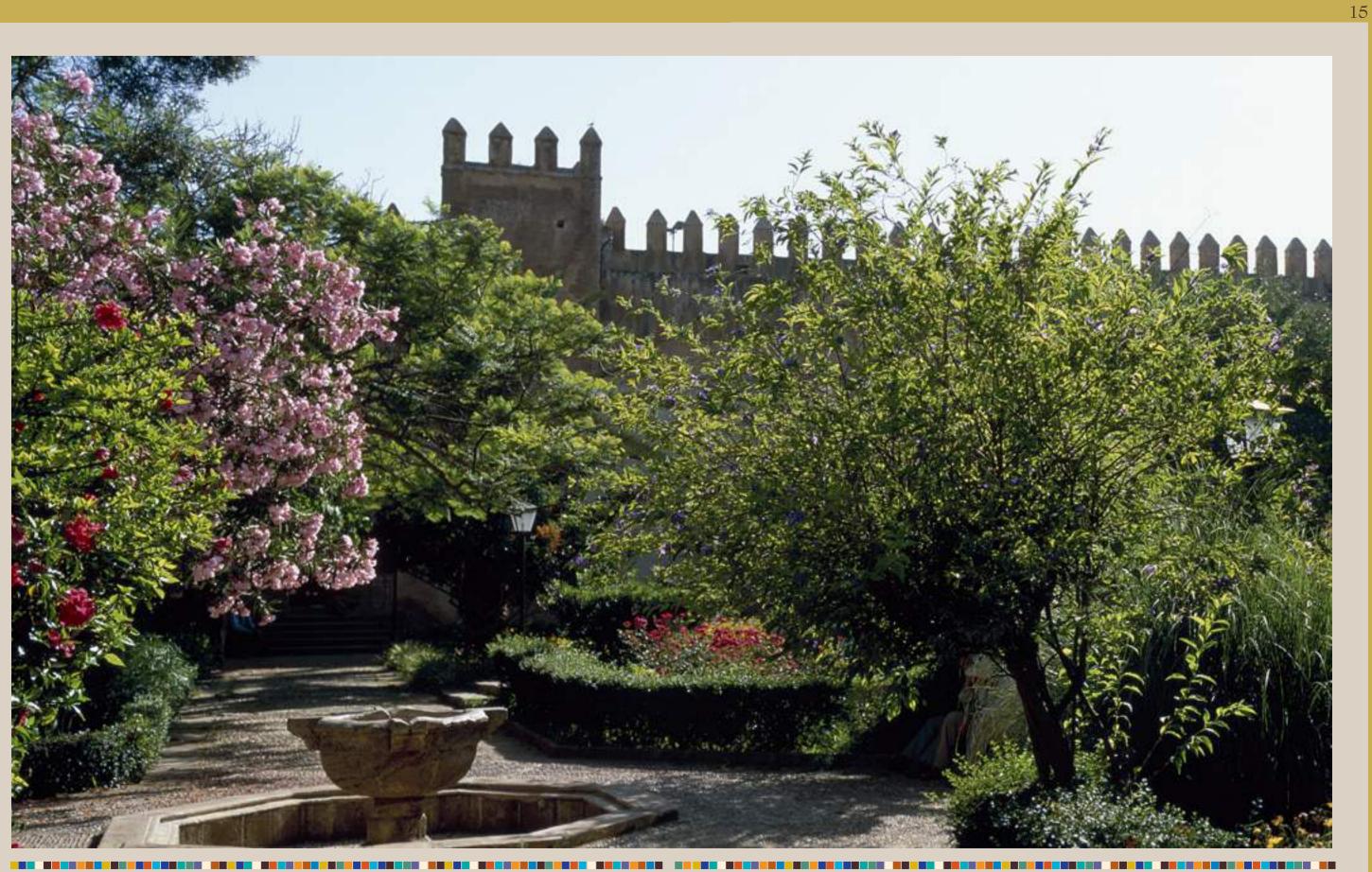
Finally, the Corniche running along Rabat's Atlantic coast has much on offer to attract visitors. Prestigious hotels, fine residences and business towers will soon be changing the face of the city, and other leisure facilities are planned for to meet your every expectation, including a major shopping mall, cinemas, fitness clubs and a water theme-park. The new Corniche will be the administrative capital of a tourist destination without parallel.

A peaceful and harmonious city, Rabat is also a student town, and its university district, the "city of

Palais des Congrès, Skhirat

knowledge", contains a wide range of faculties, higher educational establishments and research institutes that attract thousands of students from Morocco and abroad.

Rabat boasts 230 hectares of green spaces apart from the 1063-hectare Maamora Forest. Thanks to its countless gardens, such as the Ibn Sina Forest, and the Belvédère, Triangle de Vue, Essais and Oudaya gardens (to mention only a few of the largest), Rabat was proclaimed a "Green City" at international level on Earth Day in April 2010.



The Andalusian garden and the Oudaya Kasbah

## Rbati craftwork - excellence and sophistication



A door typical of the Rabat medina

From Traditional crafts to ultramodern shopping malls, via stores selling international luxury brand names, Rabat provides a thousand and one ways to go shopping.

### Craftwork

Rbati craftwork is renowned for its finesse, with expertise inherited from Andalusian tradition. Rabat is a national centre for a range of traditional skills. In the medina, the old districts in which craftsmen's corporations once flourished remain places of exchange and meeting points for people and civilisations. You must go and find the craftsman in his workshop – you won't just be taking an artefact home with you, but also the memory of its creation.

The traditional Rbati carpet This is an "urban" carpet, in contrast to the rural carpets woven in the Atlas Mountains. Fine in texture, with short-pile wool and often red in colour, the centre is decorated with a lozenge scattered with floral motifs. A knot carpet made by women, the Rabat variety has gained a reputation equalling that of Oriental carpets. There are close to 6000 weaving looms in operation in the region, either in craftwork cooperatives or in the hands of individual producers.



The Rbati carpet auction



Salé pottery



#### Embroiderv Rbati embroidery is the domain of women, who practise their art on the traditional fabrics of cotton, linen and silk. They work in small groups, immobilising the section they are embroidering in screwed-down wooden frames. "Rabat" embroidery contains flat-stitched multicoloured floral motifs.

#### Salé pottery

Second only to carpet making, pottery making is regarded as one of the region's oldest activities. Pieces of pottery have been discovered that date back to the earliest centuries of the Muslim era and to Roman times.

#### The delicate touch of Rbati embroiderers

Traditional know-how has been on the move since the opening of the El Oulja craftwork complex in Salé. Over sixty Oulja potters are at work competing with one another in ingenuity, adapting their products to today's tastes without robbing them of their authenticity - colourful tajines, miniature ornaments, decorative vases, lamps – you name it!

17

### Rabat, cultural capital



Bust of Juba on exhibition at the Rabat archaeological museum

A star player in the Kingdom's artistic and cultural life, Rabat is home to a dozen or so international cultural institutes, a wide variety of museums (including the archaeological museum, ceramics museum, Oudaya museum, Barid Almashrib museum, numismatics museum and the Belghazi ethnographic museum) and the legendary Mohammed V National Theatre, which lends effective support to the pursuance of the dramatic arts in Morocco. The National Library meets the needs of scientific research and is active in the conservation of the Kingdom's documentary heritage, an essential part of its collective memory.

The city's archaeological museum conserves collections unearthed from digs carried out on sites throughout Morocco. Its major exhibits include bronzes found in Volubilis, Lixus and Banasa, geometrical mosaics from Volubilis, a marble statue of Ptolemy brought to light during digs at Sala and a bust of Juba II.

In addition, other infrastructures on a similar scale are setting ready for their inauguration, such as the great national museum of contemporary arts keenly awaited by the country's visual artists, and a new institute of music and choreographic arts, equipped with a full range of state-of-the-art technological facilities. With all this to its credit. Rabat stands firmly in the ranks of the Mediterranean Basin's great cultural centres.

The capital can also be proud of its monumental Bab Rouah and Oudaya galleries, which mount exhibitions of today's best-known artists. The Bab Rouah gallery regularly presents exhibitions by contemporary Moroccan artists - among others, Mohamed Chebaa, Hassan Glaoui, Labied Miloud, Mohamed Melehi and Farid Belkahia have all exhibited there on several occasions. And in addition to these two major centres of activity. the city boasts numbers of new facilities devoted to exhibitions and music, including the Villa des Arts, the virtual museum and a great many other galleries.

Apart from such major infrastructures consecrated to the arts, the city's cultural activities also include the hosting of a range of festivals drawing wide audiences from Morocco itself as well as from far beyond its borders.



music from Rabat

Rabat, capital of World Music Since its creation in 2001, the prestigious "Mawazine Rhythms of the World" Festival, which is held in May, has taken its place among the world's greatest music festivals. Every year, artists from over 40 countries in all four corners of the world perform in a programme of concerts lasting over a week and presented in a variety of venues in the city. Every evening, over 80,000 people come to applaud such great names as Stevie Wonder, George Benson, Alicia Keys, Bilal and Aldi Méola, well and truly making the city the capital of world music!

Rabat, capital of Jazz Fusion The Chellah Jazz Festival first saw the light of day in 1996 and is one of the pioneering events that helped popularise musical fusion in Morocco. The festival seeks to be a scene for artistic expression open to the Euro-Mediterranean region and the world as a whole, a meeting place for European and Moroccan jazz musicians.



Mawazine, world music festival



Doorway of the Bab Rouah gallery

Every June, artists from all over Europe come to perform at the festival, attracting a wider audience with each passing year.

#### Andalusian music

Impossible to talk about Rhati culture without bringing up "Al Ala" Andalusian music, a form that developed from the Arabo-Andalusian heritage and which is perpetuated thanks to numerous centres and schools that have taken care to preserve the strict rules of an unwritten music transmitted orally from master to pupil.

### Al malhoune music

A true poetic art, malhoune is perhaps better known nowadays by the name of "quassida du ghazal". Originating in the Tafilalet region and the zaouias, it has been influenced over the centuries by the rhythms of Andalusian music and popular songs, which gave birth to the "quassida".

### Activities in the city



The Hassan II Golf Trophy

The Dar Es Salam Royal Golf Club, Rabat - a challenge not to be ignored

Rabat's Dar Es Salam Royal Golf Club has become a legend among golf enthusiasts everywhere. It is here that the world famous Hassan II Trophy is held. The majestic course was designed by Robert Trent Jones and inaugurated in 1971, its splendid fairways making their way among eucalyptus, palm trees, hyacinths, narcissi, mimosas, papyrus and Roman columns. All along the course, colours and aromas mingle to create a truly unique playing experience. Open all year round, the Dar Es Salam Royal Golf Club has three different circuits on offer, ensuring that amateurs and professionals alike can enjoy playing to the best of their ability. With its legendary and altogether magical course, Rabat's Royal Golf Club has gained international recognition as part of the European Tour, one of the two most prestigious professional golf tours in the world.

Created in 1971 by the King whose name it bears, the Hassan II Trophy rapidly became an unmissable rendezvous for professional and amateur golfers who wanted to put their skills to the test. Such world famous players as Billy Casper, Santiago Luna, Payne Stewart, Colin Montgomerie and Vijay Singh have all left their mark on the tournament.

The Trophy goes side by side with a tournament for women players, the **Princess Lalla Meryem Cup**, which is a stage in the Ladies European Tour. The Hassan II Trophy and the Lalla Meryem Cup keep their separate identities as they are included in professional competitions. Encounters between amateur golfers, such as the Friendship Cup during which celebrities play celebrities, are always organised alongside official competitions.



The Dar Essalam Royal Golf Club



"Rabat Jet Cup" national jetskiing championship

### Sport à la carte

Rabat has a whole range of physical activities on offer for you to enjoy. On its beaches, there is no lack of clubs hiring out equipment and dispensing lessons preparing you to confront the waves in style, whether you choose surfing, sailboarding, jetskiing, sea kayaking or pedal-boating. If you're enamoured of the great wide open, what better than to gallop the Atlantic beaches, among dunes of fine sand or through forests of age-old oak trees? Rabat's riding clubs will help you organise horseback treks suited to your skills. Or if you like a bit of competition, how about a game of polo, trying your hand at obstacle-jumping, or taking part in a horse show? If you're looking for thrills, the Salé Aeroclub and the Oulja site make perfect settings for seeing how well you can handle light or sports aircraft, as well



Each year, Rabat hosts the "Week of the Horse" at Dar Essalam Royal Polo Club

as for paragliding and deltaplaning. Tennis is also a favourite sport in Rabat, which boasts a dozen or so clubs hosting national and international tournaments all year round.

### Relaxation and lazing the day away

Rabat is also a top-quality well-being destination. The city abounds in hammams, traditional and modern alike. These "Moorish baths" comprise a series of steam rooms at different temperatures and dispense a whole range of massages and body and beauty treatments. In addition, the last few years have seen the appearance of numbers of magnificent spas, combining all the benefits of water, traditional beauty care treatments, and the latest techniques to get you back on tip-top form.

### Salé, the twin sister

### The splendours of Salé

The city may be regarded as the capital's twin sister, but it possesses a culture and identity that are all its own. Its glorious past as a pirate republic is increasingly evident with every step you take. Once within the walls that guarded Sale against attack by Spanish buccaneers in bygone days, you find yourself walking through an authentic medina. its narrow little streets covered with thuia wood.

From Souk Al-Ghazel square, the auction market, to Souk El-Merzouk, which specialises in jewellery, visitors wander from stall to stall in wonder. On the city's heights stand the great mosque and the Salé medersa. The mosque was originally built in the 11th century, and was renovated and enlarged in 1196 by Sultan Yacoub El Mansour, who provided it with a majestic minaret and a monumental doorway decorated with foiled arches sculpted from Salé stone. The for-

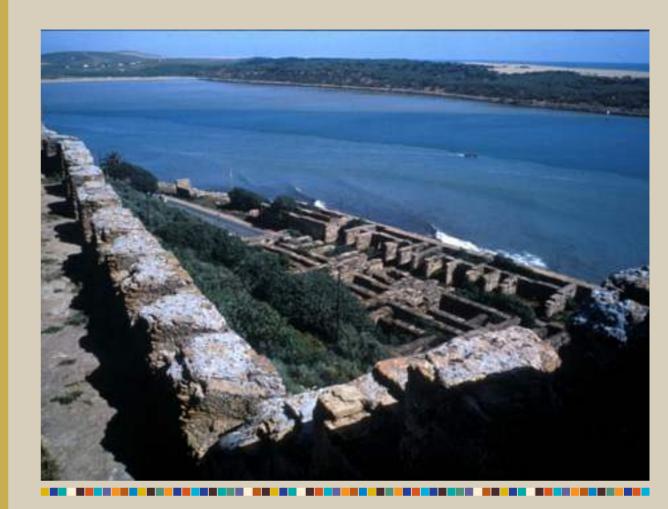
mer Koranic school, the medersa, is now a museum. Its courtyard is a fine example of the sophistication of Hispano-Moorish art, with the convoluted geometrical patterns of its ceramic marguetry and its finely sculpted stuccowork. A stairway takes you up to the roof, where the terrace provides fine views over Salé and the Bouregreg, with the Hassan Tower in the background.

#### The candle procession

Every year on the eve of Mawlid (the Prophet's birthday), Salé dons its finest attire for the candle procession. Decorated floats parade through the city streets bearing the thirteen candles originally carried by the gondoliers who once ferried people back and forth across the Bouregreg. The procession has been organised for the last four centuries by a renowned religious brother hood, the Zaouia El Hassounia.



The cannons of Borj "Addomoo", Salé



View over the Sidi Boughaba Reserve



The Bouknadel Exotic Gardens A marvellously colourful journey around the world - natural gardens drawing inspiration from Brazil, Polynesia, Mexico, Andalusia and Peru. Rehabilitation of the Bouknadel Exotic Gardens in 2005 was carried out in full respect of the original project created in the early 1950s, and it's a real pleasure to visit them and discover the countless different species that flourish in the 14 gardens, and to wander along the maze of footpaths, across suspended bridges and footbridges, observing the birds in their aviary and the fish and reptiles in the vivarium.

The Sidi Boughaba Reserve The Sidi Boughaba Reserve is one of Morocco's most beautiful wild life sanctuaries, comprising 450 hectares of forestland including a lake covering



Arabo-Andalusian architecture: the medersa Bou Inania in Salé

over 200 hectares. More than 210 plant species flourish there - red junipers, oleasters, mastic trees, bulrushes and yellow irises, to name only a few... A wide variety of animal species is also to be encountered in the reserve, including hares, shrews, weasels, chameleons and over 205 species of birds.

23

Plages des Nations and de Mehdia The two beaches, Plage des Nations and Plage de Mehdia, are located almost 25 km north of Rabat and are the birthplace of Moroccan surfing. Today, one of the most active surfing and bodyboarding schools in the Kingdom dispenses lessons there. Nothing remains of the Mehdia kasbah except its surrounding wall, built by the Spanish in the early 17th century, and the monumental gateway edified by Sultan Moulay Ismail.

### The region

24



A fishing boat on Skhirat beach

### Beaches to dream of

South of Rabat, beaches reaching as far as Bouznika provide endless stretches of sand, while a little further south, a series of fine sandy beaches begins at the town of Temara. Starting with El Harhoura beach, with its own microclimate and neighbouring forest, then on to Sidi Al Abed beach, Grand Val d'Or, Petit Val d'Or and Sables d'Or – each one of them as beautiful as its neighbour and equipped with all the necessary infrastructures (games areas, restaurants and first-aid posts), guaranteeing you a perfect day at the seaside. Both much prized by surfers, Skhirat and Bouznika beaches are famed for their impressive waves and are also ideal for jetskiing. A wide variety of Atlantic fish, including bass and bream, are put on sale at the Skhirat morning auction. Along the beach, facing the sea, a row of pretty little bungalows stands just a few metres from the royal palace and the beach's luxury hotels.

#### The Mamora Forest

Cork oaks and Eucalyptus flourish in the Mamora Forest north of Rabat a



The Mamora Forest



Hotel infrastructures at Skhirat beach

nature destination ideal for discovery on foot and picnicking in the shade of its trees. With its richly diversified natural reserves, it constitutes a major national forestland heritage.

The region's lakes In the enchanting surroundings of the town of Khemisset lie the Dayet Roumi lakes, among the most beautiful in the region and developed for tourism. You can enjoy a range of water sports on them and they also provide good fishing. The lakes are a major draw for jetskiing enthusiasts and a highly recommended destination for anyone in search of fresh air and relaxation.



### A hunter's paradise

30 km east of Rabat, the rural region of Ain Aouda and Zemmour Zaers is a paradise for hunting enthusiasts, nature lovers and hikers. A forest covering hundreds of hectares, along with a remarkable variety of fauna (including wild boar, pheasants, hares and turtledoves) and flora attracts large numbers every year at the opening of the hunting season.



### Information and useful addresses

### Informations Pratiques

### Entry formalities

A valid passport for a stay of less than 90 days is required. An identity card may suffice, depending on country of origin, if the trip is organised by a travel agency for a group of over 8 people. A visa is required for some nationalities – enquire at a Moroccan consulate or diplomatic representation in your country.

No specific vaccinations are required for entry into the Kingdom of Morocco. If you are bringing your pet along with you, however, you will need to be able to produce an anti-rabies certificate less than 6 months old.

### Changing money:

Moroccan currency is the dirham, made up of 100 centimes. Foreign currency must be exchanged at banks or other accredited establishments.

### Time zone:

Morocco is in the Greenwich time zone, and time is G.M.T.

### Event Calendar:

May: Mawazine Rhythms of the World Festival Mohammed VI International Athletics Meeting Moroccan Equestrian Trophy, Rabat June: Week of the Horse, Rabat Hassan II Golf Trophy, Rabat Chellah Jazz Festival July: Karacena Festival, Salé

12 Rabia al Awal – Feast of Mouloud: "Fêtes des Cires" (Candle Festival), Salé

### Useful addresses and contacts:

Moroccan National Tourist Office: Angle rue Oued El Makhazine et rue Zalaqa - Agdal Tel : 00 212 537 67 40 13/ 00 212 537 67 39 18 Fax : 00 212 537 67 40 15

Moroccan National Tourist Office: 22, rue d'Alger Hassan

Tel : 00 212 537 66 06 63 Fax : 00 212 537 72 59 91

### Regional Tourist Office:

C.R.I, 23 avenue de la Victoire Tel : 00 212 537 77 90 77 Fax : 00 212 537 77 63 88

ONCF Railway station: Call Center : 00 212 8 90 20 30 40 Website: www.oncf.ma

Airport: Call center : 00 212 8 90 00 08 00

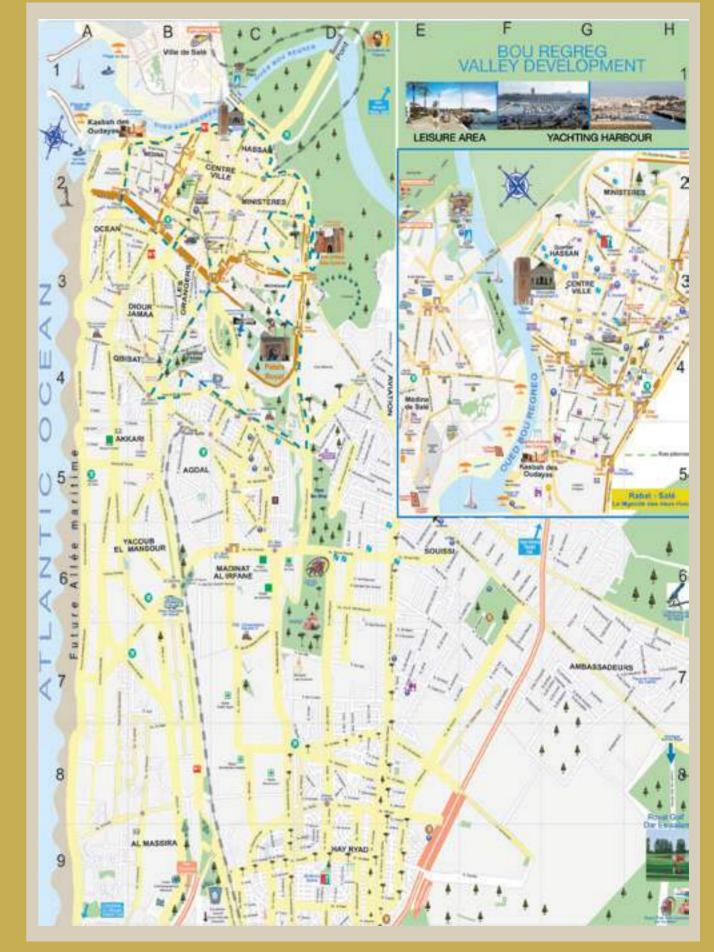
Golf: Dar Essalam Royal Golf Website: www.royalgolfdaressalam.com

Weather Forecast : www.meteoma.net

Office des Changes (Currency Regulator Authority): www.oc.gov.ma

Emergency phone numbers: Police 19 Fire Brigade 150 Directory enquiries 160 Road safety services 177







27



MOROCCAN NATIONAL TOURIST OFFICE WWW.VISITMOROCCO.COM