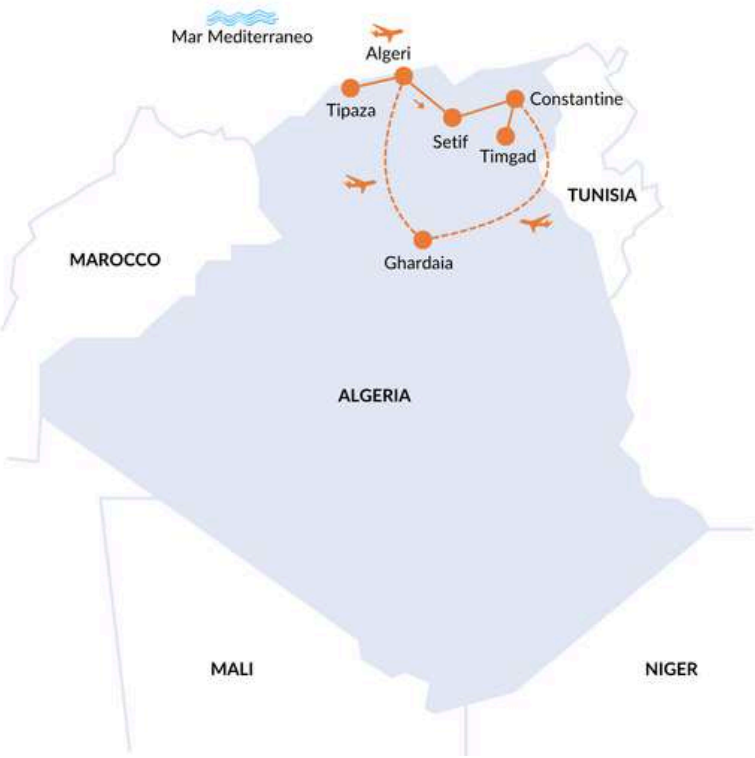


Vestiges of the Roman Empire and Ghardaia

ALGERIA

9 days
26 December 2026 - 03 January 2027
English speaking tour leader



The 'unforgettable' of the trip:

- The charm of **Algiers**, with its kasbah, historic mosques and white French-style buildings
- The ruins of **Tipaza** overlooking the Mediterranean, and the Numidian tomb known as 'La Cristiana'
- The mosaics and the unforgettable site of **Djemila**, surrounded by lush green hills
- The *Praetorium* of Lambese, the Roman city of **Timgad** and the Numidian Medracen
- The suspension bridges over the abyss in **Constantine**
- The 'pearl of the M'Zab', **the oasis of Ghardaia**, with its markets and the 'pyramidal' mosque






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ALGERIA

Day 1: Saturday 26 December

Outward Flight/Algiers (ALG)

Afternoon flight to Algiers. On arrival, meet the Kanaga Adventure Tours team, transfer to the Hotel Ralf or similar, overnight stay in a double room with services.


Welcome to Algeria!

Day 2: Sunday 27 December

Algiers

Breakfast at the hotel, followed by assistance with exchanging euros and, if required, purchasing a local phone card. A tour of ALGIERS (from the Arabic El Djezair), a UNESCO World Heritage Site, with its whitewashed houses, overlooking the Mediterranean and surrounded by lush, fertile hills. This historic city was first the most powerful of the Barbary pirate bases, in the time of the pirate Barbarossa, then ruled by the Ottomans for three centuries, and later a residential centre during the French colonial period. We'll begin with a stroll through the medina of ALGIERS, built on the ruins of ancient Icosium: we'll venture into the labyrinthine alleyways of the kasbah, dating largely from the 16th century, and admire the numerous mosques (exterior) and historic residences known as dar (exterior). We shall then continue along the seafront, where the architectural influence of the French period is clearly visible, with wide, tree-lined avenues, arcades and elegant buildings. Seafood lunch at a restaurant. In the afternoon, we shall continue our tour with a visit to Bastion 23 (Palace of the Rais) and the Cathedral of Notre Dame d'Afrique. Overnight stay at the hotel.


Algiers Medina


Algiers



Day 3: Monday 28 December

Algiers/Cherchell/Tipaza/Algiers

After breakfast, we set off along the coast towards the Roman site of CHERCHELL, the ancient Caesarea, a Punic settlement dating back to the 5th century BC, which enjoyed a period of great prosperity during the Numidian reign of Juba II in the 1st century AD, when it became the capital of Mauretania at the behest of Emperor Augustus. In the town's museum, we will be able to admire the marble busts of the royal family and an extremely rare portrait of Juba II's mother-in-law, Cleopatra, Queen of Egypt. We will also visit the arena, which once hosted gladiatorial combats and fights between gladiators and wild beasts, and which could accommodate up to 15,000 spectators. We shall then continue to Tipaza for lunch at a restaurant. In the early afternoon, we shall visit the site of TIPAZA, a UNESCO World Heritage Site, where the ruins are scattered across a pine-covered slope that gently descends to the beach, dominated by Djebel Chenoua. The city reached its peak during the Severan dynasty (2nd century AD), when the imposing city walls, over 2 kilometres long, were built, and in the 3rd and 4th centuries when it embraced Christianity and its Basilica – the largest Christian building of the time – was erected. On the return journey to Algiers, visit the 'Tomb of the Christian', a mysterious circular structure 63 metres in diameter, adorned with 60 external columns featuring Ionic capitals, believed to be the royal mausoleum of Mauretania, and likely the tomb of Juba II and Cleopatra Selene. Upon arrival overnight stay at the hotel.


Tipaza Christian Cemetery


Tipaza


Royal Mausoleum of Mauretania

Day 4: Tuesday 29 December

Algiers/Setif/Djemila/Constantine

After breakfast, we set off for the eastern hills to reach SETIF, founded in 97 AD during the reign of Nerva under the name Sitifis. Here we shall visit the small archaeological museum, which houses some real treasures: the mosaics of the Triumph of Venus, depicting the goddess in a shell surrounded by monsters and cherubs, and the Triumph of Dionysus, depicting a procession celebrating the god's victories in India, including the only image of a giraffe ever found in North Africa from the Roman period. Lunch at a restaurant, followed by departure for the site of DJEMILA, the ancient Cuicul or Curculum, a UNESCO World Heritage Site dating back to the 1st century AD, where veterans of Legio III Augusta settled. Today, in addition to the exquisite mosaics on display in the museum, visitors can admire the remains of the Arch of Caracalla, the Temple of the Severi, the Old Forum, the Great Baths and the theatre, carved into the side of the hill and capable of seating up to 3,000 spectators. Onward journey to Constantine, with initial sightseeing in the city. Accommodation at the Hotel El Bay or similar, dinner and overnight stay in a double room with services.


Djemila


Constantine

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Day 5: Wednesday 30 December
Constantine/Timgad/(CZL)/Flight/(GHA)

Early in the morning, after breakfast, we set off for Timgad via Batna. Before reaching the UNESCO World Heritage Site, we'll stop at the ruins of LAMBAESIS, a settlement that was once the capital of Roman Numidia, where the praetorium, dating from 268, is the best-preserved building – an imposing two-storey structure that stood in front of the parade ground. Arrival in TIMGAD, a visit to one of Algeria's most impressive Roman sites: a colony built by Emperor Trajan for the soldiers and veterans of his Legio III Augusta, which was intended to house 15,000 people but whose population quadrupled during the 2nd and 3rd centuries AD. Here you can admire a classic example of a Roman city in North Africa: a large bath complex, the semi-circular public library, the forum square, the theatre which could seat up to 3,500 spectators, the magnificent Temple of the Capitolium, and the decumanus maximus leading to Trajan's Arch. Lunch will be a packed lunch (sandwich and fruit) or at a restaurant. On the return journey, a stop at Medracen, an ancient Numidian tomb, and at the chotts, the salt lakes that characterise the region. Return to CONSTANTINE, Algeria's third-largest city, built on a rocky outcrop surrounded by a deep gorge which has always made it a natural fortress. The landscape is defined by spectacular bridges, offering breathtaking views, such as the Sidi M'Cid Bridge (known as the 'suspension bridge') built in 1912, 164 metres long and 175 metres high, or the Mellah Slimane Bridge, built in 1925, which is 125 metres long and 100 metres high. Dinner and transfer to the airport for the flight to Ghardaia. On arrival, Kanaga Africa Tours staff will arrange transfer to the Hotel M'zab or similar; overnight stay in a double room with services.


Lambaesis Praetorium


Timgad. View of the Capitolium


Roman stems

Days 6-7: Thursday 31 December to Friday 01 January
The Pentapolis of Ghardaia

Breakfasts at the hotel. Days spent exploring the pentapolis of GHARDAIA, the 'pearl of the M'Zab', designated a UNESCO World Heritage Site. Its oasis spans approximately 10 km and also includes the historic towns of Beni Isguen, Melika, Bou Noura and El Atteuf, all situated on a hilltop. These towns were founded from the 11th century onwards by the Ibadites, who broke away from orthodox Islam and settled in this rugged and barren landscape. Today, Ghardaia is the commercial hub of the entire Algerian Sahara; for this very reason, visiting its souk and the Marché à la Criée (auction market) in Beni Isguen – where you can purchase the renowned, colourful locally-made carpets – will be an unforgettable experience. We shall also visit the grand mosque, which resembles a fortress and is characterised by its pyramid-shaped minaret – typical of mosques in the region – and the palm grove with its ingenious water distribution system. Lunches in restaurants, dinners and overnight stays in hotels.On the second evening, transfer to the airport in good time for the flight to Algiers.


Ghardaia


Ghardaia. In the mosque

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Day 8: Saturday 02 January
Ghardaia (GHA)/Flight/Algiers (ALG)

Arrival in the capital early in the morning, breakfast in a café, followed by visits to: the Martyrs' Monument (Makam Echaid), the botanical gardens and the Grand Mosque (exterior). Lunch in a restaurant. Check-in at the Hotel Ralf or similar; the afternoon is free to relax. Overnight stay in double rooms with services.


In the streets of the kasbah

Day 9: Sunday 03 January
Algiers (ALG)/Return flight

Breakfast at the hotel and transfer to the airport in time for the return flight. End of services.


A craftsman in the Medina

** The itinerary may be subject to change for reasons beyond our control, as the Algerian government reserves the right to close and reopen certain areas of the desert without prior notice, and Air Algerie may also amend the timetables for domestic flights.*



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English speaking tour leader

Individual participation fee in double room (min. 4/max. 12 pax)

1,990 €/pax

Supplements:

- Enrollment fee: **free!**
- Single room: **390 €**
- Extra night in Algiers: **120 €**
- Out-of-hours transfers: **30 €/pax/transfer**
- Pre-visa service: **30 €/pax**

The fee includes:

- English speaking tour leader (for groups of 6 pax or more, Days 1 to 7);
- Local French-speaking drivers/guides;
- Visits and excursions as per the itinerary;
- All transfers by minibus, including fuel;
- Full board, except in Algiers;
- 8 nights' accommodation in hotels.

The fee does not include:

- The visa for Algeria (approximately 145 euros on arrival if you have applied for a pre-arrival visa through us);
- Cancellation, health and baggage insurance;
- Flights (international and domestic*);
- Transfers to and from the airport outside normal operating hours;
- Drinks and mineral water;
- Dinners in Algiers;
- Tips for photographers and videographers;
- Personal tips and expenses;
- Everything listed under 'supplements';
- Anything not expressly mentioned under 'the price includes'.

*** DOMESTIC FLIGHTS TO BE BOOKED:**
AIR ALGÉRIE
30/12/26: Constantine (CZL) 22h00 – Ghardaia (GHA) 23h05
01/01/27: Ghardaia (GHA) 23h35 – Algiers (ALG) 04h45 (+1)

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