

# Morocco

## Information for applicants

### Morocco

Morocco is the most westerly country in Northern Africa. Separated from Europe by the Straits of Gibraltar, it meets the Mediterranean in the north, the Atlantic in the west and borders Algeria in the east. Its surface area is 459,000 km<sup>2</sup>. Morocco has a population of approximately 35 million, some 800,000 of whom live in the capital city of Rabat.

### Climate and sights

Rabat has a Mediterranean climate. In summer, temperatures can climb to well over 30°C, and in winter it can be rainy, cold and damp.

Morocco has a wealth of cultural sights along with unique natural phenomena. The major attractions include the medinas and souks in the country's historical cities.

### Medical care

Medical care ranges from satisfactory to good. In Rabat and Casablanca there are excellent private clinics that work to high standards. In rural areas, medical care can prove problematic in terms of equipment and hygiene. There is also a lack of EU/EEA-trained English-speaking doctors.

No essential vaccinations are required prior to entering Morocco. However, Germany's Federal Foreign Office does recommend that you check and update your standard vaccinations in line with the current immunisation schedule of the Robert Koch Institute.

### Accommodation and quality of life

The best time to find a nice and spacious place to live in Morocco is the months of May and June. More accommodation becomes available on the market shortly before the summer because a lot of foreign workers choose to move during their children's summer break. At other times of the year, housing is scarcer and more expensive.

Rental costs in Rabat and Casablanca are the highest in all Morocco. Well located, medium to high quality apartments currently cost around EUR 13/m<sup>2</sup>. In Rabat, foreigners prefer the following residential areas: Hassan, Les Orangers, Agdal, Souissi, Hay Riad. Popular places to live in Casablanca include Maarif, C.I.L, Oasis, Beausejour, Ain Diab and Anfa.

### Shopping and services

There are good supplies of food and all daily commodities in Morocco. Most locals buy their food, smaller household items, textiles, shoes and even medicines on the market or from the local grocery store. However, more and more big chain names are making an appearance, e.g. Marjane or Carrefour-Label'Vie. Mostly located in shopping centres or on the outskirts of the city, they can best be reached by car or taxi. These stores sell Moroccan and international brand names, albeit at a higher price than at the local grocers.

### Accompanying partners and children

The employment of foreigners is both permitted and legally regulated in Morocco. However, accompanying partners generally only get issued a work permit if it can be proven that no Moroccan applicant offers the same profile. Unmarried couples will encounter

difficulties when applying for a residency or work permit as their status does not conform with Morocco's legal regulations (for this reason, please clarify with country office prior to recruitment).

As in Germany, setting up a business in Morocco entails an entry in the commercial register and tax identification etc. Freelancers have to pay 30% of their earnings in taxes to the Moroccan state.

**Schools and childcare:** There are many Arab-French schools as well as international French, English or Spanish-speaking education facilities. In Rabat, for example, there is the Rabat American School and the Lycée Descartes. In the larger cities, there are some good international pre-schools.

To date there are no German-speaking pre-schools or schools.

## Find out more

<https://www.auswaertiges-amt.de/en/aussenpolitik/laenderinformationen/morocco-node>

<https://www.giz.de/en/worldwide/340.html>

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