

Geographic locations rabat

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Facts About Rabat Country Morocco State Rabat-Sal?-Zemmour-Zaer Founded 1146 Area 117 km2 Population 620996 Lat Long Coordinates 34°02'N6°50'W Time Zone (UTC+1) area Code +212 - 537 Language Arabic,Berber, Tamazight Major…

Rabat is the capital city of Morocco. It has an estimated population of over 1.2 million and is the largest city in the country. It was founded in the 10th century and went on to become an army outpost for the Arabs in the 12th century. Later, in the 17th century, Rabat became a center of anti-European piracy. The French Protectorate established Rabat as a capital in the early 1900s. It gained its independence in 1956 and currently is one of the most complete urban projects in Africa. It is not just the administrative but also the industrial as well as educational capital of Morocco.

Although strewn with modernist town planning, Rabat has successfully incorporated its ancient heritage too and the resulting city is refined and delightfully urbane, while also being rich in history. In 2013, Rabat was awarded the second place in "Top Travel Destinations" by CNN. French and Arabic are the widely spoken languages.

Situated at the mouth of River Bou Regreg, Rabat lies on the Atlantic Coast to the northeast of Casablanca. Sal?, the commuter city, lies opposite to it. Mostly mountainous, the city is divided into two main parts, the old-walled city called the Medina and the newer French built city called the Ville Nouvelle. Rabat is mainly an administrative city and has many residential neighbourhoods spread all over the city except for the center.

The Rabat International Airport has very limited connections which is why most tourists fly into Casablanca and then travel to Rabat by trains or buses, which are readily available. Almost every major town in Morocco is connected to Rabat via long distance buses. Casablanca has an hour long train to Rabat and the city has two stations, one at Medina and the other at Adgal.

Getting around is very easy and viable with transport choices varying from the expensive Grand Taxis to the cheaper Petit Taxis, though there is a fair chance of getting overcharged if the meter isn't watched carefully. Tourists can also rent a car and drive around themselves, although this isn't advisable because most drivers in the city do not abide by the traffic rules, leading to many unfortunate accidents. Rabat also has a tram system which has two lines and 31 stops. One can even use the city buses, which are really cheap and knowledgeable. Even walking around the city is a good option in order to explore this charming city.

Rabat has a typically mild Mediterranean climate with warm summer months and cool winters. If one wishes to join in the many festivals celebrated with much pomp, then the best time to visit would be the summer

months from May to August when the city is full of tourists. However, if one wants to relax and enjoy the many attractions of the city without a horde of tourists overcrowding the area, then the best time to visit would be the winter months, without the crowd and heat.

Other important places to visit are the Rabat Archaeological Museum, Almohad Walls, Andalusian Gardens, Oudaia Museum, Old Medina, The Royal Palace, etc.

Most of the options for accommodation in Rabat are situated in the Villa Nouvelle except for the worn down HI Hostel which is located right on the edge of the medina. Hotel Central and Hotel Splendide are moderately priced and are located near the station. Hotel Sofitel Jardin Des Roses, located close to the Royal Palace is a 5 star hotel, is considered to be one of the best and most expensive hotels in the city. Other hotels include Dar Zouhour, Riad Kalaa, Le Diwan Rabat, etc.

Apart from these, Villa Yasmine and Villa Mandarine are hotels which are located away from the crowded city. They are quiet, exotic, offer excellent services and of course, expensive.

About RabatThe Facts:Region: Rabat-Sal?-K?nitra.Population: ~ 600,000.Metropolitan population: 2,200,000.Written and fact-checked by Ontheworldmap team. Last Updated: October 16, 2023

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