

# Your Travels / Transport



To travel in Morocco, you have a large choice of means of transport (plane, train, bus, car ...). This part aims to present the different means that you can use for your daily movements and for your trips.

## ► An important road network

In Morocco, the road is the most common mean of transport for people (90%). The Moroccan road network is considered among the best of the African continent networks. The Moroccan road network managed by the Ministry of Equipments, Transport and Logistic is classified into four categories: highways, national roads, regional roads and provincial roads.

The following map shows the Moroccan road network:





For more information on the Moroccan road network, refer to the section "Road sector" of the website of the Ministry of Equipment, Transport and Logistic: [www.mtpnet.gov.ma](http://www.mtpnet.gov.ma)

## ► A multitude of means of public transportation

Public transportation service is varied and is in constant development:

- *Small taxi*: Each city has a distinctive color of its taxis (red for Casablanca, blue for Rabat ...). The small taxi can take no more than 3 people going in the same direction.

In most cities, the imposed minimum pricing varies between 5 and 7.50 DH.

- *Tramway*: Available only in Rabat and Casablanca. New tramway projects are being studied for the cities of Marrakech, Meknes, Fez and Tangier.



- *Big Taxi*: Collective Taxi ensuring connections within or between cities.
- *Bus*: Means of public transport ensuring connections within or between cities at cheap fares (between 4 and 10 DHs depending on the lines).
- *Coach*: Economic means of transport ensuring inter-city transportation services. Coaches serve several distant destinations which are not served by trains.
- *Train*: Inter-city means of transport serving several cities but not covering the whole Moroccan territory.



If you have extra time and unexpected events are not specifically disturbing for you, then you would rather use public transportation.

They are always opportunities to make contacts with Moroccans and learn more about their lives, stories, opinions and aspirations, if you respect the courtesy rules.

## ► **Traveling by bus, train or plane: make your choice!**

Depending on the chosen means of transport, you will find bus stations, rail stations and airports in several cities.

### ✓ **Bus station**

There are several bus stations in different cities of Morocco:

- Bus station of Tangier;
- Bus station of Ouled Ziane Casablanca;
- Bus station of Al Kamra Rabat;
- Bus station of Bab Ftouh Fez;
- Bus station of Sidi Said Meknes;
- Bus station of Oujda;
- Bus station of Nador;
- Bus station of Bab Doukalla Marrakesh;
- Bus station of Agadir;
- Bus station of Laayoune;
- ...

### ✓ **Railway Stations**

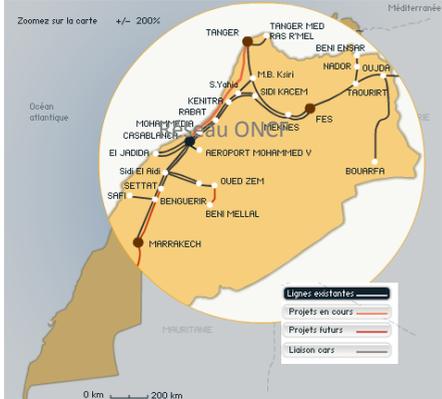
"Mainline" Trains serve about one hundred rail stations belonging to the ONCF network. Whatever your destination is, it is possible to make the round trip during the day by direct trains or via quick and easy connections.

For destinations which are not yet connected to the rails (Tetouan, Agadir, Laayoune...) it is possible to continue the journey by bus.

 *More information about served destinations, pricing and train schedules is available on the website of the ONCF: [www.oncf.ma](http://www.oncf.ma).*

✓ Airports

Moroccan airports welcome several passengers each year from different countries. There are two types of airports in Morocco: national airports (offering only domestic flights) and international airports (offering national and international flights).



ONCF network



Airports in Morocco

► **Driving in Morocco**

The license is a certificate issued by the Ministry of Equipment, Transport and Logistic. It is obtained after spending a specific training which is evaluated by a driving test. The driving license justifies that the person is able to drive on the tracks of the public road provided s/he respects traffic rules and s/he does not put his/her live or the lives of others in danger.

The driving license is produced in electronic format and gathers all information relative to the driver but it has the same probative value as the paper.

There are 8 categories of license:

- **"A1"** (less than 125cm<sup>3</sup> cylinder): Lightweight Motorcycle - Motor-powered light tricycle - Motor-powered heavy quadricycle.
- **"A"**: (more than 125cm<sup>3</sup> cylinder) Lightweight Motorcycle - Motor-powered Tricycle.
- **"B"**: - Motor vehicles used to transport people and having, in addition to the driver's seat, at most eight seats;
  - Motor vehicles used to transport goods and having a maximum gross vehicle weight (GVW) of 3 500 kg;
  - Agricultural motor vehicles, forest motor vehicles, motor-powered public work engines and motor-powered special engines, travelling on public roadways with a maximum laden weight of 3500 kg.
- **"C"**: - Motor vehicles used to transport goods and with a gross vehicle weight (GVW) exceeding 3 500 kg;
  - Agricultural motor vehicles, forest motor vehicles, motor-powered public work engines and motor-powered special engines, travelling on public roadways with a laden weight exceeding 3500 kg.
- **"D"**: Motor vehicles used to transport passengers and having, in addition to the driver's seat, more than eight seats.
- **"EB"**: Vehicles from the "B" category, harnessed to a trailer the laden weight of over 750 kilograms, when the gross weight of the trailer exceeds the unladen weight of the towing vehicle or when the sum of the total loaded weight of the towing vehicle with the trailer exceeds 3500 kg.
- **"EC"**: A set of coupled vehicles with towing vehicle in category "C" coupled to a trailer with a gross weight of over 750 kilograms.
- **"ED"**: A set of coupled vehicles with towing vehicle in category "D" coupled to a trailer with a gross weight of over 750 kilograms.

## ✓ If you do not have a driving license

To get your Moroccan license, you must meet the following conditions:

1. Age by category:
  - Being 16 for category A1;
  - Being 18 for category A - B - EB
  - Being 21 old for category C - D - EC – ED
2. Having the physical and mental ability depending on the license category. You would need to present a medical certificate as documentary evidence.

After obtaining the required documents, you must go to the driving school of your choice where you will need to establish a contract before starting your training (theoretical and practical).

The driving school issues at the end of the training a certificate allowing you to take the driving license exam. This examination is divided into two parts:

- A theoretical part on some material mainly covering legislation and regulations related to vehicle driving;
- A practical part with the control of skills and behaviors related to vehicle driving.

After passing the exam, you get your license in two steps:

- You first get a provisional driving license which is valid for two years and has 20 points.
- When the first license expires, you will get your final driving license which is valid for 10 years and has a total of 30 points.

## ✓ You have your foreign driving license

Law No. 52.05 on the Highway Code allows driving on national territory by a foreign driving license.

Foreign nationals may drive with a valid driving license from abroad, but for a maximum period of one year from their temporary stay in Morocco according to the legislation and regulations relating to entry and stay of foreigners in the Kingdom of Morocco.

### What you need to **REMEMBER**

If you have a license issued abroad and you spend a year in the Moroccan territory, you must pass the driving test in order to obtain the Moroccan driving license or you can request a replacement for your driving license, which can be done:

- If the foreign driving license is issued by a State which is bounded to Morocco by a mutual recognition agreement of driving license;
- If the foreign driving license is issued by a state that recognizes the exchange of driving licenses with Morocco;
- If you are in possession of an international driving license, you can drive on the national territory during the period of validity of the license but you cannot exceed one year from the first day of entry into Morocco.

### ► **Purchase of a vehicle**

Before buying a car, it is better that you answer a certain number of questions to better define your needs. What are you going to use it for? If you have children, the size of the car and the trunk may be determining factors? Gasoline or diesel engine? Do you take your car every day to work? Are you using it for weekends and holidays?

It is possible to buy a new or used car (from private individuals or professionals).