

Dar Ghiat

Region: Morocco Sleeps: 10

Overview

It is easy to see why Dar Ghiat has been featured in the House & Garden Magazine. It has been designed with a wonderful blend of English country house combined with warm earthy Moroccan elements. This absolutely stunning villa sits within a peaceful olive grove, thirty minutes outside of Marrakech city centre near the stunning Valley of Ourika. It boasts five exceptional bedrooms, beautiful handpicked furnishings, gorgeous living spaces and superb gardens with wonderful alfresco dining and lounge spaces. The inviting pool is a Moroccan wonder clad in traditional earthy tadelakt, Morocco's waterproof polished plaster. Brimming with sumptuous Colefax and Fowler and Manuel Canovas fabrics, stunning artworks and a wonderful collection of accessories, the villa invites relaxation and rejuvenation away from the throb of the city.

Dar Ghiat is an exercise in intelligent design to encompass summer and winter living in Morocco and the wonderful concept of indoor, and outdoor living. Built around a wonderful courtyard garden and enveloped by an extensive landscaped garden, the views from the windows are truly wonderful. The courtyard enjoys a pretty fountain and furniture so that you can settle down with a cup of mint tea enjoying the soothing sounds of the trickling water. The house has been lovingly decorated and furnished by the owner for many years. You will discover sumptuously stylish fabrics, raffia ceiling lights from Henry Cath, lavish beds from Casablanca and a mixture of elegant natural, Delft blue and earthy tones throughout. Dar Ghiat is unique and enjoys a distinctive charm. You will want to explore every single beautiful space as soon as you arrive. The villa is built on one level, so it is perfect for anyone with mobility issues. The living room certainly looks as though it has just stepped out of an interior magazine, liberally sprinkled with elegant, quality



furnishings, a sensational feature fireplace, gorgeous rugs and a wonderful array of artwork. The conservatory dining room is just fabulous, a superb location for a celebratory meal. It, too, boasts a fireplace so you can chuck a log on should a rural chill descend. The country kitchen is also warm and lovely, the domain of your friendly chef.

The villa boasts five superb bedrooms, all of which entice long lazy lie-ins. They enjoy atmospheric fireplaces, shuttered windows and private terraces. Four of the rooms offer sumptuous kingsize beds, while one has twins that can be set up as a kingsize. You will find luxurious linens, gorgeous soft furnishings, fluffy towels and dressing gowns, slippers and wonderful, stylish decor in every room. Each room enjoys an ensuite bathroom with a shower and direct access to the garden or terrace.

Dar Ghat enjoys a magnificent roof terrace which offers unrivalled, stunning views of the snow-capped peaks of the Atlas Mountains. The mountains are a wonderful backdrop to your pre-dinner drinks, which can be served on the terrace. The gardens are beautifully landscaped with centuries-old olive trees, a vegetable garden with fresh produce being used for your meals, orange, lemon and pomegranate trees, lush lawns and stunning colourful plants. The 14m x 5m pool is surrounded by loungers, shaded alfresco lounge space and a delightful pool house. You will certainly dine alfresco in style at Dar Ghat. You will find a petanque court and a table tennis table for some family competition and fun. Dar Ghat is the perfect retreat after busy days in the valley, the mountains or the souks.

Facilities

Cots (Cribs) • Villa • Rural Location • Air-Con • Golf Nearby • Wi-Fi/Internet • Maid Service Included • Chef/Cook Included • Pre-Stocked Fridge Available • Transfers Available • On-Site Concierge • Private Pool • Heated Pool • Ideal for Babies & Toddlers • Ideal for Kids • Ideal for Teens • Safety Deposit Box • Hairdryer • All Bedrooms En-Suite • Ground Floor Bed & Bath • Satellite TV • High Chair(s) • Parking Space • Outstanding Landscapes • Outdoor Pursuit & Activities • Tourist Towns & Villages • Historical Sites

Interior & Grounds

Ground Floor

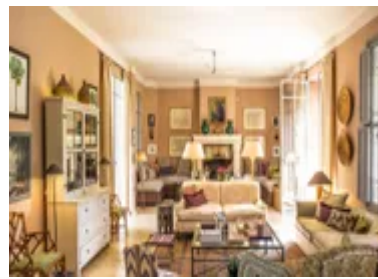
- Large living room with various seating areas and access to the terrace
- Formal dining area for 8 people and access to the garden
- Professional kitchen for staff use (guests are not allowed)
- Bedroom with king size bed, air conditioning, safe box, access to the garden and en-suite bathroom
- Bedroom with king size bed, air conditioning, safe box, access to the garden and en-suite shower room
- Bedroom with king size bed, air conditioning, safe box, access to the garden and en-suite shower room
- Bedroom with two single beds configurable onto double bed, air conditioning, safe box, access to the garden and en-suite shower room
- Bedroom with double bed, access to a terrace and en-suite shower room

Exterior Grounds

- Private heated swimming pool (14 x 5 m)
- Large terrace and garden area
- Various sun loungers
- Outdoor dining
- Covered terrace
- Garden furniture
- Private parking
- Petanque court

Additional Facilities

- Wi-Fi connection
- Air conditioning (only in bedrooms)
- Safe deposit box
- Satellite TV
- Hair dryer
- Sound system
- Cot and high chair



Location & Local Information

Dar Ghat enjoys a fabulous, secure and tranquil location that is within easy reach of Marrakech's Medina. It is enveloped by a beautiful garden in a blissful location towards the Valley of Ourika.

The Valley of Ourika is nestled half an hour from the frantic energy of Marrakech. It is absolutely gorgeous and very popular with tourists wanting to escape from the city centre and see another side of Morocco. The area is very scenic, with groups of waterfalls tucked behind the village of Setti Fatma, colourful restaurants by the river and friendly Berber tribes wanting to show you around their villages and homes. The Berbers have lived in North Africa for five thousand years. During the Arab invasion in the 7th century, the Berbers took refuge high in the Atlas Mountains. Today, most Berbers are Muslims but have retained the Berber languages in the villages. Barbary macaques are found in the Western High Atlas, an endangered primate. It is a wonderful area for hiking where paths are shaded by trees, and every waterfall looks even more beautiful than the last. In August each year, there is a vibrant four-day market and fair in Setti Fatma.

Marrakech is a bustling, intoxicating, colourful city of wonders that offers an inexhaustible source of surprises. It is Africa's Capital of Culture, where everything is on the move. Finding out all of its secrets would take forever, but you can visit a handful of attractions in a few days to get a taste of its noble past and its frenetic present. Colourful spices, glistening lamps, colourful carpets and leather in every shade imaginable are combined with a rich, ancient architecture to capture your heart and soul. Its souks are loud, thrilling and frenzied. You can shop for sweets, clothing, leather, spices, soap, perfume, rugs, lighting, musical instruments and much more. All prices are negotiable, and bargaining is a social art. You will discover snake charmers, storytellers and potion sellers. Its dizzying array of sights, smells, and tastes will provide a sensory overload. Dining in the Medina is an adventure and will set your tastebuds tingling as Marrakech offers one of the world's tastiest cuisines. Smoke rises from



barbecues which are enjoyed along with Gnawa musicians, acrobats and fortune tellers. The souks are lined with rows of sweet oranges, plump dates and an enormous variety of olives, while the air is infused with intensely fragrant spices. You will discover the delicious shakshuka and spongy Moroccan pancakes for breakfast and delicious tagines and Tanja, succulent lamb slow-cooked in a clay pot for hours, for dinner. Sfenj are yummy fried doughnuts drizzled with floral honey. Mint tea is served as a sign of welcome at the end of purchase or to unwind in the afternoon. Many of the riads boast exquisite restaurants for fine dining experiences where you will enjoy creative, spice-laced modern Moroccan menus, many of which are on rooftops with fabulous views. Your friendly staff at the riad can recommend and book tables for you. The wonderful Riad Yima Tea Room is the home and personal gallery of Hassan Hajjaj, the Andy Warhol of Marrakech and is filled with upcycled pop art. It is fun and a great place to grab a classic cup of mint tea. The Medina's labyrinth of winding lanes and alleyways is best explored with a willingness to get lost and a sense of adventure. In 1985 the Medina was declared a UNESCO World Heritage Site. Hammams were introduced to the city by the Romans and adapted to fit Islamic ablution rituals. Visitors enjoy wonderful hammam experiences at Hammam de la Rose, the Farnatchi Spa, the deluxe Royal Mansour and many other spas.

Marrakech offers an impressive collection of interesting museums, including the Musee Tiskiwin, where you can learn about the history of Marrakech and the region in general. The Dar Si Said Museum is an exhibition of historic and contemporary Moroccan art, full of intricate Byzantine designs and colours. The Music Museum is located in the Saadian quarter, built in the 16th and 17th centuries. The reception of the museum is a jewel of Arab-Andalusian architecture.

Also giving you an insight into the city's history are the magnificent 16th-century Saadian Tombs. Sultan al-Mansour spared no expense in decorating his opulent mausoleum with imported Italian Carrara marble and a gilded honeycomb muqarnas ceiling. The once magnificent Bali Palace is now a monumental ruin with

giant reflecting pools and breathtaking views of the city. The stunning Bahia Palace is amazing and offers the mesmerising quarters of Bou Ahmed's favourite concubine, Lalla Zineb.

The area around the city is sprinkled with beautiful gardens. Le Jardin Secret is one of Medina's largest and most important gardens, with a Persian garden full of tufty grasses and olive, pomegranate, fig and date trees and a second smaller garden offering exotic plants. An elaborate irrigation system weaves its way through the gardens, part of an ancient network that once distributed water from artesian wells and fed by the mountains. When fashion icon Yves St Laurent arrived in the city in 1964, he was overwhelmed by the city and its vivacity. He lived in the Jardin Majorelle with his partner, a lush garden painted with an intense shade of ultramarine blue. It is sprinkled with giant cacti, palms and bamboo groves. The Berber Museum is filled with Yves St Laurent's personal jewellery and fashion collection, and the Musee Yves St Laurent offers a stunning choreography presentation of the clothes in a dramatic black hall.

Visitors to Marrakech also enjoy heading to the quiet cool of the surrounding mountain valleys. The Valley of Ourika is one magical spot, but there are plenty of others. It is the perfect contrast to the thrillingly frantic energy of the Medina and the buzz of its museums, palaces and gardens. After a delicious Moroccan feast around Djemaa El Fna, you can trek up Northern Africa's highest peak, Mount Toubkal or enjoy a surprising experience of North African skiing at Oukaimeden. The Atlas Mountains are sprinkled with pretty villages, beautiful waterfalls and dramatic viewpoints. Imlil is a popular hub to start exploring, and the Bureau des Guides d'Imlil can arrange guides. You will enjoy unforgettable day trips, visit traditional villages, taste delicious food, and enjoy the fabulous scenery and a mesmerising mix of Berber, Arabian and European cultural influences.

Local Amenities

Nearest Airport	Marrakech Menara Airport (21 km)
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Nearest Village	Daour bou Azza (5 km)
Nearest Town/City	Marrakech (25 km)
Nearest Restaurant	Boucherie Abou Hajar Restaurant (5 km)
Nearest Supermarket	Superette Sehnoune (mini market) (5 km)
Nearest Golf	Argan Golf Course (17 km)
Nearest Tennis	Marrakech Royal Tennis Club (21 km)
Sightseeing	Waky Marrakech (tourist attraction) (6 km)

What we love

- Dar Ghat has been lovingly and brilliantly designed with English and Moroccan influences. It is absolutely stunning, and it is totally obvious why it has appeared in House & Garden Magazine
- The villa's gardens and terraces are wonderful, offering superb alfresco dining and lounge spaces, a fabulous swimming pool, a vegetable garden and petanque and table tennis for some friendly competition. The roof terrace offers the most incredible Atlas Mountain views!
- The villa is fully staffed. Your discreet, attentive staff members are on hand to make sure that your Marrakech stay exceeds your expectations, to serve delicious Moroccan meals and drinks and ensure that the villa, gardens and pool are absolutely immaculate

What you should know...

- Your villa chef will prepare all meals and drinks for you. You just pay for the groceries and drinks and delivery service
- Pool heating and any other requested services will incur an extra fee
- The villa is single-storey. You only go up stairs to get on the exceptional roof terrace
- Please bear in mind that during Ramadan, the traditional month of fasting and purification, some restaurants and cafes close during the day and general business hours are reduced

Terms & Conditions

- **Security deposit:** €2,000 charged to client's credit card by the owner before/upon arrival and refunded two weeks after departure, subject to full inspection.

- **Arrival time:** 4 pm

- **Departure time:** 11 am

- **Energy costs included?:** Yes, included in rental price.

- **Linen & towels included?:** Yes, included in rental price.

- **Pets welcome?:** Not allowed.

- **Other Ts and Cs:** Permanent house staff members are available throughout the stay, including a house manager, a housekeeper, a maid, a gardener and a resident Moroccan chef who will prepare classic Moroccan and European cuisine.
 Please note that the kitchen is for staff usage only; guests are not allowed.

 The cost of food is NOT included in the rental price and will be billed to you at the end of your stay, payable locally in cash or by bank transfer—as well as grocery delivery cost, starting from €70 per week. A non-refundable 40% deposit is required to confirm a booking at this property (or full payment if booking within 12 weeks of departure).

- **Changeover day:** Flexible.

- **End of stay cleaning available?:** Yes. However, guests are required to leave the accommodation clean, tidy and in the same condition as on their arrival. Any extra cleaning, laundry, maintenance and/or garbage disposal required will be charged against the security deposit.

- **Smoking Allowed?:** Smoking & Vaping are not permitted.

- **Minimum stay:** 7 nights. All other durations on request.

- **Heating costs included?:** Not available on this property.

- **Pool heating charge?:** For those who require pool heating, there will be an additional charge of €55 per day, plus preheating cost of €180 per stay (to be paid locally on arrival). Please note that like all heated pools, pool heating and water temperature are reliant on weather and outside temperatures.

- **Tax:** Tourist Taxes are not included in the rental price and are to be paid locally in cash on arrival (the correct total per person per night will be sent to you after booking confirmation).

- **Internet access?:** Wi-Fi internet access included.

- **Pool towels included?:** Yes, included in rental price.