

Villa Aref

Region: Morocco Sleeps: 20

Overview

Beyond Marrakech's vibrant heartbeat, nestled within 11 hectares of fragrant gardens and palm-dotted parkland, Villa Aref unfolds like a surrealist's dream. Sculpted animals surprise and delight at every turn, from acrobatic orangutans swinging through the double-height lounge to a stoic sheep keeping watch by the pool. Inside, the villa is an ever-evolving gallery, part artist's retreat, part sophisticated hideaway. Ten eclectic bedrooms across the main house and riad fuse warmth with playful curiosity, all exquisitely furnished and designed for absolute comfort.

Wander past cascading palms and sculptural installations into a world of quiet indulgence. A heptagonal heated pool sits at the centre of the grounds, fringed by sunbeds, giant cushions and olive trees. Guests can meander through the olive hedge maze, visit the organic garden, or retreat to the hammam and spa after a game of tennis or pétanque. By night, dine beneath lantern-lit trees or in the grand dining room beneath a watchful giraffe.

Located in the Palmeraie's serene Bab Atlas district, Villa Aref offers a poetic counterpoint to the city's hustle, just fifteen minutes from the medina, yet entirely its own world.

Please note that the kitchen is for staff usage only; guests are not allowed to cook or prepare any meal. Usage of the kitchen for nibbles (tea, coffee, sandwich, etc.) might be allowed prior to agreement with the owner/property manager.

Facilities

Villa • Wellness • Tennis Nearby • Ideal for Kids • Private Pool • Tennis Court • Air-Con • Maid Service Included • Ideal for Teens • Cots (Cribs) • Maid Service Available • Chef/Cook Available • Heated Pool • All Bedrooms En-Suite • Ground Floor Bed & Bath • <1hr to Airport • Wi-Fi/Internet • Outdoor Pursuit & Activities • Hairdryer • Tourist Towns & Villages • TV • Table Tennis • Laptop Friendly Workspace • Heating • Transfers Available • Breakfast Available • On-Site Concierge • Ideal for Babies & Toddlers • High Chair(s) • Fenced Grounds



Interior & Grounds

Ground Floor

- Dining room with larger-than-life giraffe
- Orangutan lounge
- Multi-functional room can be set up as a cinema, meeting or party room, a traditional hammam and a spa treatment room
- Bedroom 1: Double bed (Twins on request), ensuite bathroom, air conditioning, fireplace, office table, minibar, safe, dressing room, private garden
- Bedroom 2: Double bed, ensuite bathroom, air conditioning, fireplace, office table, minibar, safe, dressing room, private terrace
- Bedroom 3: Double bed (Twins on request), ensuite bathroom, air conditioning, stove, office table, minibar, safe, dressing room, private garden
- Bedroom 4: Double bed, ensuite bathroom, air conditioning, office table, minibar, safe

First Floor

- Bedroom 5: Double bed, Single bed, ensuite bathroom, air conditioning, fireplace, office table, minibar, safe, dressing room, private terrace
- Bedroom 6: Double bed (Twins on request), ensuite bathroom, air conditioning, stove, office table, minibar, safe, dressing room, private terrace, private balcony
- Bedroom 7: Double bed, Single bed, ensuite bathroom, air conditioning, stove, office table, minibar, safe, dressing room, private terrace
- Bedroom 8: Double bed, ensuite bathroom, air conditioning, fireplace, office table, minibar, safe

Second Floor

- Bedroom 9: Double bed (Twins on request), ensuite bathroom, air conditioning, fireplace, stove, office table, minibar, safe, dressing room

Riad (Suite with 2 Bedrooms)

- Bedroom 10: Two Double beds (Twins on request), ensuite bathroom, air conditioning, stove, minibar, safe, private terrace, outside shower



Exterior Grounds

- Large heated heptagonal swimming pool
- Deckchairs
- Daybeds
- Giant mattresses under the olive trees
- Gardens
- Pergola for al-fresco dining
- Organic vegetable garden

Additional Facilities

- Hammam
- Ping-pong table and pétanque court
- Gym
- Private tennis court

Location & Local Information

Set on the outskirts of Marrakech in the sought-after Palmeraie enclave, Villa Aref enjoys the best of both worlds: peaceful seclusion and proximity to the city's cultural soul. Bab Atlas, with its palm groves and stylish private estates, is a tranquil area known for its calm, wide-open spaces and beautiful desert light.

Within fifteen minutes, guests can be winding through the souks of the Medina, admiring the mosaics of Bahia Palace, or enjoying mint tea on a rooftop terrace overlooking Jemaa el-Fnaa. The surrounding area is home to some of Marrakech's finest golf courses, scenic camel rides through the palms, and elegant spa retreats. For food lovers, this region is rich with gastronomic gems, from contemporary fusion restaurants to traditional Moroccan fare prepared in secret gardens.

Once a royal palm grove, the Palmeraie now blends heritage with modern indulgence, making it an ideal base for those who want a cultural yet restorative escape.

Local Amenities

Nearest Airport	Marrakech Airport (16 km)
Nearest Bar/Pub	La Pergola (10 km)
Nearest Golf	Amelkis Golf Course (9 km)
Nearest Restaurant	Restaurant Lallati by Tigmiza (2 km)
Nearest Supermarket	Carrefour Market (11 km)
Nearest Town/City	Marrakech (15 km)



What we love

- A sculpture garden of surreal animals creates an unforgettable, art-filled experience throughout the villa!
- Every stay includes daily housekeeping, breakfast, pool heating and a guided tour of the private art park.
- The setting is serene and cinematic, with lantern-lit trees and alfresco dining under the stars.
- Just a short drive to Marrakech's buzzing souks, iconic gardens and artisan boutiques.

What you should know...

- The villa does not offer room service and the kitchen is closed at night.
- The estate grounds are shared with the art park and garden areas, so these are not for exclusive use.
- The house is not suitable for disabled guests due to stairs and uneven paths.
- While ideal for gatherings, large events or stag parties are not permitted.
- Please note that the kitchen is for staff usage only; guests are not allowed to cook or prepare any meal. Usage of the kitchen for nibbles (tea, coffee, sandwich, etc.) might be allowed prior to agreement with the owner/property manager.

Terms & Conditions

- **Security deposit:** MAD 55,000 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:** Philippe, the creative director, lives at the property all year round and oversees all on-site operations. The price includes: the services of a dedicated concierge, daily housekeeping and blanket service every evening, change of bed linen and towels twice a week (Including the day of arrival. Additional changes on request), daily change of pool and sports towels, pool heating, full breakfasts, drinks (mineral water, traditional Moroccan mint tea and garden verbenas) and a guided tour of Jean-François Fourtou's monumental art park. Meals for children up to three years old are also provided.
Please note that the kitchen is for staff usage only; guests are not allowed.
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.
- **Smoking Allowed?:** Smoking & Vaping are not permitted.
- **Minimum stay:** 3 - 5 nights, depending on the season. All other durations on request.
- **Heating costs included?:** Yes, included in rental price.
- **Pool heating charge?:** Yes, included in rental price.
- **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.