

Mount Toubkal Circuit Trek

Expedition Information Pack

Contents	Page		Page
Why Choose Earth's Edge	1	Spending Money and Tipping	6
Description and Detailed Itinerary	2	Training Weekends	7
Seasonal Route Variation	2	Safety Standards	7
Expedition Costs	5	Special Offers	8
Flights	5	Book Your Consultation	8
Inclusions and Exclusions	5	Expedition FAQ	8

Why Choose Earth's Edge:

Our mission is to support you in exploring our incredible world and experiencing life-changing adventures in the safest way possible. We are passionate about protecting the planet and improving the lives of those we meet along the way.

- We are a **100% Irish-owned small business**. Our founder, James McManus, is passionate about climbing mountains, and his extensive experience is an invaluable source of support for our office team in our day-to-day operations.
- We're the only company to have a **dedicated expedition doctor** on every high-altitude trek, providing you with peace of mind knowing you're in safe hands from start to finish.
- Our **exceptional expedition leaders** are true experts in their region, passionate about sharing their first-hand knowledge about the local culture, history, and geography while ensuring we consistently deliver unforgettable experiences.
- We keep **group sizes small** to minimise our environmental impact and foster a strong group dynamic. Whether you're traveling solo or with friends or family, our small group sizes provide the perfect opportunity to bond over shared experiences and create lasting friendships.
- We run a **pre-departure training weekend** two months prior to each expedition. It includes a detailed expedition brief, two training hikes and expert advice from an experienced mountain guide. It's also a great opportunity to meet your fellow adventurers!
- We're here to **support you every step of the way**. Our friendly office team is available to answer any questions you have by phone, e-mail or video consultations. Each team member participates in an expedition every year, ensuring they can share up-to-date advice and insights drawn from their own first-hand experiences.
- Booking an Earth's Edge expedition entitles you to a discount from our **equipment partners** at [Great Outdoors](#) to ensure that you get the best gear for your expedition.

- **Responsible travel** is at the core of what we do at Earth's Edge. As a [Certified B Corp](#) company, we are committed to using our business as a force for good; to support our communities both locally and worldwide as well as creating more environmental awareness.

We have a number of **environmental programmes and community projects**, including;

- A [yearly scholarship](#) that gives porters the opportunity to become guides on Kilimanjaro.
- Our clients in Nepal help to remove waste from Sagarmatha National Park through the [Carry Me Back Program](#).
- We collect [clothing and gear donations](#) for our amazing porters on Kilimanjaro.
- We are striving to increase the number of [female staff](#) across our expeditions.

To read more about our sustainability practices please visit our [responsible travel page](#).

[Back to Top](#)

Description & Detailed Itinerary:

Embark on an exhilarating **eight-day journey** through the rugged beauty of Morocco's **High Atlas Mountains**, crafted for trekkers with a solid level of fitness and a hunger for adventure.

Over **six immersive days on foot**, we traverse high mountain passes and remote valleys, experiencing the full diversity of the High Atlas. Our Mount Toubkal Circuit Trek follows one of two carefully designed circular routes through the High Atlas Mountains, depending on the season. These circular routes take you far from the beaten track into wild, untouched landscapes, culminating in the **summit of Mount Toubkal (4,167m)**, the highest peak in North Africa. While impressive in stature, Toubkal is a **non-technical trekking peak**, making it accessible to those with no previous mountaineering experience. Just determination and a love for the mountains needed!

Expect **jaw-dropping panoramas** at every turn; craggy peaks, terraced hillsides, and sweeping alpine valleys. Walk among **orchards of fig, apple, walnut, and cherry**, where friendly locals offer warm smiles and insights into the **rich Berber culture** that thrives in these highlands.

The adventure, however, doesn't end in the mountains. We'll also spend time soaking up the **vibrant energy of Marrakech**, offering a sensory feast of spice-laden souks, centuries-old palaces, and lively street scenes that leave a lasting impression.

This is more than just a trek. It's a journey through **wild landscapes, ancient traditions**, and the soul of Morocco.

Seasonal Route Variation

Due to snow conditions on the higher passes of the Atlas Mountains in spring, departures in March and April are typically planned on the Spring Route (below). This route is equally scenic and challenging and still culminates in the summit of Mount Toubkal (4,167m). The exact route

taken is determined by mountain conditions at the time of travel. Earth's Edge reserves the right to adjust the route based on weather, snow levels, and safety considerations.

Day 1: Arrive in Marrakech. Arrive in Marrakech (RAK). Transfer to the hotel to relax or explore the city. There will be a full expedition briefing in the afternoon. Overnight hotel.	
Summer/Autumn Route (May–October):	Spring Route (March–April):
Day 2: Transfer Marrakech to Imlil, Trek to Tacheddirt, 5 hrs trekking. After breakfast, we drive to Imlil (1,720m), the gateway to the Atlas Mountains. Here, we meet our local guides and support team, and transfer our main gear bags to the mule team. The trail climbs steadily over the Tamatert Pass (2,279m), offering expansive views across terraced hillsides and traditional Berber settlements. Descending into the Ikkiss Valley and the beautiful Ouaneskra village, we follow the river for 45 minutes to the remote village of Tacheddirt , surrounded by dramatic peaks. Overnight camp. Altitude 2,300m.	Day 2: Transfer Marrakech to Oukaimden, Trek to Ousrtk Valley, 5 hrs trekking. After breakfast, we transfer to Oukaimden, North Africa's highest ski station and our starting point in the mountains. On arrival, we meet our local guides and support team, and transfer our main gear bags to the mule team. From here, we begin our trek, passing ancient rock carvings and traditional summer shelters once used by local herders. The route crosses the Tizi Oukaimden Pass (2,600m), offering expansive views over the surrounding valleys, before descending into the peaceful Ousrtk Valley . Overnight gîte. Altitude 2,200m
Day 3: Trek Tacheddirt to Azib Likemt, 6 hrs trekking. We start by crossing the Ikkiss River before ascending slowly to reach the impressive Likemt Pass (3,555m). It's a tough and steep route with some loose scree on the trail. From the pass, sweeping views stretch across the High Atlas, including glimpses of Mount Toubkal itself. A long descent brings us to our secluded campsite in Azib Likemt . Overnight camp. Altitude 2,650m.	Day 3: Trek Ousrtk to Matat Valley, 7hrs trekking Today's route leads through forested slopes and traditional Berber villages as we cross the Tizi Tighatn Pass (3,550m) into the Imnan Valley . After lunch by the river in Amssakrou, we continue over the Tizi Aguersiwal Pass (2,100m) before descending into the scenic Matat Valley . The day blends mountain scenery with authentic village life. Overnight gîte. Altitude 1,800m
Day 4: Trek Azib Likemt to Amsouzert, 7-8 hrs trekking. A varied and visually striking day as we traverse flatter high mountain terrain before descending towards the fertile Amsouzert	Day 4: Trek Matat to Azzaden Valley, 6hrs trekking A steady ascent brings us to the Tizi Oudite Pass (2,200m), revealing sweeping views across the Atlas range. We descend into the

Valley. The landscapes shift dramatically from rugged alpine slopes to cultivated terraces and orchards. We spend the night in a simple traditional gîte in Amsouert, one of the region's most picturesque villages. Overnight gîte. Altitude 1,740m.	Azzaden Valley, one of the most beautiful valleys in the High Atlas, known for its terraced fields, colourful villages and dramatic mountain backdrop. Overnight lodge. Altitude 2,000m
Day 5: Trek Amsouert to Ifni Lake, 4 hrs trekking. A shorter and easier day allows time to appreciate the scenery as we make our way to the spectacular Ifni Lake. Surrounded by rocky peaks and glacial moraine, Ifni Lake is an impressive sight and offers a tranquil setting to rest before the higher passes ahead. Overnight camp. Altitude 2,295m.	Day 5: Azzaden Valley to Aroumd, 6hrs trekking We pass the impressive Ighouliden Waterfalls before climbing through juniper forest to the Tizi Mzzik Pass (2,485m), where panoramic views open up over the Ait Mizan Valley. A gradual descent brings us to the traditional mountain village of Aroumd. Overnight gîte. Altitude 1,900m
Day 6: Ifni Lake to Mt Toubkal Refuge, 6 hrs trekking. By this stage, we should be well acclimatised and ready for the challenge ahead. From Ifni Lake we follow a steep scree path to Ouanoums Pass (3,664m). The climb is demanding but rewarding, and usually takes over 4 hours. From the pass we descend along a zigzag path to reach the Toubkal Refuge, our base for the summit attempt. Overnight refuge. Altitude 3,207m.	Day 6: Aroumd to Mt Toubkal Refuge, 5hrs trekking Ascending gradually from Aroumd, we pass the sacred shrine of Chamharouch (2,350m) and follow the valley towards the high mountains. After lunch by the river, the landscape becomes increasingly alpine as we approach the Toubkal Refuge, our base for the summit attempt. By now we are well acclimatised and ready for the challenge ahead. Overnight refuge. Altitude 3,207m
Day 7: Mt Toubkal Refuge to Marrakech, 8-9 hrs trekking. We rise very early to summit Mt Toubkal (4,167m). It's a steady climb to the summit and it's important to maintain a slow and steady pace. The panoramic views of the Atlas Mountains and the distant sights of Marrakech and the Sahara desert from the summit are truly breathtaking. Standing on the highest point in North Africa is a powerful and unforgettable achievement. We return to the refuge for an early lunch, and then walk back to Imlil. Once in Imlil we drive to Marrakech and enjoy a celebratory meal in the main square. Overnight hotel.	
Day 8: Depart Marrakech. Enjoy your last bit of relaxing or do some more exploring in Marrakech before heading to the airport for your departure.	

[Back to Top](#)

Expedition Costs:

You can find our detailed expedition pricing [on our website](#).

- A **deposit** of EUR/USD/GBP 199 is taken at the time of booking to secure your spot.
- The **final balance** can be paid in instalments, but is due 90 days prior to departure.

[Back to Top](#)

Flights:

Both Aer Lingus and RyanAir offer return flights from Dublin to Marrakech Airport (RKA). We'll share recommended timings that line up with our complimentary group transfers approximately 10 months pre-departure.

Please consult us before booking alternative flights to ensure you arrive in time for the expedition briefing on the first day. It is essential that you do not miss this meeting.

[Back to Top](#)

Expedition Inclusions & Exclusions

Expedition Costs Include:

- Pre-departure training weekend in Wicklow
- An Earth's Edge softshell jacket and a buff for you to keep
- A highly experienced local mountain guide
- Dedicated expedition doctor
- Full support team including guides, cooks and mules
- All accommodation based on twin sharing:
 - 2 nights riad (hotel) in Marrakech
 - 5 nights in refuges and/or tents on the trail (weather dependant)
- All meals and drinking water on the trek (Except in Marrakech where accommodation is based on B&B)
- A celebratory dinner at the end of the expedition
- All planned group transportation throughout the expedition, including airport transfers
- Permit for trekking Mt Toubkal
- All group gear, including a fully stocked med kit, tents and cooking equipment

Expedition Costs Exclude:

- Flights
- Training weekend accommodation and food
- Personal travel insurance
- Medical vaccinations
- Personal equipment

- Tips
- Expenses of a personal nature such as laundry, phone calls, alcohol, and excess baggage charges
- Any costs arising out of unforeseen circumstances which affect the itinerary such as bad weather, road conditions, and any other circumstances beyond our control

[Back to Top](#)

Spending Money and Tipping

Spending Money

We recommend that you put aside **EUR300** in spending money for this trip. This includes the **recommended tip amount of EUR90 per person**.

We recommend that you exchange your money for the local currency, Moroccan Dirham, either at the airport or in Marrakech, for purchasing small items like snacks on the trail. There are ATMs available in Marrakech where you can withdraw cash using a credit/debit card.

Tipping

At Earth's Edge it is important to us that the tipping process is transparent and that all team members are tipped fairly.

Any gratuity is entirely at your discretion and based on your experience, level of satisfaction, and personal circumstances. If you are happy to tip, our suggestion is EUR90 per person, which you can give to your guide at the end of the trek.

Below is an example of how we divide the tip to give you an idea of what share of the tip each person gets on the trek. Our average group size is 13 climbers plus our doctor = 14 people. If everyone tips, that will give us a total tip amount of EUR1,260 (13 x EUR90 + EUR90 as we tip on behalf of our doctor).

With a group of that size, our team in Morocco will be made up as follows and receive roughly the following share of tips:

Expedition Leader: 1 person	EUR 450 x 1	= EUR 450
Head Guide: 1 person	EUR 350 x 1	= EUR 350
Head Cook: 1 person	EUR 300 x 1	= EUR 300
Muleteer: 1 person	EUR 110 x 1	= EUR 110

Driver: 1 person	EUR 50 x 1	= EUR 50
	TOTAL	= EUR 1,260

Please note the above figures are a guideline based on an average of 13 trekkers. We ask our clients not to tip any of the Earth's Edge team directly, as it's important that all of the team get their fair share of the tips.

[Back to Top](#)

Training Weekends:

Before every expedition, we organise a training weekend where you'll have the chance to meet your fellow adventurers! Led by experienced guides, these weekends include a comprehensive expedition briefing, two training hikes, and invaluable advice covering everything from equipment to weather conditions. Not only are these events educational, but they're also enjoyable, set against the breathtaking backdrop of Glendalough, Co. Wicklow. Please note that food and accommodation for the weekends are not included.

[Back to Top](#)

Safety Standards:

At Earth's Edge, your safety is our top priority. Each expedition is led by an experienced leader supported by a qualified doctor with a keen interest in adventure travel and expedition medicine. Our expeditions are further supported by our dedicated Earth's Edge team of guides and porters, all selected for their skills, experience, and excellent references.

Our teams are familiar with the locations of local medical facilities and hospitals in each destination. While our doctor carries a comprehensive medical kit, we ask all participants to bring a basic first aid kit as outlined in the equipment list. Always follow the guidance of your expedition leader to ensure a safe and enjoyable experience.

We recommend participants research local laws and customs before travelling to Morocco. Up-to-date travel advice is available on the [DFA website](#).

On expeditions, the most common cause of illness is gastroenteritis (Delhi Belly), often caused by poor personal hygiene. The good news is that it is easily avoided by practising the following:

- Always **wash your hands** and apply **hand sanitiser** after going to the toilet and before touching food.
- Always **use drinking water** to brush your teeth and avoid ingesting water while showering or washing your face.

- Maintain a **healthy diet** and consider taking **multivitamins and probiotics** for one month before and during the expedition to help your body adjust to changes in your diet and keep you healthy throughout the expedition.
- **Drinking water** is provided by Earth's Edge on each day of the trek, this water is boiled and cooled. You may also wish to bring your own water treatment tablets. If you wish to change the flavour of the water it is recommended to use electrolyte tablets/sachets or add a concentrated flavour drink.

To read more about our safety standards please visit our [safety page](#).

[Back to Top](#)

Special Offers:

- **Return Customer Offer** - If you have travelled with us before please visit our [return customer](#) page for details on what discount you are entitled to.
- **Refer a Friend Offer** - If you have a friend who wants to travel with us please visit our [refer a friend](#) page for details on our referral programme.
- **Group Discounts** - If you are booking as part of a group please visit our [group discounts](#) page for details on what discount you are entitled to.
- **Couples Offer** - If you are booking with a friend or partner please visit our [couples offer](#) page for details on what discount you are entitled to.

[Back to Top](#)

Book Your Trip Consultation

You can now schedule a free trip consultation with a member of the Earth's Edge team! We're happy to talk you through the itinerary, preparation and training, equipment, and anything else you'd like to know. Book your [consultation here](#).

[Back to Top](#)

Expedition FAQ:

Do you have a question that wasn't answered in this information pack? If so, please visit our [FAQ page](#) for a full list of frequently asked questions. If you can't find your answer there please [contact us](#).

[Back to Top](#)