



Tourist guide

OUZOUND WATERFALLS

THE GREATEST WATERFALLS OF NORTH AFRICA

One of the remarkable natural attractions
of Morocco's Central High Atlas

EDITION 2023





OUZLOUD WATERFALLS

The magnificent Ouzoud waterfalls, where water springs from a height of 110 meters and spectacularly plunges into a basin of limestone rocks! It is one of the most beautiful sites in the Central High Atlas and the M'Goun Geopark. Surrounding the waterfall is lush nature, offering opportunities to visit springs,

gorges, zawiyas, caves, grain mills, and authentic berber villages. A place for relaxation and rejuvenation, you can engage in various activities throughout the year according to your preferences. You can also hire accredited tourist guides to accompany you on your hikes and cultural and sports activities.

Situation



248 km from Casablanca. 160 km from Marrakesh. 87 km from Beni Mellal. 56 km from Bin El Ouidane. 36 kilometer(s) from Azilal. 64 km from Demnate.



- Population: 7340 inhabitants.
- Altitude: 1060 m.
- Municipality: Ait Taguella.

Nearby, there are several villages to discover and explore as you visit and go on hikes.



Attractions



See and discover

SELECTION OF ATTRACTIONS

- Ouzoud Waterfalls.
- Tanghmelt Village.
- Gorges of Oued El Abid.
- Jemaa Ikarioune Caves.
- Springs of Tabounoute.
- Sheepfolds of Tabakchout.

CLOSE TO THE VALLEY

- The Imi n'Ifri bridge.
- Bin Al Ouidane.
- The rock carvings of Tizi n'Tirghyst.
- The M'Goun Geopark museum in Azilal.



This list is not exhaustive, a multitude of sites, landscapes, traditions and curiosities remain to be discovered according to your interests and your desires once there.

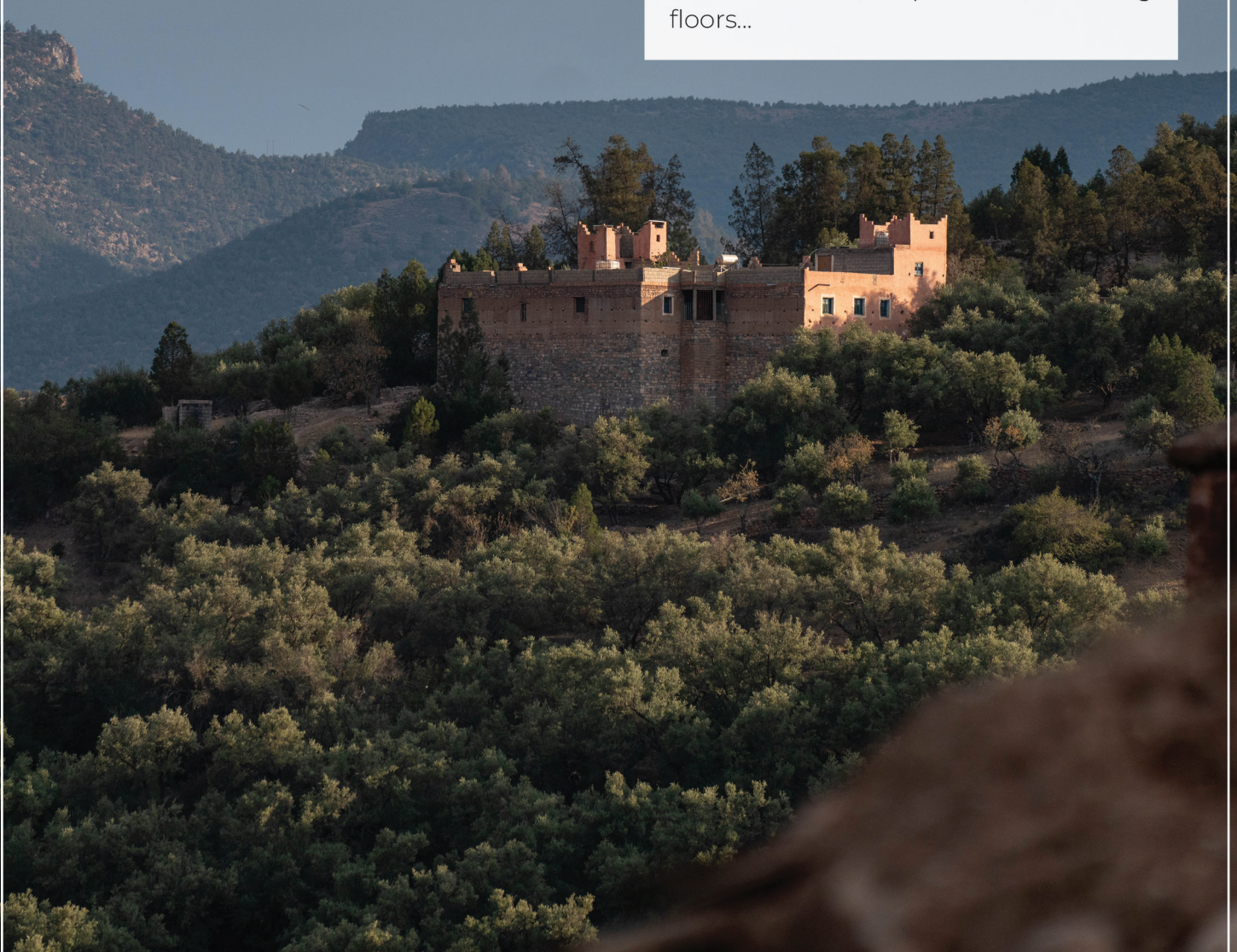
OUZLOUD WATERFALL

At the bottom of the Ouzoud waterfall, colorful little boats will take you as close as possible to the falls. In the site you will be able to observe a community of Magots monkeys living in freedom. At the top of the waterfall, a stone's throw from the impressive chasm, are ancient grain mills, still in operation thanks to the water of the torrent. Experiences to be absolutely lived!



TANGHMELT VILLAGE

Discover the village of Tanghmelt, the oldest in the area, which stands out for its local architecture and authentic way of life. Visit the community hammam, traditional mills, cooperatives, threshing floors...



Nature or sports activities



- Hiking
- Hikes on the back of mules
- Mountain biking (MTB)
- Climbing
- Paragliding

*For sports enthusiasts
of all levels*

If you come with your family, several activities can be carried out by the children. All activities can be adapted to your needs and the duration of your stay.

HIKING

The Ouzoud Waterfalls site offers various hiking possibilities, either in loop or star-shaped routes. The trails are accessible to everyone. During your hikes, you will traverse olive valleys, lakes, and visit villages made of pisé (rammed earth). You can observe Magot monkeys and a diverse flora. An essential walk is the one you can take to discover or rediscover the Ouzoud Waterfalls. The trails are well maintained and enjoyable. You can choose to descend to the edge of the waterfall on the trails, take a boat ride to get closer to the immense waterfall, observe the Magot monkeys, have a cup of tea or enjoy a delicious tajine in the numerous cafes and restaurants overlooking the falls. If you feel like shopping, climb back up the stairs and let yourself be tempted by the multitude of small bazaars.



For more information on the activities, contact one of the tourist accommodations on the site.

MULE TREKKING

Hiking on a donkey or mule around the waterfall is a unique Berber experience, easy and accessible to children. Lasting 1 to 5 hours, you can visit the natural habitat of the Magot monkeys, admire the adobe douars, share a glass of hot tea with the locals, and discover the Berber culture.



MOUNTAIN BIKING (MTB)

Mountain bike enthusiasts appreciate the many circuits possibilities offered around the waterfall which allow you to discover the landscape, biological, geological and cultural diversity. The tours offered cover distances of 5 to 40 km and durations of 3 to 5 hours. The mountain bike trails connect the berber villages in adobe. You can stop there to quench your thirst and visit the villages. Mountain bikes available for organized stays, otherwise bring your mountain bike.



Workshops And various activities

*Spend enjoyable
moments and learn
about local know-how*

*For more information on these activities
contact a guide or one of the tourist
accommodations in the valley.*

LOCAL GASTRONOMY WORKSHOP

Interested visitors can learn about local cuisine. Information can be obtained from guides and tourist accommodations.



BERBER CARPET WEAVING

Women's cooperatives preserve ancestral know-how through carpet weaving. They can organize introductory weaving sessions for you. Phone : +212629611039



Solidarity Activities



REFORESTATION AND AWARENESS CAMPAIGN

Participate in the fight against erosion by planting local species and/or participate in awareness campaigns on sustainable tourism to ensure the conservation of this unique site. Contact: RITAJ Cooperative and AMAZIGH Association for Environmental Development and Sustainable Tourism. Phone : + 212661964573



*For supporters of
solidarity and sustainable
development*

EARTH DAY CELEBRATION

Several tree-planting and waste-collection awareness-raising activities are organized each year to celebrate Earth Day, in collaboration with local schools and associations. Contact: Le réseau associatif des amoureux de la vallée des Ait Bouguemez.



Participate in the tradition of Amazigh solidarity "Tiwizi"! If you are an amateur, do not hesitate to contact local associations, schools and cooperatives; to inform you about the solidarity projects planned. Solidarity stays can also be organized on request.

Historical Sites



ZAQUIAT TANAGHMELT



Zaouiat Tanaghmelt was built in the 7th century by Abou Imrane Moussa Ben Yaacoub Al Bouguemaz. Eight kilometers from the famous Ouzoud Falls, it is located in the village of Tanaghmelt with its unique architectural character, also called the “Mexican” village. Location: Village of Tanaghmelt.

Dive into the history of Berber tribes

TRADITIONAL HAMMAMS



This 5 centuries old traditional hammam has made Zaouiat Tanaghmelt famous. It offers its services free of charge to the village's inhabitants by following ancestral tribal customs and organization. A fine illustration of berber solidarity! You can admire the building, visit the water heating installations and find out how the community organizes itself. Location: village of Tanaghmelt.

Geosites



*For the curious and
enthusiasts of geology.*





OUZOUZ WATERFALLS

The spring waters upstream form the Oued Tissakht which flows in spectacular waterfalls over a drop of more than 110 m high. The rocky cirque framing this impressive waterfall is carved out of Middle Jurassic limestone (approx. 170 Ma), lined with limestone concretions called travertines. This rock results from the chemical precipitation of calcium carbonate, a process still active today. This Site of Biological and Ecological Interest (SBEI) offers diverse habitats for fauna (maggot monkeys, bats, etc.).



GORGES OUED EL ABID

The Gorges Oued El Abid with a depth of 400 to 600 meters have red and steep walls. They were dug by Oued el Abid, the main tributary of the Oum Errabia. Location: On the road to Ait Attab.



JEMAA IKARIOUNE CAVES

For amateurs, 2 km from the waterfall, you can admire the stalactites and stalagmites of these natural caves. Location: Mouggsafen.

Biological and Ecological Riches



SBEI OF OUZOUND

The waterfall area is located on the Ouzoud River, approximately 1.5 km from its main source. The waterfall's waters flow over a gently sloping limestone slab before cascading down in a three-tiered travertine formation. The vegetation is lush, especially downstream of the waterfall. A stunning and dynamic cedar forest surrounds the entire valley and extends to the south. A small population of monkeys thrives in the cedar forest, and there is a strong presence of birds, including birds of prey, throughout the site and the valley downstream of the wadi. The landscape quality of the site is exceptional.

A Site of Biological and Ecological Interest is the term used for protected areas in Morocco. A SBEI is a remarkable ecosystem, with a high concentration of rare or endangered endemic plant and/or animal species, or with a high biodiversity index.

*For nature lovers and
ecotourism enthusiasts*



Cooperatives



SOCIAL AND SOLIDARITY ECONOMY SPACE

Visit this solidarity space created to promote and market the region's local products. You will find a profusion of products and craft items presented by more than 80 agricultural and craft cooperatives in the province of Azilal. This center was supported by the National Initiative for Human Development INDH. A must visit place! Location : Ouzoud center. Contact: +212661964573.

Discover local products and crafts

Take advantage of your stay to visit the Ouzoud cooperatives. Here you can buy beldi and organic almonds, homemade couscous, flour ground with the old water mill, vegetable oils, cosmetic oils, honey, aromatic and medicinal plants... and all kinds of craft products.



Museum



*To go further in
understanding the valley*

BORJ OUZOUUD MUSEUM

The Borj Ouzoud Museum presents a wide range of ancestral Berber tools.
Location : Near the Borj Ouzoud hotel.





Events

Do not miss

AIT TAGUELLA MOUSSE

During the Moussem period you can visit a large souk and attend fantasia shows. Location : Ait Taguella. Date : July.



OUZOUND FESTIVAL

Many activities are organized each year during this festival. Location : Ouzoud
Date : in summer.



ACCOMMODATIONS

Hotels from 0 to 5 stars

Guest houses

Apartment rentals Homestay

Campsite Dar Diafa

Information on accommodation is available on the CRT : www.visitbenimellal.com and on the Vaolo platform : www.vaolo.com.



RESTAURANTS

Several restaurants at the bottom of the Cascade or at the level of the Center of Ouzoud.



DRINK COFFEE OR TEA

Many cafes at the bottom of the Cascade or at the Center of Ouzoud.



SOUK

Souk Ihat and Souk Tlat

Location: Ait Taguella -Tazroute

Day: Sunday -Tuesday

Hours: 6 am to 4 pm - 6 am to 3 pm.



GROCERY

Fruit and vegetable merchants, grocery stores, butchers, pharmacy, bakery, in the center of the village of Ouzoud.



CLIMATE



Maximum temperature 39° (July-August), minimum 2° (December to February).

ROADS



The majority of the main roads are paved.

FUEL



Gas stations in Ouzoud. Contact your accommodation in the event of a breakdown so as to be put you in touch with a mechanic.

TRANSPORTATION



Grand taxi between Azilal and Ouzoud. Journey time 50 minutes for about 20 Dhs. Large taxi between Marrakech and Ouzoud. Duration of the trip 2 hours and a half for about 100 Dhs.

DANGERS AND INCONVENIENCE



Very safe rural communities. In case of heavy rains in the mountains, some small risk of flooding. In winter the road can be cut off by snow for a few hours. Do not go into the mountains without a licensed guide who knows the area.

PHARMACY AND EMERGENCIES



Pharmacy in Ouzoud. Public and private hospitals in Demnate and Azilal.

MONEY



Ticket office banking in Azilal, some accommodations only accept cash.

PHONE AND INTERNET



All telephone operators have a network operating in the valley.

TOURIST GUIDES



List of approved guides on the CRT : www.visitbenimellal.com. Accommodations can put you in touch with licensed guides.

LANGUES



The predominant language in the region is Tamazight followed by dialectal Arabic. Most accommodation owners and all guides are fluent in at least French and English.

Here are some words in Tamazight to make your stay more pleasant:

Hello

Thanks

Please

Good night

Good morning

Salam

Tanmert

Irbi

Timnsiouin

Sbahlkhir



Help us save the M'Goun Geopark

Let's preserve cultural heritage by supporting authentic experiences.

Let's respect the local culture and support communities by purchasing local products and by participating in solidarity activities.

Let's preserve our biological and ecological heritage.

Water is a limited resource. Let's reduce its consumption by using tap water and shower water wisely and reusing towels in our accommodation facilities.

Let's reduce our energy consumption in terms of air conditioning and electricity in the accommodation facilities.

Let's dispose of our waste in appropriate places to preserve the environment and the beauty of the valley.

THANK YOU FOR CONTRIBUTING TO SUSTAINABLE
DEVELOPMENT OF OUR M'Goun Geopark!



M'GOUN UNESCO GEOPARK

The M'Goun UNESCO Geopark is the first Geopark in Morocco, Africa and the Arab world. This protected territory includes a large number of geosites of exceptional interest and many places of high ecological, archaeological, historical and cultural value. There are notably remarkable footprints of sauropod and theropod dinosaurs as well as numerous deposits of dinosaur bones.

Located in the Central High Atlas between Béni Mellal in the north and the crest line of Ighil M'Goun in the south, the M'Goun Geopark covers an area of approximately 5700 km² and includes 15 municipalities: Azilal, Demnat, Tilouguite, Zawiat Ahançal, Tabant, Ait M'Hamed, Ait Taguella, Agoudi N'Lkheir, Ait Abbas, Ait Boulli, Ait Blal, Sidi Boulkhef, Tifni, Anergui and Boutferda.

Contact: M'Goun Geopark Association, Azilal Morocco. www.geoparc-mgoun.ma.

The M'Goun Geopark authentic experiences

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Conseil Régional
du Tourisme
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GÉOPARC M'GOUN

