Ait Bouguemez Happy Valley Guide: 6-Day High Atlas & Imlil Slow Travel Roadbook

Field-Tested 540 km Paved Circuit from Marrakech · Zero Technical Summit Climbing · R302 (Demnate) vs. R304 (Azilal) Access · Verified Eco-Lodges, Gentle Orchard Walks & Offline Cash Protocol · Online Edition: moroccotravelmate.com/ait-bouguemez-happy-valley-guide/

Circuit Distance	Valley Elevations	Road & Vehicle Spec	Walking Level	Optimal Seasons
540 km Loop (Marrakech Start/End)	**1,740 m** (Imlil) · **1,850 m** (Tabant) · **2,629 m** (R302 Pass)	**100% Paved** · Compact SUV (Dacia Duster) Ideal	**Easy & Gentle** · Orchard & Riverside Mule Paths	**Apr–Jun** (Blossoms) & **Sep–Oct** (Harvest)

1. Executive Briefing & Official High Atlas Emergency Dispatch

This official **Ait Bouguemez Happy Valley Guide** roadbook is engineered for travelers who want majestic High Atlas scenery, shaded walnut and apple orchard strolls, and authentic Amazigh hospitality *without* climbing 4,167-meter Mount Toubkal. By pairing **2 nights in Imlil** (only 90 minutes south of Marrakech) with **3 nights in Aït Bouguemez (the "Happy Valley")** inside the UNESCO M'Goun Global Geopark, you experience two distinct mountain ecosystems on a single 6-day loop. Starting or ending in the Red City? Pair this mountain retreat with our vetted **Best Riad in Marrakech Guide**.

Emergency Service / Authority	Direct Dial	Jurisdiction & Field Coverage
Royal Gendarmerie (Rural & Mountain Roads)	177	Primary dispatch for P2005 (Imlil), R302 (Demnate/Tirghist), R304 (Azilal/Tabant) & N8
Protection Civile (Mountain Rescue & Fire)	15 / 150	Ambulance and mountain rescue across Al Haouz and Azilal provinces · SAMU Medical: 141
Urban Police & Universal Mobile SOS	19 / 112	Inside municipal limits of Marrakech, Demnate, and Azilal (UK FCDO also lists 190)
ADM Toll Motorway Breakdown Assistance	5050	24/7 dispatch on Moroccan national toll motorways (Autoroutes du Maroc)
Marrakech Tourist Police & International Clinic	0524 38 46 01	Brigade Touristique Marrakech · 24/7 International Clinic: +212 524 36 95 95

2. Road Access Directives: R302 vs. R304, SUV Clearance & Zero-ATM Rule

Reaching Aït Bouguemez from Marrakech or Imlil offers two 100% paved corridors. **Option A — Route R304 via Azilal and Aït M'hamed (All-Weather Corridor):** Follows wider two-lane asphalt through Azilal and is mandatory in winter (November–March) or after heavy rain. **Option B — Route R302 via Demnate and Imi n'Ifri (Scenic High Pass Corridor):** Passes the giant travertine arch of Imi n'Ifri and climbs the narrow 2,629-meter *Tizi n'Tirghist* pass, ideal in dry weather from May to October. Entering via Demnate (R302) on Day 3 and exiting via Azilal and Ouzoud Waterfalls (R304) on Day 6 creates a seamless loop without retracing a single kilometer.

Vehicle Clearance & Zero-ATM Cash Rule: While routes P2005, R302, and R304 are paved, narrow single-track mountain shoulders and gravel eco-lodge driveways reward higher ground clearance. Reserve a compact SUV (Dacia Duster) via our **Car Rental in Morocco Guide** and check live rates on **DiscoverCars High-Clearance SUV Offer ↗**. Crucially, **there are no bank ATMs or major fuel stations inside Aït Bouguemez (Agouti, Tabant, Timit, or Ibakliwin)**, and 95% of eco-lodges, weaving cooperatives, and village guides operate strictly in cash. Withdraw **2,500–3,500 MAD in cash** and fill your tank 100% in Demnate or Azilal before ascending, and activate a Maroc Telecom / Orange data plan using our **Best Morocco eSIM Guide**.

⛽ **BILINGUAL FUEL & PASS CHECK FLASHCARD (SHOW IN DEMNATE OR AZILAL BEFORE CLIMBING)**

من فضلك، املأ الخزان بالكامل بـ (مازوط ممتاز). هل الطريق رقم R302 (تيزي نترغيست) أو R304 إلى آيت بوكماز (تابانت) مفتوحة وجيدة اليوم؟

« Bonjour, le plein de Gasoil Sans Soufre s'il vous plaît. Est-ce que la route vers Aït Bouguemez (Tabant) par R302 ou R304 est bien dégagée aujourd'hui ? Merci ! »

Offline GPS Waypoints (WGS84): 1. Marrakech Hub (`31.6295, -7.9811`) · 2. Imlil Parking Basin (`31.1377, -7.9197`) · 3. Demnate / Imi n'Ifri Arch (`31.7244, -6.9714`) · 4. Sidi Moussa Granary & Tabant (`31.6572, -6.4294`) · 5. Ibakliwin Dinosaur Tracks (`31.6695, -6.3885`) · 6. Ouzoud Waterfalls (`32.0152, -6.7188`).

3. Verified 6-Day Slow Travel Matrix & Day-by-Day Field Log

Itinerary Stage	Elevation & Drive	Gentle Walk (Zero Summit Climbing)	Key Field & Booking Directive
Days 01–02: Imlil & Aroumd Basin	1,740 m – 1,900 m · 65 km (1.5 hrs via P2005)	**Imlil–Aroumd–Tamatert Orchard Loop** (2 hrs gentle mule path + rooftop tea)	Park at guarded Imlil basin lot (20 MAD/day); muleteer carries bags to **Kasbah Imlil ↗**
Day 03: Demnate, Imi n'Ifri & Entry	1,100 m → 2,629 m Pass · 235 km (4.5–5.0 hrs)	**Imi n'Ifri Natural Bridge Walk** (45 mins through travertine canyon arch)	Mandatory ATM cash (2,500–3,500 MAD) & 100% fuel stop in Demnate or Azilal

Itinerary Stage	Elevation & Drive	Gentle Walk (Zero Summit Climbing)	Key Field & Booking Directive
Day 04: Ibakliwin & Sidi Moussa	1,850 m – 2,050 m · 12 km local valley road	**Ibakliwin Dinosaur Tracks & Sidi Moussa Sunset Walk** (35-min zig-zag path)	Bring 20 MAD coin for Sidi Moussa granary custodian; stay at Kasbah Aït Bouguemez ↗
Day 05: Agouti to Timit Orchards	1,800 m – 1,900 m · 0 km (100% Car-Free Day)	**Flat 5–7 km Riverside Apple & Walnut Stroll** (Under 80 m elevation gain)	Hire a certified local village guide (250–350 MAD) & bake traditional *tafarnout* bread
Day 06: Azilal, Ouzoud & Marrakech	1,060 m → 466 m · 235 km via R304 & N8	**110 m Ouzoud Waterfalls Olive Grove Rim Walk** (1 hr shaded cascade trail)	Return SUV in Marrakech Guéliz; check into a medina stay from our Marrakech Riad Guide ↗

Days 01 – 02: Marrakech to Imlil & Aroumd — High Atlas for Non-Climbers

Depart Marrakech after breakfast along paved route P2005 through the Moulay Brahim gorge and Asni. Park at the guarded Imlil village lot (20 MAD/day) and let your kasbah's muleteer transfer your luggage up the car-free stone paths while you walk unencumbered through shaded walnut groves. Spend Day 2 following the gentle mule track along irrigation channels (*seguias*) to Aroumd (1,900 m) and Tamatert for a garden tagine lunch facing the 4,167-meter south face of Mount Toubkal, followed by a wood-fired mountain hammam.

✦ **Curated Stage Bookings:** Check Kasbah Imlil Deal & Availability on Booking.com ↗ · Book Guided Imlil Orchard Walk & Lunch on GetYourGuide ↗

Day 03: Imlil to Demnate (Imi n'Ifri Natural Arch) & Entry into Aït Bouguemez

Descend from Imlil to Demnate to withdraw 2,500–3,500 MAD cash and top up fuel to 100%. Six kilometers outside Demnate, walk the 45-minute trail through the giant travertine cave arch of **Imi n'Ifri**. In dry weather (May–October), ascend scenic route R302 over the 2,629 m *Tizi n'Tirghist* pass; in winter or rain, take the wider R304 highway via Azilal and Aït M'hamed into Agouti (1,800 m).

✦ **Curated Stage Bookings:** Check High-Clearance SUV Deal on DiscoverCars ↗ · Compare All Marrakech SUVs on DiscoverCars ↗

Days 04 – 05: Ibakliwin Dinosaur Tracks, Sidi Moussa Granary & Car-Free Orchard Stroll

On Day 4 morning, visit the eastern village of **Ibakliwin** to inspect the 165-million-year-old Jurassic sauropod and तीन-toed theropod dinosaur footprints preserved on an inclined limestone slab, followed by a women's rug weaving cooperative in Tabant. One hour before sunset, walk the graded 35-minute zig-zag path up to the conical 16th-century adobe **Collective Granary (Ighrem) of Sidi Moussa** (2,050 m) for a 360-degree panorama over all three branches of the Happy Valley. On Day 5, leave your car parked for a flat 5–7 km riverside stroll between **Agouti, Aït Imi, and Timit** beneath walnut and apple trees, baking traditional *tafarnout* bread drizzled with mountain thyme honey and walnut oil.

✦ **Curated Stage Bookings:** Check Kasbah Aït Bouguemez Deal & Availability on Booking.com ↗ · Request Vetted Local Village Guide via WhatsApp ↗

Day 06: Return via Route R304 (Azilal), 110 m Ouzoud Waterfalls & Marrakech Finale

Exit the valley westward via the smooth two-lane R304 highway through Aït M'hamed and Azilal. Detour 30 minutes northwest of Azilal to the **110-meter tiered Ouzoud Waterfalls** to spot wild Barbary macaques and enjoy a shaded riverside lunch before following highway N8 back to Marrakech. Drop off your rental SUV in Guéliz to avoid medina parking fees, and review our **Marrakech Airport Departure Logistics Guide** (arrive 3 full hours before international flights for mandatory check-in desk boarding pass stamping).

4. Transparent 6-Day Budget Matrix & Non-Climber Packing Checklist

Expense Category (2 Travelers / 6 Days)	Tier 1: Authentic Gîte Self-Drive	Tier 2: Boutique Eco-Lodge + SUV	Tier 3: Private 4x4 Chauffeur & Kasbahs
Vehicle Rental / Private 4WD (6 Days)	$230 – $270 (Compact Crossover)	$310 – $380 (Dacia Duster SUV + Full Cover)	$900 – $1,150 (Private 4WD + Licensed Driver)
Fuel & Guarded Parking (540 km)	$65 – $80 (Diesel + Imlil basin lot)	$70 – $85 (Diesel + guarded lots)	Included in private chauffeur package
Accommodations (5 Nights Half-Board)	$260 – $340 (Traditional village gîtes)	$520 – $680 (Boutique eco-lodges & kasbah)	$850 – $1,250 (Luxury Imlil & valley suites)
Local Guides, Mules & Terrace Lunches	$170 – $240 (Half-day guide + tagines)	$290 – $400 (Private walks, mules & lunches)	$370 – $520 (Full guided walks & dining)
Total 6-Day Outlay (2 Travelers)	**$725 – $930 ($362 – $465 / person)**	**$1,190 – $1,545 ($595 – $772 / person)**	**$2,120 – $2,920 ($1,060 – $1,460 / person)**

- **Valley Footwear & Evening Layers:** Pack grippy trail-running sneakers (no heavy mountaineering boots needed), collapsible walking poles for Sidi Moussa hill, modest breathable daywear covering shoulders and knees, and a warm fleece or light down jacket (nights at 1,850 m drop 12–15°C).
- **Cash, Offline GPS & Health Kit:** Carry **2,500–3,500 MAD cash** in 50, 100, and 200 MAD notes, download the Morocco offline map in Organic Maps or OsmAnd, pack a 20,000 mAh power bank, reusable water bottle with filter, SPF 50+ sunscreen, and review our **Healthcare in Morocco for Tourists Guide**.

5. Official Partner Booking Directory, Companion Guides & Live Support

Use the verified links below to check live availability for your High Atlas stays, SUV rental, and guided walks, or connect directly with our team and traveler community for live pass conditions:

Curated Partner / Resource	Recommended Stage / Purpose	Direct Booking & Availability Link
Kasbah Imlil (Booking.com)	Days 01–02 · Panoramic Toubkal Terrace Stay in Imlil	Check Kasbah Imlil Deal & Availability ↗
Kasbah Aït Bouguemez (Booking.com)	Days 03–05 · Half-Board Eco-Lodge in Happy Valley	Check Kasbah Aït Bouguemez Availability ↗
High-Clearance SUV Offer (DiscoverCars)	Days 01–06 · Featured Compact SUV Deal (Marrakech)	Check Featured SUV Deal on DiscoverCars ↗
All Marrakech SUVs (DiscoverCars)	Days 01–06 · Compare All Zero-Excess SUV Rentals	Compare All Marrakech SUV Rates ↗
Guided Imlil Orchard Walks (GetYourGuide)	Day 02 · Non-Climber Guided Village Walk & Tagine Lunch	Book Guided Imlil Walk on GetYourGuide ↗
WhatsApp Live Mountain Concierge	Live R302/R304 Pass Status, Private 4x4 Driver & Local Guides	Chat Live on WhatsApp (+212 670 95 17 96) ↗
Morocco Wayfinder Facebook Group	Ask Real Travelers, Share Road Reports & Trip Tips	Join Our Facebook Traveler Community ↗
60-Second Custom Trip Planner	Build a Custom High Atlas, Sahara or Coastal Route	Launch 60-Second Morocco Trip Planner ↗

Essential Morocco Wayfinder Companion Guides (Click to Open Online)

- **Interactive Web Guide & GIS Map:** Ait Bouguemez Happy Valley Guide: 6-Day Ultimate Slow Trip ↗
- **Marrakech & Morocco Stays:** 12 Best Riads in Marrakech ↗ · Best Riads in Morocco (4-City Shortlist) ↗ · Marrakech Travel Guide ↗
- **Overland & Airport Logistics:** Car Rental in Morocco Guide ↗ · Best Morocco eSIM Guide ↗ · Marrakech RAK Departure Logistics ↗ · First Time in Morocco Guide ↗
- **Continue Your Journey (Next Itineraries):** 10-Day Morocco Sahara Itinerary (High Atlas & Erg Chebbi) ↗ · 8-Day Morocco Coastal Itinerary (Essaouira, Imsouane & Taghazout) ↗

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