

Going to Marrakech**J John#475**

Hi! I'm going to Marrakech in Morocco for five days this spring. I'd love some recommendations for things to do and places to see with my family.

T TravelAddict_15

You have to go to Jemaa el-Fnaa. It's a big square in the old town where people meet up and watch the street entertainers and storytellers. There are people there all afternoon but it's best to go after sunset because it's cooler then. You can get something to eat in one of the food stalls and then get your picture taken with a snake around your neck!

D Dan_36

I'd recommend taking a bicycle tour of the Medina, the old historic part of town. You should book it online in advance so you can choose the best tour for you. They can be expensive but it's worth it because you get to see the places you might not see on your own. Also, the guides know loads of interesting facts and stories about the Medina.

S Samantha_G

I did a cookery course with my family, which I strongly recommend. It was in a country farmhouse just outside Marrakech. We got to make traditional Moroccan dishes like couscous. There was also a competition where we had to guess spices like black pepper or paprika from their smell! At the end of the morning we were allowed to eat the food we'd prepared.

A Ali_834

Shopping for rugs (small decorative carpets) in the Medina is a must! At first I didn't want to go rug shopping because it sounded boring but my parents insisted. It happened to be great fun because you don't just pay what the seller asks. You discuss how much you want to pay until you both agree on a price. I loved it!

M Maria_D

I'd suggest going to the Jardin Majorelle just outside the Medina. It's a famous garden that has unusual plants and a bright blue building in the middle. There's also a great café where you can get a cup of tea. I'm sure that after a day or two in the hot and dusty old town, you'll be pleased to spend some time relaxing in the gardens.

F FlowerPower#85

You should go on a day trip to the Atlas Mountains. They're only an hour's drive from Marrakech and there are lots of companies that organise tours. You go on a mini-bus to various places of interest in the mountains, such as the Berber villages, where you can see them making the local Argan oil. There are usually plenty of stops to take photos of the amazing scenery.

K Kate_1978

Personally, I'd recommend going to the Bahia Palace. This building is just incredible. It was designed and built by Moroccan architects in the 19th century and every centimetre has been decorated in some way. You can see the most complex patterns on the walls, floors and ceilings – I spent most of my time just looking up at the ceilings!

Read the text and choose the best answer.

1 In this text the writers are ...

- A suggesting holiday activities in Marrakech.
- B discussing Moroccan culture.
- C describing the history of Marrakech.

2 You are unlikely to find this text ...

- A on a travel website.
- B in a travel magazine.
- C on an internet forum.

3 All of the writers mention ...

- A where the activities take place.
- B how much the activities cost.
- C when the activities takes place.

4 The text is ...

- A mostly positive.
- B positive up to a point.
- C generally negative.

5 The text has been written by ...

- A a team of travel writers.
- B the marketing department of a travel agency.
- C members of the public.

VOCABULARY

1. Complete the sentences with a word or phrase given.

department store | office block | parking space | suburbs | the Tube

1. We moved out to the _____ because it's more peaceful than the city centre.
2. My mum can never find a _____ near our flat so she often leaves her car at work.
3. I went on _____ when I was in London but I didn't like it. It was hot and crowded.
4. There is a huge _____ in the city centre. My mum works there.
5. Harrods is a famous _____ in London. There are lots of different sections selling everything you can imagine.

2. Complete the sentences with a preposition.

1. The food was horrible. The meat was covered _____ some strange sauce.
2. Anyone can enter the competition, regardless _____ their age.
3. Scientists hope to find a solution _____ the problem in the next five years.
4. It's important to dispose _____ your waste in a responsible way.
5. She didn't have any intention _____ giving the money back.

3. Complete the sentences with the correct form of the words given.

able | agree | aware | comfort | secure

1. I'm not sure we're _____ of finding a solution.
2. She seems to have an _____ of the difficulties.
3. He's quite an _____ person. He seems to lack confidence in himself.
4. I'm in _____ with Brian. I also think we should get this bus.
5. This seat is quite _____. I'm getting a pain in my back.

4. Choose the correct answers to complete the text.

I used to live in Cardiff but two years ago my parents moved to the countryside. They were fed up (1) **with / at / from** all the noise and traffic. At first, I hated (2) **rural / city / urban** life but after a while I started to like it. It's true that we don't have all the (3) tower **blocks / facilities / attractions** you get in the city but there's still plenty to do. For example, I love walking in the mountains near our village. It's (4) **unbelievable / believably / believable** how peaceful it can be when you're out walking. Noise is one of the big (5) **advantageous / advantages / disadvantages** of the city, but here in the country, the only sounds you ever hear are the birds. I wouldn't go back to the city for anything.

GRAMMAR

5. Complete the sentence using the correct form (present perfect simple or continuous) of the verbs in brackets.

1. I _____ (stay) at my grandmother's house for the last two weeks.
2. They _____ (see) the play yet but they hope to see it on Saturday.
3. Justin Bieber _____ (sell) more than 40 million records around the world.
4. I _____ (just / speak) to my mum and she said I can have you round for dinner.
5. I _____ (study) for my exam all morning but I still don't feel very confident about passing.

6. Complete the text.

One of the biggest problems of life in any city is the traffic. The noise of the cars and the pollution caused by them can make life uncomfortable for many. In my city, the government (1) _____ been talking about this problem (2) _____ many years. However, they have only (3) _____ started to do something about it. They're building new cycle paths and they've (4) _____ changing the buses to electric ones. However, they (5) _____ done anything to limit the number of cars on the road and that is the main problem!

7. Complete the sentences with a question tag.

1. Let's go to the music festival, _____? It'll be great fun.
2. Your sister was at the birthday party, _____?
3. It's not as beautiful as people say, _____?
4. You can't play the guitar, _____?
5. Open the door, _____? It's really hot in here.

8. Correct the mistakes in bold.

1 A: Who **did found** Apple?

B: I think it was Steve Jobs and Steve Wozniak.

2 A: What's the tallest structure in the world?

B: It's the Burj Khalifah, **doesn't** it?

3 A: **She has** ever visited Paris?

B: No, I don't think so.

4 A: How about **to do** our homework together?

B: Yes, alright.

5 A: What football team **plays Palmer** for?

B: Chelsea, I think.

9. Complete the phrases for agreeing and disagreeing with one word from each list.

***certain | entirely | right | something | up
about | agree | extent | in | to***

1. I think you are _____ that.

2. There's _____ that, I suppose.

3. That's true _____ a point.

4. I don't _____ with you about that.

5. I agree with that to a _____ .