

The South Trip.

Summer of 2017

Destinations & infos.



ARE YOU
READY?

Kairouan.

Kairouan! The heart of Islamic faith and culture! Kairouan is best explored on foot and as with many Tunisian cities it is the Medina, the old city, that is where almost all sites of interest can be found though the Medina itself is beautiful with white washed walls and a myriad of alleys and arches to explore, as featured in Indiana Jones and the Raiders of the Lost Ark. We must visit the Great Mosque of OKBA IBN NAFAA which makes the visit to Kairouan worthwhile on its own with its amazing architecture and lovely details



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Gafsa.

Gafsa is a modern town, busy and friendly, but without many tourists. It certainly warrants a stop in itself. The Roman pools, the kasbah and traditional quarters are all interesting and visually appealing. The Roman pools is the only sight of its kind in all of Tunisia. Gafsa has a long history, going back to at least Numidian times. It was destroyed in 107 BCE by the Romans in their campaign against Jugurtha, but would become an important Roman city, reflected in the beauty and size of the pools. The Roman influence was so strong that there are reports of Latin being spoken here as late as the 12th century.



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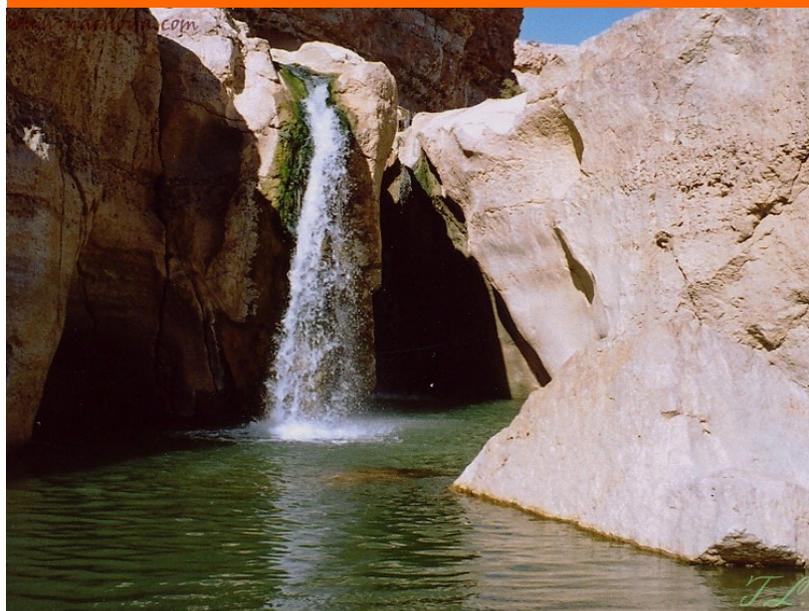
Tozeur.

This charming city in the South West of Tunisia is based around a large Oasis famous for its Palm trees and production of dates, which are exported around the world. The city is a good place to glimpse the Sahara from and take in traditional Tunisian culture including a wide range of architectural styles.

The Medina, the old city, of Tozeur is where you will find the most historic and beautiful buildings, some are magnificent in their detail but most are more humble but still stand distinctive and proud: integral parts of the city that have stood for hundreds of years.

From Tozeur you can also reach the Sahara easily, by Camel if you wish;. There are a wide number of different tours which may take in a number of Saharan villages nearby as well as the Palmaries. Though not for everyone those with an interest in film will love visiting the scene of much of Star wars:

A New Hope's filming for scenes set of Tatooine which has been used for subsequent Star Wars films as well. For those accompanying Star Wars fans the sites in the desert are themselves breath-taking and well worth a visit.



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Douz.

Douz is a relatively large Tunisian town, and it's a good base to use when you want to explore the Tunisian side of the Sahara Desert.

In Douz trek the desert, admire dunes and ride a camel . The minimum is usually a half day camel trek with Bedouin guides, who will probably lead you out across the dunes until you feel like you're in the middle of nowhere..

Another interesting spot is the Palmeraie, a true oasis in the desert with almost half a million palm trees and their by-products, like dates and other fruits.

(C) Fotolia



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Matmata.

Matmata a well-known Berber village famed for its Ghorfas, a fascinating dwelling once used by the nomad tribes, visit the ghorfas, ancient wheat granaries built in the rocks. Drive to Ksar Hadada, one of the most picturesque ksour, (a ksar is a Berber granary). It was built to store and protect barley, wheat, and olive oil. The ksar is made of stone, gypsum, and mud. The ksar is built of overlapping vaults stacked on top of each other, so it looks like the scales of a fish. It was also used as a movie set for Star Wars 1 - The Phantom Menace.



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Djerba.

Djerba -the Island of Dreams-

Lose yourself in the Houmt Souk, strolling around the little winding streets is a delight, from silk sellers, to colourful spices. And of course, the sparkly clear beach is a blast. Not to forget the historical routes in Greek mythology (think Odysseus and the Lotus Eaters), Djerba has been a hidden paradise for a thousand years. Also, the Romans were not the only civilisation to fall in love with Djerba, the Spanish also had their own time on the island, as did the Ottoman empire. These civilisations have all definitely left their mark of Djebra. We shouldn't also forget the jewish influence and the biggest and most popular Synagogue in Africa.



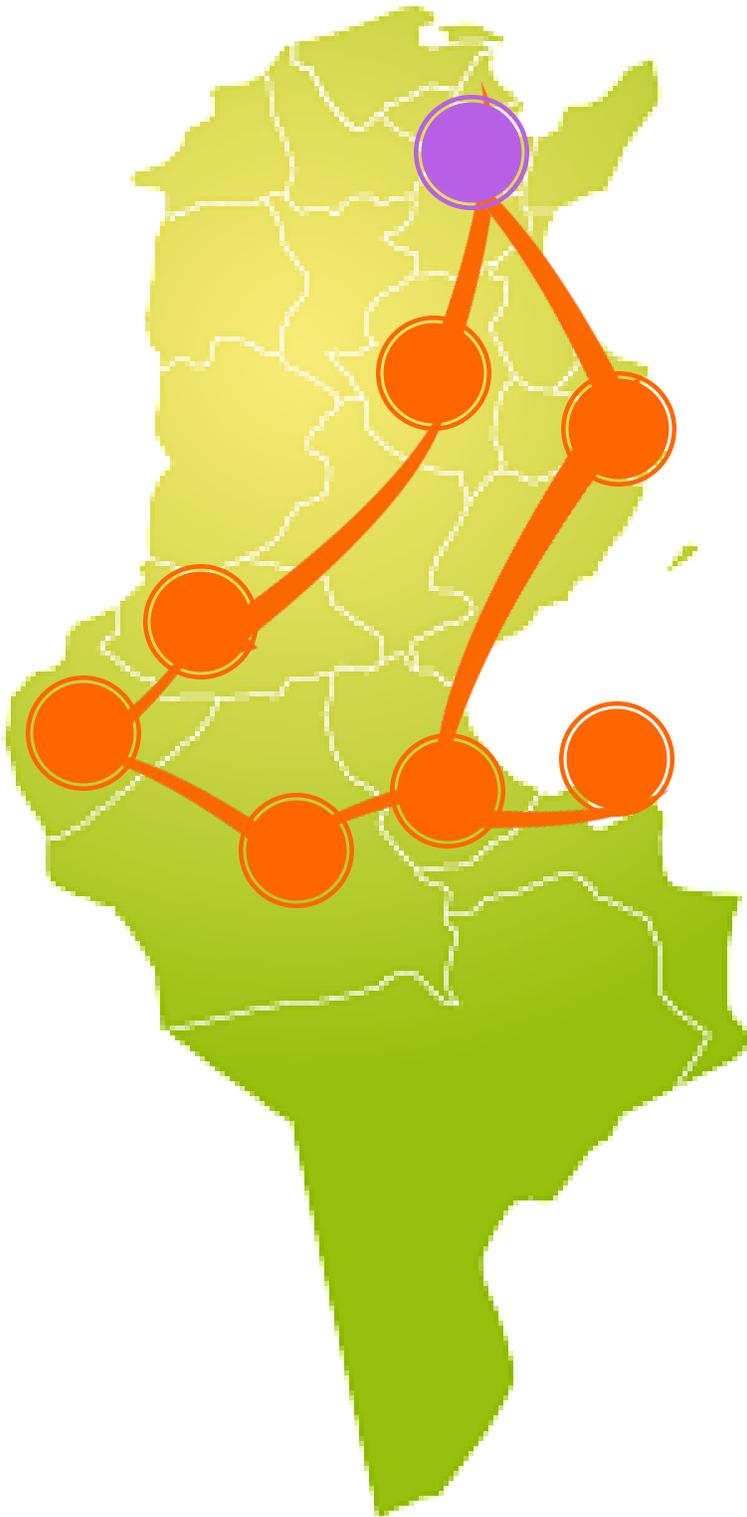
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El Jem.

Go See The Colosseum.
The Amphitheatre of El Jem bears outstanding witness to Roman architecture, notably monuments built for spectator events, in Africa. Located in a plain in the centre of Tunisia, this amphitheatre is built entirely of stone blocks, with no foundations and free-standing. In this respect it is modelled on the Coliseum of Rome without being an exact copy of the Flavian construction. Its size (big axis of 148 metres and small axis 122 metres) and its capacity (judged to be 35,000 spectators) make it without a doubt among the largest amphitheatres in the world.



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**So, Are You In
Or What?**