

# Erg Chigaga Luxury Desert Camp Restaurant Guide

There are hundreds of restaurants, so the list below is hardly the definitive guide. I can't say I agree with their ratings on TripAdvisor. I think their rankings are in reverse.

## Marrakech medina

### *Nomad*

Popular, busy and with an international menu. Its good, but perhaps its success undermines its consistency.

### *Pepe Nero*

This serves both Moroccan and international food. It has a lovely atmosphere.

### *Kosy Bar*

In the Kasbah area, this has a lovely roof terrace. Food is international and Moroccan. It has a bar too, which is not a bad thing given the length of time it often takes to serve the food.

### *Le Tanjia*

It serves my favourite *tanjia* (slow cooked lamb). There is also belly dancing, which can be an interesting diversion.

### *La Villa des Orangers*

Stylish and classy dining just outside the medina.

### *Le Trou au Mur*

This has recently opened and is operated by Riad Farnatchi. They have interesting takes on some not so common Moroccan dishes. Its deep in the medina, so you might need a guide to get here.

### *Café Clock*

In the Kasbah area, is alternative and wonderful. Their signature is the camel burger. They organise many local cultural events and are arty and culturally aware and sympathetic.

### ***Jemaa el Fna***

I like eating in the main square, but some people do complain about the hygiene (although I think it's fine). It's lovely, absurd, annoying and delightfully different in equal measure. No Alcohol.

### ***Le Jardin***

Deep in the medina, this is low key and pleasant.

### **Gueliz**

#### ***Le Studio***

Small, loads of atmosphere, very smoky, but its risotto is to die for.

#### ***Le Loft***

Like Le Studio (without the risotto), and less smoky.

#### ***Catanzaro***

Good Italian fare, with chequered table clothes. This establishment has been in existence for longer than time.

#### ***Grand Café de la Poste***

Lovely colonial building, with atmosphere to boot. Reliable food.

#### ***Al Fassia***

This is owned and run by women. Good quality Moroccan food.

#### ***Coffee shops***

Coffee shops were traditionally a hangout for men only. Here they serve mint tea and coffee is either *nous nous* (means half half – half milk, half coffee and my preferred coffee) or *café noir* (espresso). Here men would hand out, chat, play dominoes. But times are changing. There is now Starbucks (a place I keep well away from), and the Majorca based Cappuccino in the Hivernage district (it might be trendy, but the coffee is excellent).

Other good and more modern places are Extra Blatt (in Hivernage) and La Table du Marché in Gueliz.

### *All you can eat*

If you are seriously hungry – and I mean really starving – you can check into one of the all you can eat Moroccan bonanzas. Dar Yacout is a fabulous old building.

### *Lively places and Nightlife*

Comptoir Dana has a lively bar and lively belly dancers too. The food is OK.

Palais Jad Mahal. Live music (Western and Moroccan) and more belly dancers. Can be great fun.

And there are also a large array of night clubs...which I know nothing about!