

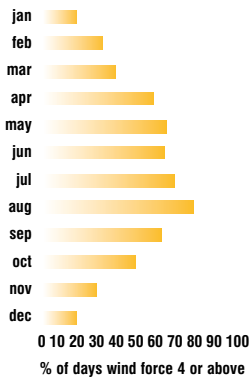


Essaouira Morocco

On the coast of Morocco, 175kms west of Marrakech, the Atlas Mountains meet the Atlantic coastline and the sun scorched foothills give way to perfect beaches of fine white sand. On this coastline is the fortress port of Essaouira. The genuine friendliness of local people, the thriving fishing harbour and colourful bustling souks, make it a wonderful place to stay. For those looking for a taste of Arabic culture mixed with Berber traditions, warm sunshine, a hint of mystery and the seductive softness of life, Essaouira is the place!



Windstats



Essaouira

The wind, combined with the varied sailing conditions can make the journey worthwhile. Called locally the 'Cherki', the prevailing direction is from the north east, blowing from the end of March right through to mid September at between Force 5 and 8. Within the bay of Essaouira, there is a complete range of conditions, with a cross shore wind direction from the right. The northern part, closest to the port, offers slalom blasting and pure speed. Whilst on the other side of the bay, the sea is whipped into perfect waves of 1 to 2 metres high.

This bustling vibrant town, full of culture is an ideal place for everyone. In this exciting part of the world, it is possible to take in a little bit of the local cultures with a shopping trip in the soukh or relieving the stress levels with a relaxing 'Hammam' (Turkish bath). There are very good restaurants, for example at the Villa Maroc and another for lunch is at the Ocean Vagabond restaurant attached to the Windsurf

Centre. Not everywhere serves alcohol but being a town of mixed races and creeds it is not totally dry either.

Moulay Bouzerktoune

Travelling north from Essaouira for twenty minutes, is the amazing wave spot of Moulay Bouzerktoune. Here the Atlantic and North East Trade winds join forces to make conditions that will tax the most experienced wave sailor. Once again the lack of safety cover makes this a choice only for confident and expert wave sailors alike. A real chance to take on the local sailors who revel in challenging the visitors.

Sidi Kaouki

Heading south for the same distance as Moulay, Sidi Kaouki is where 2 to 3 metre high waves break on to a 4.5 km long beach, in harmony with the cross shore wind from the right. This venue has no safety boat and is only for experienced wave sailors, you sail here at your own risk.



MAGIC FUN AFRICA CENTRE /CLUB MISTRAL OCEAN VAGABOND

- Location:** Located in the centre of Essaouira Bay.
- Board/Sail Types:** Fanatic / Neil Pryde Club Mistral / North.
- Open:** All year round.

- Best Time:** March to middle September.
- Launch:** Sandy beach.
- Sailing Area:** North side of bay close to harbour, slalom and speed conditions. South side of bay, wind and ocean swells for wave riding.

- Wind type:** North East Trade in summer, Frontal and cyclonic winds in winter.
- Wind Direction:** Cross-shore from the right.
- Shorebreak:** Normally slight all season.

- Water Conditions:** Exposed to Atlantic conditions with protected areas.
- Suitability:** All levels.
- Other local spots:** Sidi Kaouki - full on wave conditions Moulay Bouzerktoune - exposed wave spot for experienced wave enthusiasts.



OCEAN VAGABOND GUEST HOUSE

This 3* Hotel is Essaouira's newest addition. Only minutes from the Medina and the Ocean Vagabond windsurf centre, the hotel has a unique layout and feel, with comfortable reception rooms, bar and restaurant overlooking the garden and pool. There is a roof top terrace to relax and check the sailing conditions! The rooms are all individually decorated by Sebastien and his wife Marie and have a distinct touch of the exotics. The styles of the rooms range from the Berber Room to the Javanese Room and covering most other Continents in between! They offer all the modern facilities and with views of the pool, sea or the town, all have balconies.

In Brief

- Luxurious small hotel in superb position. The newest accommodation in Essaouira.
- Located in perfect position close to the beach and the old town.
- Modern elegant rooms, very well decorated each individually themed. Excellent facilities including private bathrooms, satellite TV, some with seaviews.
- Restaurant, bar, small pool.
- Close to the Ocean Vagabond Club Mistral centre.

RIAD AL MADINA

Deep in the heart of the Medina and just 200m from the beach, the hotel Riad al Madina is the perfect accommodation. Built 1871, the old house has been recently restored to modern standards but retains all its original charm and feeling. The rooms are located around the central patio covered by a traditional zellige and has an impressive atmosphere. There is a comfortable lounge in traditional style, a bar and a Moroccan restaurant for breakfast and Moroccan meals. The rooms consist of twins and suites all decorated in Moroccan style and are highly refined in comfort and furnishings.

In Brief

- Recently restored in authentic Moroccan style in the perfect location in Essaouira.
- With 38 rooms and 16 suites, comfortably furnished in traditional style and modern facilities.
- Impressive patio surrounded by an arcade containing Moroccan style restaurant, bar and homely lounge.
- Close to the beach and centre of Essaouira.

RIAD AL ZAHIA

Located on a quiet street in the heart of Essaouira's medina, this family residence has been converted into a delightful guesthouse, using traditional techniques and materials and adding a European level of comfort. This Riad has a rooftop terrace where you can sunbathe or enjoy breakfast. The Atlantic is visible so you can check the conditions first thing!

There are six guest rooms and two suites all individually decorated in distinctive Moroccan decor, all are ensuite. One of the guest lounges on the ground floor contains a library, while the other living room has a fireplace. Both open on to the courtyard, which opens on to the sky.

In Brief

- Ideal location in the medina.
- Well furnished and comfortable rooms all en-suite.
- Rooftop area to relax
- Windsurf centres 10 - 15 minutes walk along the beach or a 2 minute taxi.

VILLA MAROC

This unique hotel has set a dramatic change to the traditional accommodation found in Essaouira. With its intimate, sensual feeling the hotel combines elegance, enchantment and luxury. Built into the ramparts of the medina, the hotel has combined four houses each with its own riad (a courtyard open to the skies). Each of the twenty rooms is furnished in individual style. For breakfast, the terrace offers a haven of peace with breathtaking views over the bay below and the craggy ruins of an old Portugese fort half buried beneath the sand. The dreamy evenings can be a mixture of exploring the culinary delights of the restaurants scattered in the town. Alternatively stay at home and experience the marvellous cuisine available in Villa Maroc, served in the individual dining niches giving an feel of intimacy and privacy. The Villa Maroc is certainly one of life's experiences to enjoy.

In Brief

- Small unique hotel in the medina, developed from a collection of houses.
- All the rooms are individually decorated and furnished, with excellent facilities.
- Terrace for breakfast and relaxation with magnificent views. Evening dining in small independent salons serving Moroccan and European cuisine.
- Windsurf centres 10 - 15 minutes walk along the beach.

SKYRIDERS

Equipment: North Kites & boards.

Location: Wide beach with a variety of sea conditions.



Kite Area: Long curving sandy bay - 4kms long.



Conditions: Strong winds during season blowing side shore from the right.



Suitability: Intermediate to advanced.

Djerba Tunisia

With a history stretching back 3,000 years, this most northerly country in Africa is a contrast of lush valleys and the vast Sahara. Just off the coast is Djerba, a small mediterranean island located in the Gulf of Gabes, whose friendly and hospitable people attach great importance to the customs and traditions of their country.

The island has miles and miles of sandy white beaches surrounding the lush greenery and waves of palm trees. Djerba has often been described as the "land of dreams" due to the way that nature has created an image that is found only in dreams. A combination of the dazzling white houses, neat and tidy towns, beautiful countryside, the beaches and most of all 300 days of glorious sunshine.

With so many potential locations to choose from, Djerba has a pedigree of good climatic conditions rarely found and for this reason Club Mistral has picked this perfect spot on the northern coast of the island close to Houmt-Souk, the old port and transitional meeting place of the traders of Africa and Europe.



SAILING CONDITIONS

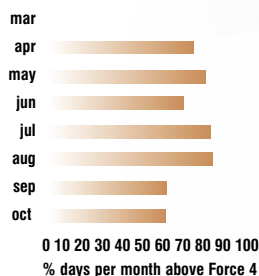
The Club Mistral and Skyriders Centre is located in the grounds of the Radisson SAS Resort Hotel on a 2km long, wide, white sand beach bordering the turquoise sea. With 100 metres of waist-deep water this is an ideal location for beginners to intermediates with wind conditions that are never too strong. To excite the advanced windsurfers and kites, there is a small breaking swell that can create many challenges.

In front of the centre, the wide, clean beach of white sand has been zoned into areas for swimmers, kites and windsurfers. This is the ideal spot for tuition in the first steps of kiting. For youngsters and beginners, the shallow blue sea is a haven to gain the confidence in sailing as the side shore wind from the right is constant and never too strong, especially in the summer time. During the winter conditions are colder and at times the wind can be strong from 4-6Bft.









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Windstats





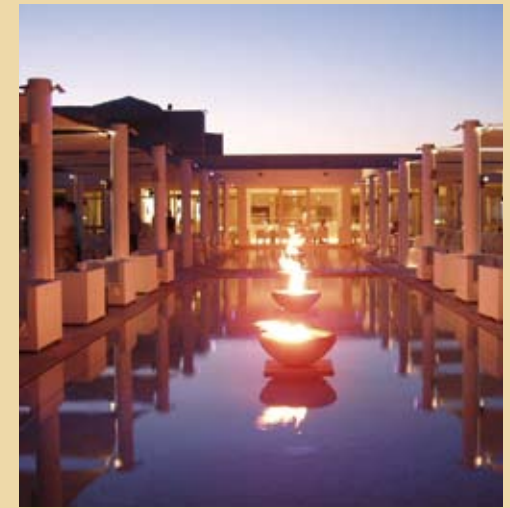
CLUB MISTRAL DJERBA

-  **Location:** Situated on a superb, safe, clean sandy beach with shallow water.
-  **Board/Sail Types:** Mistral / North.
-  **Open:** All year.

-  **Best Time:** All year for beginners and families. Cooler but stronger winds in winter.
-  **Launch:** Sandy safe launch from in front of windsurf centre.
-  **Sailing Area:** Protected bay with large area of shallow water and expanse of flatwater.

-  **Wind type:** Combination of cyclonic and thermals. Cyclonic in winter.
-  **Wind Direction:** Prevailing wind cross-shore from the right.
-  **Shorebreak:** Normally slight all season.

-  **Water Conditions:** Flatwater slalom area.
-  **Suitability:** All levels including children and complete beginners.



HOTEL RADISSON SAS RESORT & THALASSO

Located right on the superb beach on the northern coast, the luxurious Radisson Resort is 10kms from the historical town of Houmt-Souk and 20 minutes from the airport. The modern, recently completely renovated resort has an unusual architectural design and is surrounded by spacious landscaped gardens. The concept has incorporated the flavour of traditional design coupled with modern high-tech amenities plus the feeling of high elegance creating an air of "chic". The hotel has a large outdoor pool, a pool bar and beach bar in the gardens. For winter, there is a heated indoor pool. To add to the feeling of luxury and well being the excellent Thalasso centre is always available to be pampered and relaxed. There is a choice of restaurants offering clients the choice of Mediterranean, Italian and Andalusian cuisine, as well as the local "fruite de mer" in the fish restaurant. The rooms and suites are luxuriously furnished and combine traditional Tunisian design blended with the modern feel. All the accommodation is ensuite with high standards of facilities and has a balcony or terrace. The Radisson SAS resort can boast that every facet has been covered to make all the guests relax and enjoy the experience.



In Brief

- Spacious air-conditioned ensuite rooms with balcony or terrace.
- Air-conditioning, satellite TV, minibar, telephone safety deposit box, hair dryer.
- Standard rooms have direct access to the gardens.
- Seaview rooms and junior suites available, the latter with large balconies, LCD TV's and Jacuzzis.
- All rooms have free wireless LAN.
- Fitness suite and Thalasso Centre.
- Children's Club.
- 3 restaurants, beachside brasserie, coffee lounge.

MOVENPICK ULYSSE PALACE & THALASSO

Just along from the Hotel Radisson and a short walk from the Club Mistral Centre this 5* hotel prides itself on its service and offering clients every chance to relax and pamper themselves. Located on the same stretch of magnificent sandy beach, the extremely stylish, cultivated atmosphere of this hotel makes for a perfect holiday. The large pool with a separate children's pool, surrounded by a spacious sun terrace, overlooks the beautiful turquoise sea. To relax after a strenuous active day, the hotel offers both a heated indoor pool and the Thalasso Therapy centre. For dining, the hotel has a fine main restaurant, an exclusive fish restaurant and a Moorish café, as well as the lobby bar and saloon bar. The range of rooms and suites are furnished to high standards with good facilities all with views over the gardens or the sea.



In Brief

- Air-conditioning, TV, DD telephone, Internet access, hairdryer, minibar and safe in all rooms.
- Coffee and tea making facilities.
- Suites also available complete with a jacuzzi.
- Outdoor and heated indoor pools.
- Thalasso centre & fitness centre.
- Children's Club (3 – 12 years).
- 3 restaurants, lobby and pool bars, coffee shop and beach bar.
- Club Mistral / Skyriders centre 200m along the beach.



SKYRIDERS

Equipment: North Kites and kiteboarding.

Location: Wide sandy beach with zoned areas.



Kite Area: Flat shallow water. Slight wave on the outside.



Conditions: Consistent cross-shore thermals. Stronger in winter.



Suitability: Beginners to advanced.