

GRATUITY IN MOROCCO - A GIFT OF SERVICE



Gratuity is a gift of money that is granted for service or a show of appreciation given without claim or demand. Gratuity is one of the best ways you can demonstrate appreciation for the services provided by your driver and guides. **Charity** is a donation that comes from one's heart and also one of the five tenants of Islam. Charity is greatly appreciated by the elderly and children you may come across during your journey to Morocco who move your heart in some way. Listed below is **Travel Exploration Morocco's** recommendation of the way to handle "gratuity" and "charity" during your travels in the Maghreb.

Gratuity: For Your Driver & Guides

Gratuity is appreciated but not required during your Travel Exploration Morocco journey. It is a considerate way to thank your driver and historical guides for their services.

▶ **As a foreigner traveling in Morocco, the amount of the gratuity that could be given to your driver** if you wish to show him/her your appreciation for the services provided by Moroccan standards ranges from **\$75-\$100 per traveler**.

▶ **As a foreigner traveling in Morocco, the amount of the gratuity that could be given to your historical guide** if you wish to show him/her your appreciation for the services provided by Moroccan standards ranges from **\$125-\$150 per traveler**.

Gratuity: In Restaurants, Riads & Hotels

▶ As a foreigner traveling in Morocco, the amount of Gratuity given at Restaurants based upon Moroccan standards ranges from: **10% - 20%**

▶ As a foreigner traveling in Morocco, the amount of Gratuity that could be left in your room at a Riad/ Hotel to show appreciation for maid services: **20-30 Moroccan Dirhams per day. (\$2.00- \$3.00)**

Charity is a generous action or donation that one gives from his/ her heart to aid the poor, ill, or

helpless. Charity is one of the five tenants of Islam, is seen as an important part of Moroccan culture and practiced by Moroccans. Charity by Moroccans is often provided to the elderly, to children or the poor in the form of Moroccan Dirhams, food or clothing. During your travel journey in Morocco you may see your driver or guides regularly give a few dirhams to elderly people, children or the poor within the old medina (cities) or in the Atlas Mountain Regions/ Sahara Desert. This is their way upholding to the tenants of their religion and culture.

Charity: For The Elderly & Children

▶ As a foreigner traveling in a Muslim country, following the five tenants of Islam- and offering a small amount of charity is an option but not required. If you wish to offer charity to an elderly person, to children or a poor person on the street that moves your heart, please consider the following:

▶ Giving anywhere between **5-10 Dirhams (\$0.50 - \$1.00)** is a considered gracious and will not place a dent in your wallet but perhaps leave you with an experience in your heart. Sometimes the reciprocity you may receive as a result of giving a small amount of charity in a Muslim country like Morocco comes in the form of a big smile, a hand shake, an invitation for tea or even a hug from the recipient.

Gratuity In the Form Of Affection:

▶ Traveling in a Muslim country, **Gratuity** in the form of affection is appreciated by a smile, a handshake and even a hug. If you wish to show your driver, guide or others who assist you during your journey this kind of gesture it is most welcomed.

***"It is more agreeable to have the power to give than to receive."* (Winston Churchill)**