

CASABLANCA

Casablanca, located on the Atlantic Ocean is the business centre of Morocco. Casablanca was established as a commercial centre by the French and the architecture is a mix of modern, art deco and the traditional.

The highlights of Casablanca include a visit of the Central Market, then the old Mahakma building constructed in marble, stone and wood, with no fewer than sixty rooms. It was simultaneously a Muslim law court and the Pasha (Governor) of Casablanca's reception hall.

Other places to visit are the French-built Quartier Habous with its splendid examples of Art Deco architecture, the Notre Dame de Lourdes Church with its stained glass windows, La Corniche on the ocean front and the remarkable Mosque Hassan II, one of only two mosques in Morocco open to non Islamic believers. The mosque is dramatically sited at the edge of the Atlantic Ocean. Built by the late King Hassan II at the end of his 40-year reign, this astounding edifice is larger than Saint Peter's in Rome and capable of holding 80,000 worshippers.

A licensed guide is recommended in Casablanca.

