

KASBAH DU TOUBKAL

Earthquake update 15th September Down - *but not out!*

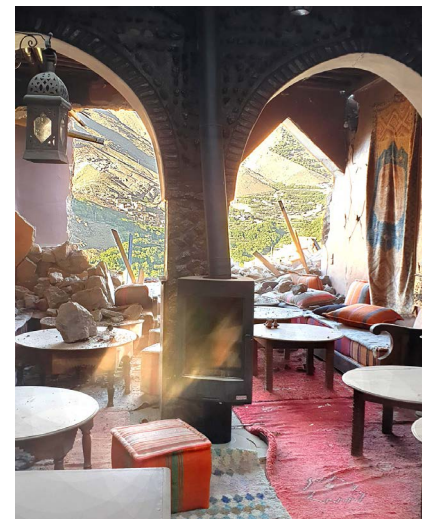
In the confusion of media reporting of the terrible destruction caused by the earthquake on Friday 8th there was inevitable confusion, especially as some of the higher mountain roads are still un-passable. Rumours have spread that Imlil suffered major damage resulting in death, and that **Kasbah du Toubkal**, perched as it is on the top of a hill, was almost destroyed. But as one of the founders, Chris McHugo, who himself was there when the quake struck, says, "The new build prevailed but the older walls failed."

"It's mainly the oldest part of the building where the dining room is that sustained most damage and will have to be rebuilt," said Mike McHugo, who was also at the hotel at the time, "but all the bedrooms and newer buildings seem fine. Thankfully, because the earthquake struck late at night, all the guests and staff had left the dining room when it struck. They were in their rooms, which weren't damaged. No-one was hurt at all."

The Kasbah is closed until further notice but it most certainly will be back. "We'll build it bigger and better," said Gilly McHugo, Mike's wife, "with maybe a panoramic window with that wonderful view where the hole is now at the back of the dining rooms."



"The new build prevailed."



"Maybe a panoramic window."

"Hi Mike,

Passing on my sincerest gratitude to you and your staff for looking after myself and the other guests on the night of the quake. The next day you and they arranged food and alternate accommodation in the most trying of times. I can only imagine the difficulty you faced in seeing the Kasbah in the condition it was, yet still putting our needs first. I hope that you and the community are able to rebuild as soon as possible"

John Chamberlain

When an earthquake hit Morocco, shortly after 11pm on Friday night, I was a guest at the Kasbah du Toubkal in the Atlas Mountains, not far from the epicentre. In the aftermath of the quake, the hospitality I was shown was of a kind I have never before experienced. My hosts were dealing with a profound tragedy, affecting their family, friends and community yet instinctively they offered kindness and support to their guests. Their selflessness was humbling and has left an indelible impression.

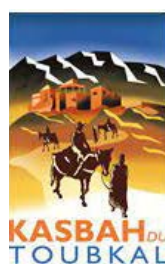
Jarrold Kyte

For the full story from Jarrod Kyte click here [SteppesTravel](#)

While the Kasbah itself will be closed until further notice, Imlil and the Imlil Valley escaped much of the devastation that other villages have suffered. From October we will be running trips to our sister properties DarImlil and Village du Toubkal in Imlil village, and to our Trekking Lodge in the beautiful Azzaden Valley.



Click on the logo for more information



If you are thinking about donating to help the people of Morocco in this difficult time we would appreciate it if you could consider these, which have all done wonderful work in the Moroccan community and continue to do so.

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for all



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