

# *Welcome to Dar Mystere*

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## *Information*

Please take time to read these notes, we would like your stay to be as pleasant as possible.

## *House facts*

Dar Mystere is a family house, and hopefully it feels that way for our guests. The house has a friendly feel and we hope all our guests agree. The house is laid out in the traditional style with a central patio with rooms looking inward. There is space for 6/7 people to share comfortably.

## *Security*

This can be a problem in Morocco. Never leave doors open to the street and never leave the house with the door to the terrace left open. There is a key inside the top door to the terrace which opens the top kitchen. Please be very careful that you lock the terrace before exploring the medina. Moroccan door locks can be difficult. They normally unlock by turning the key clockwise, our front door can be 'sticky' and sometimes need to be pulled slightly while turning the key - a little knack that is soon mastered.

## *Sliding Roof Cover*

Please be aware that the rain in Fez can be vary heavy when it happens. During hot weather you will want the roof open to let the heat out, but if you go out and it rains, anything left in the patio area below will get wet. We would advise that you close the cover before you go out if there are clouds in the sky.

## *Accommodation*

On the first floor are two double bedrooms one is very spacious and is ensuite. This room also has a leather banquet that can be made up as a bed for either a child or adult. The second bedroom is on the balcony, also on the first floor. On the second floor is a twin bedroom with a window to the terrace - there is mesh over this window stop the local cats partying in the house. The two rooms without ensuite will use the ground floor bathroom facilities. There are two fold-away travel cots and a high chair. We would expect parents to supply baby bedding for cots. Beds will be made every day by the cleaner and new bed clothes applied every three days. If you are staying for less than three days and do not want the cleaner to enter the house, please let us know.

## *Hot Water*

There are two hot water heaters, one for the top of the house and one for the bottom.

## *Drinking water*

It's best to drink bottled water. The tap water in Fez can be fine a lot of the time and we have drunk it ourselves, but it's not worth the risk. Also, occasionally the water pressure can drop which means not a lot comes out of the taps, but this is usually in the summer months.

## *Toilets*

Moroccan push-button flush systems can be tricky. If you hear water running into one of the toilets a long time after flushing, press the flush button again and it should stop.

## *Kitchen*

Feel free to use the kitchen, but if cooking please be careful with the gas and be fire conscious. There is a smoke alarm in the house situated on the stairs.

## *Other matters*

The general safety standards in Morocco are not the same as Europe or the USA. Within the home there are a few dangers for small children such as plug sockets (the same in any country) and particularly the large metal floor lamps are not good for small fingers. Be aware that traditional Moroccan tiling (zelij) can be slippery when wet - so tread carefully. Voltage is similar to the UK (220v), the house has been totally rewired. There can be power cuts in the medina, so please be aware, although these are very infrequent these days.

## *Eating*

There are numerous eateries around the Blue Gate as you see. Thami's on the corner under the tree is one of the best places to eat excellent and varied Moroccan street food. The Kasbah is generally good and their fries are the best. Cafe Clock is the destination as you can relax with other visitors and locals while sampling great food.

## *Alcohol*

It is forbidden to drink alcohol in the streets. Drinks are available in the local hotels, Hotel Batha (pronounced Bt'haar) is local although the surroundings are rather drab. Riad Fez is probably the best place for drink in opulent surroundings, expect European prices.