

Sidi Ifni – March 31, 2021 – Essaouira to Sidi Ifni, Morocco

We have a tight schedule between landing in Marrakesh and meeting up with Martina Rovers in the Western Sahara. Today we will drive from Essaouira to Sidi Ifni. This drive is approximately 333 km/200 miles and Google maps says will take 5 hrs. & 45 minutes if we average 35 mph – easier said than done.

We got up and while Nancy assembled our luggage, I was going to walk to the private parking lot to get a baggage carrier. Down two flights of stairs, open the door and damn – there is an older guy with a cart ready to take our luggage. Am guessing either our landlord or the parking lot arranged for this great surprise.

Better than half our drive will be along the Atlantic coast. It was an easy drive and we made several photo stops and a coffee stop – no breakfast and therefore no coffee before we left Essaouira.



Taken from the roadside looking down at the fisherman on the cliff and ocean below.

One of the primary reasons we don't always cover the distance in the time Google maps states is we make photo stops, short walks, longer walks, café stops and fuel stops. We don't always race from place to place.



More stops along the Atlantic coast.



We drove down to this overlook. Nancy is looking out at the Atlantic Ocean and the desert landscape is behind her.

We found our guest house – Logis La Marine - in Sidi Ifni with no issues. Almost no traffic in Sidi Ifni and our phone's google map apps were working.

We met our very friendly hostess and checked in. Took up our bags to the 2nd floor (3rd floor in the U.S.), used the bathroom and headed back down to our hostess's recommended restaurant - Nomad. We had skipped breakfast and lunch in an effort to keep our weight under control and even though it was only about 5:30 we were hungry.

It was maybe a five-minute uphill walk to the restaurant. No one else in the restaurant so we had our pick of tables. Walking into restaurants without other customers is something we are getting use to – no tourists in Morocco and we tend to eat early but then again restaurants must close at 8:00 pm.

What can I say but our meal was one we will always remember – absolutely GREAT.



We began with a shared avocado fruit salad and eggplant lasagna. The lasagna alone was a dinner. Next up was Nancy's chicken and fig curry tagine and my fish tagine.





During the meal the Owner/Chef came over to talk with us. His English was very understandable and next thing I know the three of us are talking music. He let us know he enjoys the jazz on the speakers, but his favorite is American blues. I counter that one of my favorite kinds of music is jazz, but rock is my favorite. I then bring up the fact that the Rolling Stones cut more than a couple of blues albums. The Owner gets up, walks over to his music and next thing we are listening to the Rolling Stones.



This meal deserved a desert and we split one.

Before we left, we were invited into the kitchen to see two fish the Abdellah had prepared for a party of people due to arrive very soon.



Our entire meal was less than \$32.00; incredible.

We left Abdellah and spent the next 45 minutes walking the central area of Sidi Ifni. I will follow up on this post with a post on central Sidi Ifni – very interesting conformable place to explore.

We returned to Logis La Marine and our hostess, Dominique, met us at the entrance and asked if we would like a bottle of wine to watch the sunset. Does anyone not know the answer to her question?





Final notes on Logis La Marine. The room was as nice as we have had in Morocco, the bathroom was European in design and better than any we have had in Morocco and most other stops, the downstairs common area is large and very comfortable, and the outside breakfast garden was a place both Nancy and I wished we could spend a morning or day just reading and relaxing. The garden was home to seven turtles of varying sizes, pets of the owner, who took us around and introduced us to each individually.

Sidi Ifni isn't on the tourist map but if the opportunity ever comes up to visit I recommend taking advantage of the Logis La Marine, Nomads, the beach and the city center.