



D-7: The Morocco Royal Tour Through the Eyes of Those Who Bring It to Life

Seven days from now, the first horse-and-rider combinations will enter the arena in Tétouan, kicking off three weeks of competition at the Morocco Royal Tour. From 1 to 18 October, Tétouan, Rabat and El Jadida will host three weeks of international sport, culminating in the first CSI5*-W in El Jadida.

But the Morocco Royal Tour is also about the people who bring it to life: Moroccan and international riders, course designers, speakers... With just seven days to go before the opening of the Tour, they share what, in their eyes, makes this tour so unique.

“Every year, we have one clear goal: the Morocco Royal Tour”

Since 2022, Jad Guerraoui has grown alongside the Morocco Royal Tour. Having progressed from 1* to 4* level, he has ridden his first 1.50m classes on the Tour and created some of his most memorable experiences there. “For a rider, having such a great Tour at home is a huge advantage. Every year, we have one clear goal, which is the MRT, and competing at such high-quality shows for three weeks helps us enormously to improve.” This year, the young rider could take another step forward with the CSI5*-W in El Jadida: “If I compete in it, it will be my first five-star, and on home soil as well. I couldn’t dream of anything better.”



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“Three weeks, three environments: a real school for horses”

For David Will, a regular international participant and Chef d’Equipe of the Saudi Arabian team, the strength of the Tour also lies in its travelling format. Three stages, three arenas, three atmospheres: a set-up that is particularly valuable for the horses. “Competing in different venues, different arenas and different environments allows horses to learn much more than if they stayed in the same place for three weeks. They gain valuable experience, which is very important for their progression.” And if international riders make the journey to Morocco year after year, it is also because of the quality of the overall experience: “The transport between the different stages, the arrival, the paperwork – everything is carefully thought through. And above all, everything is done with the horses’ welfare in mind.”



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“The crowd gives you an extra boost”

It is impossible to talk about the Morocco Royal Tour without mentioning its spectators. Yannick Bichon, the Tour’s long-standing speaker, knows all the different facets of its audiences. “My role is to make the sport as accessible as possible, so that the general public can understand the rules better, appreciate the horse-and-rider combinations in the arena, create an atmosphere and bring an event to life so that everyone can experience the emotions.” That energy reaches another level whenever Moroccan riders win: “Every time a Moroccan rider wins a Grand Prix, it is indescribable! It is the pride of an entire nation coming together around the achievement of an athlete.”

“In El Jadida, every detail will matter”

Uliano Vezzani will be responsible for designing the courses for the new CSI5-W in El Jadida. For him, moving up to five-star level does not simply mean making the courses more difficult. “I don’t think: ‘It’s a 5, so I have to make it much more difficult.’ I think: ‘It’s a 5, so I have to build with even greater precision.’ Distances, lines, rhythm and the choices offered to riders: every detail matters in achieving fair sporting selection. “For me, a great 5 course is one that, once the competition is over, can be described as difficult but fair.”

“The MRT now belongs among the greats”

For Emanuele Gaudiano, who has known the circuit for more than ten years, its evolution is clear: “I first came more than ten years ago and, over the years, the shows have improved enormously. This year, we will have the first 5*, and this Tour definitely deserves to host a show at this level!” A feeling shared by riders who, year after year, find high-quality facilities, arenas and organisation worthy of the major international events.



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About the Morocco Royal Tour

Founded in 2010, the Morocco Royal Tour has established itself over the years as one of the leading circuits on the international equestrian calendar and remains the only show jumping circuit in the world staged over three consecutive weekends in three different cities. For more than fifteen years, it has embodied the Kingdom of Morocco’s ambition to develop top-level equestrian competitions and secure a lasting presence on the international sporting stage. From its earliest editions, the Morocco Royal Tour has stood out for the quality of its venues, the excellence of its organisation and a strong identity that blends Moroccan equestrian tradition with international sporting standards. Over time, the circuit has continued to evolve, both sportingly and structurally, attracting year after year some of the world’s leading riders and horses. The Tour’s unique format is built around a coherent sporting progression across three complementary stages. It begins in Tétouan, at the Royal Guard Stud Farm, a symbol of the Kingdom’s equestrian heritage. It then moves to Rabat, the capital of the Kingdom and home of the Royal Moroccan Federation for Equestrian Sports, notably host of the prestigious Nations Cup. The grand finale takes place in El Jadida, at the Exhibition Park, during the Salon du Cheval, with the Grand Prix of His Majesty King Mohammed VI as the highlight of the circuit. Beyond competition, the Morocco Royal Tour is part of a long-term vision aimed at structuring and promoting the Moroccan equestrian sector. Through its progressive development, the continuous elevation of its competition levels and its unwavering commitment to excellence, the circuit actively contributes to Morocco’s sporting, cultural and institutional influence on the international equestrian stage.



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