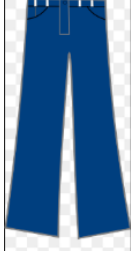






Camel/dromedary riding

Safety through proper attire: It is important that all customers have appropriate attire.

| | | | | |
|---|--|--|--|---|
|  |  |  |  |  |
| <p><i>Long pants and socks</i> to prevent legs to be chafed as camel fur can be quite scratchy and the blankets used beneath the saddle are rough and made of wool.</p> | <p><i>Fitted shoes.</i> There are not always stirrups on a camel saddle, so legs dangle freely. For this reason, flip-flops or other loose shoes are likely to fall off along the way.</p> | <p><i>A hat/scarf</i> to be protected from the sun. <i>Ideally</i> breathable so to not absorb the heat and well fitted in case of heavy wind.</p> | <p>Sunglasses to be protected from the sun</p> | <p><i>A scarf</i> to protect the face in case of dust storms</p> |

Safety through proper on the ground instruction: before any customer gets on a camel/dromedar, they should be introduced to riding techniques and safety measures:

Approaching The sitting camel/dromedar should be slowly approached from the side.

Embarking: The camel/dromedar sits on the ground with its legs beneath its body which enables to just swing the legs over and sit down into the saddle.
 Camels/dromedar stand up with their back legs first. To prevent to pitch forward (possibly falling of into the sand), it is necessary to counteract the animal's motion by leaning backward while the camel's/dromedar's backside is coming up. Once it has a sure footing with the back legs, it will move to the front. Slowly lean forward as the camel is getting its front legs up so that you end up with your back straight. Throughout embarking, ensure to hold on tight to the handlebars.
 Hang your backpack and other belongings (remember to pack light) over the handlebar

Riding Keep both hands on the handlebars in the front of the saddle to stay balanced. There is often another handle behind the seat. Holding on to both of them, with a hand in front and a hand behind, puts you in line with the camel's body and makes it easier to work with its movements. To be fully secure, both hands need to be occupied with the task of hanging on, so ask your guide to make some pictures instead.

Lean forward a bit when the camel is walking upwards (e.g. climbing a dune) in order to take some of the pressure off your lower back. Lean back when the camel is descending.

Don't try to steer or direct. Camels listen to the camel herder who sets the direction and pace and walks ahead of the lead camel. All camels are usually tied nose to tail and follow the line in front of them. There's no chance of anybody getting out of line.

Once getting used to riding, relax, loose muscles and take a deep breath. This is also calming down the animals. Adjust to the movement.

If the camel gets spooked or starts moving too quickly, stay calm. Keep a firm, but not tugging, grip on the reins and speak calmly until the camel relaxes. Nothing will get out of hand. The calmer you are the calmer your ride will be.

Disembarking: it is the same as embarking but in reverse. The camel will suddenly drop its front legs. To avoid flying forward, lean back. Then it will lower its back legs and allow you to swiftly get off. Dismount when the camel sits back down. Use the saddle handles to push yourself up, then swing your leg over the hump to one side. You can simply jump off.

Instruction video: Riding a camel – safety tips



Source: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nT6VY4JjIdE>

Instruction video: Proper camel embarking technique



Source: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=JhesHlaZqFg>

Source

<https://www.cometoth Sahara.com/morocco-desert-tour-part-1-how-to-ride-a-camel-in-morocco/>

<http://grassrouteadventures.com/12-tips-tricks-surviving-camel-ride-sahara-desert/>

<https://www.wikihow.com/Ride-a-Camel>