

Basic information

La Marsa is a coastal town in North-eastern corner of the Tunis delegation as a delegation city. The city population is about 77.890 inhabitants and every year growing.

The city is placed approximately 20 km to North from Tunis Carthage International Airport and 25 km to North from the capitol of Tunis. La Marsa is well connected with the capital and major cities in the region by subway called TGM, which connects La Marsa, Sidi Bou Said, Carthage, Le Kram and La Goulette. The city is also well connected by wide network of the bus routes. The main bus route number 20 connects La Marsa with Tunis.

La Marsa offers only few hotels, but quite huge selection of the restaurants, cafés, shops and other services. The majority 4 and 5 stars hotels in the region are placed in Gammarth Touristic Zone or in Les Berges du Lac.

Editorial

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History of La Marsa

The history of the city dates back to the Punic era where its roots belong to neighborhood of Megara, a suburb of the city of Carthage. In Salamambo, Gustave Flaubert did take place a feast hosted by Hamilcar Barca's soldiers. Due to its name - Marsa or Mers designating a port or anchorage - archaeologists have believed to able to locate the Punic ports of Carthage. But nothing has yet come to confirm the existence of a port in this location.

Shortly after the Arab conquest, it erects a ribat, where pious men stand guard and teach from the 12th century Sufism, and where some are buried famous marabouts. In the early 16th century, the sovereign Hafsidsid Abu Abdullah Muhammad al-Mutawakkil chose this location for a summer residence and had built three palaces with a park located in center. Later, the residence of Abdalliya consuls of England before becoming the home of European guests to visit Tunisia. After the Second World War, the building served as a primary school. Today there is remaining only Abdalliya El Kubra, testimony Hafsidsid princely architecture, which houses a cultural center.

The climate combined with landscapes of rocky cliffs, pine forests and orange groves are a very popular place for dignitaries,

family ruling. From the early 19th century, there were erected many palaces where they settled from May to September. Mohammed Bey built Dar El Tej in 1855 and during power of Naceur Bey; the Palace Essaada was built for his wife Lella Kmar. La Marsa became a power center during part of the year, the city attracts embassies and consulates in the center or along the coast in the direction to Gammarth, some enjoying abodes abandoned by Bey as the French or British representatives. Thus, the presence of Tunisian and foreign dignitaries contributes to the development of the locality.



On June 8, 1883, in this city were signed the conventions of La Marsa, they strengthen the control of French authorities on the young protectorate. La Marsa became municipality in 1912.

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Where to eat and drink?

La Marsa offers wide selection of the restaurants and the cafés. The most of them is located close to city center. Following lists are a selection of the restaurants and cafés.

Restaurants

Name	Location	Price cat.
3 Perles	Rue Mongi Slim	n/a
Au Bon Vieux Temp	Abou El Kacem Chebbi	\$\$\$
Bistro Garden	Hotel Plaza Corniche	n/a
Le Coupole	Rue Mogi Slim	n/a
Dar Tej	Rue de Maroc	n/a
Dokkana	Rue Mongi Slim	\$\$
Falaise	Route Sidi Dhrif	\$\$
Focaccia	Avenue de l'Independance	n/a
Golfe	Rue Larby Zarrouk	\$\$\$
El Hafsi	Avenue Habib Bourguiba	n/a
Kobet El Hawa	Rue Mongi Slim	\$\$\$
Saf Saf	Place Saf Saf	n/a

Price category (3 course menu with non-alcoholic drink and coffee or tea): \$ = less than 15 €; \$\$ = 15 - 25 €; \$\$\$ = 25 - 35 €; \$\$\$\$ = more than 35 €; + = indicates that price is between shown and higher category; n/a = information is not available.

Cafés

Name	Location	Offer
Café Journal	Rue Hanibal	EFS
Café Monoprix	Centre Zephyr	EFS

Name	Location	Offer
Café L'Opéra	Rue de Maroc	EFS
Café Zephyr	Centre Zephyr	EFS
Le Petit Salem	Rue de Maroc	EFS

Offer: A = Arabic coffee, E = espresso, F = fresh drinks, S = sweets & desserts; X = alcoholic drinks.

Where to sleep?

Most hotels in the region are in Gammarth Touristic zone.

Hotels

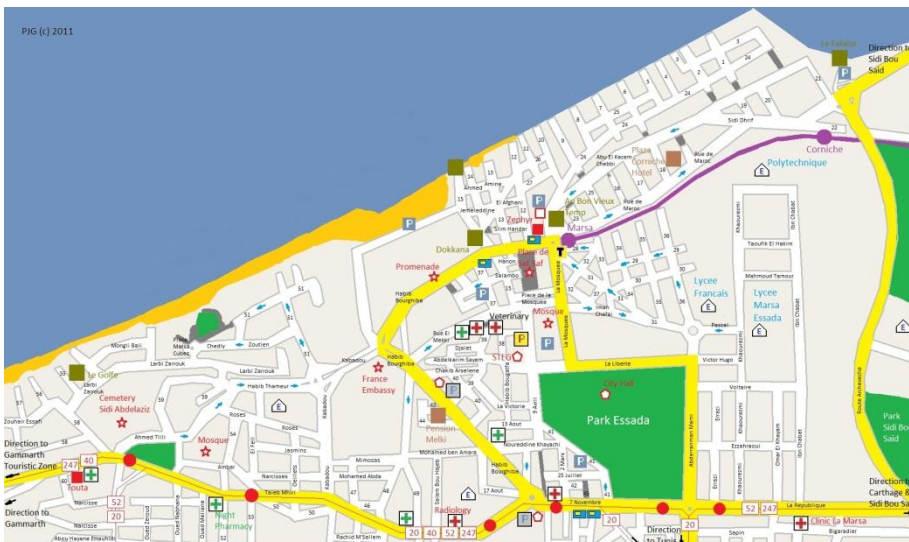
Name	Location	Official category
Cesar	Route RN9	★★★★
Plaza Corniche	Rue de Maroc	★★★★
Predl	Avenue Habib Bourguiba	pension

All information are subject to change.

What to see?

La Marsa offers only few touristic sites; the most important of them are following:

- Al Abdallia Palace
- Palais Essaada with public park and children attractions
- Corniche – waterfront promenade
- Al Ahmedi mosque
- Cemetery Sidi Abdelaziz with mosque



La Marsa Downtown Plan
Carte du centre de la ville de La Marsa

- Sea, Lake, Basin
- Mer, Lac, Reservoir
- Built-up or free area
- Zone bâtie ou libre
- Green Zone, Forest
- Zone vert, bois
- Beach
- Plage
- Main road (four lines)
- Route principale (à quatre voies)
- Other roads
- Autres routes
- Pedestrian zone
- Zone piétonne
- Bus line, bus stop, bus number
- Ligne du bus, arrêt du bus, numero du bus
- TGM Subway, station
- TGM Métro, station
- Place of interest, government office, shopping centre, cinema
- Lieux d'intérêt, bureau du gouvernement, centre commercial, cinéma
- ATM (Cash Machine)
- ATM (Bancomat)
- Hotel
- Hôtel
- Restaurant
- Restaurant
- Parking place
- Parking
- Taxi
- Taxi
- Pharmacy
- Pharmacie
- Doctor
- Docteur
- Police station
- Post de police
- Post office
- Bureau de poste
- School
- École

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