

MOROCCO ROYAL TOUR 2022

TOP RIDERS' FORUM

By Nermin Marwan

THROUGHOUT OUR COVERAGE OF THE MRT 2022, WE CHATTED WITH A GROUP OF THE TOP RIDERS WHO HAD GREAT PARTICIPATION IN THIS TOUR. HAPPILY, WE TALKED WITH ALI EL-AHRACH FROM MOROCCO, BARBARA SCHNIEPER AND ELIAN BAUMANN FROM SWITZERLAND, MANS THIJSSEN AND NIELS KERSTEN FROM NETHERLANDS, AND FINALLY THE GERMAN RENE DITTMER. LET'S HEAR THEIR OPINIONS ABOUT THE MRT2022;





Ali El-Ahrach

"I am delighted with The MRT2022 development; it is really good to move from 1 show to 4* show show because we can ride with the best riders in the World in order to enhance the level of the Moroccan Riders".*

The facilities are perfect for horses and riders in the 3 Shows, all the foreign riders were very happy with all the facilities in the 3 Shows.

Regarding the course: we had 3 different course designers so we had different and Very good courses, the fences were beautiful and different in the 3 shows.

Barbara Schnieper

"It was my first participation at the MRT; the Prize money was very solid. Besides that, the "special" shows between the competitions were very interesting to follow".

The stabling and the details around were on the whole very good.

The courses were versatile built and the fences were absolutely top.

The three shows in Tetouan, Rabat and El-Jadida really complemented each other because the distance between shows was not too far and the last was also an indoor.

The accommodation of the horses was good, sometimes a bit more space would be good. Concerning coming to the country: to be honest, we faced some long waiting times at the ferry and at the border, but once we crossed the border all was ok.



Elian Baumann

"In 2018, I decided to participate in the Morocco Royal Tour for the first time, I was very curious to how the tournament would be like. Now It has become one of my favorite tournaments and its amazing how well-organized everything is".

The stables are great. There is nothing to complain about. The non-slip floor throughout, bright boxes with windows. There are plenty of washing places available, especially in the immediate vicinity. The whole infrastructure is always very well maintained!

The courses were demanding technically, but always fair for horses and riders. They were beautifully designed and the jumps were very diverse.

All three venues are very attractive. The venues complement each other very well. The last stage probably does not suit all horses, as the transition from the two outdoor courts to the hall is not easy. I would also like to mention that the surfaces are very good and well maintained.

Regarding the logistics and transportation; we came from Switzerland. For our horses, it was a long journey. We made two stops, once in Barcelona and once in Estepona. So that the horses could relax overnight. At the port, we had very long waiting times, on arrival and return. In Morocco, at tournaments, everything is well organized. A big compliment to the organizer!



Mans Thijssen

"I was really amazed by how good and how beautiful the atmosphere was. Also the staff was really helpful and we never had to worry about anything, because of the help we had."

All the 3 shows were incredible; all the venues were amazing on all 3 weeks.

The stabling was really well organized, especially in Rabat and El Jadida, the tents were really big and that made it cool enough for the horse to feel even more comfortable. The stables were close to the ring also. And once again, the staff in the stables in all 3 weeks was there to help you at any moment you needed help. I think everyone was really happy with the stabling and how it was organized.

The courses were really good, the course designers were very well-known and very good, who made good use of all the variations in the fences.

All 3 venues were really very special and also had enough paddocks, lunge areas, hack areas, and so on to make it comfortable for riders and horses. Also, it was really impressive to ride there I thought, especially in Tetouan and El Jadida it was a really special experience because you don't ride in arenas like that so much with such a big crowd.

The accommodation of the horses was really well organized. Coming into the country at first seemed like a difficult thing but with the help of the show and some people around you, it wasn't that difficult at all. So we were really happy we made the choice to come to Morocco and we will be back for sure!

Niels Kersten

"It was my first time at the MRT; the venue locations are amazing. The footing is perfect at all 3 venues. Regarding logistics, it is definitely a challenge to organize the whole trip as we're from Europe, But when we arrived to Morocco, it was well organized and taking care of. As there's police escort to all the venues and a strict schedule".

The stables for the horses were very decent and well-located near the competition arena. Good Washing places and nearby waters.

Top quality fences from most of isitrade and some others. And also a very good course designer which is very helpful.

Even though, all **3 venues** are top quality but still a lot of difference with the last one being indoors.

The horses' accommodation; It's a whole organization to get there, but the horses are well-taken care of and it's definitely worth it to go!

Rene Dittmer

"It was the first time for me at MRT and I really enjoyed it. We had excellent conditions and everything was very well organized".

The stables were really good at each show. Water was always close by and hay, straw, and shavings were easy to access.

There were great course designers from Europe. It was nice that each show had a different course designer. The fences were really nice. I liked that some of them gave some Moroccan flair.

The show in Tetouan was my favorite. The second show in Rabat was also super nice since there was so much space. For some horses, it was difficult to come into an indoor arena in El Jadida after the first two shows. For me, it was great practice since I kept going with indoor shows back home and the atmosphere was amazing.

Regarding the horses, it was a long trip but everything was really well organized. The customs etc. were all handled really well. It was made as easy as possible for the horses. 🇲🇦

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