

MULE RIDING

Q. What do you get when you cross a donkey jack with a horse?

A. A mule

Q - What do you get when you cross a stallion with a donkey jennet?

A. A hinnie



Aren't mules and hinnies the same thing?

Well in a way yes. A mule is the collective name for these hybrids, regardless of whether they are male or female.

As you would expect, mules demonstrate a combination of physical and physiological traits from their horse and donkey parents. The most obvious visible donkey traits are long ears, a narrow body and smaller hooves. The horse on the other hand contributes size, speed and muscle and also lends its tail (short tailbone with long hair) to the mix. This makes it easy to distinguish a mule from a donkey as a donkey's tail is more likened to that of a cow or lion (long tail with a tassel). Other characteristics such as the shape and size of the head will very much depend on how the genes from the parents have been distributed.

Every mule has its own unique bray. It will try its best to imitate the donkey's bray, but there is still the distinct sound of the horse's whinny. Most sound like a horse with a 'whinee'.....and end up sounding like a donkey with an 'aw ee aw'.

Contrary to popular belief, mules are not stubborn although they can appear to be lazy as they will not put themselves in danger. A horse can be worked until it drops but a mule cannot and this 'stubborn streak' is simply the mule's way of warning humans that things are not quite right. They are very intelligent and patient and will do their best for their owners.

Traditionally female mules were preferred as riding animals, so here at Kasbah Tamadot, we are proud to present the most friendly and good natured (female) mules in Morocco:

Peppermint, Paprika and Peanut

We would like to invite you to discover our beautiful region in a more traditional way by choosing from our carefully selected walks that cater for all riding levels!

1. 1 hour walk to Asni Village, down to the river and along to the mountain facing Kasbah Tamadot. This is recommended for beginners or those with no riding experience.
2. 2½ hour walk in the Toubkal National Park opposite Kasbah Tamadot. Discover our stunning surrounding countryside and be prepared to be blown away by the breathtaking views. This is recommended for beginners through to experienced riders.
3. 3 hour walk in the Toubkal National Park which includes a visit to a traditional Berber house and a picnic. This is recommended for beginners through to experienced riders.



All walks are led by our experienced English speaking guide - Monsieur Mohammed.

Price: **150 Mad** (Dirhams) per hour per person