

# RIGHT START

two restaurants, a bar and a night club. There's also a gym, indoor pool and luxurious spa with 11 treatment rooms. Children are very welcome in the pool, while parents can relax in the Jacuzzi tubs, sauna or chill out on a lounger.

Recent additions include a 12-hole mini-golf course, children's

outdoor play area and woodland walk. For anyone keen to keep fit, there's an exercise area with hurdles, monkey bars and a tug of war.

The Ofsted-registered crèche takes children from eight months to eight years and sessions last up to three hours 45 minutes - giving you time to treat yourself in the spa! Family accommodation is



spacious, with separate rooms for parents and children.

Dining here is a wonderful culinary experience, particularly in the recently rosette-awarded Ryder Grill, which has views over the famous Brabazon golf course. We found the children's menu to be excellent, with special diets very well catered for. If you prefer something more low-key, then Sam's Club House or Rocca's Pizza Pasta offer a more casual alternative.

## Essential info

Family rooms for 2 adults and 2 kids from £99pp B&B. Tel 01675 238 600 or visit [www.thebelfry.co.uk](http://www.thebelfry.co.uk)

## LE JARDIN DES DOUARS ESSAOUIRA

**M**aybe you think having young children means you have to pack your travel bags away. Think again. Le Jardin des Douars, about a 15-minute drive from the fascinating port town of Essaouira on Morocco's Atlantic coast, is exotic, luxurious and family friendly.

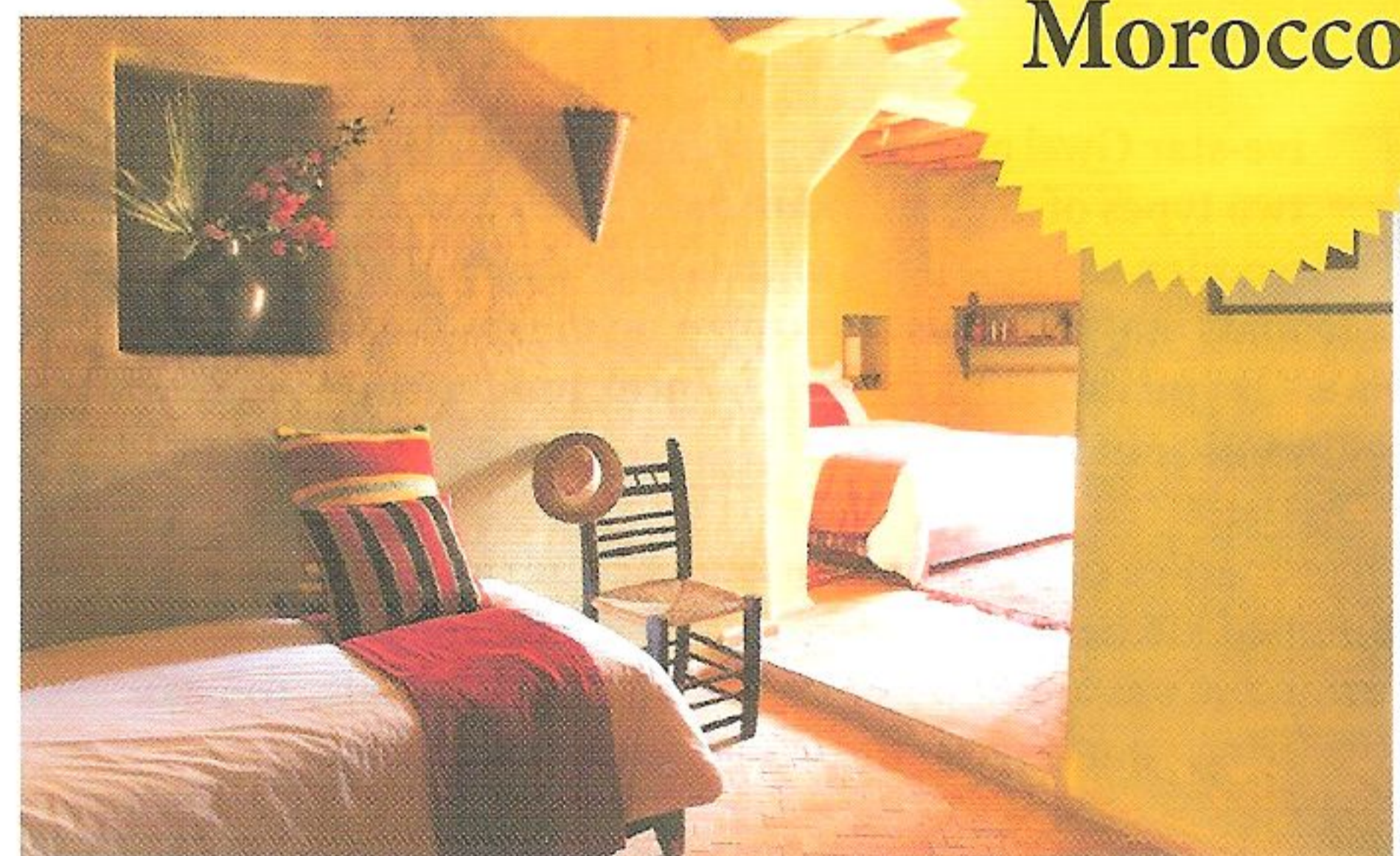
Built in 2007, the resort is designed in traditional style with adobe-style walls, wooden shutters, terracotta floor tiles and elegant furnishing. The main house boasts three open-sky courtyards filled with plants and a trickling water stream, and everywhere there are rugs and cushions.

The grounds are an Eden of flowering bushes, meandering tiled walkways, a spa with hammam and two swimming pools: one designated quiet and adults only, and the other for families to splash about in.

Rooms come in various configurations: family rooms sleeping up to five, large doubles offering a second single bed and two-bedroom suites sleeping up to five. You can also rent a villa in the grounds, where you can prepare your own meals or the chef will cook for you. Children's menus are standard at mealtimes and highchairs and cots are available on request.

If you want a quiet break for just the two of you, Le Jardin des Douars can provide babysitting at approximately €20 a day (enquire when making your booking if you think you'll want this).

Watersport enthusiasts will love the nearby 11km-long stretch of sandy Mogador Bay, where you can surf, kite-surf and wind-surf. Or hire sunbeds and an umbrella and get building those all-important sandcastles. Don't be surprised if you see the odd



Morocco

person riding by on a camel!

Essaouira itself is definitely worth a visit or two, with its frozen-in-time medina surrounded by 18th-century ramparts. You won't go home empty-handed, so leave some space in your baggage allowance!

## Essential info

easyJet flies direct from Luton twice a week from under £50 return pp, with a flight time of approx 3.5 hrs. BA also flies direct. A large double with additional single bed costs from £127 per night B&B. Visit [www.jardindesdouars.com](http://www.jardindesdouars.com) or tel 00 212 5 2447 4003.