



MOROCCO ITINERARY

Oct. 4th, 2020 - Oct. 14th, 2020
This is a 8 Person Trip



THE HIGHLIGHTS

Morocco straddles between the ancient and present while trying to forge a path into the future. In cities like Fez it feels as if nothing has changed in 1,000 years; while Marrakech speeds into the 21st century while maintaining steadfast Muslim traditions.

In Tangier, we'll visit the secret hideaways of the Rolling Stones, acclaimed antique dealers who trek across Africa for their finds, and textile markets hidden behind the guise of local food shops; and we'll rest poolside in a 19th century villa.

In Fez, we'll tour ancient and medieval sites, several displaying some of the finest zellige tile examples in the country. We'll shop in the tanneries and watch artisans make their hand-crafts. And we'll learn to cook tagines and Moroccan salads with local chefs, first shopping for our ingredients in the souk.

In Marrakech, we'll experience a fast-paced budding metropolis buzzing with contemporary designers, artisans, and restaurants tucked away into a medina dating from the 11th century. We'll taste traditional street food in Jemaa el Fna and modern cuisine at Le Jardin and Plus61. We'll wake up early to experience the Jardin Majorelle in a peaceful moment and go on mules up into the High Atlas Mountains to visit Berber villages and rug co-ops. The trip is topped off in the Agafay Desert with a private dinner under the stars.



THE HISTORY

Like many of its North African neighbors, the cultural backbone of Morocco is built upon thousands and thousands of years of shifting religions and dynastic rulers: from the Arabs migrating West in the 8th century to the Almoravid and Marinid dynasties ruling over southern Spain until 1492 to the French occupation in the early to mid 20th century. The result? The unique and stunning blend of European and Middle Eastern architecture, art, and food that established cities like Marrakech, Fez, and Casablanca as cultural capitals for centuries.



ARTISANS

From the minute you arrive in Morocco you dive head first into the artisanal practices that this country developed from the early establishment of the Berber empire in ancient times all the way to the modern day.

In ancient Roman/Berber villages such as Volubilis, you can see the start of this tradition in the beautifully executed mosaics peppered throughout the site. The traditional Berber artistic traditions established in ancient times can still be found in their villages throughout the country. In these contemporary villages the Berbers still practice ancient weaving, pottery, jewelry making techniques that are sheer beauty.

To this day in most regions of the country many of its citizens live solely off the artistic trades. In Tangier you can visit the weavers fondouks and what the men loom ,with deft hands, incredible woven textiles in brilliant colors and patterns. In Fez you can visit tanneries, tile makers, potters, and so on practicing techniques that date back to 700 AD and are still used to this day. While in Marrakech you can visit studios like Hamimi Living, Chabi, and Hassan Hajjaj where they are bringing new ideas to historic craft principles with contemporary designs. It is awe inspiring to witness in Morocco the range and beauty of its artisinal traditions.

RIADS

We specially pick riads and guest houses that highlight the modern and traditional design aesthetics of Morocco. We want to immerse Passengers in the unique crossroads of Morocco. That includes where we stay.

Besides their design influences we choose locations that feature a range of amenities such as beautiful hammams, pools or specialty dining experiences.

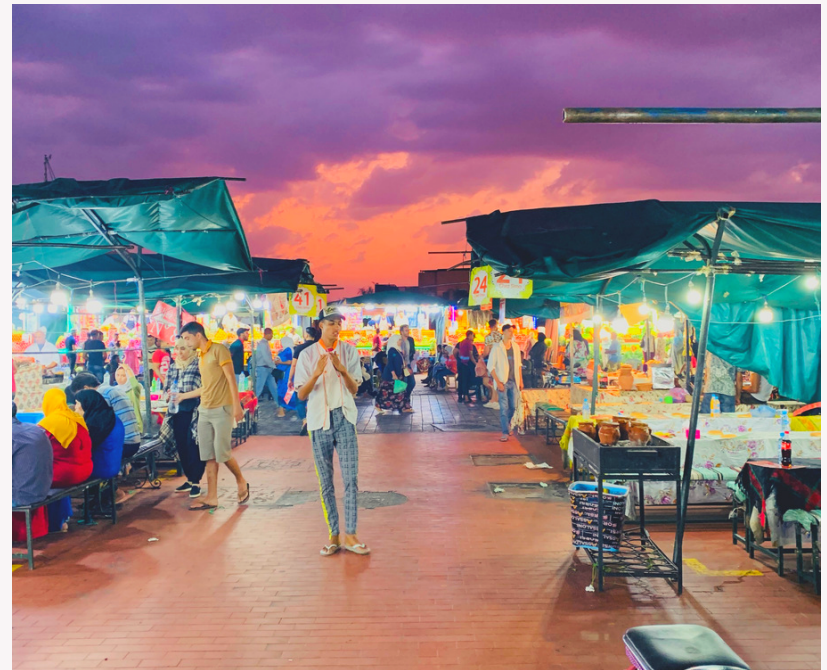
We avoid the more commercial locations in order to help you feel like you are experiencing the real and authentic Morocco.

DINING

Morocco is as much about its distinct design and artistic practices as it is about its food. We want to wholeheartedly explore the amazing cuisine options that it has to offer.

We take cooking classes in Fez, learning to make traditional tagine. We go on a tour of the street food scene in and around Jemsa el Fna in Marakech and eat delicious seafood in Tangier.

Like Anthony Bourdain always emphasized, the best way to understand a culture genuinely is through experiencing their food.



The Finer Details

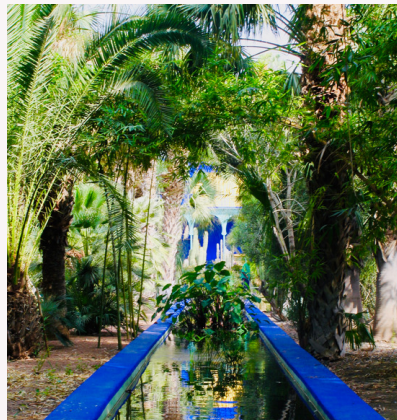
Early registration price is \$3000 USD per person for a double occupancy room offering two twin size beds. Early registration pricing is only available until January 15, 2019.

The price for any Passenger booking after January 15, 2019 will be \$3400 USD and bookings will close for this trip Sept 1, 2020. Deposit of \$1900 required to reserve spot.

This Includes: This Doesn't Include:

- 11 nights stay in 4 Star hotel accommodations
- Breakfast Daily
- All local city tours and specialty site tours
- Day trips to Chefchaouen, Volubilis, and Berber Villages
- Insiders access to various rug and textile artists and manufacturers
- Private coach vehicle from Tangier and Fez
- Visit to luxury hamam
- High speed train transfer from Casablanca to Tangier
- Welcome and farewell dinners
- Breakfasts at all hotels

- Flight into Casablanca and departure flight from Marrakech
- Meals other than breakfast, and the welcome/farewell dinners
- Airport Transfers, though private transfers can be arranged at additional cost.



Itinerary:

- Day 1| Oct 4th - Arrive from airport and meet up to visit Hassan II Mosque and enjoy our welcome dinner.
- Day 2| Oct 5th - Take the express train to Tangier and meet up with our local guide Jonas for an insiders tour.
- Day 3| Oct 6th - Enjoy the morning as you wish and after lunch continue our explorations with Jonas. Prepare to be blown away at places like the weavers fondouk!
- Day 4| Oct 7th - Board a private coach for your trip to Fez. Stop along the way for lunch in the "Blue City" Chefchaouen. Arrive in Fez by dinner time.
- Day 5| Oct 8th - Spend the day learning about Fez's history. In the evening cook local Moroccan fare.
- Day 6| Oct 9th - We will visit the artisans outside the city and learn about their trade. Transfer to Moulay Idriss that evening.
- Day 7| Oct 10th - Tour the ancient city of Volubilis and its nearby wineries before arriving in Marrakech.
- Day 8| Oct 11th - Get your bearings in Marrakech with our guide Mandy before being let loose to wander the souks!
- Day 9| Oct 12th - Board a bus to visit the Berber villages in the Atlas Mountains. Only accessible by mule's it is a truly awe inspiring experience of beauty. At night we have dinner in Jemaa el Fna with the fabulous Mandy again.
- Day 10| Oct 13th - Rise early to get to Jardin Majorelle before the crowds. The day will be spent visiting this amazing property as well as the boutiques in Gueliz. Farewell dinner under the stars in the Agafay desert.
- Day 11| Oct 14th- Check out of hotel and be transferred to airport.