

# **Magnificence of Morocco 2018**

### 11-Night Fully Escorted Small Group Tour with Jacob Shoshan

### Sunday October 21 - DEPART USA

### Monday October 22 - ARRIVAL IN CASABLANCA - RABAT

- Today we will meet in Casablanca
- Meet your tour educator and other group members
- Visit the magnificent King Hassan Mosque (second largest Mosque in the world)
- Depart for Rabat.
- Take a guided walk through the Old Walled City and the marvelous Kasbah des Oudayas.
- Welcome dinner and orientation with your tour educator.

#### **Overnight: Rabat**

#### Tuesday October 23 – RABAT - CHEFCHAOUEN

- Breakfast at the hotel.
- Begin your visit with a city tour that includes a drive around the walls of the Royal Palace and a visit to the Mausoleums of Mohammad
   V and Hassan II, two rulers who worked hand-in-hand with the Jewish community.
- Leaving Rabbat behind, head to the beautiful "blue city" nestled in the Rif Mountains.
- Dinner and overnight in Chefchaouen

#### **Overnight: Chefchaouen**

#### Wednesday October 24 - CHEFCHAOUEN

- Breakfast at the hotel.
- Explore Chefchaouen; take in the striking, blue-washed buildings and steep cobbled lanes.
- Visit the Ras El Ma springs where women still do their laundry.
- Pass the main square of Place Outa el Hammam, the red-walled Kasbah, visit a 15th-century fortress and dungeon and stroll through the charming alleyways, with many small cafes and restaurants.
- Free evening

### **Overnight: Chefchaouen**







# Thursday October 25 – CHEFCHAOUEN to FEZ

- Breakfast at the hotel.
- Today head south to visit the ruins of Volubilis, a UNESCO World Heritage site. Founded in the 3rd century B.C.E., the town became an important outpost of the Roman Empire. You will see remarkably preserved mosaics.
- Depart for Fes, the most extensive medieval city in the Arab world, and the home of Jewish scholars and rabbis for hundreds of years.
- Check into the hotel.
- Free Evening

#### **Overnight: Fes**



# Friday October 26 - THE MYSTERIES OF FES

- Breakfast at the hotel.
- Take in a panoramic view of the Medina of Fes from Borj Sud.
- Enjoy a guided visit through the Mellah (Jewish Quarter) of Fes and visit the Ibn Danan Synagogue.
- Continue on a guided walk through the Medina, where the renowned Jewish scholar Maimonides once lived. Our visit includes:

- A glimpse of local craftsman at work in their shops as they weave, embroider, carve and chisel today as they have done for centuries.
- A tour of the Madrasa Bou Inania, founded in the years 1351-56. The madrasa is one of the few religious places in Morocco accessible to non-Muslim visitors.
- A look into the University of Al-Karaouine or Al-Qarawiyyin, considered by the Guinness Book of Records, UNESCO and many historians as the oldest continuously operating, academic degree-granting university in the world.
- Visit the Tanneries of Fes, which give the Medina its unique flavor and smell.
- Return to the hotel for Shabbat Dinner

#### **Overnight: Fes**







# Saturday October 27 – FES - INTO THE DESERT

- Breakfast at the hotel.
- Check out of the hotel, depart Fes, and drive through the fertile valley of Saiss, and through cedar forests, to Ifrane.
- Drive through the Middle Atlas Mountains to the Saharan plateau.
- Check into the hotel.
- **Dinner** at the hotel.

#### **Overnight: Erfoud**

### Sunday October 28 - EXPLORING THE DESERT

- Breakfast at the hotel.
- Check out of the hotel.
- Learn about the place of the desert in Moroccan culture with your tour educator.
- Visit the city of Rissani and the ruins of the legendary caravan city of Sijilmassa.
- Drive in rugged off-road (4x4) vehicles deep into the Sahara Desert.
- Ride camels over the sand dunes of Merzouga on the edge of the Sahara and arrive at your desert camp.
- **Traditional dinner** at the camp under the stars.

Overnight: Luxury Desert Camp, Merzouga

# Monday October 29 – THE ATLAS MOUNTAINS

- Early wake-up to enjoy a desert sunrise, and get the adrenaline pumping with (optional) sandboarding on the sand dunes.
- Breakfast at the camp.
- Depart the camp and begin the drive through the High Atlas
   Mountains.
- Learn about Berber civilization and culture with your tour educator.
- Walk along the Todra Gorge, home to a variety of rare plant and bird species.
- Drive along the "Route of a Thousand Kasbahs," a region of fortresses.
- Arrive in Ait Ben Haddou, one of Southern Morocco's most recognizable villages, often used as a location for fashion and film shoots and many Hollywood movies including Gladiator and Jewel of the Nile.
- Explore Ait Ben Haddou, a UNESCO World Heritage site.
- Check into the hotel.
- **Dinner** at the hotel.

#### **Overnight: Ait Ben Haddou**





# Tuesday October 30 – FROM THE MOUNTAINS TO MARRAKECH

- Breakfast at the hotel and check out.
- Drive to Marrakech through changing landscapes, including the 7,500-foot-high Tizi N'tichka Pass.
- Explore Marrakech's enormous marketplace.
- Experience the Djemaa El
   Fna Square, one of the most colorful and mysterious sites in all of Africa, with its snake-charmers, street vendors, musicians, jugglers, fortune-tellers and storytellers.
- Free Evening at leisure.

**Overnight: Marrakech** 

# Wednesday October 31 - THE WONDERS OF MARRAKECH

- Breakfast at the hotel.
- Visit the famous Majorelle
   Garden, created by the orientalist
   painter Jacques Majorelle and the
   newly opened and spectacular
   Yves St. Laurent museum.
- Visit the Saadian Tombs, built in the 16th century as a mausoleum for many Saadian rulers
  - and entertainers.
- Explore the Mellah (formerly the Jewish Ghetto) and visit the Slat al-Azama Synagogue
- Free Evening at leisure.

**Overnight: Marrakech** 



### Thursday November 1 - MARRAKECH

- Breakfast at the hotel.
- Visit the 19th-century Bahia
   Palace
- Return to the Medina and Market
   time for more shopping and more exploring
- Dinner together at Comptoir or similar

**Overnight: Marrakech** 

#### Friday November 2 -

- Breakfast at the hotel.
- Check out of the hotel.
- Transfers to Marrakech Airport or Casablanca Airport



NOTE: The daily Itinerary above is subject to change and dependent upon local conditions and/or operational changes or improvements. The specific times and order of inclusions within each destination may also be altered to best accommodate unscheduled closures, special events, weather, traffic, etc.