Medinas & Minarets

MOROCCO

PLUS DESERT GLAMPING EXTENSION

MARCH 14-24, 2022
Witness the excitement of Marrakech's Djemaa el-Fna, the most famous square in Africa
See a traditional Sufi performance while dining on a couscous dinner at a local home
Visit Rabat’s famous Chellah, the most hauntingly beautiful ruins in Morocco
Explore Marrakech’s Old Kasbah and ancient Jewish Quarter
Take a half-day cooking class with Chef Tarik in his eco-farm
Enjoy unique 5-star hotels to enhance your experience in Morocco
Tour the ANIMA Garden created by electric Austrian Andre Heller
Start a morning with a horse carriage ride around Yves St. Laurent's Majorelle Gardens
Be pampered by VIP fast-track arrival & departure services
Extend your journey with a three-night Desert Glamping experience in the Sahara
MONDAY, MARCH 14: DEPART USA
Depart on your overnight flight to Casablanca or Rabat.

TUESDAY, MARCH 15: ARRIVE CASABLANCA / RABAT
Upon arrival into Casablanca Airport, meet and transfer to your hotel in Rabat. Get to know your travel companions at an evening welcome cocktail reception at the hotel. (R)

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 16: RABAT
Your exploration of Morocco’s capital city starts at the Hassan Tower, a 12th-century minaret of an unfinished mosque. Continue to the Mausoleum of Mohammed V, the colorful Kasbah of the Udayas with its lovely Andalusian Garden and the hauntingly beautiful ruins of Chellah. Also included is a visit to the new Mohammed VI Museum of Modern & Contemporary Art. (B,L)

THURSDAY, MARCH 17: RABAT / FES
The drive to Fes stops en route at Morocco’s finest Roman ruins, Volubilis, whose temple remnants and mosaics sit above the rolling countryside. The old Imperial city of Meknes, also known as the Moroccan Versailles, boasts a grand gateway, Bab el-Mansour, main square, ancient horse stables and the exquisitely decorated Tomb of Sultan Moulay Ismail. (B,L)

FRIDAY, MARCH 18: FES
Today is a full-day walking tour of the old city of Fes – down narrow cobbled streets filled with ancient mosques and towering green-glazed minarets. Visit the Royal Palace gates, Bab Boujloud (the city gate) and explore the medina and its artisan workshops. In the evening a Sufi performance and traditional couscous dinner at a local home is a perfect end to your day. (B,L,D)

SATURDAY, MARCH 19: FES
A second full day in Fes starts with a visit to the ancient Jewish Quarter, the Mellah, and its Ibn Danan Synagogue. The Dar Batha Museum features its collection of traditional art from Fes including a zellij workshop where mosaic tiles and masterpieces are made. From the height of the Merenid Tombs, excellent panoramas of the city and its surroundings unfold. (B,L)

SUNDAY, MARCH 20: FES / MARRAKECH
Take free time this morning for some independent exploration. Transfer to the Fes airport for your flight to Marrakech. Upon arrival, meet and transfer to your hotel in the old medina. This evening head to the frenetic Djemaa el-Fna, the most famous square in Africa, with snake charmers, storytellers, acrobats, medicine men and musicians – it all comes gloriously alive in the evenings! (B,L)

MONDAY, MARCH 21: MARRAKECH
In a full-day guided walking tour, visit the magnificently decorated 16th-century Saadian Tombs that were sealed off from view for 250 years until rediscovered by aerial photography in 1917. Roam through the old Kasbah and the Jewish Quarter. See the exquisite Bahia Palace with its incredible zellij tile work and carved cedar ceilings. After viewing the tallest structure in the Marrakech medina, the beautiful Koutoubia Mosque, a sumptuous lunch is ready for you in the medina. The balance of the afternoon is free for you to wind your way through the endless souks – shopping, haggling, and breathing in the marvelous sights and scents. (B,L)

TUESDAY, MARCH 22: MARRAKECH
Begin today with a short morning drive to a traditional Berber hamlet in the Amizmiz Valley and Chef Tarik's eco-farm. Select ingredients from the organic garden to prepare your lunch in a hands-on cooking class. A walk around the local village lets you visit a Berber home and share a mint tea with a local family before sitting down to the fruits of your culinary labor. A visit to the imaginative ANIMA Garden, created by eclectic Austrian André Heller, follows lunch. Stroll the fragrant paths of the garden art gallery featuring one-of-a-kind installations from around the world and a view of the often snow-capped Mount Toubkal. Return to Marrakech for an evening at leisure. (B,L)

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 23: MARRAKECH
Your final full day in Morocco starts with a morning horse carriage garden ride around the city ramparts to the 12th-century Menara Gardens, with its pavilion and reflecting pool. At Yves St. Laurent's lovely Majorelle Gardens, designed in 1924 by French landscape painter Jacque Majorelle, tour the Berber Museum and the YSL Museum, exhibiting masterpieces of couture, accessories, sketches and photographs spanning the late designer’s career. The remainder of the afternoon is free for you to explore or do any final shopping. Tonight say goodbye to your new friends at a Farewell Dinner and make plans for your next Washington and Lee adventure. (B,L,D)

THURSDAY, MARCH 24: MARRAKECH / DEPARTURE
Transfer to Marrakech Airport for your return flight home. (B)
SUNDAY, MARCH 27: OUARZAZATE / CASABLANCA
Transfer to Ouarzazate Airport for your morning flight to Casablanca, connecting with your international flight to the USA. (B)

Cost of Adventure:

MOROCCO PROGRAM: $5,995 PER PERSON DOUBLE OCCUPANCY • SINGLE SUPPLEMENT: $1,995
DESSERT GLAMPING EXTENSION: $2,395 PER PERSON DOUBLE OCCUPANCY • SINGLE SUPPLEMENT: $995

Included in your program are:
Accommodations in hotels as indicated with full breakfast daily • Internal one-way flight from Fes to Marrakech economy class • All tours mentioned in program on a private basis with a DAI premium-selected guide • All entrance fees for included touring • All transfers by private air-conditioned vehicles, including bottled water • Soft drinks, bottled water, coffee & tea included with all meals • Welcome & Farewell Dinners including ½ bottle of wine or local beer per person • Gratuities for guides, drivers, restaurant service for included meals and portage • Meet & greet services at all airports for arrivals and departures • Meals as indicated by (B), (B,L), (B,L,D): B=Breakfast, L=Lunch, D=Dinner

Not Included are:
Entrance visas and departure taxes as required • Travel insurance (highly recommended) • Meals not indicated • Items of a personal nature such as laundry, telephone calls, WiFi/internet, both alcoholic and non-alcoholic drinks (unless indicated otherwise), incidental expenses at hotel, etc. • International airfare from USA to Morocco and return.
Program designed by Destinations & Adventures
“Top Travel Consultant & Destination Specialist” - Condé Nast Traveler Magazine