

# EXOTIC MOROCCO

# Marrakech to Casablanca

**ESCORTED BY:** 



# MAY 29 - JUNE 05, '23

Join us on this amazing trip through the exotic land of Morocco, land of Kasbahs and spice souks. Experience the best value in deluxe travel.

Rooms are limited so reserve today with your deposit.



S2199 USD PER PERSON SHARING

### \$5555 USD SINGLE ROOM SUPPLEMENT

NOT INCLUDED: Round trip from JFK/EWR airline TBD

Deposit is \$300 non refundable to hold your space Second payment of \$300 due by Dec. 15th Final payment due by Feb. 20, 2023

Payments Made By: Credit card CashApp: \$CarolJamesTravel Zelle: caroljamestravel@gmail.com

Insurance rates are available – please inquire today! call Carol James 973-476- 3260

Passport must be valid for 6 months after return travel

## HIGHLIGHTS:

- Explore the Imperial city of Marrakech
- See the snake charmers, mime artists and acrobats at the square.
  - Shop the souks for leather shoes, wrought iron lamps and bargain in the alleyways.
- Visit a traditional Berber village at the foothills of the High Atlas Mountains.
- Drive the alpine region of Ifrane –Morocco's Switzerland.
- Step back in time to untouched cultural narrow lanes and alleys of Fes.
- Visit the Jewish quarter, admire and shop for the elaborate tile mosaics.
- Learn about the leather processing at the Tannery.
- Enter a Moorish past preserved at Rabat.
- View the stunning Hassan 11 Mosque in Casablanca-setting of the 1942 classic film.
- Transfers from Airport to hotel and return traveling with group

## **INCLUSIONS:**

7 Nights' hotel, Daily breakfast, 1 Lunch, 1 Dinners, transfers and transportation is by private vehicle with driver/guide

## **EXCLUSIONS:**

·Meals unless listed, Tips & Gratuities, Travel Insurance, Covid Tests



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#### MAY 29, 2023 ARRIVE MARRAKECH, MOROCCO

Welcome to Morocco! Upon arrival at the Marrakech airport, you will be met and transferred to your overnight accommodation. Welcome dinner tonight at local restaurant

#### Overnight in Marrakech at Longue Vie Hotel (3 nights)

#### MAY 30, 2023 MARRAKECH SIGHTSEEING

After a sumptuous breakfast, visit to Marrakesh, the "Red City" a majestic place filled with palaces, gardens, markets, and mosques. Upon arrival, you will first stand by the Koutoubia Mosque with its 282 ft minaret, an architectural landmark dating back to the late 12th century. You will continue to the 19th century stunning Bahia palace and discover the intricate work done by the local artisans to decorate this splendid home built by a powerful Vizir for his Harem. The building includes one hundred and fifty rooms, countless courtyards and interior gardens, a veritable labyrinth of corridors, a Koranic school, hammams, a harem, stables. From there we will start exploring artisan guarters and the colorful Souks to interact with the real life of Marrakech people. Continue to Dar El Bacha Museum, built in 1910 and was the residence of Thami El Glaoui, named Pasha of Marrakech by Sultan Moulay Youssef in 1912. It is one of the medina's finest examples of Riad architecture, dripping with Moroccan Zellige (colorful geometric tilework), intricate white plasterwork and heavy carved cedar-wood lintels. Before sunset we will be strolling in the square of which the city is so famed, Jemaa El Fna, where hundreds of locals and tourists come to spend the end of the day watching jugglers, dancers, fortune tellers, story tellers and traditional musicians. After the tour, head to your hotel for free time and overnight. Dinner on own arrangements

#### MAY 31, 2023 OURIKA VALLEY EXCURSION

#### (B/L)

After breakfast, you will be met at your hotel and transferred to Ourika Valley, a wonderful Berber village nestled high in the Atlas Mountains. A trip to the Ourika is an opportunity for you to discover the breathtaking views of Berber villages and some amazing landscapes. Setti Fatma is the place to go. One is astonished by the hard labour undertaken by the Berber populations of the area which did not hesitate to hoist with hillside materials necessary to the construction of small houses fixed on mountainside or to work the terraces necessary to agriculture in hostile environment. Ourika's atmosphere and unique decor is sure to impress! The included services at Ourika are the mountain local guide and transportation. Enjoy a relaxing lunch at a local family and enjoy a free time before transferring late this afternoon to Marrakech. Return to your hotel for overnight.

Dinner on own arrangements

#### JUNE 01, 2023 MARRAKECH-IFRANE-FES

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Departure from Marrakech to Ifrane passing via Beni Mellal, Khenifra, Mrirt and Azrou, one of the most spectacular roads in Morocco. In Beni Mellal, don't miss the opportunity to taste one of the best meals (Tajines) in the region (own expenses). Continue to Ifrane, nicknamed "Morocco's Switzerland," Ifrane is a charming ski town populated by European-style chalets. Head to Fez, check-in to the hotel for overnight.

We may transfer via the high way from Marrakech, Casablanca, and Rabat to  $\ensuremath{\mathsf{Fes}}$ 

Dinner on own arrangements

#### Overnight in Fez at L'escale Hotel (2 nights)

#### JUNE 02, 2023 FESSIGHTSEEING

This morning you will be met at your hotel for a guided city tour of the spiritual capital of Morocco, Fez. The first stop is the entrance of the biggest royal palace of Morocco. This palatial complex is located in the center of the Fez El-Jedid area and is surrounded by high walls with an intricate and elaborate decorated doors. The doors are bronze and they shine like gold. The palace is closed to the public. Only the king of Morocco uses the complex when he visits Fez. You then continue the tour with a panoramic view of the medina, before venturing to the heart of the largest old souk in the world in the medieval center of Fez. The medina of Fez has not changed for centuries. Its narrow alleys house hundreds of merchants and craftsmen selling a range of products such as dates, fish, spices, copper urns, carpets, and musical instruments. One of the most interesting sites in Fez is the Leather Sook and the oldest Leather Tannery in the world. The tannery dates back nine centuries. In Fez, you will visit the Jamaa Al-Karaouine (the world's first established university) and a Medersa (a Koranic school). You will also visit the tannery, a clay workshop, the artisan quarters, and the other souks. Return to your hotel. Dinner on own arrangements

#### JUNE 03, 2023 FES - MEKNES - RABAT

After breakfast, head to the Imperial city of Meknes, the one-time home of the Moroccan sultanate with its Medina all-winding narrow streets and grand buildings that justify its stamp of Imperial City. Remnants of three sets of fortifications, ingeniously incorporated into the city roads network, emphasize its past importance and glory. The king's tomb sits at the heart of what remains of the original city, flanked by an almighty royal granary, the magnificent Bab El-Mansour. Continue to Rabat, Morocco's capital and fifth largest city. Upon arrival, spend the rest of the day touring the many fascinating historic sites in Morocco's coastal capital of Rabat. You'll see the 19th-century Royal Palace and the city's "Gate of the Winds" (also known as Bab Rouah). Visit Hassan Tower, the minaret of an incomplete mosque that was originally intended to be the world largest. Construction started in 1195 and then came to a halt in 1199 after Sultan Yacoub al-Mansour passed away. Continue to the picturesque Kasbah of the Udayas, built in the mid-12th-century, where you'll wall through the French-colonial gardens and explore the fortress built to shield royalty from attacks. After the tour, check in at the hotel and rest. Dinner on own arrangements

#### Overnight in Rabat at Flower Town Hotel (1 Night)

#### JUNE 04, 2023 RABAT - CASABLANCA

After breakfast, continue to Casablanca and start discovering Morocco's largest city and economic capital, Casablanca, best representation of the modern side of Morocco. Begin the city tour of Casablanca with an outside visit of Hassan II Mosque. It is the largest mosque in the country and the 7th largest in the world. You then continue to the Ain Diab Corniche for a pleasant stroll along the coast. Your next stop is Mohammed V Square in the city center. The city tour includes also the Habous Quarter, one of the oldest areas in Casablanca. The district was built by the French in the 1930s as an attempted solution to the ongoing housing shortage. It marries the best of traditional Moroccan architecture with modern facilities and French ideals - even the mosque fronts onto a strip of grassy lawn just like a village church. Continue to your hotel to check in and overnight. Dinner on own arrangements.

#### Overnight in Casablanca at Idou Anfa Hotel (1 Night)

#### JUNE 05, 2023 DEPART CASABLANCA

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At the pre-determined time you will be met and transferred to the airport for your onward flight.



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