



The Women's Travel Group Spring in Marrakech

Morocco (8-days/7-nights)

+ Imperial Cities of Morocco Extension (5-days/4-nights)

April 2023

Spring is the ideal time to visit Morocco. The weather is very mild and the Atlas Mountains are snow capped. The scene is out of a movie and into your camera for keeps. Marrakech is the highlight of every tour. Spend more time in that area and extend to the Imperial Cities, time and budget permitting. Ask us for airfare and any other needs you might have. We are here to help you ride your Magic Carpet to **Morocco.**

Day 1: Apr 16 - Arrive Marrakech Meals: Dinner

Upon arrival into Marrakech Airport, be met and transfer to our hotel to check in and freshen up. This evening we meet our guide for a tour briefing and welcome dinner. Our trips begin with personal attention from your guide to make you feel welcome from Day 1.

4 night stay at Riad Nesma, superior room

Day 2: Apr 17 - Marrakech – City Sightseeing Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Today a full-day sightseeing tour of Marrakech. Visit the legendary souk, craft markets, wool- dyer's quarters and Djemaa-El-Fna Square with its permanent display of folklore, magicians, and storytellers. Marrakech's fame is due to its past glories. It was for many dynasties the prosperous Capital of Morocco. It abounds with masterpieces of architecture, which dominate the ancient Medina. We see the tombs of the Saadi rulers, outstanding examples of Moorish art. The city shines with historical monuments, intact in their splendor. Brilliant mosaics, carved woodwork and gorgeous marbles can be found in Palais Bahia. Lunch at a local restaurant near the square.



In the afternoon visit the legendary Majorelle Gardens filled with bougainvillea, coconut, banana, bamboo and palms. The gardens were created in the 1920s by the French painter Jacques Majorelle. In the midst of lush vegetation he built a large workshop, pergolas and arbors. The property was restored a few years ago by designer Yves Saint-Laurent and used as his residence. Later we tour the ramparts of Marrakech which dominate this medieval city with their characteristic red stone walls and superb nine gates.

Day 3: Apr 18 - Marrakech – Museum Visits Meals: Breakfast, Dinner

Today visit the Women’s Museum in the old medina. The first cultural initiative of this kind in Morocco it is entirely dedicated to the history and culture of the Moroccan women, their daily lives and creativity. The facility presents the heritage of Moroccan women and highlights the leading role of Moroccan women in the social, political, economic and cultural activities of the country. The museum also offers a space for contemporary artists (painters, writers, photographers) to express themselves.

We then visit Dar EL Bacha Museum. Known as one of the most beautiful places, you’ll find the Dar el Bacha Museum near the entrance to the Medina of Marrakech. This was once the home of the pasha of Marrakech. The restoration project was headed by the National Museum Foundation, and the new museum opened in December 2017. The interior fascinates and the museum offers a charming café.

Our last museum visit is to the Yves Saint Laurent Museum. Dedicated to the fashion designer, the museum includes an exhibition hall featuring the work of Yves Saint Laurent, another dedicated to Jacques Majorelle, and temporary exhibition halls, and an auditorium. It also has a gift shop and book store, a café-restaurant with a patio, and a library with over 5,000 volumes including Andalusian works dating back to the 12th century, books on botany, art, and the work of Yves Saint Laurent.

Day 4: Apr 19 - Marrakech – Morning Cooking class at a farm / Afternoon visit of Souk and berber pharmacy Meals: Breakfast, Lunch

This morning we invite you to an exotic cooking class. At 9:00am we depart for an organic farm and a cooking workshop to discover the secrets of Moroccan cuisine and spices at **Chef Tarik Cuisine**. Upon arrival, have a welcome bio mint tea followed by an organic tea shop and spices workshop. Included also is an ecological tour of the garden and the outdoor kitchen. CHEF TARIK will be there to advise and guide you in the preparation of dishes.



Write your menu and add the finest ingredients! Finally, it is around the table that each participant can enjoy and relish her masterpiece during our prepared meal for lunch. This afternoon we have time for some shopping in and exploration of the Souk. Our guide will accompany us. Moroccan purchases are jewelry, leather goods, ceramics, textiles and slip on shoes. We will also visit a berber pharmacy where the local products and berber cosmetics are of an incomparable richness. Spices such as saffron, also called "red gold", olive oil, honey and orange blossom water and more.

Day 5: Apr 20 - Marrakech / Atlas Mountains: Ourika Valley (1 hour) , Camel ride or hike Meals: Breakfast, Dinner

This morning we transfer to Kasbah Bab Ourika in the Atlas Mountains. Bab Ourika perches majestically on a hilltop at the apex of the Ourika Valley, guarding the gateway to the snow-capped Atlas Mountains – with panoramic views, this innovative new hotel receives warm sunlight all day, ending in spectacular sunsets. The unique location offers a bird's eye view of the Atlas, of traditional Berber villages and of the lush river valley below. In the afternoon enjoy a 1-hour camel ride that allows us to experience the beauty and panoramic views of the Atlas Mountains. For those who prefer to remain on their own feet, we offer a walk through a berber village with sipping mint tea at a local house. Then back to the Kasbah through the small fields of olives, plums and vegetable gardens.

Overnight at Kasbah Bab Ourika.

Day 6: Apr 21 - Atlas Mountains: Ourika Valley – Explore Ourika Region Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Today we explore Gems of the Ourika Region. Departure from the hotel to Ourika Valley including a panoramic stop. Visit the Berber Museum. The Berbers are a tribal people native to North Africa. They were conquered by invading Arab armies in the 7th century who were spreading Islam. The Berbers quickly converted to Islam, helped take over Spain, and have shared Morocco with the Arabs ever since. While Morocco is a melting pot of Berbers and Arabs, many Berbers retain their language, culture, and separate identity. Arrival at La Safraniere of the Ourika - a real attraction for all those who wish to see and understand where the saffron comes from, and why this spice is so expensive. Tour La Safraniere of the Ourika with explanation of Saffron cultivation (1Hour) then visit Jardin Bio Aromatique, including guided tour and lunch with a berber family in a local berber house. Afternoon at leisure. Overnight Kasbah Bab Ourika.



Day 7: Apr 22 - Atlas Mountains: Ourika Valley - Hammam Experience
Meals: Breakfast, Dinner

Today we will have the opportunity to experience the resort's Beldi Spa. A space in the gardens dedicated to wellbeing, relaxation and beauty. You will have a selection of treatments: Massages, Hammam, Facial treatment etc... (all spa treatments are at additional cost, payable direct). Aroma-therapy oils created in an organic garden neighbouring the Kasbah are used. Balance of the day at leisure for relaxation after Hammam and massage experience. This evening we will have a festive farewell dinner at the hotel.

Overnight at Kasbah Bab Ourika.

Day 8: Apr 23 - Atlas Mountains: Ourika Valley / Depart Marrakech
Meals: Breakfast

According to your flight schedule, transfer to Marrakech Airport for your departure with unforgettable memories.

Or you may choose exploring this fascinating country further on the Imperial Cities of Morocco 4-night extension tour.

IMPERIAL CITIES EXTENSION

Day 8: Apr 23 - Atlas Mountains: Ourika Valley / Rabat Meals: Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner

Early morning departure to Rabat, the capital of Morocco. Arrive for lunch at a local restaurant followed by an afternoon city tour. Rabat is a well-planned city consisting of broad tree-lined avenues, a landscaped central park, and impressive quarters for the foreign embassies and ministries. Explore Kasbah of the Oudayas, visit the unfinished Hassan Tower and Mosque, and the distinctive and elegant Mausoleum of Mohammed V and royal palace (exerior). Dinner at our hotel Sofitel Jardin de Roses

Day 9 Apr 24 - Rabat / Meknes / Volubilis / Fes Meals: Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner



Depart for Fes via the Imperial City of Meknes: Known as “Moroccan Versailles “and founded at the end of the 17th Century by Moulay Ismail. Continuation to Fes with a Stop at the ancient Roman ruins of Volubilis. During the period between 45-285 AD this ancient city reached its peak in prosperity as the capital of the Roman province of Mauretania Tingitania, but had in actuality been in existence centuries before the first Roman proconsul arrived. From this tranquil site you can view the Holy City of Moulay Idriss. The town holds the tomb of Moulay Idriss - “el Akhbar” (the Great) - the great grandson of the Prophet Mohammed, and the founder of Islam in Morocco. Proceed to Fes, arriving late afternoon. Lunch will be at a local restaurant in Meknes and dinner at your hotel in Fes. Overnight Marriott Jnan Palace.

Day 10: Apr 25- Fes Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner After breakfast at the hotel, start a full day guided city tour. Fez, founded in the 8th century, was Morocco’s first capital, today the kingdom’s intellectual, religious and cultural center. Visit of the medieval Medina, the religious Islamic centers and university namely the Medersa, the Karaouine Mosque and University (the oldest in the world) as well as the Nejjarin Fountain. Then we walk along the souks of the medina. Lunch will be at a local restaurant and dinner at your hotel. Overnight Marriott Jnan Palace.

Day 11: Apr 26 - Fes / Casablanca Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

After breakfast, drive to Casablanca. Lunch at a local restaurant. Our afternoon city tour of the “The White City” includes the giant Hassan II Mosque (inside visit), an architectural masterpiece. The mosque is the largest religious edifice in Africa. Take a short walk along the Corniche Boulevard, visit the United Nations Square and Habous district. Dinner at our hotel. Overnight Radisson Blu.

**Day 12: Apr 27 - Depart Casablanca
Meals: Breakfast**

Transfer to the airport for your departure flight.



SPRING IN MARRAKECH – 8-days/7-nights – April 16-22, 2023

With minimum 10 passengers

Land package price per person based on double occupancy: \$2,795 per person
Single Room Supplement: \$ 975 per person

IMPERIAL CITIES EXTENSION – 5-days/4-nights – April 22-26, 2023

With minimum 6 passengers

Land package price per person based on double occupancy: \$1,695 per person
Single Room Supplement: \$ 500 per person

Included in MAIN TOUR:

- 7 nights accommodation – as per itinerary outline
- Meals as indicated (7 breakfasts, 3 lunches & 6 dinners)

Tips for included meals

- 2 bottles of water per person per day in the vehicles
- Transportation in private bus
(10-14 pax = 16-seat minibus / 15+ pax = 30 seat bus)
- Sightseeing w/ entrance fees – as per itinerary
- English speaking national guide at disposal throughout

Included in EXTENSION:

- 4 nights accommodation – as per itinerary outline
- Meals as indicated (4 breakfasts, 4 lunches & 4 dinners)
- **Tips for included meals**
- 2 bottles of water per person per day in the vehicles
- Transportation in private bus (16-seater minibus)
- Sightseeing w/ entrance fees – as per itinerary
- English speaking national guide at disposal throughout

Not included:

- Meals not mentioned
- Tours not mentioned
- International Air & Airport taxes
- Insurance
- Tipping/gratuities (except for included meals)
- Items of personal nature such as telephone, laundry, beverages
- Any items not listed above.