

# Morocco

# Land of Enchantment

# **Inspiring Moments**

- ► Thrill to Morocco's captivating fabric of vibrant colors, intricate architecture and African, Arab and European cultures.
- ► Listen to the song of Jemaa el-Fnaa square, home to storytellers, musicians and snake charmers.
- Marvel at Casablanca's Hassan II Mosque, an architectural wonder.
- ► Lose yourself in the lush beauty of Marrakech's tranquil gardens.
- Explore Rabat's Islamic ruins, ancient citadel and splendid Hassan Tower.
- Visit with a Berber family during an outing to the Atlas Mountains.
- Enjoy a hands-on cooking and calligraphy lesson at the Amal Women's Center.
- ► Experience two UNESCO World Heritage sites.





Hassan II Mosque, Casablanca

Embark on a journey that showcases Morocco's ancient cities, vibrant culture and riveting history. Begin in the capital city of Rabat, home to the famous Hassan Tower. Continue your Moroccan discovery in cosmopolitan Casablanca and Marrakech, a captivating imperial city with endless treasures. Explore shaded souks and a centuries-old square abundant with buskers and food stalls. Admire intricate palaces, the splendid Koutoubia Mosque and tranquil gardens, including the subtropical Jardin Majorelle. Delve deeper into the culture during a cooking lesson and culinary tour and a social visit with a Berber family.

# Day-by-Day Itinerary

# Day 1 | In Transit

Depart for Rabat, Morocco.

# Day 2 | Rabat, Morocco

Arrive and transfer **()** to the Sofitel Rabat Jardin des Roses. Join us tonight to meet new friends at a Welcome Reception.

# Day 3 | Rabat

Rabat Walking Tour. Discover the many highlights of Rabat today! View the façade and French-style landscaped gardens of the Royal Palace, the residence of Morocco's royalty. Continue to the Kasbah des Ouidaïas, a picturesque neighborhood with whitewashed houses and views of the Atlantic Ocean. Then step inside the striking Mausoleum of Mohammad V, the resting place of past kings, and gaze at the Hassan Tower, rising above the ruins of its mosque. Cap off your excursion at the Citadel of Chellah. Abandoned since the 1100s the grounds feature Roman ruins and a magnificent doorway decorated with calligraphy.

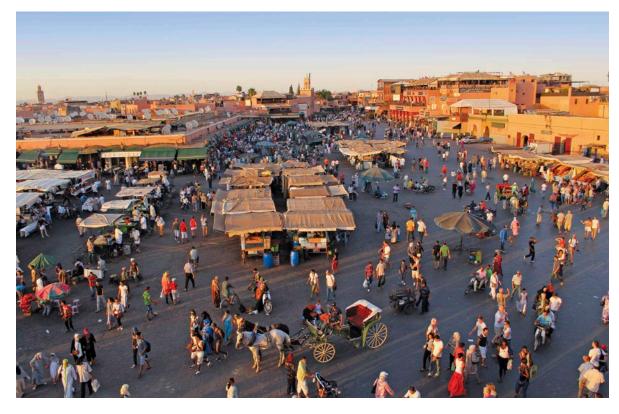
# Day 4 | Rabat | Casablanca | Marrakech

Depart for Marrakech via Casablanca this morning. Casablanca City Tour. Experience city life in Place Mohammad, the central piazza that is surrounded by examples of Mauresque architecture, including the Justice Palace and Post Building. Enjoy lunch at Rick's Café, a re-creation of the timeless nightclub in "Casablanca." Then visit the famous Hassan II Mosque with its fantastic 690-foot minaret. Continue to Marrakech and check in to your hotel.

# Day 5 | Marrakech

Enrichment: Moroccan History. Gain insight into the storied history of this remarkable country.

Monuments of Marrakech. Begin today at the fascinating Saadian Tombs, the burial place of royals from the Saadi Dynasty. Then witness the rhythm of



local culture in Marrakech's lively souks, a colorful marketplace with a maze of passages and merchants selling textiles, clothing and handicrafts. Next, marvel at the Palais Bahia, which boasts mosaic floors, luxurious apartments and sprawling courtyards. This afternoon, witness the beautiful Koutoubia Mosque, recognized by its towering minaret, followed by a visit to Jemaa el-Fnaa. Marrakech's main square is a gathering place for locals and tourists and a performance space for fire-eaters, acrobats, storytellers, musicians and medicine men. Watch the compelling action from above at a rooftop café; then join your guide for a walk through the square. It will be a feast for your senses! Dig into tasty Moroccan cuisine at dinner tonight.

# Day 6 | Marrakech

# **( AHI Connects:** Arabic Calligraphy and

**Moroccan Cuisine.** Launched in 2012, the nonprofit Amal Women's Center helps disadvantaged women learn cooking skills, gain roles within the hospitality industry and prepare for financial independence. During a cooking lesson, learn to make a selection of recipes — such as salads, bread, tagine and dessert. While your lunch is cooking, try your hand at reproducing the beautiful patterns, elegant lines and curves of Arabic calligraphy.

**Dar el Bacha Palace.** Get to know the Museum of the Confluences at Dar el Bacha Palace. Built in the late 19th century for the warlord Pasha Thami el Glaoui, the palace boasts exceptional woodwork and a trove of colors, from its jade palm trees to the scarlet rose bushes and zellige mosaic tilework.

**Enrichment:** *Moroccan Culture.* Gain insight into the religions, cultures and traditions of Morocco.

# Day 7 | Atlas Mountains | Marrakech

Atlas Mountains. Journey to North Africa's greatest mountain range to discover the Berber culture. Berbers, whose civilization reaches back more than eight millennia, are the original inhabitants of these mountains and are known for their warm nature. Visit with a local family in their home and learn about their traditions and culture while sharing bread and tea.

# Atlantic Ocean Rabat Casablanca Morocco Marrakech Atlas Mountains

Enjoy lunch surrounded by a landscape of mountains, red earth, villages and olive trees.

#### Day 8 | Marrakech

**Gardens and Souks.** Jardin Majorelle is an oasis bursting with fountains and cobalt architecture. Created by French artist Jacques Majorelle in the 1920s, the garden was later purchased and restored by Yves Saint Laurent and his partner Pierre Bergé. After a garden stroll, visit the Yves Saint Laurent Museum, a museum with an extensive collection of haute couture, plus a library. Back in the city's pulsing souks, join a guide for an informative culinary tour to learn about a variety of local herbs, marinades and spices.

Share tales of your adventures during dinner.

# Day 9 | Marrakech

**Free Time:** Discover Marrakech at your own pace. Head to the main square or visit a tannery or hammam. Tonight, gather for a Farewell Reception at the hotel.

# Day 10 | In Transit

Transfer **()** to the Marrakech airport for the return flight **()** to your gateway city.

# **Included Features**

### Accommodations {with baggage handling}

- 2 nights in Rabat, Morocco,
- at the deluxe Sofitel Rabat Jardins des Roses.
- -6 nights in Marrakech
- at the deluxe Sofitel Marrakech Palais Imperial.

#### Transfers {with baggage handling}

 Deluxe motor coach transfers during the Land Program.

### **Extensive Meal Program**

-7 breakfasts, 5 lunches and 3 dinners; tea or coffee with all meals, plus wine with dinner.

# Your One-of-a-Kind Journey

- Small group: Sized just right at 24 guests.
- **AHI Travel Assurance** plan covers Accident and Sickness Medical Expense, Trip Delay and Emergency Evacuation for U.S. residents.
- Enrichment by expert speakers enhances your insight into the region.
- **Engaging excursions** showcase the local culture, heritage and history.
- **AHI Sustainability Promise:** We strive to make a positive impact wherever we travel.
- **CALL Connects:** Local immersion.
- Free time to pursue your individual interests.
- Welcome and Farewell Receptions to mingle with fellow travelers.
- A personal VOX headset to hear your English-speaking guide clearly.
- -Tipping of guides and drivers.
- Complimentary travel mementos.



# 2024 Departures & Pricing

# March 1-10, 2024

\$Z00
\$250
\$4,545

Special Price from \$4,295'

\*Special price available for a limited time. Call for details. VAT & port tax supplement are an additional \$295 per person. All prices quoted are in USD, per person, based on double occupancy and do not include air transportation costs (unless otherwise stated).

Single accommodations are an additional \$1,395 (limited availability).

Program-specific terms and conditions are available at https:// arizst.ahitravel.com/destinations/1823A?schoolld=13. You can also request a copy from our travel experts.

**Note:** Itinerary sequence and/or scheduled events may change. Walking is required on many excursions.

Flights 3 and transfers 3 provided for AHI FlexAir participants.