



MAY 2024

# MOROCCO

CASABLANCA - FES - MARRAKECH

14<sup>TH</sup> - 24<sup>TH</sup>

MAY 2024



# Global Linkages

# MOROCCO 2024

## YOUR JOURNEY AT-A-GLANCE

### DAY 1 | TUES, MAY 1

Depart JFK/Casablanca via Royal Air Maroc

### DAY 2 | WED, MAY 15

#### Arrive Casablanca, Morocco

- Check-in at Club Val D'Anfa Hotel
- Welcome Dinner at Che Basmane Restaurant
- Rick's Café (Optional)

### DAY 3 | THURS, MAY 16

#### Casablanca

- City tour of Casablanca
- Lunch at La Sala Café Maure (Optional)
- IDMAJ Sidi Moumen Cultural Centers
- Rick's Café (Optional)

### DAY 4 | FRI, MAY 17

#### Casablanca/Rabat/Fes Road Trip

- Depart for Fes
- Panoramic Bus Tour
- Lunch at Zayyane Restaurant
- Check-in at Marriott Jnane Palais Hotel

### DAY 5 | SAT, MAY 18

- Walking Tour of Fes
- Lunch at Restaurant Rad Neijarine

### DAY 6 | SUN, MAY 19

#### Roadtrip to Marrakech

- Boxed Lunch on the Bus
- Check-in at Savoy Le Grand Hotel
- Dinner at Café Arabe

### DAY 7 | MON, MAY 20

#### Ourika Valley

- Camel Ride Experience
- Panoramic Tour of Ourika Valley
- Lunch at Kasbah Bab Ourika Restaurant
- Jamaa el Fna Square

### DAY 8 | TUES, MAY 21

#### Artistic/Cultural Tour of Marrakech

- Old City (Medina) Tour
- Jardin Majorelle
- Museum of Yves Saint Laurent
- Dinner at Bistro Loft Restaurant

### DAY 9 | WED, MAY 22

#### Free Activities Day

- Choice of Optional Activities
- Museum of African Contemporary Art Al
- Maaden Exhibit & Cocktail Reception

### DAY 10 | THURS, MAY 23

- Relaxation Day
- Final Day of Shopping
- White Party at Jane Tamsna

### DAY 11 | FRI, MAY 24

#### Departure Day

- Hotel Check-out
- Bus Ride from Marrakech to Casablanca
- Depart Casablanca to USA/JFK



## DAY-1

👉👉👉👉👉👉👉 TUESDAY, MAY 14 👈👈👈

### Departure Day

Depart USA on Royal Air Maroc from JFK to Casablanca, with connections from other US cities.

## DAY-2

👉👉👉👉👉👉👉 WEDNESDAY, MAY 15 👈👈👈

### Welcome to Morocco!!

- Arrival at Casablanca Airport
- Pick up and transfer to Club Val D'Anfa Hotel
- Hotel Check-in
- Spend the rest of the day relaxing at the Hotel (Hotel Spa: Optional)
- Welcome - Moroccan Theme Dinner at Chez Basmane Restaurant
- Late Evening Activity - Drinks at Rick's Cafe (On Own Account)

### Club Val D'Anfa Hotel

The 4 star Club Val D'Anfa Hotel is a walk from the beautiful beach and 5 minutes from Casablanca's city center. In a setting composed of a flawless combination of innovation and tradition, Club Val D'Anfa offers modern and majestic spaces inspired by Berber art and architecture. This Casablanca beachfront hotel boasts an outdoor pool, tennis court, spa, beauty salon, gardens, on-site restaurant and bar, and free WIFI.



## Chez Basmane Restaurant

Chez Basmane is a sumptuous Moroccan-themed restaurant decorated in stucco, woodwork and mosaics. Its welcoming and comfortable dining rooms are filled with flowers and candles, and the prevailing colors of ochre, red and blue. Chez Basmane offers Moroccan gastronomic cuisine, which is accompanied by the musical sounds of the gimbri lute and tbal drum, and dancers.



## DAY-3

THURSDAY, MAY 16

### Casablanca

- Breakfast at the Hotel (Included each day)
- Morning Activity-city tour of Casablanca ("The White City") by visiting:
- Hassan II Mosque
- Habous District
- Lunch at La Sqala Cafe'Maure (Optional-Own Account)
- IDMAJ Sidi Moumen Cultural Centers Event and Dinner
- Evening Activity - Drinks at Rick's Cafe (Own On Account)

### City Tour of Casablanca

The **Hassan II Mosque** is one of the largest mosques in the world. It has a Minaret with a height of 200 to 210 meters; according to sources, the highest in the world.

**Habous District** was built by the French between 1918 and 1955 to create a new Medina. It looks like a traditional Moroccan city, but with a few additions: modern facilities and bigger streets. In addition, Habous District is home to various traditional markets and the Royal Palace.



HASSAN II MOSQUE



HABOUS DISTRICT

## La Sqala Cafe'Maure

Built within a fort, La Sqala Cafe'Maure is a historical monument full of architectural heritage. While the restaurant offers typical Moroccan cuisine and Moorish decor, it is a mythical place where charm, modernity and tradition come together, including its beautiful gardens and a fountain.



## IDMAJ Sidi Moumen Cultural Centers

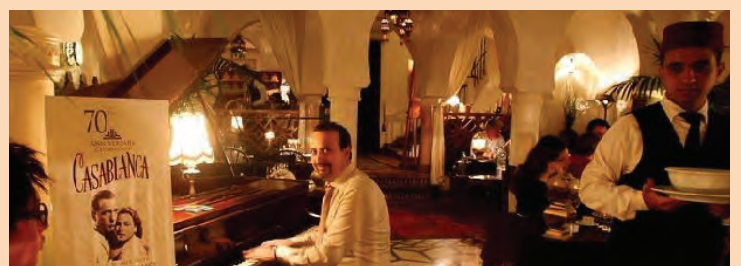
IDMAJ Neighborhoods Association is a non-profit established in Casablanca by marginalized neighborhoods. "IDMAJ" means integration in Arabic and was founded in 2006. Its principles are:

- 01 Encourage citizens to take charge of actions in their neighborhoods and communities.
- 02 Participate in the organization of cultural, educational, economical, technological and sports activities.
- 03 Fight against delinquency and marginalization.
- 04 Engage the population in individual and collective efforts to improve the quality of life of the majority.



## Rick's Cafe

Rick's Cafe' recreates the bar made famous by Humphrey Bogart and Ingrid Bergman in Casablanca, the 1942 film classic. Set in an old courtyard-style mansion and built against the walls of the Old Medina of Casablanca, the restaurant-piano bar is filled with architectural and decorative details reminiscent of the film: curved arches, a sculpted bar, balconies, balustrades, and beaded and stenciled brass lighting.



# DAY-4

FRIDAY, MAY 17

## Casablanca/Rabat/Fes Road Trip!

- Depart for Fes via Rabat
- Panoramic Bus Tour:
  - Royal Palace
  - Kasbah Oudayas
  - Mohammed V Mausoleum
- Lunch in Rabat at Zayyane Restaurant (Included)
- Hotel Check-in Marriott Jnane Palais
- Dinner-Own Account at the Hotel



THE ROYAL PALACE OR DAR ALMAKHZEN



THE KASBAH OUDAYAS



MAUSOLEUM OF MOHAMMED V

## Panoramic Bus Tour

The **Royal Palace** or Dar al Makhzen was built in 1864 on the ruins of the former royal palace. Today, it is royal palace of the Alaouite sultan of the city of Fes and the seat of the government. While the palace is not open to the public, you are able view the imposing brass doors surrounded by zellige tilework and carved cedar wood, and view buildings that are capped with green tile roofs, vast gardens and decorated courtyards.

The **Kasbah Oudayas** was built in the 12th century and housed the soldiers who went to holy war against the Christians in Spain. The houses and alleys of this old, fortified military camp have been repainted in blue and white. North of the Kasbah Oudayas is the semaphore platform that offers a panoramic view of the Beach of Rabat, the ocean and the Muslim cemetery Sidi Benachir Sale. The Kasbah Oudayas is a beautiful place to lose yourself in its alleys and admire this city within a city.

The other important monument on Hassan Tower's esplanade is the **Mausoleum of Mohammed V**; which is a royal tomb. It houses the sarcophagus of King Mohammed V and the tombs of his sons (Prince Moulay Abdellah and King Hassan II). The mausoleum is beautiful, both outside with its white marble and pyramidal roof covered with green tiles, and inside with its Koranic calligraphy and marble columns.



## Zayyane Restaurant

Thanks to its authentic and mouth-watering cuisine, Zayyane has established itself as one of the best Moroccan restaurants in the country's capital. Zayyane will fully immerse you into Morocco's culture thanks to an interior which strongly resembles the country's beautiful traditional houses, and offers a most relaxing and family-oriented atmosphere. If you are a lover of couscous, grilled meats, seafood and vegetables, and tangines, then you'll love Zayyane!



## Marriott Jnane Palais

Bask in 5 star luxury at the historic Fes Marriott Jnane Palace. Relax in the hotel's stylish rooms, which boast a mixture of traditional and modern decor and offer feather beds, marble bathrooms and free WIFI. Room balconies offer views of the pool, gardens or the city. The property features a stunning outdoor pool, modern fitness center, hammam and superb dining options.



# DAY-5

◀◀◀◀◀◀◀◀◀◀ SATURDAY, MAY 18 ▶▶▶▶▶▶▶▶▶▶▶▶

- Walking Tour of Fes
- Lunch at Restaurant Ryad Nejjarine (Included)
- Explore and shop the Medina
- Affinity Dinners-On Own Account

## Walking Tour of Fes



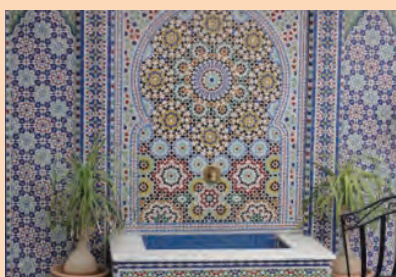
### MADRASA BOU INANIA

Madrasa Bou Inania was built between 1350 and 1357 on the orders of Sultan Abu Inan. It is the last madrasa--or college of Islamic studies--built by the Marinids in Fes. It is also the finest, largest and most expensive theological college in Fes. The madrasa is one of the few religious places in Morocco that is accessible by non-Islamic visitors. A standout feature of Bou Inania is its courtyard, which is paved with marble.



### CHOUARA TANNERY

Chouara Tannery is the oldest (dating back to the Middle Ages) and most impressive of all tanneries. Take the opportunity to walk around the pools of dye and meet local artisans who continue this ancestral craft. For the photographer: take to the heights for a view of all the tanneries. The pools form a patchwork of bright colors. Please be sure to reserve time to shop!!



### NEJJARINE FOUNTAIN

The Nejjarine Fountain is located to the right of the entrance of Fundouk, Fes. It is a pretty zellige-decorated fountain with a carved wooden pediment. The Nejjarine Fountain is one of the most beautiful public fountains in the medina of Fes and dates back to the 17th century.



### Restaurant Ryad Nejjarine

Located in the heart of Morocco's oldest imperial city, Restaurant Ryad Nejjarine welcomes its guests into a luxurious and vibrant environment, and offers innovative, yet authentic cuisine.



## DAY-6

◀◀◀◀◀◀◀◀ SUNDAY, MAY 19 ▶▶▶▶▶▶▶▶

### Fes to Marrakech Road trip!

- Depart for Marrakech
- Boxed Lunch on bus
- Hotel Check-in at the Savoy Le Grand Hotel (TBC)
- Dinner at Cafe' Arabe (Included)



### SAVOY Le Grand Hotel

Nestled in the center of Marrakech, next door to the Menara Mall and minutes from the mythical Jamaa el Fna Square, Savoy Le Grand Hotel is a 5-star establishment composed of 444 units overlooking one of the hotel's sumptuous swimming pools or enchanting gardens to provide you with the perfect environment in which to relax.

All the required equipment is available: refrigerators and coffee machines, free high-speed Wi-Fi, televisions with flat screens, charming assets such as bathrobes and slippers as well as kits of luxury welcome products offered. All guests benefit from 24-hour room service. The hotel also has several restaurants and bars offering menus from here and elsewhere, a huge 2000 m<sup>2</sup> spa, two outdoor and two indoor heated swimming pools, as well as a business center for guests.

### Dinner At Café Arabe

Located in the medina of Marrakech, The Cafe' Arabe offers Italian and Moroccan cuisine, served in the restaurant's courtyard or on the terrace. You will dine in a traditional, yet contemporary environment, and be immersed into a magical, enchanting and charming atmosphere.



# DAY-7

MONDAY, MAY 20

## Camel Ride/Ourika Valley

- Camel Ride Experience
- Panoramic Tour of Ourika Valley
- Lunch at Kasbah Bab Ourika Restaurant (Included)
- Moroccan Rug Shopping
- Medina Shopping/Jamaa el Fna Square
- Dinner On Own Account



## Tour of Ourika Valley

Discover the delights of Ourika Valley in Morocco's Atlas Mountains, learn about the Berber lifestyle, tour the Berber Market and experience the panoramas of the waterfalls in Setti Fatma.



## Kasbah Bab Ourika Restaurant

Located in the Kasbah Bab Ourika Hotel, this restaurant of the same name, stands in the exceptionally beautiful landscape of the Atlas Mountains. At the apex of the Ourika Valley, the restaurant looks down to the river, green fields and groves of olives, oranges and lemons, and up to the dazzling snowy mountain peaks. Meals are served in the beautiful gardens of Kasbah Bab Ourika or in the colonnaded restaurant.

The Kasbah Bab Ourika Restaurant is passionate about its produce. We source the freshest organic ingredients from our own kitchen gardens and the surrounding valley to prepare pure artisanal cuisine. Our menu reflects the seasons and location and is a mixture of traditional Moroccan dishes and global cuisine with nuances of French, Asian and Mediterranean flavors. Our food is simply beautiful, tasty and healthy.



## Jamaa el Fna

Jamaa el Fna is a large public square and marketplace in Marrakech's medina quarter (old city). It remains the main square of Marrakech, filled with merchants and hawkers, and is known for its traditional activities by story-tellers, musicians and performers. Jamaa el Fna is magical and a destination for all. It opens in early morning, and activities and performances continue until late evening. Jamaa el Fna Square is listed on the Representative List of the Intangible Cultural Heritage.



## DAY-8

◀◀◀◀◀◀ TUESDAY, MAY 21 ▶▶▶▶▶

### Artistic/Cultural Tour of Marrakech

- Old City (Medina) Tour
  - Koutoubia Mosque
  - Bahia Palace
- Lunch (On Own Account) or Shopping
- Afternoon –French Influence Tour
  - Jardin Marjorelle
  - The Museum of Yves Saint Laurent
- Dinner at Bistro Loft Restaurant (Included)



## Old City (Medina) Tour

Located in Marrakech's Djemaa el Fna Square, the **Koutoubia Mosque** is a landmark and the largest mosque in Marrakech. The meaning of 'mosque' is place where one bows down in a prayer. Consequently, a mosque is the center of religious life in Islam. Built during the Hispano-Moresque period, which is known for its simple, yet masterful craftsmanship and luxury, the Koutoubia Mosque is said to be the most beautiful and proportioned mosque in the world.

The **Bahia Palace** is a palace and set of gardens built in Marrakech in the late 19th century. Its name means brilliance, and it was intended to be the greatest palace of its time. As with other buildings of the period in other countries, the palace was intended to capture the essence of the Islamic and Moroccan styles. It consists of a two-acre garden with rooms opening onto courtyards.



KOUTOUBIA MOSQUE



BAHIA PALACE

## French Influence Tour

The **Jardin Majorelle** is one of the most visited sites in Morocco. It took French painter Jacques Majorelle 40 years of passion and dedication to create this enchanting garden in the heart of the "Ochre City", which was his residence into the 1950s. In the 1980s the property was purchased by fashion designers Yves Saint Laurent and Pierre Berge' who worked to restore it. Today the garden and villa complex (Villa Oasis) is open to the public. As you walk along the garden's shady lanes in the midst of trees and exotic plants, you will pass burbling streams and pools filled with water lilies and lotus flowers; you will hear rustling leaves and chirping birds; and you will smell sugared fragrances.

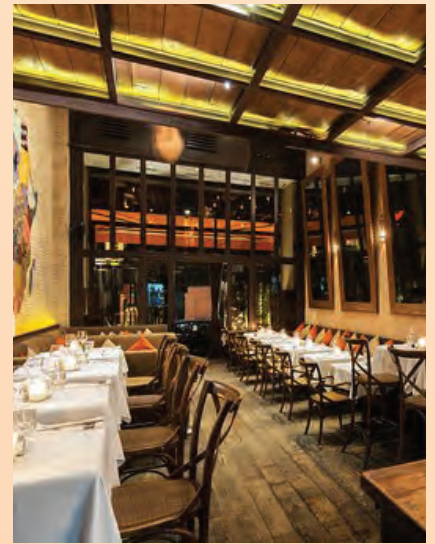
The Villa Oasis currently houses the Islamic Art Museum of Marrakech, the Berber Museum and the Musee Yves Saint Laurent, which opened in October 2017. The **Musee Yves Saint Laurent** is a 43,000 square foot building adjacent to the Jardin Majorelle, and features Moroccan influences with terrazzo and intricate brickwork making up its facade. The interior is characterized by both curving and straight volumes, which bely the colorful archives of fashions and sketches on display. In addition to permanent and temporary exhibition space, the Musee Yves Saint Laurent encompasses a 140 seat auditorium, boutique, bookshop, cafe-restaurant and research library comprising 5,000 volumes.





### Bistro Loft Restaurant

With hardwood floors and exposed brick walls that are adorned with a large selection of pop art, Bistro Loft is where many Marrakshis gather for a touch of New York. An exquisite alternative to traditional Moroccan cuisine, Bistro Loft's menu is decidedly French; offering a range of popular and beautifully-presented French appetizers and main courses.



## DAY-9

◀◀◀◀◀◀ WEDNESDAY, MAY 22 ▶▶▶▶▶

### Free Day/Optional Activities

- Choose to participate in one or more of the Optional Activities Offerings for an additional cost:
  - Hot Air Balloon Ride (Morning Activity)
  - Moroccan Cooking Class (Morning Activity)
  - Spa/Hammam Experience (Morning or Afternoon Activity)
  - Quad (Dirt Bike) in the Palmeraie of Marrakech (Morning or Afternoon Activity)
  - Shopping
  - Rest & Relaxation
- Museum of African Contemporary Art Al Maaden Exhibit and Cocktail Reception
- Dinner (On Own Account)





### QUAD (DIRT BIKE)

Take a dirt bike ride and be surprised by the little-known Marrakech Desert. Enjoy a two hour circuit on the rocky desert plains and through the grove of Marrakech between the wadis and palm trees.



### HOT AIR BALLOON RIDE

In the magical and amazing world of ballooning everything takes on another dimension! Your balloon will serve as a unique balcony that allows you to see Marrakech and the Atlas Mountains from a different vantage point. Floating approximately 20 kilometers above ground, you will partake in an exceptional experience and enjoy an unforgettable view of Marrakech.



### SPA/HAMMAM EXPERIENCE

Treat yourself to a relaxing, rejuvenating and pamper-filled experience at a Moroccan spa/hammam. Morocco has an exceptional selection of spa treatments through its traditions of hammams and massages, and use of highly therapeutic natural products, some of which are unique to the country. Moreover in Morocco, the hammam experience--hot steam and scrub--is more than just a visit to the public bathhouse or luxury spa, it's a ritual! Be prepared to be indulged.

## Moroccan Cooking Class

Enjoy a cooking workshop conducted by a Dada (traditional Moroccan chef) using Moroccan spices and flavors to prepare an authentic dish. At the end of the hands on cooking workshop, you will feast on the meal that you have prepared.



## Museum of African Contemporary Art Al Maaden

MACAAL is an independent, not-for-profit contemporary art museum. One of the first of its kind, MACAAL is dedicated to the promotion of African art through its diverse exhibition and education programs. The museum fosters an understanding of contemporary art from Africa by collecting and exhibiting established and emerging artists, highlighting the creative energy and cultural diversity found across the continent.



# DAY-10

THURSDAY, MAY 23

## Relaxation Day

- Rest & Relaxation
- Last Day of Shopping
- Farewell Event: White Party at Jnane Tamsna Hotel



## Jnane Tamsna Hotel

The Jnane Tamsna Hotel is owned by Meryanne Loum-Martin, a Parisian lawyer of Senegalese and Caribbean descent, and is the only Black-woman owned business in Marrakech. Noted in *Town & Country* and *Black Enterprise*, Jnane Tamsna is a luxurious property within a walled garden and offers a sensuous experience in Moroccan and traditional African design. Also a trained interior designer and highly regarded for her design sensibilities, in 2020 Ms. Loum-Martin's book: *Inside Marrakesh: Enchanting Homes and Gardens*, which looks at the fusion of international style with traditional Moroccan decor, was released. Although this boutique hotel is too small to provide lodging accommodations for our group, the Global Linkages Final Dinner will be held here. The restaurant offers a fusion of Mediterranean and Modern Moroccan food and serves dishes made with ingredients from the on-site organic garden.

# DAY-11

FRIDAY, MAY 24

## Departure

- Hotel Check-out
- Bus ride from Marrakech to Casablanca
- Departure to US via Casablanca to JFK



# COST

## PER PERSON SHARING

**\$5725-JFK VIA ROYAL AIR MAROC**

## SINGLE OCCUPANCY

**ADDITIONAL \$1375**

(Airline fares are subject to final confirmation by Royal Air Maroc.)

## HOTEL ACCOMMODATIONS

**CASABLANCA - 4 STAR;**

**FES AND MARRAKECH - 5 STAR.**

## MEALS

**FULL BREAKFAST DAILY INCLUDED AT HOTELS.**

**OTHER MEALS ARE INCLUDED AS NOTED.**

## TOURS

**ALL TOURS ARE INCLUDED EXCEPT FOR**

**OPTIONAL ACTIVITIES.**

A deposit of **\$500** will be required to reserve a place and must be paid check, money order, credit card, Pay-Pal or Zelle.

A payment schedule and plan will be available. Global Linkages will handle the payments and coordinate airfare, hotel reservations and tours. Trip travel insurance is available at an additional cost.

**Trip must be paid in full by  
March 11, 2024**

# TRIP INCLUDES

- JFK - Casablanca/Marrakech Roundtrip Airfare (US connecting cities are an additional cost)
- Hotel Accommodations
- All breakfasts
- Lunches and dinners where indicated
- All group tours
- Customized Events and Excursions
- Ground transportation in Morocco
- Group Personal Guides
- Welcome Packages & Conference Call Orientations
- On the ground assistance in Morocco
- Travel assistance in the US
- On Ground Portage Gratuities

Travel cost includes base airfare, transfers to hotels, full breakfast and other selected meals and tours, as noted.

## QUESTIONS

Lorna K. Johnson, Global Linkages, Inc.  
lkjglobalink@gmail.com  
973-819 6484

### MOROCCO LOGISTICS:

Shems Travel Casablanca, Morocco





# RESERVATION FORM

CASABLANCA - FES - MARRAKECH MOROCCO

 **\$500 DEPOSIT REQUIRED** 

Yes! Please reserve my space for the Casablanca/Fes/Marrakech 2024 Morocco Trip.  
I have read and understand the attached payment and refund policy.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

I would like the following accommodations (Check one)  Single  Double

If double, my roommate will be \_\_\_\_\_

## Method of Payment

Check or Money Order | Payable to Global Linkages

Credit Card | 5% transaction fee will be added

# \_\_\_\_\_ Expiration date \_\_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_\_

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

This card is a  MasterCard  Visa  American Express  Discover (check one)

Paypal Email: lkjglobalink@aol.com

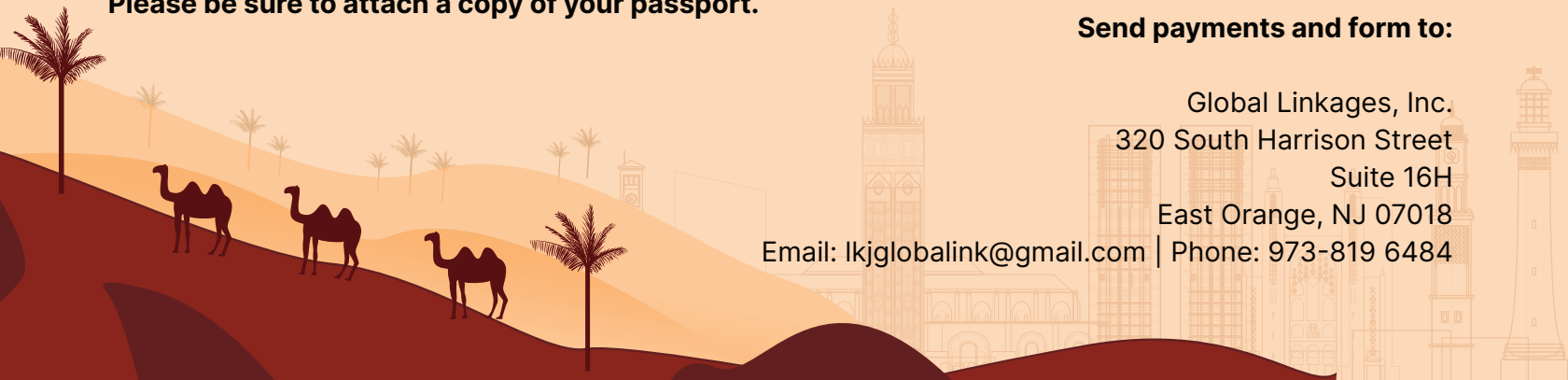
Zelle Email: lkjglobalink@aol.com

**Please be sure to attach a copy of your passport.**

**Send payments and form to:**

Global Linkages, Inc.  
320 South Harrison Street  
Suite 16H  
East Orange, NJ 07018

Email: lkjglobalink@gmail.com | Phone: 973-819 6484



# PAYMENT SCHEDULE AND REFUND POLICY

After paying a deposit of \$500 minimum, payments will be accepted from those who prefer to pay for the trip in installments. A suggested payment plan will also be included in the welcome package.

Global Linkages accepts checks, money orders, and major credit cards (MasterCard, Visa, American Express and Discover). Please be mindful that all credit card payments incur a 5% transaction fee. A returned check fee of \$30 will be charged for all returned checks. Please make checks and money orders payable to GLOBAL LINKAGES, INC.

Final payment must be received by Global Linkages no later than March 11, 2024. Travel participants with outstanding balances after this date will incur a penalty equivalent to 10% of the balance due on the trip.

## REFUNDS

The refund policy is as follows:

June 1, 2023 - June 30, 2023	Deposit minus \$100
July 1, 2023 - September 30, 2023	Payment minus \$500
October 1, 2023 - December 31, 2023	Payment minus \$1,000
January 1, 2024 - March 10, 2024	Payment minus \$2,500
March 11, 2024 to Trip Departure	NO REFUNDS

\*Participants are strongly encouraged to take Travel Insurance. While not mandatory, Global Linkages recommends that you purchase insurance and will provide travel insurance information in the welcome package that we will forward following receipt of your deposit.

Global Linkages, founded in 1997 and based in the NJ-NYC metropolitan area, is a management consulting firm that specializes in developing partnerships with the African continent and the diaspora. As part of its services, Global Linkages provides "boutique travel experiences" that connect individuals, educational institutions, governments and businesses with unique and exciting explorations in Africa. This is primarily due to those extensive relationships created by the firm's international development work. Global Linkages Principal Lorna K. Johnson, trained as a lawyer and urban planner, has been working in Africa for over 27 years and has made over 300 trips to the continent. In 2017, Global Linkages expanded its journeys and development work to Cuba; and is now pleased to include Morocco in its program.