

Morocco

Casablanca - Fes - Marrakech



May 10 - 20, 2022



Day 1: Tuesday May 10-Departure Day

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

*You must take a PCR COVID-19 Test no more than 72 hours before departure and display a negative test result during check-in.



Day 2: Wednesday May 11-Welcome to Morocco!!

- Arrival at Casablanca Airport
- Undergo COVID-19 Rapid Test (no cost)
- 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-theme 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 12-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: 1) Encourage citizens to take charge of actions in their neighborhoods and communities; 2) Participate in the organization of cultural, educational, economical, technological and sports activities; 3) Fight against delinquency and marginalization; and 4) 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 13-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

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 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.



The Royal Palace or Dar al Makhzen



The Kasbah Oudayas



Mausoleum Mohammed V

Zayyane Restaurant

Thanks to its authentic and mouth-watering cuisine Zayyane has established its 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 14-Fes

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

Walking Tour of Fes

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 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.

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.



Madrasa Bou Inania



Chouara Tannery



Nejjarine Fountain



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 15-Fes to Marrakech Roadtrip!

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

The Savoy Grand Hotel

Nestled in the center of Marrakech, 5 minutes away from the legendary Jamaa el Fna square and the city center, next to a large shopping center with all amenities. The Savoy Grand Hotel is a 5 star hotel made up of 444 luxuriously appointed units overlooking one of the sumptuous swimming pools or the magical gardens of the establishment to provide you with the perfect environment to relax. The hotel also has several restaurants and bars offering menus from here and elsewhere, a huge 2000 m² spa, two heated outdoor and two indoor swimming pools, as well as a business center for resident 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.



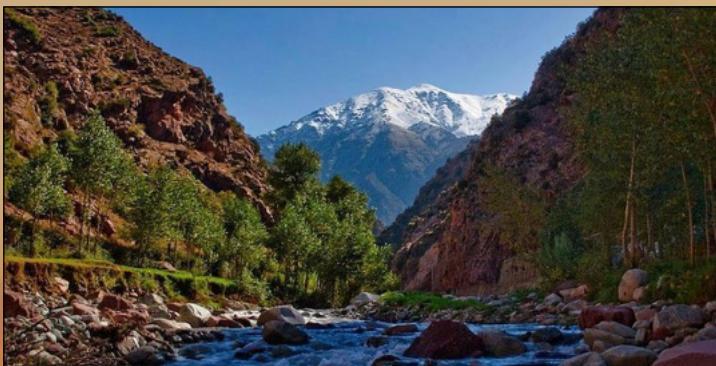
Day 7: Monday May 16-Camel Ride/Ourika Valley

- Camel Ride Experience
- Tour of Ourika Valley
- Lunch at Kasbah 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 Ourika Restaurant

Kasbah Ourika Restaurant occupies a symbolic building in the valley of Setti Fatma, allowing you to enjoy a variety of southern Moroccan cuisine while taking in stunningly captivating views. Inspired by the flavors of his native region, Kasbah Ourika's chef prepares authentic, light and colorful dishes. He defines himself as someone who is creative and enthusiastic, and likes to add his personal touch to traditional dishes by creating new flavors and combinations while respecting the purity of the product.



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 17-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 New 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 located built in Marrakesh 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 2 acre garden with rooms opening onto courtyards.



French Influence Tour

The Jardin Majorelle 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 recently opened (October 2017) Musee Yves Saint Laurent. 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 18-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
 - Undergo PCR COVID-19 Test (on own account)
 - Museum of African Contemporary Art Al Maaden Exhibit and Cocktail Reception
 - Dinner (On Own Account)

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.



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.



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 19-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 20-Departure

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



Cost:

Per Person Sharing: \$5325-JFK via Royal Air Moroc

Single Occupancy: Additional \$1275

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

Hotel Accommodations: Casablanca - 4 star; Fes and Marrakech - 5 star.

Meals: Full breakfast daily included at the hotels. Other meals are included as noted.

Tours: All tours are included except for Optional Activities.

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

A deposit of \$500 will be required to reserve a place and must be paid check, money order, credit card, PayPal or Zelle. Includes base airfare, transfers to hotels, full breakfast and other selected meals and tours, as noted. 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.

As a result of COVID-19, adjustments may have to be made to the trip schedule and planned activities.

Trip must be paid in full by March 10 , 2022

Questions:

Lorna K. Johnson, Global Linkages, Inc.

lkjglobalink@gmail.com or 973-819 6484

Morocco Logistics:

Shems Travel Casablanca, Morocco



Morocco

Casablanca - Fes - Marrakech

May 10-20, 2022



Reservation Form

Yes! Please reserve my space for the Casablanca/Fes/Marrakech 2022 Morocco Trip.

I have read and understand the attached payment and refund policy.

\$500 DEPOSIT REQUIRED

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 (personal)

Zelle Email: lkjglobalink@aol.com

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 of \$500 and above 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). A returned check fee of \$30 will be charged for all returned checks. ***Please make checks and money orders payable to GLOBAL LINKAGES.***

Final payment must be received by Global Linkages no later than March 10, 2022.

Trip participants with balances due after this date will be charged an administrative fee of 10% of the balance cost of the trip.

REFUNDS*:

The refund policy is as follows:

January 1, 2021 - March 31, 2021 – Deposit minus \$100

April 1, 2021 - September 30, 2021 – Payment minus \$500

October 1, 2021 - December 31, 2021 – Payment minus \$1000

January 1, 2022 - March 9, 2022 – Payment minus \$2,500

March 10, 2022 to Trip Departure – NO REFUNDS

*Participants are strongly encouraged to take Travel Insurance. While not mandatory, we recommend the purchase of insurance and will provide information in the welcome package you will receive 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 25 years and has made over 150 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.

