TRAVEL EXPLORATION
HIT THE ROAD OF THE OLD CARAVANS

AN 11-DAY LUXURY, GUIDED HISTORY & CULINARY ADVENTURE TOUR
JANUARY 22ND - FEBRUARY 1st, 2018

TRIP HIGHLIGHTS:
Go Local at the Casa Market, Fresh Seafood Made to Grill onsite
Discover Moroccan Street Food & Local Delicacies on a Fez Food Tour
Arabian Desert Nights, Dinner Under the Moroccan Stars
Sip Tea & Bake Bread with the Berbers in the Saghro Mountains
Cook Up Morocco - A Cooking Class led by a Dada Chef
Go by Tuk Tuk on a Gastronomic Food Tour through the Historic Medina

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INDULGE AT A MOROCCAN SPA
Hit the Road of the Old Caravans
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TREASURES OF MOROCCAN CUISINE TOUR - Sababa Travel

DATES OF TOUR:
January 22nd – February 1st, 2018 (11 Days/ 10 Nights)

5 Star Luxury Riads/ Hotels + Premium Luxury Desert Camp:

COST PER PERSON: $5,300 / SINGLE SUPPLEMENT RATE + $1,650
SHARED DOUBLE/ ROOM UPGRADES AVAILABLE UPON REQUEST

Example 5-Star Boutique Riads & Hotels + Premium Luxury Desert Camp
Rabat: Villa Mandarine, Sofitel Les Jardin Des Roses
Fes: Riad Fes (Relais Chateaux), Palais Amani (Mr. & Mrs. Smith Hotels) Palais Faraj
Merzouga: Premium Luxury Desert Camp w. En Suite Facilities
Ouarzazate/Skoura: Les Jardin Des Skoura, L’MaLodge, Ksar El Kabbaba
Marrakech: La Maison Arabe, Riad Kniza, Palais Lamrani

General Inclusions:
Ground Transportation in Luxury Vehicle / Minibus or Luxury Bus+ 4x4 Land Cruisers for Sahara Desert Transfers
English Speaking, Expert Licensed Tourism Driver for your Entire Tour/ Country and Culture Expert (Fluent in English, Arabic, French and Berber)
National Guide: Expert in History, Culture, Architecture, Religion, Crafts, Cuisine, Art & History (Fluent in English, Arabic, French, Berber)
Airport Transfers on Arrival and Departure by Same Driver who will be your host for the entire tour
Stays at 5 Star Boutique Riads & Hotels + Premium Desert Camp
All Sightseeing Admission fees / Palaces/Gardens/ Kasbahs/ Mosques

Meals & Cuisine Activities Included: 19 Total (Vegetarian Options Available Upon Request)

Breakfast Daily (10) At Your Riad/ Guest House/ Luxury Desert Camp

Lunches/ Cuisine Activities – Serve as Lunch (4)
January 22nd: - Fresh Grill, Casablanca
January 25th: Fez Food Tour Serves as Lunch
January 27th: Lunch At Ouznine, Berber Village & Bread Baking, Bourafin
January 31st: Cooking Class in Marrakech (Sephardic Cuisine or Classic Moroccan) Cooking Class in Rural Ourika Valley or Essaouira

Dinners/ Cuisine Activities – Serve as Dinner (5)
January 22nd: Welcome Dinner, Villa Mandarine, Rabat
January 26th: Arabian Nights Dinner, Sahara Desert
January 27th: Dinner at Your Guest House in Skoura
January 28th: Dinner at Your Guest House in Skoura
January 30th: Gourmet Marrakech Food Tour by Tuk Tuk/ 6 Riads

Excluded Services:
Airfare, Gratuity for guides, drivers and porter fees. Trip Cancellation or Interruption insurance. This is required. Beverages, Personal Expenses
Morocco is one of the ancient intersections of civilization. Boldly situated on the far northwestern corner of Africa, its expansive shoreline stretches from the Atlantic Ocean through the Strait of Gibraltar to the Mediterranean Sea. Its dramatic landscapes include lush plains, high mountains, and the Sahara Desert.

Moroccan cuisine is the culinary star of North Africa. Imperial and trade influence has been filtered and blended into Morocco’s culture. Being at the crossroads of many civilizations, the cuisine of Morocco is a mélange of Arab, Berber, Moorish, French, Middle Eastern, Mediterranean African, Iberian, and Jewish influences. The cooks in the royal kitchens of Fes, Rabat and Marrakech refined Moroccan cuisine over the centuries and created the basis for what is known as Moroccan cuisine today.

This outstanding Treasures of Moroccan Cuisine Tour offers an insider opportunity to explore Morocco’s food traditions in the Imperial Cities, the Great South, Ifr Berber villages and The Sahara Desert Region. Travelers will explore UNESCO World Heritage Sites, Islamic & Moorish Architecture, Glorious houses of worship, Colorful souks, and a people whose heritage dates back centuries.

Some of the Special Activities of this Private, Culinary Adventure Experience

- Casablanca Marche Centrale - purchase fresh catch from the fish mongers, then take to you seafood to be grilled onsite
- Gastronomic dinners, chef’s table in Rabat and in Fes
- Enjoy the secrets of Moroccan cuisine on a guided Fes food tour
- Learn how to make a Tajine and other Moroccan specialties in a hands-on, half-day cooking class up with a “dada” chef
- Sip mint tea and eat couscous and kebabs at a lunch with a Berber family in the High Atlas Mountains
- Indulge in a Gastronomic Food Tour at Riads by Tuk Tuk
RABAT - Villa Mandarine
Address: 9 Rue Ouled Bousbaa Souissi
Phone: + 212 537752077
Nestled in the heart of an orange grove, the Villa Mandarine marries comfort and hospitality. This rare place offers peaceful hideaways that have kept the charm of the old family home. Over more than 3 acres, 700 orange trees and hundreds of varieties of flowers grace this property. Property Amenities: Heated swimming pool, Fireplace, Billiard Room, Bar “Riads are restored palace style accommodations with courtyards, lush gardens and traditional zellij tile work.”

FES – Riad Fes (a Relais & Chateaux property)
Address: 5 Derb Ben Slimane Zerbtana
Phone: +212-5359-47610
Riad Fes is a premiere property with class and authenticity. This charming Riad has been restored with impeccability and combines traditional Spanish Moorish architecture with modern touches. The decor has been designed with the inspiration of a serene atmosphere reminiscent of Arabian Nights. A stay at Riad Fes will allow you to travel back in time and enjoy the splendor of the lifestyle of Fassi nobility. The garden offers moments of freshness under the shade of orange, lemon, and bay trees. Property Amenities: swimming pool, terraces and panoramic garden, traditional hammam/spa, gourmet restaurant, wine bar, wifi, laundry services

FES- PALAIS AMANI
Address: 12 Derb el Miter, Oued Zhoune
Phone: +212-535 63 32 09
Palais Amani is located with the walls of Fez’s ancient medina, just a few minutes’ walk from the Golden Triangle. Housed in a former palace, with art deco architecture this boutique riad provides a range of spacious rooms and suites. Each is traditionally furnished with a modern Moroccan touch and has en suite facilities. A daily Moroccan breakfast is served in the dining room or on the terrace overlooking the garden. The hotel’s restaurant provides an a la carte lunch menu and evening set menu offering a range of Moroccan and French cuisine. Property Amenities: Spa/Hammam, Medina views. Wifi and Laundry services. Terrace and Rooftop bar.

MERZOUGA – Erg Chebbi Luxury Desert Camp
Phone: Jawad 0666367110 or Said 0661758132
Enjoy one of Merzouga’s premium luxury bivouac experiences in the heart of the Erg Chebbi Dunes of the Moroccan Sahara Desert. Dinner in an Arabian Nights setting with music and overnight in a luxury, private tent with en suite facilities and magical decor.
SKOURA – LES JARDINS DES SKOURA
An unassuming converted farmhouse nestled in the Skoura palmeraie, not far from the High Atlas Mountains. Blissfully off the beaten track, Les Jardins Des Skoura is an oasis of stylish accommodation. It is set in huge gardens crammed with sunflowers, vines, and apricot, olive, and pomegranate trees – a taste of the real Morocco!

Property Amenities: Swimming pool, Panoramic view of Skoura Palmeraie, Wifi.

SKOURA – KSAR EL KEBBABA
Address: Douar el Kabbaba El Khamssa, Skoura / Phone: +212-524852336 +212-661980449 or +212-667153535
Located in the heart of Skoura palm grove, and made with centenary old stones, Ksar El Kebbaba comes to life in the middle of lush greenness and precisely under the branches of an olive tree that witnessed the life of generations for more than three centuries. The Ksar features a spacious and elegant garden in its texture, making corridor extends between the various office buildings, interspersed with various trees such as olive trees, palm trees, pomegranate trees, apple trees ... One can also find hammocks around, hanging on trees. During the night, the garden becomes an intimate place, warm, romantic and quiet thanks to the many candles and lights hanging from the palms and other trees

Property Amenities: Swimming pool, Hammam/ Spa, Restaurant, Lounge, Garden

SKOURA – L’MALODGE
Address: Palmeraie de Skoura - Douar Ouled Ali Khamsa Phone: 0666-647908
An unassuming converted farmhouse nestled in the Skoura palmeraie, not far from the High Atlas Mountains. Blissfully off the beaten track, L’Maloge Skoura is an oasis of stylish accommodation. It is set in huge gardens crammed with sunflowers, vines, and apricot, olive, and pomegranate trees – a taste of the real Morocco!

Property Amenities: Swimming pool, terraces and panoramic garden, traditional hammam/spa, gourmet restaurant, wine bar, wifi, laundry services
MARRAKECH – Palais Lamrani
Phone: +212-5 24 38 50 55 / 51 or +212-6 55 30 19 59
Enjoy all 12,000 square feet of the Palais Lamrani guest palace comprising of a magnificent large garden, a second patio with the large swimming pool, an oriental SPA. Palais Lamrani boasts exceptional terraces overlooking Marrakech with its famous Koutoubia, the top of the High Atlas mountains, and the roofs of the medina. This palace offers luxury, comfort, modernity and traditional Moroccan architecture.

Property Amenities: Swimming pool, Hammam/Spa, Restaurant, Lounge, Garden

MARRAKECH – La Maison Arabe
Address: Derb Assehbi, Marrakesh 40000, Morocco
Phone: 0524387010
Since opening in 1946, La Maison Arabe has achieved legendary status in Marrakech. Ideally situated in the medina, the hotel includes luxurious rooms and suites, most with private terraces and fireplaces, 3 restaurants, a piano bar, and a world-famous cooking school (where we will attend a half-day class).

Property Amenities: spa/traditional hammam (where natural products from the region of Marrakech are used for treatments), heated swimming pool, country club, 3 restaurants, piano bar, wifi, laundry services

MARRAKECH – Riad Kniza
Address: 34 Derb l’Hotel, Bab Doukal Phone: +212 5243-76942
Dating from the 18th century, Riad Kniza is a small, luxury "Hotel de Charme" in the heart of the old Médina of Marrakech, completely restored by Haj Mohamed Bouskri using traditional materials and artisans to recreate an authentic Moroccan experience as in days gone by.

Property Amenities: Riad Kniza has a wonderful roof top terrace, various Moroccan Salon areas for relaxation and a service that is second to none.

Property Amenities: Spa / Traditional hammam, Roof terrace with Dining Area & Restaurant. Wifi and Laundry services. Laundry services.
WHERE TO DINE IN FES:

**Nur:** Owned and run by Chef Najar, NUR is one of the new, leading restaurants in Fes. Contemporary Moroccan cuisine in a refined setting with a tasting menu that changes daily, reflecting the finest offerings of local produce and shining a light on Moroccan gastronomy. Strong focus on seafood and vegetables. Improvisational multi-course menu with a strong focus on local seafood and vegetables. Nur does not use dairy, processed sugars or bleached flours.

**The Ruined Garden:** Riad Idrissy and set in the romantic remains of a crumbling riad, with mosaic floors, fountains and exotic foliage. After 7 years of restoration, it is like stepping back in history with modern touches. Stop by for lunch for a fresh Moroccan style salad such as zaalouk (smoky aubergine, tomato and paprika puree) and street food such as sardines marinated in chermoula, and makuda, spiced battered potato cakes, all cooked to order in the garden. Afternoon tea is a blend of English and Moroccan, including tea made from homegrown mint and wormwood.

**La Maison Bleue:** La Maison Bleue is one of Fes’ oldest and most stylish traditional Moroccan Fasis restaurants. You sit surrounded by zellij tile, vaulted ceilings and are serenaded by Gnaoua Music.

WHERE TO DINE IN MARRAKECH:

**Al Fassia:** Once you pass the traditionally dressed doormen, this place is all-female and is run like a family kitchen. Set up by the well-known Chab family 20 years ago, this popular restaurant is now successfully managed by Myra Chab as a cooperative. A variety of Moroccan dishes are available, including specialties that require a day’s notice such as the dalaa mbakhra (steamed lamb shoulder) and chaâra medfouna (steamed vermicelli garnished with pigeon). The tagines and couscous here go against the grain in both ingredients and size. Chicken with caramelized pumpkin and lamb with eggplant are just two of the 13 tagine choices, and you’re served a portion that you might actually be able to finish. The desserts are delicious, so leave space for some seffa couscous in butter, sugar, milk, and cinnamon.

**La Maison Arabe:** Originally a restaurant dating back to the 1940s, and now a hotel, this is still a quiet, grown-up spot for lunch or dinner: excellent stock-drenched couscous, tender tagines, fresh juices and fantastic coffee. Get a table in the courtyard or in the little ante-room for lunch and in the Moroccan restaurant for dinner. Dinner is accompanied by Arab-Andalusian music player on the lute and the guitar. Le Maison Arabe also boasts another restaurant called Saveurs d’Ailleurs which offers world cuisine in an intimate environment, with walls covered in ‘Havana’ colored leather panels, which evoke the 1930’s and colonial African feel. One can savour exotic dishes, as well as delicious Asian-influenced tapas here.
January 22nd: Casablanca Arrival; Visit the Hassan II Grand White Mosque, Art Deco Architecture & Markets

Meals Included: Breakfast, Lunch at Casablanca Marche Centrale & Dinner at your Riad

Driving time: 1 1/2 Hours

ARRIVAL TIME: TBD
FLIGHT #: 
AIRLINE NAME:

The Hassan II Mosque:
Visit the Mosque of Hassan II. Casablanca is home to the Hassan II Mosque, designed by the French architect Michel Pinseau. It is situated on a promontory looking out to the Atlantic, which can be seen through a gigantic glass floor with room for 25,000 worshippers. Its minaret is the world's tallest at 210 meters. It is an enormous architectural masterpiece and the second largest religious building in the world. On Fridays, the Mosque of Hassan II is open to non-Muslims. The Mosque of Hassan II's promontory offers lovely views overlooking Casablanca in the residential Afna quarter.

This day continued on the following page..
January 22nd: Casablanca Early Morning Arrival; Visit the Hassan II Grand White Mosque, Art Deco Architecture & Markets
(continued)

Discover Art Deco Casablanca.
Make sure you have a camera in hand to take pictures of the famous clock tower, art deco hotels, the eleven story Moretti apartment block and the high rise art deco buildings covered with loggias, columns, zellij tiles and geometric carvings on Boulevard Mohammed V with Art Deco facades.

Lunch: Local Fare - Fresh Grill at the Local Market in Casablanca - Marche Centrale. Accompanying National Guide to purchase fish in the old market, then take your fish to be grilled.

The Region of the Hassan II Mosque, Hispano-Mauresque Architecture:
Former administrative buildings and modern hotels populate the area. Their style is a combination of Hispano-Mauresque and Art Deco styles.

Habous Market & Quarter:
Next visit the Habous Market, a traditional Moroccan souk to explore first hand and connect with local Casawei’s. Casablanca’s Habous Quarter is often referred to as the new medina. This area was built in the 1930’s by the French. It has a keen mix of both French and Moroccan architecture. Travelers will enjoy the Habous market that is tucked away in this charming Quarter of the city. Taste Casablanca’s most exceptional pastries at visit the Olive Market and the other host of boutiques. There is an old fashioned carpet souk and a host of Moroccan handicrafts available here. Shop and Explore local crafts and wood work traditions, leather and carpets.

Explore Casablanca’s Coastal Corniche
A neighborhood on the Atlantic Ocean, just West of the Hassan II Mosque. Dip your feet in the Atlantic on Moroccan soil and kick back a cafe to people watch while sipping Moroccan mint tea with spectacular views.

Transfer to Rabat.

Dinner Recommendations: Rick’s Cafe, La Bavouriuse

Overnight in Rabat.
Explore Morocco with Travel Exploration
On a 11-Day, Culture-Packed Culinary Adventure Tour to Morocco’s Imperial Cities and the Great Sahara Region

January 23rd: Visit Rabat, a Guided Historical Tour of this Imperial City, before driving to Fes
Meals Included: Breakfast
Driving time: 4 Hours

Rabat has a population 2 million, is a main university town and the capital of the Kingdom of Morocco. The city is located on the Atlantic Ocean at the mouth of the Bou Regreg River. On the facing shore of the river lies Salé, Rabat’s bedroom community. Rabat and Salé maintain important textile, food processing and construction industries; some are from sweatshop labor by major multinational corporations. The tourism and the presence of all foreign embassies in Morocco serve to make Rabat the second most important city in the country after the larger and more economically significant Casablanca. During your one-day tour you will learn Rabat’s history and enjoy its beautiful domes, minarets, wide avenues and green spaces.

During your morning tour, you will learn Rabat’s history and enjoy its beautiful domes, minarets, wide avenues, and green spaces. Your guide will escort you on a walk around the picturesque Almohad northern walls of the Oudaia Kasbah. The kasbah was built by Moulay Ismail from 1672-1727 to protect the city and is enclosed by ramparts dating from the Almohad period. Visit the Royal Palace and the Hassan tower which stands on the hill overlooking the Wadi Bou Regreg. It is a gigantic mosque, emblematic of Rabat and famous for its unfinished minaret where storks nest.

Next door, visit the beautiful mausoleum of Mohammed V decorated with stained glass windows, white marble, and a wrought-iron entryway with a stairway leading to an impressive dome. Explore the gardens nearby and visit the Palace of Rabat and visit the Necropolis at Chellah/Kasbah of Chellah.

Local Lunch: Dar Najji, cuisine specialty, Moroccan Trite

Visit the Roman Ruins of Volubilis. The breathtaking archaeological site of Volubilis, also referred to as Oualili, was once occupied by the Romans. Volubilis has been recognized by UNESCO as a world heritage site and gained international acclaim when Martin Scorsese made it a feature location for his film, The Last Temptation of Christ. Discover the fascinating Roman ruins adorned with beautiful mosaics and colorful tiles depicting Roman mythology. The ruins are spread out across several acres and what remains visible is several fragments of wall, parts of massive columns, the capitol, the basilica, and a triumphal arch. The ruins reveal how the Roman Empire transformed the original Carthaginian settlement into a typical Roman city complete with mansions, a town center, a triumphal arc, and temples devoted to Roman gods. (Option: If Time Allows)

Dinner Recommendations: Dar Hatim/ Family Style

Overnight in Fes.
January 24th: Fes Historical Tour: Islamic Architecture, UNESCO World Heritage Sites, Historic Monuments, Jewish Heritage (Synagogue and Mellah), Craft Making and Shopping in the Souks

Meals Included: Breakfast & Dinner at Your Riad

Begin your day in Fès, the oldest working medina in the world that many refer to as a living museum. Visit The 14th Century Palace Gates of the King. The Royal Palace in Fes is one of the oldest (14th Century) and largest in Morocco.

Next visit the Jewish Mellah, the name of a Jewish quarters located in the old cities of Morocco, usually with a walled boundary. The Fes Mellah is also walled and it has a fortified gateway. These Jewish quarters are located near the royal residences which enabled its inhabitants to be protected from the wrath of the Muslim populace. The Fes Mellah was once solely inhabited by Jews. This was the first Mellah in Morocco and originated in 1438. In the early 14th century, it was founded by the Merinids, beside Fes. In contrast with the young Mellah of Casablanca, the Mellah of Fes is over 650 years old. This picturesque neighborhood adjoins the royal palace, noted for its recently constructed bright brass doors.

Next visit a sacred site that many women are especially fond of: the Jewish Cemetery and Tomb of Solica. The cemetery contains the tombs of more Jewish saints than any other cemetery in Morocco. One of the more important saints is Lalla Solica, who was killed for refusing to convert to Islam. Solica was born in Tangier in 1817. At the age of 16, she was courted by a Muslim man, but she refused to marry him. To force her hand, the man went to the caid, the local government official. The man told the caid that Solica could not refuse his offer of marriage because she was no longer Jewish, having converted to Islam of her own free will. When called before the caid, she refused to acknowledge having converted. The Sultan called her to Fes, where she again denied her conversion. As a result, she was condemned to death for apostasy and killed in 1834.

Continue onward to visit the Ibn Danan Jewish Synagogue. Fes was once home to a flourishing Jewish community during the 17th century and was also the location of two well-known temples: Rabbi Shlomo Ibn Danan Synagogue was built and founded by the Ibn Danan family and the nearby Mansano Synagogue. The Ibn Danan synagogue has been added to the 1996 World Monuments Watch List and Fund.

Cross the local fruit and vegetable market where you will witness the stalls of local traders and people buying their daily goods.

Explore the Dyers souk of silk, wool and cotton. The dyers market, located along Rue de Teinturies, is the best place to see the dying vats which have been used for centuries to soak the skins of sheep, goat, cows, and camels after they have had the hair removed. You will see many tanned hides colored with natural pigments ranging from shades of brown, black, turquoise, fuchsia, yellow, and orange.

This day continued on the following page...
January 24th: Fes Historical Tour (continued)

Visit the following sites in the afternoon:

The Tannery – The Chourara, or the Tanner’s Quarters, is the most lively and picturesque souks in Fès. The tanneries are often located near watercourses like the Wadi Fès and at a distance from residential areas due to the strongly unpleasant smells they produce. See the wide array of leather work, a tradition of Fes.

Weavers Cooperative – Visit the Weavers Cooperative located in a residential neighborhood off a main shopping street. The workshop specializes in weaving the finest jellaba fabric, made of silk and wool threads imported from Italy.

Mausoleum (Zaouia Sidi Ahmed Tijani) – The Zawiya of Sidi Ahmed al-Tijani contains the tomb of an 18th century Sufi Shaykh, founder of the Tijaniyya order. The Zawiya presents a street facade highly ornamented with carved wood, stucco, and glazed tile.

University of Kairouine – Founded in 859, this university is one of the leading spiritual and educational centers of the Muslim world and is considered the oldest continuously operating institution of higher learning in the world.

Mausoleum (Zaouia Moulay Idriss) – A zaouia (shrine) dedicated to and the tomb of Moulay Idriss II, who ruled Morocco from 807 to 828 and founded the city of Fès for the second time in 810.

Nejarine Square – This interesting square is dominated by the beautifully restored Nejjarine Wood Museum housed in an 18th century funduq. There is also a superbly decorated wall fountain. Browse the shops before venturing into the carpenters’ souk with its amazing array of glitzy wedding chairs.

Cross the carpenter area and enter Attarine Street, filled with scents of Fes such as spices and oils. Shop and explore for carpets, scarves, and local handicrafts. Antique and Modern Carpets is one of the places in Fès el Bali where you can see a Berber carpet demonstration.

Visit the The Bou Inania Medersa. The Madrasa Bou Inania is a madrasa founded in AD 1351-56 by Abu Inan Faris, who also founded the Madrasa Bou Inania in Meknes. It is widely acknowledged as a major example of Marinid architecture. "Bou Inania" comes from the first part of the sultan’s name "Abou Inan". The madrasa functioned as both an educational institute and as a congregational mosque at the same time. It is the only madrasa in Fes which has a minaret.

Dinner Recommendations: NUR - Gastronomic Moroccan Fare

Overnight in Fes.
January 25th: Fez Food Tour, Afternoon Spa/Hammam Option or Exploration of Majestic Palaces, and Andalusian Gardens
Meals Included: Breakfast & Fez Food Tour Serves as Lunch

Morning Fez Food Tour – a Culinary Experience in the Backstreets of Fes - 10:00am - 1:30pm

You will visit at least three different food souks, allowing the chance to try traditional Moroccan street food including dried meats, milawi, harsha, briwats, spicy sardines, spicy potato cakes, soups, olives, and more. At the honey souk, you will be able to taste an array of delicious wild honeys, discuss their flavors and health-giving properties, and find out why honey is so important in Moroccan cooking and Islamic culture. Investigate traditional cooking methods by visiting a furnachi, where the water for the communal bathhouse (“hammam”) is also heated, and a 400-year-old “furan” (a communal oven and bakery). Discover the world of spices and their uses, plus the secrets of the male-oriented tea den under the guidance of a culinary leader and story-teller. Learn to bake bread in the 400-year-old firan with the baker overseeing your hands-on efforts. Take your hot bread to the honey souk to try it with 8 artisanal wild honeys, aged butter or khlia, or spicy dried beef. You might try cooking “on the street”. Shop and fill up a terracotta urn (“tanjia”) to have it buried in the hot ashes of the furnachi for a rich and spicy Moroccan casserole.

This day continued on the following page...
January 25th: Fez Food Tour, Afternoon Spa/ Hammam Option or Exploration of Majestic Palaces, and Andalusian Gardens

(continued)

Afternoon at Leisure or Visit Majestic Palaces and Andalusian Gardens

Visit Batha Museum and Andalusian Garden. Next visit the Batha Museum and Andalusian Gardens. The Musee Dar el-Batha offers up a great collection of pottery, leatherwork, wood, books, and manuscripts from the nineteenth century centered around a green spacious courtyard. The Batha Andalusian Garden boasts a three-hundred-year old Quercus Rotundifolia, Washington Fifera, Cycas Revolta, and Moroccan fountains. The Batha Garden is a serene escape from the bustling medina in Fes. It is also utilized each June by the Fes Festival of Sacred World Music where various world music groups perform.

Visit Palais Mokri. Palais Mokri, also referred to as “El Mokri Palace”, is a landmark in Fes. Built around 1906 by If Tayeb El Mokri, son of the Grand Vizier (Prime Minister) of the king and himself Pasha of Casablanca, this residence covers about 220 meters of Fasis architecture and a gardens. Built in the old medina, Palais Mokri reflects the ancient art of Morocco. It has fine woodwork, zellij tile, and plasterwork. This grand palace was designed by masters who were remarkable artists incorporating pavement of white marble (imported from Carrara, Italy) with rich coverings, finely divided ceramic mosaics, carved and painted ceilings and domes, and baroque-style woodwork set with the sanded glass of Venice in the colors of Baghdad.

Visit Jnane S’bil Garden and Les Jardins De Biehn, an Andalusian Garden (if time allows)
January 25th: Fez Food Tour, Afternoon Spa/Hammam Option or Exploration of Majestic Palaces, and Andalusian Gardens
(continued)

THE MOROCCAN HAMMAM & SPA:

▶ Hammam with scented oils and deep scrub
▶ Relaxing massage ‘30min’ in duo with essential oils

One of the the must-do experiences during your Moroccan Honeymoon is to spend the afternoon at leisure in a traditional Moroccan Hammam. After all, for locals, it’s weekly must-do. And that must-do is the hammam ritual. The Moroccan hammam begins with a traditional ritual of glazing the body with – ghassoul, a natural clay extracted from the Atlas Mountains and blended with water to rid the skin of impurities. Then black soap, is applied on the body, made with olive oil and eucalyptus leaves softens the skin prior to a body scrub. The next phase is rose water, made from Atlas roses and used to calm the skin; and finally argan oil to moisturize the skin, are essential components of this important ritual.

Dinner Recommendations: Dar Roumana - Moroccan Contemporary Cuisine with a Modern Touch, Local Light Fare, Thai, Italian, International

Overnight in Fes.
January 26th: A Journey through the Middle Atlas to the Sahara Desert, Passing Ifrane, known as “Little Switzerland,” Midelt, Erfoud (the Capital of Fossils), and Rissani, Arriving in Merzouga for a Sunset Guided Camel Trek and Arabian Nights in the Great Sahara Desert

Meals Included: Breakfast & 1001 Nights Arabian Dinner in Merzouga

Driving Time: 8 1/2 Hours

(7:30am EARLY DEPARTURE REQUIRED TO MAKE 4:30PM SUNSET IN THE SAHARA)

Take the road to Merzouga. Enroute to Merzouga, we will pass Ifrane, stopping to see the cedar tree forest and the local Barbary monkeys. We will also pass the American-Moroccan University which was built by the Saudis. We will have lunch during our journey in the Ziz Valley or at another local town en route to the Sahara Desert. We will continue along the road to Merzouga and arrive before sunset.

Local Lunch Kasbah Tadart: Enjoy a lunch at a local Kasbah. Enjoy Stuffed Trout with rosemary and spices. This specialty seafood delicacy unique to Midelt, is cultivated from local lakes.

We will continue the road to Merzouga and arrive before sunset.

Visit Erfoud, the capital of fossils. Visit Royal Palace gate; the panoramic view from the top of the Borj-Est that rises 935 metres (3067 feet) above the city. Erfoud is a city located in south-east Morocco. Although many ancient fortified villages have existed in the region for several centuries Erfoud was built up by the French troops after the victory of Tafilalet Battle, that took place between 1916 and 1932. Erfoud is a very active city, full of commerce, restaurants and street cafes, hotels, banks and handicraft and souvenir shops. While maintaining its name as a modern Moroccan Sahara Desert town, it still preserves a certain authenticity of an true Arab city with an impressively “wild” market and gorgeous surrounding landscapes filled of oases, dunes and rocky mountains.

Erfoud is also a cinema hub for many movie directors. Some well known films had several scenes shot in Erfoud, some include names as Prince of Persia 2010 by Director Dick Richards; March or Die 1977 by Director Dick Richards; The Mummy 1999 by Director Stephen Sommers.

Start your visit at Rissani in the Sahara desert town that is from the ancient Alawi Dynasty and the birthplace of King Mohammed VI, the current King of Morocco. Visit the old Mausoleum of Moulay Ali Sharif, the first King of the Alawi Dynasty. Next visit Maison Taureg House and then the old Ksar of Rissani.

This day continued on the following page...
January 26th: A Journey through the Middle Atlas to the Sahara Desert, Passing Ifrane, known as “Little Switzerland,” Midelt, Erfoud (the Capital of Fossils), and Rissani, Arriving in Merzouga for a Sunset Guided Camel Trek and Arabian Nights in the Great Sahara Desert (continued)

Arrive in Merzouga before sunset and then go by dromedary camel 45-60 minutes, at sunset, into the Erg Chebbi Dunes to camp overnight in our luxury biouvac tent at an oasis. Your Tuareg guide will share some of the Sahara Desert’s secrets. As you glide humpback on these silent, mystical dunes, there will be countless opportunities to photograph the endless rolling desert.

Dinner: 1001 Arabian Nights Dinner Under the Moroccan Stars
Overnight at a Luxury Desert Camp in the Sahara Desert
January 27th: Sahara Departure from the Region to the Saghro Mountains for Lunch in a Berber Village Enroute to Skoura
Meals Included: Breakfast, Lunch with a Berber Family & Dinner at Your Guest House
Driving time: 3 ½ hours - 4 Hours

Walk the desert dunes and explore Merzouga. Enjoy the flora and fauna that is unique to the Sahara. Then visit the Saharan Desert towns of Rissani.

Visit the Musicians of Khemlia in Merzouga, a century-old Gnaoua group that performs ancient trance music. TSee a live performance of Gnaoua music and learn about their tradition and instruments along with their native village.

Explore the old ksars and then continue the road to the village of Aït Ouzzine, located in N’kob, which is nestled within the Middle Atlas Mountains. Aït Ouzzine is a Berber village inhabited by over 300 families who live in beautifully painted crenulated kasbahs, with their own henna fields, water wells, livestock, and gardens. This peaceful village is tucked away along an impressive desert route connecting the Draa Valley (Tansikht) and Rissani. Meet a local Berber family, sip tea in the Sagro Mountains, and dine on couscous. Then explore and tour the village by foot. Walk in the green fields and see how the traditional Berbers live with their gardens of herbs, livestock, and henna plants.

After lunch, you can have your hands and feet painted with henna or your hair adorned with saffron by a local village artist and relax. Experience the tradition of Berber perfume made from musk and amber along with the villages own spices.

This day continued on the following page...
January 27th: Sahara Departure from the Region to the Saghro Mountains for Lunch in a Berber Village Enroute to Skoura
(continued)

Learn how to made a local, traditional mountain bread called Bourafin. Bake bread on volcanic rock. Experience this century old tradition in the Saghro Mountains whereby you will kneed bread, insert a spice mix into it and then participate in an outdoor volcanic rock baking technique. Open air coal and brush fire along with volcanic rock is used to bake bread and creates crater like patterns. The result is a type of Berber calzone!

End the afternoon in Ait Ouzzine with mint tea and almonds. Drive through the Draa Valley back to Ouarzazate or the Skoura Palmeraie before sunset. The Draa Valley is the road of the old caravans that once traveled to transport dates and other goods from the Draa Region to Marrakech.

Overnight Skoura.
January 28th: Skoura - Excursion Options or Afternoon at Leisure
Meals Included: Breakfast & Dinner at Your Guest House

Visit Skoura and its “Valley of One Thousand Kasbahs.” Skoura is a fertile oasis lined with immense palm groves that provide great views of the Atlas Mountains alongside desert landscapes. It is renowned for the cultivation of roses. The palm groves were laid out in the 12th century by the Almohad sultan Yacoub el-Mansour and named after its original inhabitants, the Berbers of the Haskourene tribe. The most beautiful kasbahs in southern Morocco can be found here. Many of them are still partially inhabited. Most impressive in Skoura are the many kasbahs that ripple through its dry rocky oasis.

Option #1: Skoura Palmeraie Trek/Walk Through & Explore Villages
Trek through the Skoura Palmeraie where you will discover unique flora that is indigenous to this region ranging from olive trees to almond trees, wild flowers and other fruit trees. There are 400 families and 30,000 people that reside in Skoura. Skoura boasts over 350 historic Kasbahs, a Souk and a pottery cooperative where men make urns and women weave carpets. Each in in their respective working areas near their homes. There is also a well known artisanal goat cheese cooperative located footsteps from the main road.

Option #2: Excursion to the Dades Valley
Your journey will then take you through the Dadès Valley which covers 125 km between Ouarzazate and Boumalne du Dadès in the High Atlas Mountains. Once you reach Boumalne, at first sight you notice the limestone cliffs with uniquely shaped erosions and superb scenery and the valley’s pise (windy roads). Driving along you will pass acres of flowers, fertile fields, riverbanks, and several fortified ksours. At the bottom of Gorge of Boumalne Dadès, there are ruined hilltop Kasbahs and valley floor gardens.


Overnight in Skoura.
January 29th: Skoura - Ouarzazate: Visit the Adobe Village of Ait Benhaddou, Passing via the Tizi-n-Tichka Pass to Marrakech

Meals Included: Breakfast
Driving time: 4 ½ hours

During the French period, Ouarzazate expanded considerably as a garrison town and became the administrative center of the Zagora region. Ouarzazate became famous when its nearby Kasbah, Aït Benhaddou, appeared in the 1962 film *Lawrence of Arabia*.

Visit Ait Benhaddou Kasbah. 32 km from Ouarzazate lies the picturesque village of Aït Benhaddou, situated in Souss-Massa-Draâ on a hill along the Ouarzazate River. *Lawrence of Arabia* was filmed here and Orson Welles used it as a location for *Sodome and Gomorrah*; for *Jesus of Nazareth*, the whole lower part of the village was rebuilt. In recent years, more controlled restoration has been carried out under UNESCO auspices. Your guide will lead you on a private tour through this Berber village of towered and crenulated Kasbahs that once guarded the lucrative caravan route through the Atlas Mountains.

After visiting Ait Benhaddou, continue the road to Marrakech. You will pass the olive groves of the Oued Zat as you ascend onto the Tizi-N-Tichka Pass Road. Built by the French in the 1920’s, the Tizi-N-Tichka Pass can be described as having mountainous barriers, Mediterranean and oceanic influences and desert borders. During your journey to Marrakech you will also pass the olive groves of the Oued Zat, as you ascend onto the Tizi-N-Tichka Pass Road. Built by the French in the 1920’s, the Tizi-N-Tichka Pass can be described as having mountainous barriers, Mediterranean and oceanic influences and desert borders. You will see panoramic views of the High Atlas Mountains as well as sights of fertile valleys, blue and red colored pise villages and other striking mineral environments.

Lunch: Local Lunch with Views of the Atlas, Restaurant that serves Moroccan tagine made with Argan Oil

Visit an Argan Cooperative, run by Berber women where you will see how Argan Oil is used to make cosmetic and local food products.

Go by piste to visit Kasbah Telouet, one of Morocco’s hidden jewels and a famous Kasbahs that is the origin of the Pacha Glaoui Family. Kasbah Telouet is hidden among a tiny road in a small village that is 20 minutes outside Tichka. It’s history stands alone with its original zellij tile, authentic, preserved silks and grand remnants of the Glaou family. This Kasbahs has yet to be coined a UNESCO World Heritage site and while it appears in parts to be in ruins on the exterior, its interior is one of true splendor.


Overnight in Marrakech.
January 30th: Marrakech Historical Tour: The Moroccan Gardens of Yves Saint Laurent and Koutoubia, Historic Sites, Jewish Heritage Places of Worship, the Mellah and Cemeteries, Monuments, the Grand Medina and its Lively Souks

Meals Included: Breakfast & Evening Gourmet Food Tour Serves as Dinner

Visit the Majorelle Gardens. The Majorelle Gardens, previously the Jardin Bou Saf, bears its name from its original creator, Jacques Majorelle, the French expatriate artist who was born in Nancy, France, in 1886. Jacques Majorelle was the son of the celebrated Art Nouveau furniture designer Louis Majorelle. In 1947, the son opened his gardens to the public and, during this time, also painted a magnificent ceiling at La Mamounia, a five-star hotel with exquisite gardens and the place where Alfred Hitchcock wrote The Birds. Jacques Majorelle studied at the École des Beaux Arts in Nancy in 1901 and in 1919 went to Marrakech to recover from heart problems. He built the garden during those years, using a special blue color that he used extensively in the garden and that is named after him, Majorelle blue. Majorelle returned to France in 1962 after a car incident and died later that year of complications from his injuries. As a collector of unique plants from five continents, Majorelle left to Yves Saint Laurent one of the more unique collections of flora and fauna of this era as well as a place of inspiration and contemplation. Even though Morocco is no longer under the French protectorate, this original French creation is one of the most beloved areas in Morocco.

Berber Museum in Marrakech. Formerly known as the Islamic Museum of Art, this new museum was renamed and launched with proper historical provenance to honor the Berber people and their traditions. As the Berbers are the original inhabitants of Morocco and were driven in the mountains in the 7th Century by Arabs from Yemen, having as much of their history and costume on display pays a long standing homage essential to those discovering Moroccan history. With over 600 objects in the Berber Museum ranging from the Rif to the Sahara this offers visitors a compelling panorama on Berber culture. The renovation of the Berber Museum was carried out by Christophe Martin with musicologist, Bjorn Dahlstrom. This is a must see piece of Marrakech for all travelers.

See the Koutoubia Mosque and Gardens. The Koutoubia Mosque is the largest mosque in Marrakech. The minaret was completed under the reign of the Almohad Caliph Yaqub al-Mansur (1184-1199) and was used as the model for the Giralda of Seville and for the Hassan Tower of Rabat. The name is derived from the Arabic al-Koutoubiyyin for librarian, since it used to be surrounded by sellers of manuscripts. It is considered the ultimate structure of its kind. The tower is 69 m (221 ft) in height and has a lateral length of 12.8 m (41 ft).

Shop in the Old Spice Market. The Rahba Kedima is a colorful market filled with a wide array of typical Moroccan spices including cumin, cinnamon, saffron, dried pepper, and many more

This day continued on following page...
Visit El Bahia Palace. The El Bahia Palace in Marrakech is a beautiful building and an excellent example of Eastern Architecture from the 19th century and represents trends and standards of the wealthy who lived at that time. It was built for Ahmed Ibn Moussa (or Ba Ahmed) between 1894 and 1900 in the Alawi style that was popular at the time. Craftsmen were brought from Fes to work on this monumental task which took approximately fifteen years to complete. It is said that the palace was built as a home for Ba Ahmed's official concubines; it has also been said that the importance or favor of each concubine increased along with the size of their bedroom. The name “Bahia” means “palace of the beautiful.” There are 160 different rooms in the palace which are sprawled out in an open, rambling fashion. Decorations take the form of subtle stucco panels, zellij decorations, tiled floors, smooth arches, carved-cedar ceilings, shiny marble (tadlak) finishes, and zouak-painted ceilings. The palace is surrounded by an eight-hectare garden.

Visit the Ben Youssef Madrasa, an Islamic college in Marrakech, Morocco, named after the Almoravid sultan Ali ibn Yusuf (reigned 1106–1142), who expanded the city and its influence considerably. It is the largest Medrassa in all of Morocco. The college was founded during the period of the Marinid (14th century) by the Marinid sultan Abu al-Hassan and allied to the neighbouring Ben Youssef Mosque. The building of the madrasa was re-constructed by the Saadian Sultan Abdallah al-Ghalib (1557–1574). In 1565 the works ordered by Abdallah al-Ghalib were finished, as confirmed by the inscription in the prayer room. Closed down in 1960, the building was refurbished and reopened to the public as a historical site in 1982.

Visit the Saadian Tombs. The Saadian tombs in Marrakech date back from the time of the Sultan Ahmad al-Mansur (1578-1603). The tombs were only recently discovered (in 1917) and were restored by the Beaux-Arts service. The tombs, because of the beauty of their decoration, have been a major attraction for visitors to Marrakech. The mausoleum comprises the corpses of about sixty members of the Saadi Dynasty that originated in the valley of the Draa River. Among the graves are those of Ahmad al-Mansur and his family. The building is composed of three rooms. The most famous is the room with the twelve columns. This room contains the grave of the son of the Sultan, Ahmad al-Mansur. The stele is in finely worked cedar wood and stucco. The monuments are made of Italian Carrara marble. Outside the building is a garden and the graves of soldiers and servants.

This day continued on following page...
MARRAKECH GOURMET, AN INNOVATIVE DINING EXPERIENCE SET AT CHARMING BOUTIQUE RIADS IN THE HISTORIC DISTRICT

January 30th: Marrakech Historical Tour & Evening Gourmet Food Tour (continued)
A Private Gourmet Cuisine Excursion by Tuk Tuk to Various Riads. Start Time: 6:00pm

AN INNOVATIVE, MARRAKECH GOURMET DINING EXPERIENCE AT BOUTIQUE RIADS:
Where: Tour departs from the post office in Djem al Fna, the main square of Marrakech.
When: We leave at 5:30pm (17:30) and will spend 3-4 hours on the tour.
What: A progressive meal stopping at some of our favorite gorgeous riads that have not only style but excellent food.
What you can expect on our Gourmet Food Tour:
- An intimate, small group experience. There will never be more than 6 people on a tour and we aim to only have 4 whenever possible.
Transportation. We use small “tuk-tuk” vehicles to get from riad to riad across the medina.

Dinner: A several course meal. Each riad will host a different course of our meal.
- High-quality gourmet food. We feature only traditional Moroccan foods but also incorporate modern elements to reflect the style and technique of the riad while remaining true to the cuisine.
- An ever-changing menu. Moroccan food is highly seasonal and so too does our offer.
- Great conversation and a chance to ask questions about each new dish

Overnight in Marrakech.
January 31st Option #1: Marrakech Cooking Class and Afternoon At Leisure: Exploration of Gardens or Spa & Hammam Treatments
Meals Included: Breakfast & Cooking Class Serves as Lunch

10:00am-14:30 (2:30pm) – La Maison Arabe Cooking Class
The workshops are conducted by a dada (traditional Moroccan cook) or a chef from La Maison Arabe’s Moroccan restaurant and are held at the hotel. Small groups of no more than 10 participants work alongside a translator (Arabic/English/French), working with easy-to-use modern equipment found in everyday kitchens. At the end of each workshop, participants dine on the meal they have prepared. At a typical half-day workshop, one learns to prepare an appetizer and a main dish or a main dish and dessert.

Cooking Class Overview:
• Greeting and overview of Moroccan cuisine by an English-speaking interpreter
• Demonstration of how Moroccan bread is made
• Visit to a communal bread oven and hotel spice market
• Cooking at your own workstation alongside the dadas to prepare a delicious Moroccan meal

Moroccan Meal Description:
Prepare two Moroccan cooked salads, chicken and lemon tajine with preserved lemons and olives, and pastilla with milk for dessert. Participate in a Moroccan tea ceremony. Dine on the mouth-watering lunch that you prepared, including Moroccan wine pairings.

This day continued on the following page...
MARRAKECH
January 31st
Option #1: Marrakech Cooking Class with Dada Chef and
Afternoon At Leisure: Exploration of Gardens or Spa & Hammam Treatments
(continued)

Abderrazzak Benchaabane’s Cactus Garden & Palmeraie Museum:
Abderrazzak Benchaabane is a Marrakech legend. Quiet and soft spoken, this renowned
Garden Designer, Ethnobotanist, Perfumer, Teacher, Photographer, Writer, Garden Restorer
and Publisher has created a landmark place for himself within the world of the “red hamra”
city. Benchaabane is currently a Botany and Ecology professor at the University of
Marrakech. Visit Abderrazzak Benchaabane’s Andalusian Garden & Cactus Gardens have
tiled steps and earthen piste walls to complete a place of serenity. The cactus garden was
planted 10 years ago with 40 kinds of cactus from Morocco, South Africa, USA, South
America and Mexico. The Palmeraie Museum has one of Morocco’s most profound Modern
Art collections by Moroccan Artists.

Maison de La Photographie:
A visit to Marrakech is not complete without a visit to La Maison de la Photographie which
is close to the Medersa Ben Youssef. Housed in a converted three story Foundak (the old inn
and storage houses for camel trains coming to sell their wares in the souks) which Patrick
Man’ach and his Moroccan business colleague Hamid Megrani converted in to a
photographic gallery in 2009. There are photographs of Morocco from the 1860's at the very
dawn of photography when intrepid adventurers had to carry heavy equipment into what
was still a largely closed country up until the 1950’s and Morocco’s independence in 1956.

Le Jardin Secret: (The Secret Garden)
A charming garden well appointed in the Mouassine district of the Marrakech
medina. The origins of the complex date back to the Saadian Dynasty, more than
four hundred years ago. Rebuilt in the mid-Nineteenth century at the behest of an
influential Caid of the Atlas Mountains, Le Jardin Secret has been the home of
some of Morocco and Marrakech’s most important political figures. As the result of
a recent renovation; Le Jardin Secret is now part of the great tradition of stately
Arab-Andalusian and Moroccan palaces. The gardens and buildings housed in Le
Jardin Secret outstanding examples of Islamic art and architecture.

Cocktails at La Mamounia Gardens where Alfred Hitchcock wrote the Birds
Use the afternoon for leisure or choose to visit the Mamounia Hotel and Gardens
for tea and lunch or evening drinks. La Mamounia is where Alfred Hitchcock wrote
the movie The Birds. It is situated on the edge of the walls of the old city of
Marrakech and is named for its 200-year-old gardens, which were given as an 18th
century wedding gift to Prince Moulay Mamoun by his father. Today the gardens
cover nearly 20 acres and display an incredible variety of flowers and trees. The
hotel was designed in 1922 by the architects Prost and Marchisio. They combined
traditional Moroccan designs with the popular Art Deco look of the 1920's.
Winston Churchill called it, “the most lovely spot in the whole world." He spent
many winters at La Mamounia painting the Atlas Mountains and the surrounding
countryside.

Dinner Recommendations: Your Riad, Al Fassia, Dar Moha, ‘Trattoria, Dar El
Yacout, Kat Sura Japanese, L’Annex French Cuisine

Overnight in Marrakech.
**January 31st - Option #2: Marrakech, Excursion in the Ourika Valley in a Rural Village with New Zealander & Moroccan Chef**

Meals Included: Breakfast & Cooking Class Serves as Lunch at Douar Tazalit,

Escape southeast of Marrakech. Visit the Souk Tnine de L’Ourika, the gateway to the Ourika Valley (providing this is the day of the souk.) Located near a picturesque Zaouia with a mountainous background, the Berber region of Ourika has the largest souk in the valley every Monday. Your driver will stop and browse at local crafts and other Moroccan treasures.

**Option #1: Take Cooking Class in the Rural Region of the Ourika Valley at a Charming Douar nestled in the Ourika Valley on an Organic Farm: Ourika Organic Kitchen**

11:00am - 2:00pm - Cooking Class

The Douar of Tayzilt is situated in the Ourika Valley with fabulous views that stretch the snow capped Atlas Mountains and the surrounding valley. Ourika Organic Kitchen & Gardens are set on 3 hectares of fertile farm land and the gardens are set amongst 150 olive & fruit trees with perfumed tea gardens to sit and relax or wonder through the extensive vegetable gardens. Take a Cooking Class with Chez Fouad, first collecting your seasonal vegetables from the organic garden and discussing the different herbs and spices that flavor the rich Moroccan cuisine, the classes are held around the gardens on one of the many shaded terraces and you have the opportunity to cook in traditional methods of charcoal which brings out the Moroccan flavor. The classes are hands-on. Included in the day is your detailed hands on cooking class of salad starters and main course finished with organic herb tea grown onsite and water. If you don’t wish to take a cooking class opt for Lunch dining on the roof terrace overlooking the mountains and farm all dishes served from the organic garden. Lunches are a 3 course menu based on wholesome country style cuisine with sampling menus for your table share.

This day continued on the following page...
Explore Morocco with Travel Exploration
On a 11-Day, Culture-Packed Culinary Adventure Tour to Morocco's Imperial Cities and the Great Sahara Region

January 31st: Marrakech Cooking Class Afternoon At Leisure: Exploration of Gardens or Spa & Hammam Treatments
(continued)

Abderrazzak Benchaabane’s Cactus Garden & Palmeraie Museum:
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Le Jardin Secret: (The Secret Garden)
A charming garden well appointed in the Mouassine district of the Marrakech medina. The origins of the complex date back to the Saadian Dynasty, more than four hundred years ago. Rebuilt in the mid-Nineteenth century at the behest of an influential Caid of the Atlas Mountains, Le Jardin Secret has been the home of some of Morocco and Marrakech’s most important political figures. As the result of a recent renovation; Le Jardin Secret is now part of the great tradition of stately Arab-Andalusian and Moroccan palaces. The gardens and buildings housed in Le Jardin Secret outstanding examples of Islamic art and architecture.

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Overnight in Marrakech.
Explore Morocco with Travel Exploration
On a 11-Day, Culture-Packed Culinary Adventure Tour to Morocco's Imperial Cities and the Great Sahara Region

DEPARTURES........

February 1st: Marrakech & Casablanca Departures
Meals Included: Breakfast

DEPARTURE TIME: TBD
FLIGHT #:
AIRLINE NAME:
READING LIST (Available on Amazon.com & Barnes & Noble.com)

**MOROCCAN CUISINE:**
- A Mediterranean Illustrated Cookbook & Cultural guide - By Paula Wolfert
- Traditional Moroccan Cooking, Recipes from Fez - By Claudia Roden & Madame Guinaudeau

**DESIGN & DÉCOR**
- Living in Morocco: (German Edition) – By Barbara Stoeltie & Rene
- Moroccan Interiors – By Lisa Lovatt-Smith
- Living in Morocco from Casablanca to Marrakesh – By Lisl Dennis and Landt Dennis
- New Moroccan Style: The Art of Sensual Living – By Susan Sully
- Moroccan Textile Embroidery – By Isabelle Denamur
- Berber Carpets of Morocco: The Symbols, Origins and Meaning By Bruno Barbatti
- Imazighen: The Vanishing Traditions of Berber Women – By Margaret Courtney-Clarke and Geraldine Brooks
- Morocco’s Gardens & Courtyards - by Achva Benzinberg Stein
- Shopping in Marrakech - By Susan Simon

**HISTORY** (Available on Amazon.com & Barnes & Noble.com)
- Morocco That Was – By Water Harris
- Morocco Since 1830 – By C.R. Pennell
- Lords of the Atlas: The Rise and Fall of the House of Glaoua – By Gavin Maxwell
- The Conquest of Morocco – By Douglass Porch

**FICTION & NON-FICTION**
- In Arabian Nights: A Caravan of Moroccan Dreams – By Tahir Shah
- The Caliph’s House: A Year in Casablanca – By Tahir Shah
- The Spiders House – By Paul Bowles
- The Sheltering Sky – By Paul Bowles (Book & Film)
- Dreams of Trespass: Tales of A Harem – By Fatima Mernissi
- A House in Fes – By Susannah Clarke
- The Red City – By Barnaby Rogerson & Stephen Lavington

**MOROCCAN MUSIC** (Available on Amazon.com or I-Tunes Apple Store)
- Under the Moroccan Sky – Various Artists
- Berber Blues By Cherifa
- Arabic Groove – Putumayo World Music
- Rough Guide to North African Café
Travel Exploration has insider access that offers unique, private encounters to those who choose to travel with us.

Sip tea in the Valley of Nomads with Cave dwellers, Dine on Couscous with the Berbers in the Saghro Mountains, Participate in a private, Cooking Class with a Dada Chef, and visit exclusive, Riad and Villa gardens, all led by the best historical guides who are Moroccan and an experts in their field.

**Population:** 33.8 Million  
**Capital:** Rabat; 1,759,000  
**Area:** 710,850 square kilometers (274,461 square miles)  
**Language:** Arabic, Berber dialects, French  
**Religion:** Muslim  
**Currency:** Moroccan Dirham  
**Life Expectancy:** 70  
**GDP per Capita:** U.S. $3,900  
**Literacy Percent:** 52
**Gratuity** is a gift of money that is granted for service or a show of appreciation given without claim or demand. Gratuity is one of the best ways you can demonstrate appreciation for the services provided by your driver and guides. **Charity** is a donation that comes from one’s heart and also one of the five tenants of Islam. Charity is greatly appreciated by the elderly and children you may come across during your journey to Morocco who move your heart in some way. Listed below is Travel Exploration Morocco’s recommendation of the way to handle “gratuity” and “charity” during your travels in the Maghreb.

**Gratuity: For Your Driver & Guides**

Gratuity is appreciated but not required during your Travel Exploration Morocco journey. It is a considerate way to thank your driver and historical guides for their services.

► As a foreigner traveling in Morocco, the amount of the gratuity that could be given to your driver if you wish to show him/her your appreciation for the services provided by Moroccan standards ranges from $75-$100 per traveler.

► As a foreigner traveling in Morocco, the amount of the gratuity that could be given to your historical guide if you wish to show him/her your appreciation for the services provided by Moroccan standards ranges from $125-$150 per traveler.

**Gratuity: In Restaurants, Riads & Hotels**

► As a foreigner traveling in Morocco, the amount of Gratuity given at Restaurants based upon Moroccan standards ranges from: 10% - 20%

► As a foreigner traveling in Morocco, the amount of Gratuity that could be left in your room at a Riad/Hotel to show appreciation for maid services: 20-30 Moroccan Dirhams per day. ($2.00 - $3.00)

**Charity** is a generous action or donation that one gives from his/her heart to aid the poor, ill, or helpless. Charity is one of the five tenants of Islam, is seen as an important part of Moroccan culture and practiced by Moroccans. Charity by Moroccans is often provided to the elderly, to children or the poor in the form of Moroccan Dirhams, food or clothing. During your travel journey in Morocco you may see your driver or guides regularly give a few dirhams to elderly people, children or the poor within the old medina (cities) or in the Atlas Mountain Regions/Sahara Desert. This is their way upholding to the tenants of their religion and culture.

**Charity: For The Elderly & Children**

► As a foreigner traveling in a Muslim country, following the five tenants of Islam- and offering a small amount of charity is an option but not required. If you wish to offer charity to an elderly person, to children or a poor person on the street that moves your heart, please consider the following:

► Giving anywhere between 5-10 Dirhams ($0.50 - $1.00) is a considered gracious and will not place a dent in your wallet but perhaps leave you with an experience in your heart. Sometimes the reciprocity you may receive as a result of giving a small amount of charity in a Muslim country like Morocco comes in the form of a big smile, a hand shake, an invitation for tea or even a hug from the recipient.

**Gratuity In the Form Of Affection:**

► Traveling in a Muslim country, Gratuity in the form of affection is appreciated by a smile, a handshake and even a hug. If you wish to show your driver, guide or others who assist you during your journey this kind of gesture it is most welcomed.

“It is more agreeable to have the power to give than to receive.” (Winston Churchill)
TRAVELING IN MOROCCO WHAT TO BRING

In preparation for your Moroccan adventure, the following is a list of things to consider packing that will make your trip as smooth and comfortable as possible.

**Pre-departure Essentials**
- Personal Identification (drivers license)
- Passport and visa if required
- Airline Tickets
- Credit Cards
- Travel Insurance
- Health Documentation
- Emergency Information
- Guide books & maps
- Photocopies of Documentation: (passport and tickets). You can also scan these, upload them to the internet and email them to yourself. Internet access is widely available in all major cities and most small ones in Morocco.

**Medicines**
While no shots are required to enter Morocco, it is recommended that you come prepared with a personal medical kit, as you do not to spend time looking for a pharmacy and risk that they do not carry what you need. Morocco does have French pharmaceutical shops widely available throughout the country in all major cities and many villages therefore if basic things such as cold medicine, Imodium, allergy creams or over the counter medicine is needed you can visit one of them. Depending on your health condition, you may want to consult with your doctor before your trip. The climate in Morocco is diverse and different from what travelers are used to, so come prepared with the following:
- Antibiotic for traveler’s diarrhoea
- Antibiotic cream & disinfectant for scrapes and cuts
- Band-Aids
- Disposable antibacterial wipes or cleanser
- Pepto-Bismol or Imodium for traveller’s diarrhoea.
- Insect repellent with DEET 30%
- Re-hydration tablets
- Aspirin, Tylenol or other Pain relievers
- Skin Lotion (especially for Eczema)-Sunglasses (or prescription glasses/ contact lenses, and solution)-Hydrocortisone cream
- Sunscreen (SPF 30)
- Motion sickness medicine
- Cold medicine: Decongestant, antihistamine, cough syrup
- Aspirin, Tylenol or other Pain relievers
- Feminine hygiene products (tampons, etc.)
- Hairbrush
- Shampoo, Conditioner
- Soap
- Shaving Cream, razor
- Toilet paper/ Mini-Tissues (12 pack)
- Tooth brush, tooth paste

**Travel Clothing**
- Conservative clothing is worn throughout Morocco (clothes should not be tight or too revealing)
- Bathing suit (for beach resorts, hotel)
- Brimmed Hat, Visor, Hat, headscarf
- Long skirts, dresses or pants (for women)
- For summer: light weighclothing
- Windbreaker or warm sweater for cooler months and desert cool air.
- Travel Footwear: broken in sneakers or hiking shoes, sandals, socks.

**Electronics**
- Camera & Film (Kodak and Fuji is easy to find in Morocco but expensive)
- Video Camera & Tapes
- Extra Camera Batteries
- International Electrical plug adapter and or converter
- Travel Alarm
- Flashlight / extra bulbs