



BEVERLY  
HILLS  
BAR  
ASSOCIATION



LAW & CULTURE: MOROCCO

# JOURNEY TO CASABLANCA | FES | RABAT | MARRAKESH

May 18-26, 2023

6 or 8 NIGHT PROGRAM OPTIONS

DESERT & BEACH EXCURSIONS AVAILABLE UPON REQUEST



Casablanca



Fes



Rabat

Register online at [www.cle-abroad.com/trip/bhba](http://www.cle-abroad.com/trip/bhba)

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## INCLUDED

6 or 8 nights' select accommodations

Group Meals as described in itinerary (including tips)

Full time tour leader and specialized local guides

CLE Lecture Series with Legal Experts, Academics, Business Leaders, Entrepreneurs, Social Justice organizations & NGOs

Full-time ground transportation equipped with water

Admission to all museums and public buildings listed in itinerary

Pre-trip departure Travel Tips

Airport transfers

## NOT INCLUDED

Round trip airfare to/from Morocco

Additional meals not listed in itinerary

Incidentals / Individual hotel expenses

Trip cancellation insurance

Covid -19 related expenses such as testing



## AT A GLANCE: MOROCCO

Morocco's location at the crossroads of Europe and Africa has endowed the country with a richness of culture and heritage preserved and perpetuated to this day. Join our journey through Morocco's diverse food, music, customs, and architecture – visiting **Casablanca, Fes, Rabat and Marrakesh.**

Today Morocco is a thriving society embracing modernity and diversity. Our delegation will learn about Morocco's social fabric and political systems, rewarding the open-minded traveler with a better understanding of the nature of Islam, erasing many popular preconceptions from the western world.



FOR PRICES & TO REGISTER ONLINE PLEASE VISIT  
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EARLY BIRD DISCOUNTS

*See Registration page for details.*

*Note:* This program will require high-intensity walking on uneven and sometimes hilly cobblestone streets and stairs where an elevator is not always available. Participants must be able to walk unassisted.



## DAY 1

Thursday, May 18 (D)

CASABLANCA



## DAY 2

Friday, May 19 (B,L,D)

CASABLANCA | MEKNES | FES



## DAY 3

Saturday, May 20 (B,L,D)

FES



## DAY 4

Sunday, May 21 (B,L,D)

FES



## DAY 5

Monday, May 22 (B,L)

VOLUBILIS & RABAT



## DAY 6

Tuesday, May 23 (B,D)

RABAT



## DAY 7

Wednesday, May 24 (B,L)

RABAT & MARRAKESH



## DAY 8

Thursday, May 25 (B,L,D)

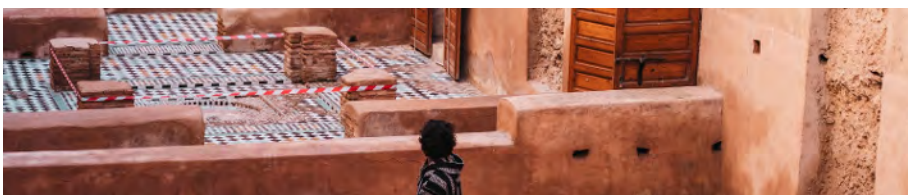
MARRAKESH



## DAY 9

Friday, May 26 (B)

DEPARTURE



B - Breakfast | L - Lunch | D - Dinner

# JOURNEY TO MOROCCO

## CASABLANCA | FES | RABAT | MARRAKESH

### BEVERLY HILLS BAR ASSOCIATION WITH CLE ABROAD

*Itinerary subject to change and final confirmations.  
Program schedule will be adapted to enrolled  
participants and special requests are encouraged.*

#### Day 1 Thursday May 18

##### Morning

Participants arrive independently to Casablanca Mohammed V International Airport (CMN). You will be greeted and escorted to the hotel for Early Check-in or Bag Drop. *Recommended flight itineraries will be provided at group closure.*

Lunch on your own. Suitable recommendations near the hotel will be provided.

##### Afternoon

Check-in to the **Kenzi Tower Hotel** or equivalent.

Twin CENTER, boulevard zerktouni  
Tel. +212 5 22 97 80 00

Optional visit to Casablanca's Art Deco neighborhood, the **Habous Quarter**, or the **District Courthouse**.

#### INTRO TO THE MOROCCAN LEGAL SYSTEMS

Morocco has a dual legal system consisting of secular courts based on **French legal tradition** as well as courts based on the religious precepts of **Islam**. We meet with a local attorney to help explain the basic tenants of the Moroccan legal system and how these two legal traditions coexist.

OR

#### ENTREPRENEURSHIP IN MODERN MOROCCO

Panelists include **Rabia El Alama**, Managing Director of the **American Chamber of Commerce in Morocco** and entrepreneurs **Zineb D. Kaitouni** and **Salma Chakir**.

Meet in the hotel lobby and depart for our **Welcome dinner** at the nearby **Le Bistrot Chic**, fine French cuisine.

After dinner, return to hotel or optional late-night cocktail at **Rick's Café**, designed after the movie classic *Casablanca (1942)* starring **Humphrey Bogart** and **Ingrid Bergman**. "Everybody Comes to Rick's."

#### Day 2 Friday May 19

*Complimentary breakfast and coffee is served daily at the hotel.*

##### Morning

Guided tour of the awe-inspiring **Hassan II Mosque**. Completed in 1993, the mosque is a celebration of ornate craftsmanship and over the top grandeur on a scale that has to be seen, to be believed. The interior can accommodate a staggering 25,000 worshipers while the exterior courtyard will host additional 80,000 of the faithful. Hassan II is the largest mosque in Africa, the fifth largest in the world and boasts a 700-foot-tall minaret (world's tallest). It is also one of the few mosques in the world that will allow non-Muslims to enter.

Depart to the **City of Fes** by coach, stopping along the way for lunch at the imperial city of **Meknes**, former home of the **Grand Sultan Moulay Ismail** in the 17th century. His former palace is surrounded by massive walls interspersed with and grand entryways decorated with mosaics. The palace has been granted **UNESCO World Heritage** status. Highlights include the imposing yet refined **Bab el Mansour Gate** and the imperial stables.

##### Afternoon

Lunch and wine tasting at the local Meknes winery, **Chateau de Roslane**.

After lunch, we continue our journey to **Fes**.

Check-in to the Hotel or Riad.

Dinner at our Riad/Hotel.





## Day 3

Saturday May 20

*Founded in 781 AD, Fes is considered the world's largest car-free urban area, with 80,000 people inhabiting the walled city center, known as the Medina. The entire medina is a confusing labyrinth of narrow alleys filled with artisans, vendors and residents. Without motorized vehicles, the residents rely solely on people-power and donkey-drawn carts to receive their daily deliveries.*

*Of the 9,000 alleyways forming the Medina, 8,000 have no exit, giving the first-time explorer to Fes a mind-boggling navigational challenge. Fortunately, we will be shepherded through this maze by our local tour guides who will share their intimate knowledge of the ancient cultural, religious and educational institutions tucked into this warren of alleyways.*

### Morning

#### THE LAW OF ASSOCIATIONS IN MOROCCO

Meeting with local attorneys and representatives of the **National Network for Reading and Culture (NNRC)** which - among other goals - promotes literacy inside prisons as a means to combat the spread of terrorist ideologies.

After our morning presentation, we divide into small groups to better navigate the narrow passages.

**Tasting tour of Fes:** Our midday will be spent exploring the various **souks** (marketplaces) spread across the medina. Each souk specializes in a specific product or trade. A chance to witness the happy and persuasive merchants of Fes in action and feel the wonderful energy of a slightly chaotic bazaar that has prospered for a millennium relatively unchanged. The shops and stall offer a vast assortment of locally produced goods. These include spices, delicate handmade Moroccan clothing, wood carvings, Fes pottery, leather goods and intricate metal work.

### Afternoon

Visit to the colorful and legendary open-air **Leather Tannery of Fes**, to see and smell the stinky ancient all-natural techniques still used for tanning high quality Moroccan leather. An unforgettable sensory experience for the eyes and nostrils!

Remainder of the afternoon free. You may decide to continue exploring the Medina and Souks at your own pace or return to your hotel. Try and set aside some time to enjoy a relaxing Moroccan spa treatment (*Hamman*).

### Evening

Home hosted group dinner.

## Day 4

Sunday May 21

*Fes is the oldest imperial city and considered the "Athens of Africa" for its concentration of educational and religious institutions known as madrasas. These schools were designed by the ruling elite both as a training ground for state bureaucrats learning law and a theological learning center. The madrasa forged links between the religious scholars who directed Islamic education, and the ruling government authorities. Fes is home to the oldest university in the world, the University of Karueein (Quaraouiyine) first opened its doors in the year 859 and currently enrolls 8000 students. Prospective students are required to have memorized the entire text of the Qur'an. (77,000 words).*

### Morning

#### ANIMAL RIGHTS, WELFARE & THE HUMAN CONNECTION

Visit the **American Fondouk**, A veterinary clinic founded in 1927 by an American traveler, Amy Bishop, who build the clinic with support from the Massachusetts Society for Protection and Care of Animals (MSPCA). The American Fondouk is dedicated to providing free veterinary care for the hard-working donkeys, mules, and horses of Morocco. Treating working animals in the developing world is considered to offer a significant contribution towards safeguarding the livelihoods of the poorest and most vulnerable members of the community. We will meet with the Director of the clinic, **Dr. Gigi Kay**.

Visit a local **ceramic factory** where talented artisans showcase their skills at crafting intricate mosaics and pottery. We will enjoy a step by step explanation of the process used to create traditional Moroccan ceramic designs.

### Afternoon

Lunch at **Palais Le Medina**.

After lunch, we visit **Fes Jdid**, the historic Jewish Quarter and an ancient synagogue. Time permitting, we also visit the medieval school of **Bouanania**, 12th century home of Jewish scholar **Maimonides**.

After lunch we see the **el-Attarine Madrasa**, built in 1325. An architectural masterpiece filled with dazzling geometric mosaics and intricately carved plaster and cedar.

Group dinner at **Nur**, fine dining in the Medina of Fes featuring flavors of the Middle Atlas.



## Day 5

Monday May 22

### Morning

We will check-out of our Fes accommodations and make the 1.5-hour drive to visit the ancient Berber and Roman ruins of **Volubilis**, a UNESCO World Heritage Site. We explore the dramatic ruins of homes, temples and public buildings of the original Greek, Syrian and Jewish city dwellers.

### Afternoon

Continue our drive to Rabat. (aprox. 2 hrs.)

Lecture on Bus:

#### LINGUISTICS & THE LAW: THE JOURNEY OF THE AMAZIGH LANGUAGE

Arrive in **Rabat**, the political capital of Morocco.

Lunch at Restaurant **Marsa** along the **Salé** waterfront.

#### US-MOROCCO RELATIONS & DEMOCRACY: LEGAL AND DIPLOMATIC PERSPECTIVES

At lunch we will be joined by representatives of **USAID** and the **US Embassy's Foreign Commercial Service**.

After lunch, check into your accommodations at the **Hotel Le Diwan Rabat** or similar.

*Dinner on your own. Suitable recommendations will be provided.*

## Day 6

Tuesday May 23

*Rabat is the political capital of Morocco and known for its public gardens and parks, upscale neighborhoods populated with embassies and important monuments to past leaders and heroes.*

### Morning

We visit Rabat's **Kasbah of the Oudayas**, a UNESCO World Heritage Site located at the mouth of the Bou Regreg river, and adjacent to the old medina of Rabat. Before departing, we see the **Andalusian Garden** created between 1915 and 1918 during the French occupation

Lunch on your own.

### Afternoon

#### TRIAL PRACTICE IN MOROCCO with COURTHOUSE VISIT

This afternoon we meet with representatives from the Moroccan Bar Association - Association des Barreaux du Maroc (ABAM) and visit a local Courthouse.

OR

#### ANTI-CORRUPTION AND TRANSPARENCY IN MOROCCO

Lecture by **Mr. Ahmend Bernoussi** of **Transparency Maroc**, part of Transparency International, a non-profit watchdog organization operating in over 100 countries that gives voice to victims and witnesses of corruption. Working together with governments, businesses and citizens to stop the abuse of power, bribery and secret deals.

### Evening

Group dinner at **Sufra**, delightful Middle Eastern cuisine.

## Day 7

Wednesday May 24

### Morning

*Check-out of our accommodations in Rabat and drive to Casablanca airport (1hr) for those not continuing to Marrakesh.*

For those continuing on, hotel check-out and drive to Marrakesh (3.5 hours from Rabat.)

*Marrakesh, located in the temperate foothills of the Atlas Mountain, has always been a must-see destination for globetrotters in-the-know. The French left Morocco in 1956 but their cultural influence is very evident in this cosmopolitan city that still retains many remnants of their occupation. Wide boulevards, tasteful neighborhoods and hip modern shopping centers are all trademarks of Marrakesh. Toss in a thriving art and design scene and it's not hard to understand why this city is at the top of the list of so many global wanderers.*

### Afternoon

Arrive in **Marrakesh**.

#### GENDER RIGHTS & LABOR LAWS IN MOROCCO

Lunch & Lecture at **Amal Café**. The Amal Foundation is a Non-Profit association dedicated to the empowerment of disadvantaged women through culinary skills, restaurant training and job placement. Founded by **Nora Fitzgerald Belahcen**, an American-Moroccan who conceived Amal due to her desire to help disadvantaged women of Marrakesh.

Check into **2Ciels Boutique Hotel & Spa** in New Town Marrakesh (or equivalent).



### Evening

Sunset visit to the **Jemma el-Fna Square**. Expect a full-blast sensory overload as you jostle thru this popular public square packed full of barking venders, horn-blowing snake charmers and Berber musicians whacking drums and clanging metal tambourines in one big un-orchestrated sonic attack.

Bazaar sounds will be accompanied by bizarre sights. No place else like it on earth.

*Dinner on your own. Suitable recommendations will be provided.*

## Day 8

Thursday May 25

### Morning

Half day historical walking tour of Marrakesh including the Jewish Quarter, Medina and spice market.

We see the **Koutubia Mosque** completed in 1157, before continuing to the **Bahia Palace**. Created in the late 19th century, the Palace was designed to showcase the essence of Moroccan and Islamic style. A vast courtyard sits at the center of the complex, surrounded by numerous rooms to accommodate his sizeable harem consisting of 4 wives and 24 concubines.

We continue to **Dar Si Said** or **Dar Bacha**, before visiting the Jewish Quarter en route to Lunch.

### Afternoon

Option (A) Lunch and head to the souks for more shopping OR return to hotel to relax

Option (B) Lunch and visit to tranquil oasis of green in the middle of the city. **Majorelle Gardens** was created over 40 years by French artist Jacques Majorelle as a private botanical garden that highlighted landscape design using succulents and cacti. It was restored to its former glory by longtime Marrakesh resident, **Yves St. Laurent**, and his partner **Pierre Berge**. Adjoining the property is the **YSL Museum**, dedicated to the Berber culture as well as the fashion career of Yves St. Laurent.

### Evening

Farewell dinner and live entertainment at **Le Comptoir Darna** in New Town Marrakesh.

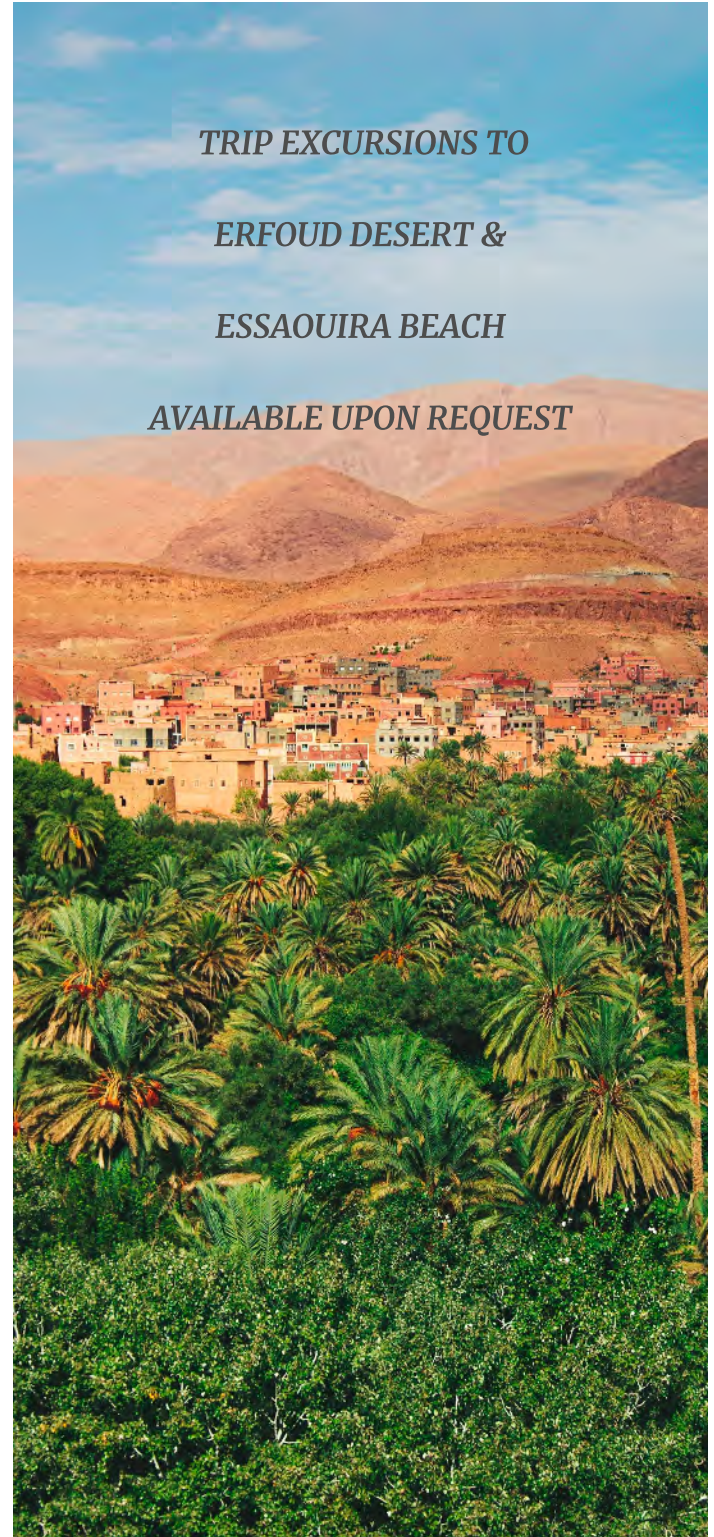
## Day 9

Friday May 26

### Morning

Check-out of hotel and transfer to Marrakesh Airport.

*Or continue with Desert and/or Beach Excursion.*





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**Space is limited!!**

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## QUESTIONS

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