

## LAW & CULTURE: MOROCCO

# JOURNEY TO MOROCCO CASABLANCA | FES | RABAT FEBRUARY 2 - 8, 2025

**ADD 2 NIGHTS IN MARRAKECH FEB. 8-10, 2025**  
**ADD 3 NIGHT DESERT EXCURSION FEB. 10-13, 2025**



1 night in Casablanca



3 nights in Fes



2 nights in Rabat

[www.cle-abroad.com/trip/wcba-york](http://www.cle-abroad.com/trip/wcba-york)



## INCLUDED

Premium 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, transfers, and guided walking tours

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

Extra Hotel Room nights

*\*Select group meals will be curated for quality and diversity including beverages and tips:*

- ❑ *Authentic Greek food and refined International cuisines*
- ❑ *Curated Food / Beverage Tastings and culinary experiences*

*Dietary restrictions will be accommodated*

*Food surveys distributed to participants at a later date.*



## YOU'RE INVITED!

The Washington & York County Bar Associations invite you and your guest(s) to join our private delegation for a journey through 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 .

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.

Our core 6-night trip includes 1 night in The White city, **Casablanca**, 3 nights in the country's cultural capital **Fes**, and 2 nights in the cosmopolitan capital city of **Rabat**. Add 2 more nights for an adventure in magical **Marrakech**. An Optional post-trip 3-night Desert Excursion is also available.

*Please note that 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.*

## CLE CREDITS ANTICIPATED EARLY BIRD DISCOUNT

Register by September 15, 2024 to receive \$150 off per person

[www.cle-abroad.com/trip/wcba-york](http://www.cle-abroad.com/trip/wcba-york)

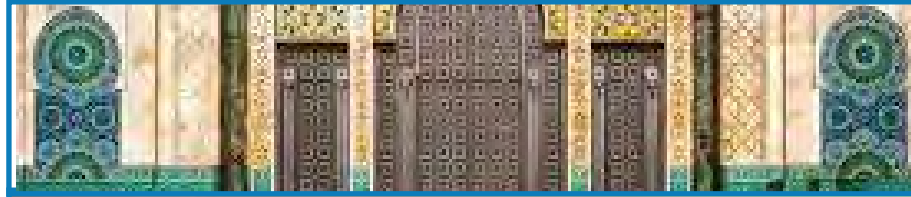


# MOROCCO AT A GLANCE

## DAY 1

Sunday February 2 (D)

**CASABLANCA**



## DAY 2

Monday February 3 (B,L,D)

**CASABLANCA, MEKNES, & FES**



## DAYS 3 & 4

Tuesday February 4 (B,L,D)

Wednesday February 5 (B,L,D)

**FES**



## DAY 5

Thursday February 6 (B,L)

**VOLUBILIS & RABAT**



## DAY 6

Friday February 7 (B,D)

**RABAT**



## DAY 7

Saturday February 8

**DEPARTURE DAY (B)**

**OR EXTENSION TO MARRAKECH (B,L)**



## DAY 8

Sunday February 9 (B,D)

**MARRAKECH**



## DAY 9

Monday February 10

**DEPARTURE DAY (B) OR DESERT EXCURSION**



## DESERT EXCURSION

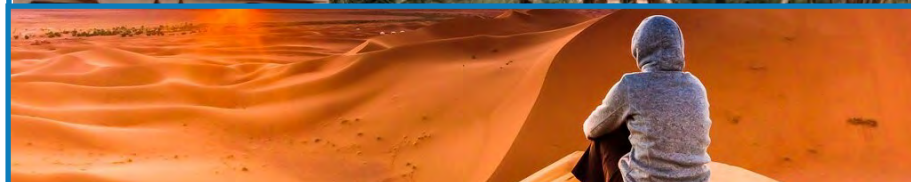
Monday February 10 (B,L,D)

Tuesday February 11 (B,L,D)

Wednesday February 12 (B,L,D)

**DEPARTURE DAY (B)**

Thursday February 13



# JOURNEY TO MOROCCO

## CASABLANCA | FES | RABAT | MARRAKECH

PROGRAM SUBJECT TO CHANGE AND FINAL CONFIRMATIONS

### Day 1 Sunday February 2

#### 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

**Pre-Lecture Meet & Greet.** Hors D'oeuvres, Coffee and Tea buffet.

#### 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

#### FOREIGN INVESTMENT & FEMALE ENTREPRENEURSHIP IN MODERN MOROCCO

Panelists include **Rabia El Alama**, Managing Director of the **American Chamber of Commerce in Morocco**, who will be accompanied by **female entrepreneurs** based in Casablanca for a presentation on Foreign Investment and Women's Empowerment/Entrepreneurship in contemporary Morocco.

#### Late Afternoon

Depart our hotel for a guided visit to **Mahkama of Pacha**, an ancient Courthouse and administrative building constructed in 1941-1942 in the **Habbous** neighborhood of Casablanca.

#### Evening

**Welcome dinner at Rick's Café**, designed after the movie classic Casablanca (1942) starring **Humphrey Bogart** and **Ingrid Bergman**. "Everybody Comes to Rick's."

#### COMMERCIAL LAW, ARBITRATION & INTERNATIONAL BUSINESS TRANSACTIONS IN MOROCCO

Dinner presentation with Moroccan attorney **Aïcha Brahma**, an Approved Arbitrator of the **Moroccan Court of Arbitration** and former visiting researcher at the University of California, Los Angeles (UCLA).



After dinner, return to the hotel to rest before our next day morning departure.



# 1 NIGHT IN CASABLANCA

## Day 2

Monday February 3

*Complimentary breakfast at our hotels/riads is included daily throughout the trip.*

*Bags must be downstairs for collection 7:30am concierge/porters. CLE Abroad team members will be present in the lobby to help collect luggage and ensure they are loaded onto the bus.*

### Morning

Hotel Checkout/Meet in the hotel lobby and board the bus for our departure.



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 worshippers while the exterior courtyard will host an 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.

After our Mosque visit, depart for the **Fes** via **Meknes**.

### Lunch

Group lunch, winery tour, tasting and lecture at the local **Meknes** winery, **Domaine de la Zouina**. **READING BETWEEN THE WINES: The Regulation of Wine in Morocco** with **Christophe Gribelin**.

We continue our journey to **Fes** passing by the imperial city of **Meknes**, former home of the **Grand Sultan Moulay Ismail** in the 17th century.

### Afternoon

Check-in to our Hotel Riad in Fes.

#### [Hotel Riad Salam Fes](#)

18 Derb Bennis

Douh, 30110 Fes Medina

Tel. +212 535638988

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.

### Evening

**Welcome Dinner** inside our Riad.





# 3 NIGHTS IN FEZ

Day 3

Tuesday February 4

## Morning

**FAMILY LAW IN MOROCCO & THE RIGHTS OF WOMEN & CHILDREN** with Maitre Najat Chentouf. *This breakfast meeting will take place at our Riad. After our breakfast meeting, we depart our Riad on foot.*

**FES MEDINA TOUR:** Today we bring the souk to you. Our experience of the one-of-a-kind Fes Medina will be curated based on participants' interests around food tasting or *shoppertunities*.

On the culinary track, taste the various specialties from the souks (marketplaces) of the medina and enjoy **traditional street food**. Our local guides will explain the significance of these specialties in Moroccan culture.



For the shoppers, our local guides will lead you to the shops and stalls that offer a vast assortment of **locally produced artisan crafts and handmade goods**. These include handmade carpets, delicate Moroccan clothing, wood carvings, Fes pottery, leather goods and intricate metal work. Barter with the happy and persuasive merchants of Fes and feel the wonderful energy of a slightly chaotic bazaar that has prospered for a millennium relatively unchanged.



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

## Afternoon

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



Time permitting, we visit a traditional rug & tapestry store before leaving the city center.



Remainder of the afternoon free. You may decide to continue exploring the Medina and Souks at your own pace or return to your hotel. Set aside time to enjoy a relaxing Moroccan spa treatment (Hamman), reservations are necessary.

## Evening

**OPTIONAL ADD-ON:** Experience the real Morocco with locals who graciously welcome us inside their homes for a traditional family dinner.

OR

Dinner on your own.



# 3 NIGHTS IN FEZ

## Day 4 Wednesday February 5

### Morning

Chat with **Professor Jade Tahtahof, University of Al Akhawayn** to discuss the **Moroccan Educational System**. After our breakfast meeting, we depart our Riad on foot.

Followed by a visit to **Fes Jdid**, the historic **Jewish Quarter** and an ancient synagogue. During our visit, we receive a passionate presentation on **The Freedom of Religion in Morocco** with our very own **Hicham Chakir** at an historic Jewish cemetery. Time permitting, we visit the medieval synagogue of **Aben Danan**, located in the heart of the largest Jewish quarter in the country.

### Afternoon

Local & Authentic **Moroccan Grill** luncheon.

After lunch we visit a **ceramic factory** & cooperative where talented artisans showcase their skills at crafting intricate mosaics and pottery. Many artisan workshops in Morocco are organized as cooperatives, government sponsored institutions to preserve the traditional methods of craftsmanship.



Return to our Riad.

*Downtime for R&R, Hammam, Massage, Henna, Cooking Class etc.*

### Evening

**Traditional Moroccan Feast** at a local Riad with live entertainment & **musical experience**.

## Day 5 Thursday February 6

### Morning

Please have your bags at reception so that they can be safely loaded onto our bus.

Depart for the ancient Berber and Roman ruins of **Volubilis**.

Inside 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 alongside a local guide/archeologist. Continue our drive to **Rabat**, the political capital of Morocco.



Arrive Rabat for Lunch at Restaurant Marsa along the **Salé waterfront**



# 2 NIGHTS IN RABAT

## Day 5 Thursday February 6 CONTINUED

### Afternoon

Hotel Check In.

**Hotel Tour Hassan Palace Rabat** (or similar)

26 Avenue Chellah BP 14, Rabat

Tel. +212 537239000

### Afternoon

**THE FREEDOM OF SPEECH IN MOROCCO** with **Adnane Bennis**, Managing Editor of **Morocco World News**. *This lecture will take place in the Ambassador Room at the Tour Hassan Hotel.*

**LINGUISTICS & THE LAW: THE JOURNEY OF THE AMAZIGH LANGUAGE.** *This lecture will take place in the Ambassador Room at the Tour Hassan Hotel.*

### Evening

Dinner on your own. Some may choose to dine at **L'Epicurien Restaurant** located inside the hotel. Or suitable recommendations will be provided.

## Day 6 Friday February 7

### Morning

*Today you may consider **Business Casual / Smart Casual** for our visit(s) to the Moroccan Parliament, and meetings with personnel from the US Embassy. Please carry your Passports in-hand for the Parliament visit.*

**LEGISLATING UNDER MONARCHY & THE MOROCCAN PARLIAMENT.** Guided visit of the Moroccan Parliament to learn about the **legislative process** and limited **separation of powers** in Morocco.



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

**US-MOROCCO RELATIONS AND DEMOCRACY: Legal and Diplomatic Perspectives.** This afternoon we meet with US Embassy personnel for a briefing and off-the-record dialogue. *This lecture will take place in the Ambassador Room at the Tour Hassan Hotel.*

### Evening

Rabat Farewell Dinner at **Sufra Restaurant** featuring delightful Middle Eastern cuisine.

## Day 7 Saturday February 8

For those departing, hotel check-out and transfers to Casablanca International Airport (CMN).





# ADD 2 NIGHTS IN MARRAKECH

## Day 7 Saturday February 8

For those returning to the USA, hotel check-out and transfer to Casablanca airport (1hr, 20 mins).

### Morning

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

### Afternoon

Arrive in Marrakesh. Lunch at **Amal Women's Training Center** run by the **Amal Foundation**, 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 In to **2Ciels Luxury Hotel & Spa** (or similar)

Rue Oued EL Makhazine, Angle Rue Imam Chafai

Tel. +212 5243-59550

Meet in the hotel lobby and depart for a Sunset visit to the **Jemma el-Fna Square**. Time permitting en route to the Square, we see the **Koutubia Mosque**. At the Jemma el-Fna Square, expect a full-blast sensory overload as you jostle through this popular public space packed full of barking vendors, 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.

## Day 8 Sunday February 9

### Morning

Historical walking tour of Marrakech 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.

Lunch on your own.

### Afternoon

Option (A) Head to the souks for more shopping OR return to the hotel to relax and enjoy the amenities.



Option (B) Visit a 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

Dinner and live entertainment at **Le Comptoir Darna** in New Town Marrakech.

## Day 9 Monday February 10

For those returning to the USA, hotel check-out and transfer to Marrakech Airport (RAK). For those departing from Casablanca, alternative transportation can be arranged.

# 3 NIGHT DESERT EXCURSION

## Day 9

Monday February 10

### Morning

Today we pack an overnight bag with the essentials and leave larger bags with the hotel for safekeeping until we return on Wednesday.

We begin our journey across the **High Atlas Mountains** and to the **Tichka Pass** featuring some of the best views in Morocco.

We continue on a less traveled path to **Telouet Kasbah**. Lunch at **Ait Benhaddou**.



We have time to explore the most iconic Kasbah in Morocco. We continue south to **Agdz** and on to the **Draa Valley**.

Check in to our **Desert Villa Dar Hnini** (or similar), set against a dramatic backdrop of volcanic mountains and natural beauty.

Dinner at the Villa.



## Day 10

Tuesday February 11

After breakfast, we continue to the **Erg Chigaga Dunes**. We stop in **Tamgroute** known for their green pottery. We continue to **Mhamid** where we have lunch.

We continue to the **Erg Chigaga Dunes** and some **off-road driving**. We see a variety of desert landscapes including the **Erg, Reg & Hammada**.



### Afternoon

Arrive at our Desert camp site where we overnight in **Luxury Tents**. Optional Camel rides with time to enjoy Sunset from atop the sweeping dunes. Tonight we enjoy a traditional **Moroccan Feast & Festivities** and festive **Berber** music by the campfire.





# 3 NIGHT DESERT EXCURSION

**Day 11** Wednesday February 12

After breakfast, the road takes us through the stunning desert landscape with a stop at **Lake Iriqui**, where we hunt for fossils.

We continue toward civilization at **Foum Zguid**, and on to **Taznakht**, famous for its **Berber carpets**. We will see artisans at work using traditional methods and techniques to create these one-of-a-kind masterpieces.

Lunch on route to Marrakech.

We cross the **High Atlas** to return to Marrakech before sunset.

Arrive Marrakech and Check into our hotel.

**2Ciels Luxury Boutique Hotel & Spa**

Rue Oued EL Makhazine, Angle Rue Imam Chafai

Tel. +212 5243-59550

Dinner on your own.

**Day 12** Thursday February 13

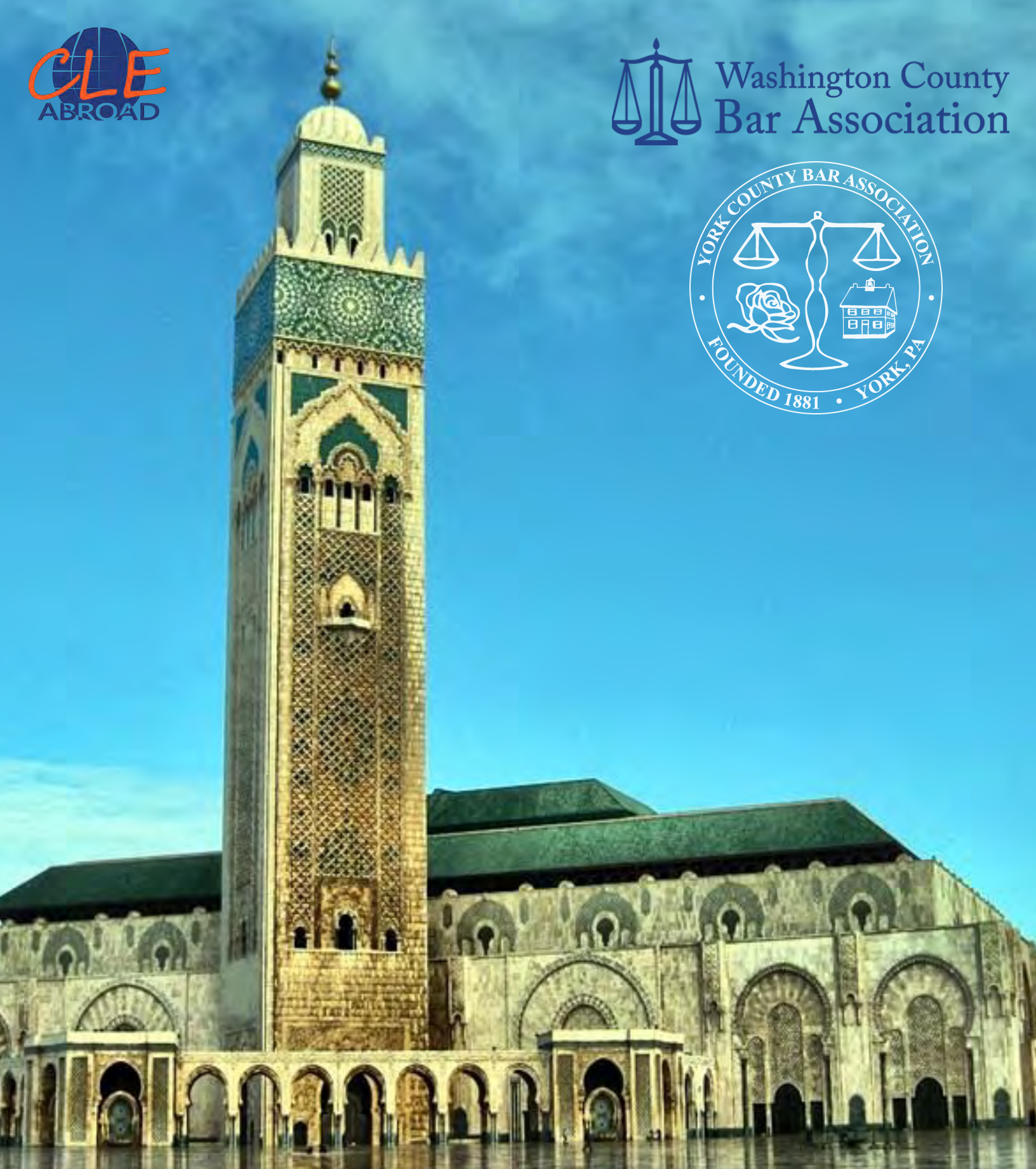
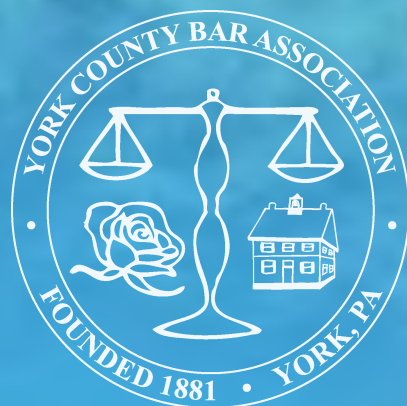
For those returning to the USA, hotel check-out and transfer to Marrakech Airport (RAK). For those departing from Casablanca Airport (CMN), transportation can be arranged for an additional cost.







Washington County  
Bar Association



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