

## **MEANDER EXOTIC MOROCCO & ROMAN RUINS OF VOLUBILIS.....Feb. 24 - March 7, 2009**

***Join us on this first-class escorted tour of magnificent Morocco. Experience the Imperial Cities, Berber villages, lush oases, desert dunes, exotic folklore, tasty cuisine and sunny days!***

**Feb. 24** - Morning departure from SFO (other gateways available) via NYC to Morocco. Evening flight includes meals, drinks and video entertainment. Hotels are 4 star with Western-style ensuite bathrooms.

**Feb. 25** - Arrive in Casablanca, sightseeing en route to Rabat

Arrive in **Casablanca** to enjoy a city tour including Habous quarter, United Nations square, Royal Palace and Hassan II mosque, a stunning monument. Pass the Corniche seaside and luxurious residences. Upon arrival in **Rabat**, visit Chellah and Kasbah of Oudayas next to the Medina within the old city ramparts.

**Overnight:** Rabat - Hotel Golden Tulip - **Meals:** Dinner

**Feb. 26** - Sightseeing en route to Fez

After breakfast, travel to **Meknes**, a 'Moroccan Versailles, which was founded in the 17th century by Moulay Ismail, a contemporary of Louis XIV. Visit the stables, Grainhouse, Jewish Quarter and his tomb. See the most exquisite entrance gate within the city walls, the Bab Mansour. Onto the holy city of **Moulay Idriss** and then visit the ancient ruins of the Roman city of **Volubilis**, founded in the 2nd century AD.

Continue to **Fez** for a 2 night stay. **Overnight:** Fez - Hotel Zalagh Palace - **Meals:** Breakfast, Dinner

**Feb. 27** - Full Day in Fez

A full day is devoted to **Fez**, one of Morocco's four Imperial Cities. Home to Al-Karaouine, the oldest operating university in the world, beautiful Fez is of exceptional cultural and historical significance.

**Optional:** Dinner with Entertainment \$65pp - **Overnight:** Fez - Hotel Zalagh - **Meals:** Breakfast, Dinner

**Feb. 28** - Sightseeing en route to Erfoud

After breakfast, travel via the cedar woods of the middle **Atlas Mountains**, passing by Ifrane, a charming ski resort, and Azrou, an important handicraft center. Pause for lunch near **Midelt**, continue to **Erfoud** via Errachidia and the lush **Ziz Valley**. **Overnight:** Erfoud - Hotel Belere - **Meals:** Breakfast, Dinner

**March 1** - Sightseeing en route to Ouarzazate

Travel to **Rissani**, where the present ruling Alaouite dynasty tombs are located. Visit the 17th-century kasbah and **Ksar Abbar** ruins. Continue to **Tinghir** via the Tinjdad Road. Stop to visit the magnificent **Todgha & Dades Canyons**, rising to 800 feet. Onto **Ouarzazate** for 2 nights, via the Road of 1,000 Kasbahs, famous for its roses and annual Rose Festival. **Optional:** Sunrise Merzouga Desert Tour \$45pp

**Overnight:** Ouarzazate - Hotel Tichka - **Meals:** Breakfast, Dinner

**March 2** - Full Day in Ouarzazate

A full day to explore **Ouarzazate**, famous for its two ornate casbahs, fragrant rose gardens and cinema studios, where 'Lawrence of Arabia' was filmed. Its name means 'without noise' in the Berber language, which well-suits this desert city. Via the **Valley of Draa**, onto **Zagora**, gateway to the **Sahara Desert** and Tinfou Sand Dunes. Timbuktu, 700 miles across the lonely desert, is the next significant town.

**Overnight:** Ouarzazate - Hotel Tichka - **Meals:** Breakfast, Dinner

**March 3** - Sightseeing en route to Marrakesh

Visit the ornately decorated **Taourit and Tifoutout Casbahs**, ancient residences of a Pacha of Marrakesh. Explore Casbah of **Ait Benhaddou**, another UNESCO World Heritage Site. Onto **Marrakesh** for 3 nights, via the highest road in Morocco, the **Tichka Pass**, offering an impressive landscape in the heart of the Atlas Mountains. **Overnight:** Marrakesh - Hotel Atlas Asni - **Meals:** Breakfast, Dinner

**March 4** - Full Day in Marrakesh

Discover the historical, authentic and cultural highlights of **Marrakesh**, the 'The Red Pearl of the South,' which possesses an unforgettable vibrant character. Visit Koutoubia Mosque and Djemaa el Fna Square, where we see snake charmers, merchants and fortune tellers! See the bustling Medina, another unique UNESCO World Heritage Site. **Overnight:** Marrakesh - Hotel Atlas Asni - **Meals:** Breakfast, Dinner

**March 5** - Full Day at Leisure in Marrakesh

Relax in **Marrakesh** or do an option. Sip drinks at legendary **La Mamounia** and stroll its Royal Gardens.

**Optional:** Tour to Essaouira \$65pp - **Overnight:** Marrakesh - Hotel Atlas Asni - **Meals:** Breakfast, Dinner

**March 6** - Morning in Marrakesh, travel to Casablanca

Morning at leisure; then travel to **Casablanca**, the commercial heart of Morocco on the Atlantic Ocean. Can we locate the elusive Rick's Cafe and find a piano player named Sam before our Farewell Dinner?

**Optional:** Ourika Valley Tour \$65pp. **Overnight:** Casablanca - Barcelo Hotel - **Meals:** Breakfast, Dinner

**March 7** - Transfer to airport and fly home, or stay on. - **Meals:** Breakfast, in-flight meals/drinks

**Air-Land Rate** \$1999 ppdo. Add \$189 tax, \$195 fuel & \$109 insurance; as of 11-1-08. Add \$495 single.

**Payments:** \$500 pp by check to *Andiamo* now; credit card final due 1-9-09. CST 2080834-40

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