



GLOBAL LINKAGES JOURNEY TO

morocco

April 13-23, 2027

Casablanca • Fez • Marrakech



DAY 1 TUESDAY, APR 13

- Depart USA | JFK to Casablanca via Royal Air Maroc
- Connections from other US cities.

DAY 2 | WEDNESDAY, APR 14

Arrival Day

- Arrive Casablanca w/ Airport Transfer to Hotel
- Check-In at Club Val D'Anfa Hotel
- Relax at Hotel Pool/Spa
- Welcome Dinner at Chez Basmane Restaurant
- Late Evening Activity - Drinks at Rick's Cafe★

DAY 3 | THURSDAY, APR 15

A Day In The "White City"

- City tour of Casablanca
 - Hassan II Mosque
 - Habous District
- Lunch at La Sqala Cafe'Maure ★
- IDMAJ Sidi Moumen Cultural Centers Event and Dinner
- Late Evening Activity - Drinks at Rick's Cafe★

DAY 4 | FRIDAY, APR 16

Casablanca/Rabat/Fes Road Trip

- Check Out Club Val D'Anfa Hotel
- Depart Casablanca for Fes via Rabat
- Panoramic Bus Tour
 - Royal Palace
 - Kasbah Oudayas
 - Mausoleum Mohammed V

DAY 4 (Continued)

- Lunch at Zayyane Restaurant ✓
- Hotel Check-in Fes Marriott Jnane Palais
- Dinner at Hotel ●

DAY 5 | SATURDAY, APR 17

Fes!

- Walking Tour of Fes
- Explore and shop the Medina
- Lunch at Restaurant Ryad Nejjarine ✓
- Dinner ●

DAY 6 | SUNDAY, APR 18

Fes To Marrakech Road Trip

- Check Out Fes Marriott Jnane Palais
- Depart for Marrakech
- Boxed Lunch on bus
- Hotel Check-in at Le Méridien N'Fis
- Dinner at Cafe' Arabe ✓

DAY 7 | MONDAY, APR 19

Ourika Valley

- Camel Ride Experience
- Panoramic Tour of Ourika Valley
- Lunch at Kasbah Bab Ourika Restaurant ✓
- Jemaa el Fna Square Tour & Shopping
- Dinner ●

DAY 8 | TUESDAY, APR 20

Cultural Tour Of Marrakech

- Medina (Old City) Tour
 - Koutoubia Mosque
 - Bahia Palace

DAY 8 (Continued)

- Lunch ● or Shopping
- French Influence Tour
 - Jardin Marjorelle
 - Musée of Yves Saint Laurent
- Agafay Valley Dinner Show ✓

DAY 9 | WEDNESDAY, APR 21

Explore Morocco Your Way

★Optional Activities:

- Hot Air Balloon Ride
- Moroccan Cooking Class
- Spa/Hammam Experience
- Quad (Dirt Bike) Ride
- Shopping
- Rest & Relaxation at Hotel
- Museum of African Contemporary Art Al Maaden Exhibit and Cocktail Reception
- Dinner ●

DAY 10 | THURSDAY, APR 22

Farewell Morocco

- Rest & Relaxation at Hotel
- Final Day of Shopping
- Farewell White Party at Jnane Tamsna Hotel

DAY 11 | FRIDAY, APR 23

Departure Day

- Check Out Le Méridien N'Fis Hotel
- Bus ride from Marrakech to Casablanca
- Depart Casablanca to USA
- Welcome Home!*

day 1

TUE, APR 13

- ▶ Departure: USA | JFK Int'l Airport via Royal Air Maroc to Casablanca, Morocco
- ▶ Add-On USA City Options available



welcome to Morocco

Morocco is a North African country with coastlines on the Mediterranean Sea to the north and the Atlantic Ocean to the west, and has land borders with Algeria to the east, and the territory of Western Sahara to the south. Morocco has a population of approximately 38 million. Islam is both the official and predominant religion, while Arabic and Berber are the official languages. Additionally, French and the Moroccan dialect of Arabic are widely spoken. The culture of Morocco is a mix of Arab, Berber, African and European cultures. Its capital is Rabat, while its largest city is Casablanca. In Morocco, you can explore vibrant cities like Marrakech, Fes, and Chefchaouen; explore and get lost in the ancient, labyrinthine streets of the medinas; indulge in traditional cuisine and souk shopping; experience the Sahara Desert through camel treks; and immerse yourself in the natural beauty of the Atlas Mountains through hikes and valley visits.

day 2

WED, APR 14

- ▶ Arrival: Casablanca, Morocco | CMN International Airport | Clear immigration and customs
- ▶ Depart to and Check-in at Club Val D'Anfa Hotel

- ▶ Welcome Reception
- ▶ Relax at Hotel Pool/Spa
- ▶ Welcome Dinner at Chez Basmane Restaurant
- ▶ Late Evening Activity - Drinks at Rick's Cafe★



Club Val D'Anfa Hotel

The charming 4 star Club Val D'Anfa Hotel is located along the Casablanca Corniche, a short walk from the beach and five minutes from Casablanca's city center. In a setting composed of a flawless combination of innovation and tradition, Club Val D'Anfa offers modern and majestic spaces inspired by Berber art and architecture. This Casablanca beachfront hotel boasts an outdoor pool, tennis court, spa, beauty salon, gardens, on-site restaurant and bar, and complimentary WIFI.



Chez Basmane Restaurant

Chez Basmane is a sumptuous, Moroccan-theme restaurant decorated in stucco, woodwork and mosaics. Its welcoming and comfortable dining rooms are filled with flowers and candles, and the prevailing colors of ochre, red and blue. Chez Basmane offers Moroccan gastronomic cuisine, which is accompanied by the musical sounds of the gimbri lute and tbal drum, and folk dancers.



Rick's Cafe

Rick's Cafe recreates the bar made famous by Humphrey Bogart and Ingrid Bergman in Casablanca, the 1942 film classic. Set in an old courtyard-style mansion and built against the walls of the Old Medina of Casablanca, the restaurant-piano bar is filled with architectural and decorative details reminiscent of the film: curved arches, a sculpted bar, balconies, balustrades, and beaded and stenciled brass lighting.

day 3

THUR, APR 15

- Breakfast at Hotel
- City tour of Casablanca: Hassan II Mosque | Habous District
- Lunch at La Sqala Cafe'Maure★
- IDMAJ Sidi Moumen Cultural Centers Event and Dinner
- Late Evening Activity - Drinks at Rick's Cafe★

Casablanca

Casablanca aka the White City (referring to the city's whitewashed buildings, especially in the Old Medina), is the largest city in Morocco with a population of over 4.27 million. It is the country's economic and business center, ranking 54th globally in the September 2023 Global Financial Centres Index. Located on the Atlantic coast in the central-western part of Morocco, Casablanca is Morocco's chief port, and hosts the primary naval base for the Royal Moroccan Navy. Casablanca offers a modern, bustling atmosphere with unique Art Deco architecture.



Hassan II Mosque

This spectacular landmark perched on the edge of the Atlantic Ocean is one of the largest mosques in the world, and the only mosque in Morocco open to non-Muslims. It's minaret is the second tallest in the world; it is 60 stories high and topped by a laser, whose light is directed towards Mecca. The mosque stands on a piece of land that juts out to the Atlantic Ocean; allowing worshippers to pray over the sea. The walls are of hand-crafted marble and the roof is retractable. A maximum of 105,000 worshippers can gather together for prayer: 25,000 inside the mosque hall and another 80,000 on the mosque's outside around.



Habous District

Also known as the "New Medina," is a historic neighborhood in Casablanca, built by the French in the 1930s. It is famous for its unique blend of modern European urban planning and traditional Moroccan-Andalusian architecture. The district is a popular tourist destination, known for its picturesque streets, artisan shops and cultural landmarks.

dine. sleep. *Moroccan Style*



La Sqala Cafe' Maure

Built in a 17th century fort, La Sqala Cafe' Maure is a historical monument full of architectural heritage. While the restaurant offers typical Moroccan cuisine and Moorish decor, it is a mythical place where charm, modernity and tradition come together, including its beautiful gardens and a fountain.



IDMAJ Sidi Moumen Cultural Centers

IDMAJ Neighborhoods Association is a non-profit established in Casablanca by marginalized neighborhoods. "IDMAJ" means integration in Arabic and was founded in 2006. Its principles are: 1) Encourage citizens to take charge of actions in their neighborhoods and communities; 2) Participate in the organization of cultural, educational, economical, technological and sports activities; 3) Fight against delinquency and marginalization; and 4) Engage the population in individual and collective efforts to improve the quality of life of the majority.

day 4

FRI, APR 16

- ▶ Breakfast at Hotel
- ▶ Check Out Club Val D'Anfa Hotel
- ▶ Depart Casablanca for Fes via Rabat

- ▶ Panoramic Bus Tour: Royal Palace | Kasbah Oudayas | Mausoleum Mohammed V
- ▶ Lunch at Zayyane Restaurant ✓
- ▶ Hotel Check-in Fes Marriott Jnane Palais
- ▶ Dinner at Hotel ●

Rabat

Rabat is the capital city of Morocco and the country's seventh-largest city with a metropolitan population of over 1.2 million. It is located on the Atlantic Ocean at the mouth of the Bou Regreg River. While Rabat is modern and reserved even by Moroccan standards, the city also has many fascinating historic site; some of which we will explore:



The Royal Palace

The Royal Palace or Dar al Makhzen was built in 1864 on the ruins of the former royal palace. Today, it is the royal palace of the Alaouite sultan of Fes and the seat of the government. While the palace is not open to the public, you are able to view the imposing brass doors surrounded by zellige tilework and carved cedar wood, and view buildings that are capped with green tile roofs, vast gardens and decorated courtyards.



Kasbah Oudayas

Built in the 12th century as housing for soldiers who went to holy war against the Christians in Spain. The houses and alleys of this old, fortified military camp have been repainted in blue and white. North of the Kasbah Oudayas is the semaphore platform that offers a panoramic view of the Beach of Rabat, the ocean and the Muslim cemetery Sidi Benachir Sale. The Kasbah Oudayas is a beautiful place to lose yourself in its alleys and admire this city within a city.



Mausoleum Mohammed V

The other important monument on Hassan Tower's esplanade is the Mausoleum Mohammed V; which is a royal tomb. It houses the sarcophagus of King Mohammed V and the tombs of his sons (Prince Moulay Abdellah and King Hassan II). The mausoleum is beautiful, both outside with its white marble and pyramidal roof covered with green tiles, and inside with its Quranic calligraphy and marble columns.



dine. sleep. *Moroccan Style*



Zayyane Restaurant

Thanks to its authentic and mouthwatering cuisine Zayyane has established itself as one of Rabat's best Moroccan restaurants. Zayyane will fully immerse you into Morocco's culture thanks to an interior that strongly resembles the country's beautiful traditional houses, and offers a most relaxing and family-oriented atmosphere. If you are a lover of couscous, grilled meats, seafood and vegetables, and tagines, then you'll love Zayyane.



Fes Marriott Jnane Palais

Bask in 5 star luxury at the historic Fes Marriott Jnane Palace. Relax in the hotel's stylish rooms, which boast a mixture of traditional and modern decor and offer feather beds, marble bathrooms and complimentary WIFI. Room balconies offer views of the pool, gardens or the city. The property features a stunning outdoor pool, modern fitness center, hammam and superb dining options.

day 5

SAT, APR 17

- Breakfast at Hotel
- Walking Tour of Fes
- Explore and shop the Medina

- Lunch at Restaurant Ryad Nejjarine ✓
- Dinner ●

Fes

One of the largest cities in Morocco, located to the northwest of the Atlas Mountains, surrounded by hills and centered around the Fes River, Fes is considered the spiritual and cultural capital of Morocco; often called the Mecca of the West. The city consists of two old medina quarters, Fes el-Bali and Fes Jdid; and Ville Nouvelle, the much larger modern urban area founded during the French colonial era. The Medina of Fes is listed as a World Heritage Site and is one of the world's largest and oldest urban pedestrian zones. It contains the University of al-Qarawiyyin which was founded in 857 and is the oldest continuously functioning institute of higher education in the world. It also contains the Chouara Tannery from the 11th century, one of the oldest tanneries in the world.



Madrasa Bou Inania

The last college of Islamic studies built by the Marinids, the madrasa is the finest, largest and most expensive theological college in Fes. It is one of few religious places in Morocco that is accessible to non-Islamic visitors.



Nejjarine Fountain

This zellige-decorated fountain features a carved wooden pediment and a series of intricate and colorful decorations, with water flowing from several different mouths.



Chouara Tannery

Chouara is the oldest (dating back to the Middle Ages) and most impressive of all tanneries. Take a walk around the brightly-colored pools of dye and meet local artisans who continue this ancestral craft. Be sure to leave some time to shop for leatherwares and goods.



Restaurant Ryad Nejjarine

In the heart of the Fes Medina, guests enjoy a luxurious and vibrant environment, featuring innovative, yet authentic cuisine.

journey to

day 6

SUN, APR 18

- Breakfast at Hotel
- Check Out Fes Marriott Jnane Palais
- Depart for Marrakech

- Boxed Lunch on bus
- Hotel Check-in at Le Méridien N'Fis Hotel
- Dinner at Cafe' Arabe ✓



Marrakech

A former imperial city in western Morocco, Marrakech is a major economic center and is the fourth-largest city in Morocco. The city was founded circa 1070 by Abu Bakr ibn Umar and as the city rapidly grew, it established itself as a cultural, religious, and trading center. It's often called the "Red City" or "Ochre City" due to its red walls and various buildings constructed from red sandstone gave nickname of the "Red City" or "Ochre City". Its densely packed medina dates back to the Berber Empire, with maze-like alleys filled with thriving souks, selling traditional textiles, pottery and jewelry. A symbol of the city, and visible for miles, is the Moorish minaret of 12th-century Koutoubia Mosque.

dine. sleep. *Moroccan Style*



Le Méridien N'Fis Hotel

Enjoy a stay at this lavish five-star resort in Marrakech's Menara/Hivernage district, set amid lush gardens spanning over 14 acres. Guests enjoy spacious, classic rooms with garden, pool or mountain views, high-speed WiFi, and plush bedding; while dining options include three elegant on-site restaurants, a piano bar, and poolside lounge service. The hotel also features two outdoor pools, a full wellness spa with hammam, sauna and fitness center and tennis court.



Café' Arabe

Located in Marrakech's medina, Café' Arabe offers Italian and Moroccan cuisine, served in the restaurant's courtyard or on the terrace. You will dine in a traditional, yet contemporary environment and be immersed in a magical, enchanting and charming atmosphere.

day 7

MON, APR 19

- Breakfast at Hotel
- Camel Ride Experience
- Panoramic Tour of Ourika Valley

- Lunch at Kasbah Bab Ourika Restaurant ✓
- Jemaa el Fna Square Tour & Shopping
- Dinner ●



Camel Ride Experience

Take a one hour camel ride through palm groves or desert terrain, dressed in traditional clothing. Afterwards, relax and enjoy a cup of mint tea with your guide in the Palmeraie Oasis.



Panoramic Tour of Ourika Valley

Discover the delights of Ourika Valley in Morocco's Atlas Mountains, tour the Berber Market and experience the panoramas of the waterfalls in Setti Fatma.



Kasbah Bab Ourika

Located in the Kasbah Bab Ourika Hotel, this restaurant of the same name, stands in the exceptionally beautiful landscape of the Atlas Mountains. At the apex of the Ourika Valley, the restaurant looks down to the river, green fields and groves of olives, oranges and lemons; and up to the dazzling snowy mountain peaks. Meals are served in the beautiful gardens of Kasbah Bab Ourika or in the colonnaded restaurant.

Jemaa el Fna

The large public square and marketplace in Marrakech's medina quarter, known as the heartbeat of the community. Moreover, it is the international symbol of Marrakech, and more significantly, of Morocco. Jemaa el Fna remains the main square of Marrakech, filled with merchants and hawkers, and is known for its traditional activities by story-tellers, musicians and performers. It opens early in the morning, and activities and performances continue until late evening. Jemaa el Fna Square is listed on the Representative List of the Intangible Cultural Heritage; and is a magical destination for all.



day 8

TUE, APR 20

- Breakfast at Hotel
- Medina (Old City) Tour: Koutoubia Mosque | Bahia Palace
- Lunch ● or Shopping

- French Influence Tour: Jardin Majorelle | Musee of Yves Saint Laurent
- Agafay Valley Dinner Show

Medina (Old City) Tour



Koutoubia Mosque

Koutoubia Mosque is a landmark and the largest mosque in Marrakech, located in Jemaa el Fna Square. The meaning of 'mosque' is a place where one bows down in a prayer but it's also the center of religious life in Islam. Built during the Hispano-Moresque period, this mosque is renown for its simple, yet masterful craftsmanship.



Bahia Palace

Its name means brilliance, and it was designed to be the greatest palace of its time, capturing the essence of the Islamic and Moroccan styles. It consists of a two-acre garden with 150 rooms opening onto courtyards and riad gardens. It is most notable for its decoration, particularly its painted wood ceilings, along with sculpted stucco and zellij tilework. The grounds of the palace also encompassed a wider area with gardens, parks, stables, a mosque, and other annexes.



French Influence Tour

Jardin Majorelle

It took French painter Jacques Majorelle 40 years of passion and dedication to create this enchanting garden. In the 1980s the property was purchased by fashion designers Yves Saint Laurent and Pierre Berge, who worked to restore it. The gardens are ripe with exotic trees, plants, and flowers, with the buildings and benches painted in bright hues of blue and green. As you walk along the garden's shady lanes of trees and exotic plants, you will pass streams and pools filled with water lilies and lotus flowers; you will hear rustling leaves and chirping birds; and you will smell sugared fragrances.



Musee of Yves Saint Laurent

The Musee is a 43,000 square foot building featuring YSL's designs. Moroccan influences are present with intricate brickwork making up its facade with interior colorful archives of fashions and sketches on display. The Musee features permanent and temporary exhibition space, a 140 seat auditorium, boutique, bookshop, cafe-restaurant and research library comprising 5,000 volumes.

dine in the desert. *Moroccan Style*



Agafay Valley Dinner Show

Agafay Valley is a desert located approximately 20 miles south of Marrakech. There you'll enjoy a dinner show, featuring cocktails at sunset, a traditional Moroccan meal under a luxurious tent setting, a cultural performance with music and dancers, and a fire show.



day 9

WED, APR 21

- Breakfast at Hotel
- ★ Optional Activities

- Museum of African Contemporary Art Al Maaden Exhibit and Cocktail Reception
- Dinner ●



Hot Air Balloon Ride

Take an enchanting hot air balloon ride to experience Marrakech from a different vantage point. Drifting high above the breathtaking landscapes of the Moroccan countryside, you'll witness stunning views of the Atlas Mountains, desert expanses, and traditional villages. It's a memorable experience that offers a unique and unforgettable perspective on the natural beauty of the region.



Quad (Dirt Bike)

Embark on an exhilarating, two-hour dirt bike ride through the rocky desert. This adventure promises an unforgettable and thrilling Moroccan experience.



Moroccan Cooking Class

Enjoy a cooking workshop conducted by a Dada (expert Moroccan chef). You'll discover the secrets of preparing authentic Moroccan dishes, from selecting spices and ingredients to mastering the slow-cooking process. At the end of the hands-on cooking workshop, you will feast on the meal that you have prepared.



Shopping

Take advantage of your free time and do some serious shopping at Jemaa el Fna and/or Menara Mall.



Spa/Hammam Experience

Treat yourself to a relaxing and rejuvenating experience at a Moroccan spa/hammam. Immerse yourself in a sensuous experience that uses local therapeutic products, and the hammam experience--hot steam and scrub. This is more than a luxury spa, it's a ritual.



Rest & Relaxation

Spend a restful day at the luxurious at Le Méridien N'Fis Hotel, enjoying the hotel's array of services: pools, full wellness spa with hammam, sauna and fitness center and tennis court.

african art *Moroccan Style*



Museum of African Contemporary Art Al Maaden

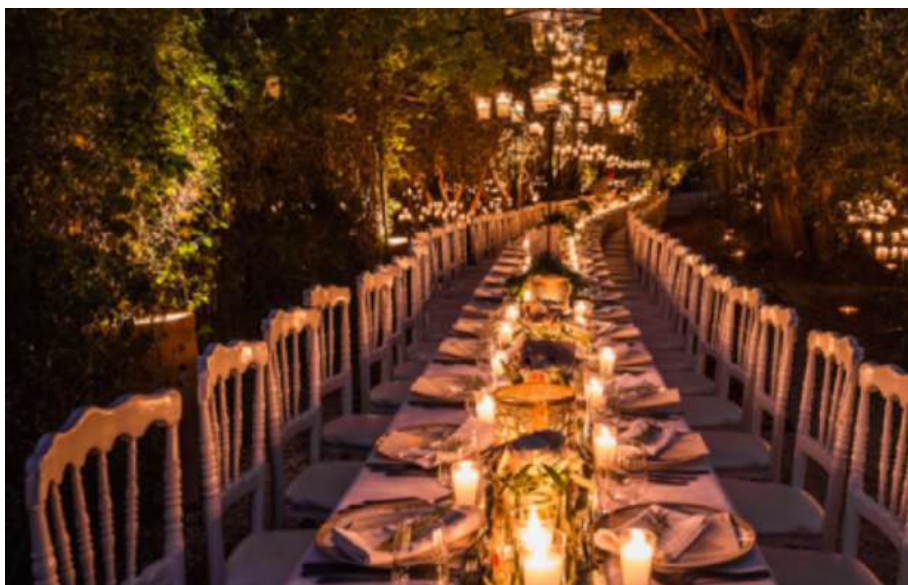
MACAAL is an independent, not-for-profit contemporary art museum dedicated to the promotion of African art through its diverse exhibition and education programs. The museum fosters an understanding of contemporary art from Africa by collecting and exhibiting established and emerging artists, highlighting the creative energy and cultural diversity found across the continent.



day 10

THUR, APR 22

- Breakfast at Hotel
- Rest & Relaxation at Hotel
- Final Day of Shopping
- Farewell White Party at Jnane Tamsna Hotel



Jnane Tamsna Hotel

Owned by Meryanne Loum-Martin, a Parisian lawyer of Senegalese and Caribbean descent, Jnane Tamsna Hotel is the only Black-woman owned business in Marrakech. Noted in Town & Country and Black Enterprise, Jnane Tamsna is a luxurious property within a walled garden and offers a sensuous experience in Moroccan and traditional African design. Also a trained interior designer and highly regarded for her design sensibilities, in 2020 Ms. Loum-Martin's book: *Inside Marrakesh: Enchanting Homes and Gardens*, which looks at the fusion of international style with traditional Moroccan decor, was released. Although this boutique hotel is too small to provide lodging accommodations for our group, it is an experience not to be missed. As such, Global Linkages will host its

Final Dinner at this beautiful venue. The restaurant offers a fusion of Mediterranean and Modern Moroccan food and serves dishes made with ingredients from the on-site organic garden.





day 11

FRI, APR 23

- Breakfast at Hotel
- Check Out Le Méridien N'Fis Hotel
- Bus ride from Marrakech to Casablanca
- Depart Casablanca to USA
- Welcome Home!



ABOUT US | Global Linkages, Inc., founded in 1997 and based in the NJ-NYC metropolitan area, is a management consulting firm that specializes in developing partnerships with the African continent and the diaspora. As part of its services, Global Linkages provides “boutique travel experiences” that connect individuals, educational institutions, governments and businesses with unique and exciting explorations in Africa. This is primarily due to those extensive relationships created by the firm’s international development work. Global Linkages Principal Lorna K. Johnson, trained as a lawyer and urban planner, has been working in Africa for over 30 years and has made over 300 trips to the continent. Global Linkages began its work on the continent in Ghana and South Africa. In 2019, Global Linkages expanded its development work and travel to Morocco in North Africa, began working and traveling in Kenya and Tanzania, East Africa in 2022. Global Linkages added Brazil to its roster in Spring 2025; widening its reach in the African Diaspora beyond Cuba, where GL began working in 2016. We are pleased to once again be working in and experiencing Morocco with you.

journey to
morocco

