



## **Private Morocco Tour (Tentative Itinerary)** **January 19 - 29. 2023**

**Included:**

- 10 nights' accommodation (double occupancy)
- Private MEJDI-Trained Guide/Expert
- 10 days of private bus transportation
- Meals listed in the itinerary: 10 Breakfasts + 6 additional meals
- Bottled Water available on the bus daily
- Entrances, sites, and honorariums for speakers
- Customary tips for drivers, guides, and hotel staff
- Dedicated pre-trip customer service and on-ground support

**Not Included:**

- International Airfare
- Travel insurance- **Recommended**
- Single Room Supplement Cost
- Meals not mentioned in the itinerary
- Airport Transfers (Private transfers can be arranged by request)
- Anything not explicitly mentioned in the included section

### **Itinerary**

#### **Day 1: Thu, Jan 19 - Arrival**

Arrive into Casablanca and transfer to your hotel.

**Overnight: Hôtel & Spa Le Doge - Relais et Châteaux**

#### **Day 2: Fri, Jan 20 - Morocco – Country of religions**

Visit Hasan II mosque in the morning. After lunch, Visit the museum of Moroccan Judaism and visit the Cathedral. In the evening meet journalists before driving to Marrakech for the night.

**Overnight: Riad Kniza or LA Maison Arabe Hotel**

#### **Day 3: Sat, Jan 21 – Marrakech – History of the city**

This morning, visit the Saadian tombs, the old market, See Bahia Palace, a late 19th century palace built by Si Moussa, the powerful Grand Vizier of Sultan Hassan I, featuring dazzling displays of zellij tiles, painted ceilings, ornate wrought iron features, opulent salons of the harem era, and a massive grand marble courtyard. Make a stop at the house of photography (museum).

**Overnight: Riad Kniza or LA Maison Arabe Hotel**

**Day 4: Sun, Jan 22 – Essaouira (2.5 hours drive)**

Today, travel to the vibrant and picturesque port town. Meet with the Mayor and the President of Essaouira Mogador International Airport. Visit to Bayt Dakira, or the House of Memory, the former home of a wealthy trader, converted to a space dedicated to the historic co-existence of Morocco's Jewish and Muslim communities and meet with the museum director. Enjoy some time at leisure to wander on your own through the charming labyrinthine lanes lined with Portuguese, French, and Amazigh architecture. This evening, enjoy dinner and an evening of live Gnawa music, Moroccan and sub-Saharan African Islamic religious songs and rhythms that combine poetry with traditional music and dancing. Hotel: Riad Mimouna, Essaouira.\

**Overnight: Heure Bleue Palais**

**Day 5: Mon, Jan 23 - The Old Capital - Fes**

Flight to Fes (nonstop) in the morning, arriving around lunch time. Afterwards, Visit the old town. the tanneries. Visit the Jewish neighborhood with a rabbi. Over dinner could meet an expert on Berber community and learn about the diversity of Morocco.

**Overnight Riad Maison Bleue and Spa**

**Day 6: Tue, Jan 24 – Fes, History, Food, Diversity**

In the morning continue visiting sites in Fès including Bab Bou Jeloud, Alattarine Madrasa or/and Bou Inania Medersa, the Royal Palace of fes, and the Kairaouine mosque (oldest university in Morocco, dating to 857 AD). Later in the day an optional trip to Meknes, visit the stables, and the Kasbah (in Fès).

**Overnight: Riad Maison Bleue and Spa**

**Day 7: Wed, Jan 25 – The Blue City**

Meet with Aziza Chaouni, TED fellow and Heritage sites preservation expert (or someone from her team if she is overseas) and visit some of the sites. Drive to Chefchaouen (3 hours) to arrive before sunset for a photography tour.

**Overnight: Cherifa Riad**

**Day 8: Thu, Jan 26 - Tangier and US relations (2 hours drive)**

Visit Tangier old city, Petit Socco where old men play backgammon for hours, visit the US old consulate house, now a museum housing George Washington's famous letter to Moulay Abdullah (US was first country to recognize Morocco's independence). Visit the lighthouse and enjoy the view at Cap Spartel, and the cave of Hercules.

**Overnight: Villa Josephine**

**Day 9: Fri, Jan 27 - Rabat – The New Capital**

Drive to Rabat, Tour the old Medina and Kasbah district Inside the 11th-century fortress walls is a small neighborhood of winding lanes rimmed by Andalusian-style houses. This is a prime area for a meandering stroll, with plenty of photo opportunities within the narrow blue-and-white lanes. Meet with Nassim (former head curator for TEDMED, who made Morocco her home).

**Overnight: The White Palace**

**Day 10: Sat, Jan 28 – Art, History and shopping**

Continue touring Rabat and choose between visiting the contemporary art museum or the Archeology museum. And if you up for it, take a trip across the river to Sale Medina home to the whitewashed tombs, Abou Hassan Medersa, and Sales Grand Mosque. Meet with an expert on government and politics in Morocco. In the afternoon visit a local village known for handcrafts.

**Overnight : The white :Palace**

**Day 11: Sun, Jan 29 - Departure - Fly from Rabat or Casablanca (1.5 hours away)**

\*Post-stays can be arranged for those departing later, by request.