

## Georgia Trust Morocco Trip

November 2022

### Itinerary at a Glance

The proposed itinerary has the group being picked up at **Casablanca Airport (A)** and heading to **Fes (B)**, the cultural epicenter of Morocco, for three nights.

The group will take a domestic flight to the beautiful Ochre City of **Marrakech (C)**, where they will spend the next five nights. Finally, drive to the **Atlas Mountains (D)** where and spend the final two nights in the country before being dropped off at **Casablanca (A)** Airport for the departure flight.



### Cost

Price *per person* double occupancy:

- 10 PASSENGERS – \$5515
- 12 PASSENGERS – \$5300
- 14 PASSENGERS – \$5200
- 16 PASSENGERS – \$5020
- 18 PASSENGERS – \$4925

SINGLE SUPPLEMENT – \$2265

PLUS A \$400 PER PERSON DONATION TO THE GEORGIA TRUST

The cost includes lodging in suites at Palais Amani, Junior Suites at La Maison Arabe and Deluxe Rooms at Kasbah Bab Ourika (or equivalent). Daily breakfast and other meals as shown on the



proposal are included (included meals feature 3 courses and soft drinks, but no alcohol - drinks may be purchased separately). All activities and excursions as shown on the program are included. For the VIP hot air balloon ride marked as Optional, the supplemental cost is \$620 per person. The group will have a guide and trip manager throughout the trip, in addition to private minibus transportation & driver throughout and fast track at customs (on arrival).

International airfare and the domestic flight from Fes to Marrakech are not included in the trip cost.

## Itinerary

### Day 1: Arrival & Fes

Upon arrival at Casablanca Airport, the dedicated driver will pick the group up from the airport. Depart to Fes with stops en route to visit Volubilis, the Roman ruins from centuries ago. Lunch today will be at a local vineyard, featuring a tour of the property, wine tasting, and a meal made with the day's fresh produce. Sample the famous Moroccan *vin gris* (gray wine) and pair wines with locally sourced cheeses. Continue to Fes, with a late afternoon arrival and check-in along with dinner at the riad.

*Overnight: Palais Amani, Fes (or equivalent)*

*Approx. Driving time: ~ 4 hours*

*Meals: Lunch, Dinner*

### Day 2: Fes

After breakfast, begin guided visit of the cultural capital of Morocco. Discover the medina's Jewish quarter, the medersas (schools), and the legendary tanneries, where ancient techniques are still used to prepare Moroccan leather. Stop by the world's oldest and longest-operating learning institution, the University of Al Quaraouiyine, founded in 859 AD.

The medina visit will continue with a tasting tour, and visit three different food souks. Try traditional Moroccan street food, including dried meats, milawi, harsha, briwats, spicy sardines, spicy potato cakes, soups, olives and more. Investigate traditional cooking methods by visiting a furnace where the water for the hammam (communal bath house) is also heated, and a 400-year-old furan (communal oven and bakery).

After concluding the day's visit, the rest of the evening and dinner is at leisure.

*Overnight: Palais Amani, Fes (or equivalent)*

*Meals: Breakfast, Lunch (as part of tasting tour)*



### **Day 3: Arrival in Marrakech**

Enjoy the morning at Fes in leisure before heading to the airport to take a domestic flight to Marrakech. Pick up at the Marrakech Airport and will head into the city center, to check in, relax, and enjoy dinner on the property.

*Overnight: La Maison Arabe, Marrakech (or equivalent)*

*Approx. Driving time: 1 hour*

*Meals: Breakfast, Dinner*

### **Day 4: Historical Marrakech**

After breakfast at the hotel, head out for a day of sightseeing in Marrakech! Visit the Koutoubia Mosque (the iconic sight of Marrakech), the Bahia Palace (a stunning example of traditional Moroccan architecture), and the Saadian tombs (an ornate resting place). Afterwards, head to the medina for lunch, followed by afternoon visits of the medina and the souks.

Delve into the myriad pathways of the Souk, which refers to the markets. The markets of Marrakech are located in a serpentine set of alleyways which the expert guide will lead the group through including the stalls where fresh produce, baked goods, spices, and herbs are sold.

In the evening, visit the famous Djemaa el Fna square, which becomes especially lively at night. Browse the stalls where juice vendors sell fruit juice of every flavor imaginable, and wander amongst the food stalls serving steaming tagines, roasted meats, and more. Dinner tonight is at leisure to choose from the many stalls in the square.

*Overnight: La Maison Arabe, Marrakech (or equivalent)*

*Meals: Breakfast, Lunch*

### **Day 5: Modern Marrakech**

After breakfast, head to the stunning Majorelle Gardens. Global fashion icon Yves Saint Laurent made his second home in Marrakech for many decades, and his vision drove every detail behind the lush

Gardens, accompanied by a small but must-see Berber Museum. Next door, the Yves Saint-Laurent Museum honors the fashion icon's love of Marrakech and builds upon the collections housed at the



Majorelle Gardens. Take in the beauty of the gardens and museums before enjoying lunch at Le Kilim, a local restaurant that serves tasty international and Moroccan fare.

Half of the group will then experience the Moroccan Hammam and spa, which consists of a traditional scrub with black soap and a massage. Afterwards, the rest of the afternoon and dinner is at leisure.

*Overnight: La Maison Arabe, Marrakech (or equivalent)*

*Meals: Breakfast, Lunch*

### **Day 6: Journey to Agafay**

In the morning, option to embark on a VIP hot air balloon ride - fly over the fields of Southern Morocco and enjoy breakfast and Bacha coffee on board. Afterwards, the second half of the group will experience the Moroccan Hammam & Spa.

Lunch and the rest of the morning will be at leisure, and in the late afternoon, drive out of Marrakech for an evening in Agafay, the rocky desert. Take a camel ride as the sun sets over the desert, then settle down for a private tented dinner with entertainment. At the end of the evening, drive back to Marrakech.

*Overnight: La Maison Arabe, Marrakech (or equivalent)*

*Approx. Driving time: 2 hours (+1.5 hours for anyone who opts for the hot air balloon ride)*

*Meals: Breakfast, Dinner*

### **Day 7: Marrakech Art & Cuisine**

Head to the Museum of Contemporary African Art Al Maaden this morning for a look at a gallery that showcases work from across the African continent. View a variety of multimedia works, along with any special exhibitions that are on display.

In the afternoon, an immersive and fun cooking experience! Accompanied by a local “dada”, or expert cook, dig into all of the key components of a Moroccan meal, starting with how to prepare the famous Moroccan mint tea and bake Moroccan bread. From there, the hands-on portion of the course begins



and prepare a main course of a chicken and preserved lemon tagine, along with a tomato and cucumber salad and an eggplant salad. The class ends with a dinner where you eat your very own masterpiece!

*Overnight: La Maison Arabe, Marrakech (or equivalent)*

*Meals: Breakfast, Dinner (as part of the cooking class)*

### **Day 8: The High Atlas**

Depart to the nearby town of Ourika for a walk in the valleys of the High Atlas Mountains. Learn about local history, culture, and wildlife from the mountain guide. Take a break by settling down on the terrace of a local family home to have tea with inhabitants of the region, with a translator facilitating conversation. Have lunch in a local Berber restaurant, and then head to the property to check in and enjoy dinner overlooking the spectacular mountain views.

*Overnight: Kasbah Bab Ourika, Atlas Mountains (or equivalent)*

*Approx. Driving time: ~ 1.5 hours*

*Meals Included: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner*

### **Day 9: Relax in the Atlas**

Day at leisure to enjoy the property and its many amenities. Lounge by the pool, read a book on the terrace, or simply take in the majestic views of the surrounding mountains. Have dinner at the property.

*Overnight: Kasbah Bab Ourika, Atlas Mountains (or equivalent)*

*Meals Included: Breakfast, Dinner*

### **Day 10: Departure**

After breakfast, check out of hotel and drive to Casablanca Airport for departure flight.

*Approx. Driving time: ~ 4.5 hours*

*Meals: Breakfast*

*\* Please note that the driving time listed is indicative only and subject to change depending on weather, traffic, and the type of vehicle used.*