

MOROCCO: The Land, History, Culture & Cuisine

September 3-18, 2020

Join Pack A Fork! on this exploration through the wonderland that is Morocco. We'll travel through this North African country characterized by its dramatic coastline, breathtaking mountains and sweeping deserts, Morocco is a country of dizzying geographic diversity. From its ancient cities and historic buildings to the winding maze of souqs in its medinas, the mixed Arab and Berber populations form a strong national identity. Today's Moroccan culture takes the best of old traditions and weaves a new pattern while looking to the future. Morocco has a hundred faces and sounds - all ready to welcome its travelers looking for spice and adventure!

TRIP HIGHLIGHTS:

- Explore the ancient walled cities/medinas of Essaouira, Marrakech, Fes & beyond...
- Tour the Hassan II Mosque overlooking the Atlantic Ocean in Casablanca
- Visit women's Argan Oil & Berber rug cooperatives
- Discover the old Portuguese port of Essaouira serving 'the freshest fish in the world'
- Learn about the history and architecture of Marrakech's main sites: Bahia Palace, Koutoubia Mosque, Saadian Tombs & the Jewish Quarter
- Immerse yourself in Moroccan culture in Marrakech's main square - Djemaa el-Fnaa
- Participate in a hands-on Moroccan cooking class
- Visit a saffron farm & botanic garden
- Hike in the High Atlas Mountains at the base of Mt. Toubkal (easy to moderate)
- Learn about Berber traditions & culture
- Visit the UNESCO World Heritage site of Aït Benhaddou
- Tour the studios where *Lawrence of Arabia*, *Gladiator*, *Cleopatra* and *Game of Thrones* were filmed
- Hike in the Dades & Todra Gorges
- Visit the Valley of Roses to learn about rose oil production
- Take a camel ride (or ATV) to a luxury desert camp in the Sahara; spend the night dining under the stars and sleeping in a Bedouin-style tent
- Take a historical & architectural walking tour of Fes with its 9000+ streets & alleyways
- Visit the famous Fes tanneries
- Taste and learn about Moroccan cuisine by experiencing it with culinary experts

INCLUDES:

- 14-day guided tour of the best of these Morocco locations: Casablanca, Essaouira, Marrakech, High Atlas Mountains, Skoura Oasis, Dades Valley, Sahara Desert Luxury Camp, Fes and more..
- Two tour leaders & one local guide who will travel with us; local historical guides along the way (experts in history, architecture, Berber culture & traditions, Moroccan cuisine)
- All accommodations (4* & 5*)
- Private transportation by small coach

- Domestic airfare from Errashida to Fes
- Breakfast in the hotel daily
- Select lunches and dinners at restaurants, cafes & marketplaces; picnics (per Daily Itinerary)
- All guided tours and site entrance fees
- Plenty of free time built-in to relax, go out on your own or dine with new friends

NOT INCLUDED:

- International airfare
- Some meals during free time or site visits (see Daily Itinerary)
- Alcoholic beverages (wine & beer included)
- Travel Insurance

MINIMUM GROUP SIZE: 10

MAXIMUM GROUP SIZE: 15+ guides