

# Morocco

LAND OF ENCHANTMENT

**SMALL  
GROUP**  
Maximum of  
24 Travelers

SPONSORED BY



**THE OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY**  
ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

February 9-18, 2024



# A World of Discovery



Experience a fascinating intersection of cultures and feast your senses on Morocco's modern-day wonders and age-old traditions! From imperial Rabat to modern Casablanca and the fabled "Red City" of Marrakech, unforgettable moments await in Morocco's magical cities. Savor aromatic tagines, roam labyrinthine souks or simply linger in sun-drenched bazaars, watching the bewitching buzz of local life. Let the adventure begin!

*Top: Jemaa el-Fnaa, Marrakech | Above: Colorful textiles  
Cover: Detail of the ornate Moorish architecture  
of Hassan II Mosque, Casablanca  
Mail panel: Tagines | Jardin Majorelle, Marrakech*

## Inspiring Moments



- Thrill to **Morocco's** captivating fabric of African, Arab and European cultures.
- Listen to the song of **Jemaa el-Fnaa square**, home to storytellers, musicians, medicine men and snake charmers.
- Marvel at **Casablanca's Hassan II Mosque**, an architectural wonder.
- Lose yourself in the lush beauty of **Marrakech's tranquil gardens**.
- Explore Rabat's ancient citadel and **splendid Hassan Tower**.
- Visit with a **Berber family** during an outing to the Atlas Mountains.
- Enjoy a hands-on **cooking class** at the Amal Women's Center.
- Experience two **UNESCO World Heritage Sites**.

ALUMNI CAMPUS  
ABROAD®





# THE OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY

ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

## Dear Alumni and Friends,

Join us on an incredible journey through Morocco, an exotic land that has lured traders and explorers for centuries. This balanced eight-night itinerary features extraordinary cultural highlights and must-see landmarks to connect you to the heart of this spectacular country.

Begin in the capital city of Rabat, bursting with architectural gems and Roman and Islamic ruins. Visit Casablanca, a symbol of Morocco's bygone era, and witness the world's tallest minaret. Then make your way to Marrakech, home to serene gardens and red-earthen cityscapes, ancient architecture and tangled souks, pungent with spices. Enjoy an interactive cooking class, listen to the melodic calls to prayer in the city's buzzing medina and experience warm Berber hospitality in the breathtaking Atlas Mountains. The mysteries of Morocco are yours to enjoy!

This exceptional program has been thoughtfully designed with educational enrichment from expert guides and lecturers. It also offers you the security, ease and value of group travel with plentiful opportunities for independent exploration. You'll appreciate the camaraderie with other curious travelers and make your own discoveries during free time.

All the best,

Debbie Vargo

Director, Alumni Tours

The Ohio State University Alumni Association, Inc.

**ADV-AlumniTours@osu.edu**

Visit our website at [www.go.osu.edu/travel](http://www.go.osu.edu/travel)

Questions? Please call **800-323-7373**.

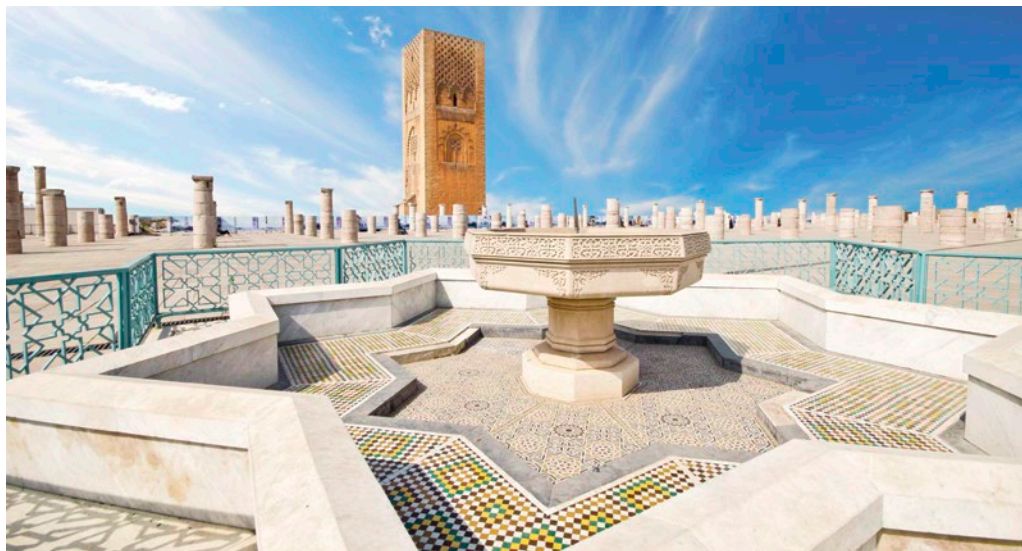
### UNESCO World Heritage

1. Rabat, Modern Capital and Historic City: a Shared Heritage
2. Medina of Marrakech



*Medina of Marrakech*





Hassan Tower, Rabat

### Day 1 | In Transit

Depart gateway city for Rabat, Morocco. 🌐

### Day 2 | Rabat, Morocco

Upon arrival, transfer ➡ and check in to the Sofitel Rabat Jardin des Roses.

Kick off your Moroccan adventure during a Welcome Reception tonight.

### Day 3 | Rabat

**Rabat Walking Tour.** View the impressive architecture and gardens of the Royal Palace, the residence of Morocco's royalty. Next, visit Kasbah des Oudaias, a peaceful neighborhood with whitewashed houses. Continue to the striking Mausoleum of Mohammad V, the resting place of past kings, and gaze in wonder at the impressive Hassan Tower, rising above the ruins of its mosque. Cap off today's excursion at the Citadel of Chellah, which has been abandoned since the 1100s.

### Day 4 | Rabat | Casablanca | Marrakech

After breakfast, depart for Marrakech. Stop in Casablanca to see the city's incredible sights.

Royal Palace, Rabat



**Casablanca Discovery.** Experience the vibe of Casablanca's central square, Place Mohammad V. Surrounding the square are examples of Mauresque architecture. Pause to admire the façade of the Church of the Sacred Heart. Settle in for lunch at Rick's Café, a re-creation of the timeless nightclub in the 1942 classic "Casablanca." Then visit the state-of-the-art Hassan II Mosque, nestled on Casablanca's coastline. The mosque is one of the largest places of worship on Earth!

Arrive in Marrakech and check in to your hotel.

### Day 5 | Marrakech

**Enrichment: Moroccan History.** Learn about the country's fascinating history, from the Berber dynasty to modern-day Morocco.

#### Exploring the Monuments of Marrakech.

Today's adventure begins at the Saadian Tombs. This burial place of royals from the Saadi Dynasty features more than 100 tombs! Step into Marrakech's shaded, mesmerizing souks, a lively marketplace, and uncover local culture while passing merchants selling textiles,

Berber family visit








Koutoubia Mosque, Marrakech

clothing and handicrafts. Continue to the Palais Bahia, the “Palace of Brilliance.” This property is graced with luxurious apartments, courtyards, zellige mosaic floors and gardens. Early this evening, stand in awe before the Koutoubia Mosque, known for its stunning minaret, and experience the activity of Jemaa el-Fna, a gathering place and performance space for fire-eaters, acrobats, storytellers and musicians. This expansive main square is the beating heart of Marrakech and a great spot to witness day-to-day life. Appreciate the action from above at a rooftop café; then join your guide for a walk through the square. Enjoy a dinner of tantalizing Moroccan cuisine.

#### Day 6 | Marrakech

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 **AHI Connects | Moroccan Cuisine and Arabic Calligraphy.** Launched in 2012, the nonprofit Amal Women’s Center helps disadvantaged women learn cooking skills, gain roles within the hospitality industry, and prepare for financial independence. During a cooking lesson, learn to make a selection of recipes — such as salads, bread, tagine and dessert. While your lunch is cooking,

enjoy a lesson on Arabic calligraphy. Try your hand at reproducing the beautiful patterns, lines and curves of this artistic expression.

**Dar el Bacha Palace.** Visit the Museum of Confluences at Dar el Bacha Palace. The beautiful palace was built for Pacha Thami El Glaoui who ruled over Marrakech from 1912 to 1956. Browse the informative exhibitions and note the fine woodwork, jade palm tree and lovely zellige tilework.

#### Day 7 | Atlas Mountains | Marrakech

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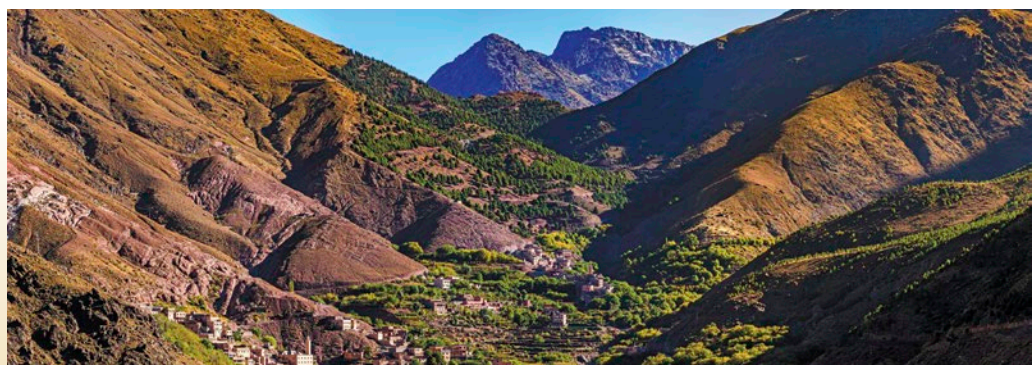
**Atlas Mountains.** Journey through a dramatic landscape to the Atlas Mountains, North Africa’s highest mountain range. Visit a traditional Berber (Amazigh) settlement and meet a local family in their home. Over sweet mint tea and homemade bread, learn about rural living and the Berber culture and lifestyle. During your outing, relax over lunch accompanied by picturesque landscapes.

#### Day 8 | Marrakech

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**Gardens and Souks.** Join a guided walking tour of Jardin Majorelle, an oasis bursting with fountains, flora and vivid cobalt architecture. Created by French artist Jacques Majorelle in

#### Atlas Mountains





## Included Features



### Accommodations (with baggage handling)

- **2 nights** in Rabat, Morocco, at the deluxe Sofitel Rabat Jardin des Roses.
- **6 nights** in Marrakech at the deluxe Sofitel Marrakech Palais Imperial.

### Transfers (with baggage handling)

- Deluxe motor coach transfers during the Land Program.

### Extensive Meal Program

- 7 breakfasts, 5 lunches and 3 dinners; tea or coffee with all meals, plus wine with dinner.

### Your One-of-a-Kind Journey

- **Small group:** Sized just right at 24 guests.
- **AHI Travel Assurance plan** covers Accident and Sickness Medical Expense, Trip Delay and Emergency Evacuation for U.S. residents.
- **Enrichment by expert speakers** enhances your insight into the region.
- **Engaging excursions** showcase the local culture, heritage and history.
- **AHI Sustainability Promise:** We strive to make a positive impact wherever we travel.
- **AHI Connects:** Local immersion.
- Welcome and Farewell Receptions to mingle with fellow travelers.
- A personal VOX headset to hear your English-speaking guide clearly.
- Tipping of guides and drivers.
- Complimentary travel mementos.

the 1920s, the garden was later purchased and restored by Yves Saint Laurent and his partner Pierre Bergé. After a garden stroll, visit the Yves Saint Laurent Museum. Opened in 2017, the property features a collection of the designer's haute couture, plus a library. Back in the buzzing souks, enjoy a tour with tastings of local products and learn about common spices and herbs used in everyday cooking.

**Enrichment: Moroccan Culture.** Learn how Arab, European and African influences created Morocco's captivating culture.

Share your day's adventures over dinner.

### Day 9 | Marrakech

**Free Time:** The day is yours to design. Perhaps head to the main square to watch daily activities over a glass of mint tea or visit the tannery of Marrakech.

Celebrate your adventure at a Farewell Reception and raise a toast to Morocco!

### Day 10 | In Transit

After breakfast, transfer to the Marrakech airport for the return flight to your gateway city.

**Note:** Itinerary may change due to local conditions.

Flights and transfers included for AHI FlexAir participants.

### Note About Activity Levels

We have designated activity levels for all excursions on this program. For more details, please call or visit our website.

#### Excursions on this itinerary require:

- walking on cobblestones, unpaved paths and/or uneven surfaces
- getting on/off motor coaches





## Accommodations

Our travel experts have carefully selected these deluxe properties for their prime locations. They are ideally situated or exploring each region's renowned landmarks while providing opportunities to immerse yourself in local life. Of utmost importance is the superior quality of their services, amenities and accommodations, allowing you to enjoy your stay fully.



**Sofitel Rabat Jardin des Roses | Rabat**



**Sofitel Marrakech Palais Imperial | Marrakech**



*Enjoying typical Moroccan dishes*



# Reserve your trip today!

To book your journey,  
please call our AHI Travel Experts  
at **800-323-7373** or  
visit **ohst.ahitravel.com**.

## Program Dates

### Travel dates †

**February 9-18, 2024**

† Travel dates include any overnights required for international travel. These dates may vary depending on air schedules.

### Tour dates\*

**February 10-18, 2024**

\* Tour dates begin on the scheduled arrival date at your destination and end on the scheduled departure date from your destination.

## Land Program

<b>Full Price</b>	<b>\$4,545</b>
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<b>Special Savings</b>	<b>\$250</b>
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<b>Special Price*</b>	<b>\$4,295</b>
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\*Special Price valid if booked by the date found on the address panel.  
VAT is an additional \$295 per person.

All prices quoted are in USD, per person, based on double occupancy and do not include air transportation costs (unless otherwise stated).

Special offers, promotions and discounts cannot be combined.

Single accommodations are an additional \$1,395 (limited availability).

**Please note:** Program-specific terms and conditions are available at <https://ohst.ahitravel.com/destinations/1823A?schoold=124>. You can also request a copy from our travel experts. Any payment to AHI Travel constitutes your acceptance of the terms and conditions set out therein, including but not limited to the cancellation terms.

## AHI FlexAir

### Let us arrange your flights

**Our experts are ready to assist you in booking flights. Our personalized air program offers the following advantages:**

- **price guarantee** to protect you from fuel surcharge increases after ticket purchase
- arrival and departure **transfers** on group dates
- **flexibility** to change or cancel your reservation without penalty up to 60 days before departure on most flights
- **assistance** in the event of schedule changes or delays





Hassan II Mosque, Casablanca



Moroccan music



Kasbah des Oudaias, Rabat

## AHI Travel Expertise



From your reservation to your return home, we are here to ensure you have the adventure of a lifetime.

### *Before you go:*

**Travel Consultants** stand ready to answer your questions as they guide you through the reservation process.

**Passenger Service Representative** offers personalized assistance with flights, electives and special requests.

**Travel Information** provides pre-departure details and enrichment about your destination.

### *Once you arrive:*

**Your Travel Director**, a seasoned, multilingual professional, manages daily logistics so you enjoy a seamless experience.

**Handpicked Expert Guides** offer fascinating insights and share their passion for their country with you.

**Knowledgeable Lecturers** deepen your appreciation for the region and its history, culture and current events.



Mint tea

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**800-323-7373**  
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**Discover the ancient history and treasures of Morocco!**

**AHI Travel's** mission is to deliver inspirational, educational and cultural programs that delight travelers.

**With AHI you can rely on:**

- Experienced Travel Directors who attend to every detail of your journey.
- An exceptional travel value.
- Unique access to local sites.
- Flexibility and customization.
- Safety and security.



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