

DISCOVER MOROCCO

Friendship Force Pre-Conference

7 Days / 6 Nights

Sept 9 – 15, 2016

Sept 9 Day 1 Arrival Casablanca (D)

Upon arrival in Casablanca, the economic capital of Morocco, you will be met and transferred by van to your Casablanca hotel, where you will check in and relax for the afternoon. Dinner will be served at a local restaurant – Rick's Café.

Hotel Novotel

Sept 10 Day 2 Casablanca / Meknes /Volubilis / Fes (B, D)

After breakfast, you will leave by van towards Fes. On route, we will stop at Rabat, the capital city and residence of the King, for lunch and a time to enjoy the beautiful coastal city. In the afternoon, you may choose to explore the 2000-year-old ruins of Volubilis and get a picture of life during the Roman Empire. From there you will head on to Fes, the spiritual capital of Morocco. Dinner will be served at the hotel.

Hotel Barcelo

Sept 11 Day 3 Fes (B, D)

After breakfast you will begin your guided tour of the medina, one of the world's largest walled in cities. You will explore the narrow streets lined with fresh fruit, mounds of spices, intricately woven Berber carpets and many other art objects of Morocco. A visit to the Kings Palace, the tanneries, and potters are just a few places you will experience. For lunch you will eat in traditional restaurant in the heart of the medina. After lunch you will complete the tour and return to your hotel for the evening. Dinner will be served in a local restaurant.

Hotel Barcelo



Sept 12 Day 4 Erfoud (B, D)

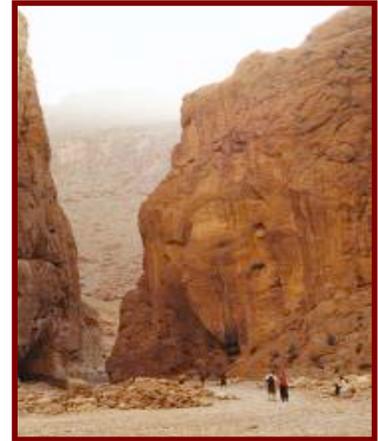
After an early breakfast you will begin your ascent across the Middle Atlas Mountains. Most of the day will be spent winding your way through the beautiful forests, jagged rock faces, and Berber villages as you cross the Atlas Mountains and begin to descend towards the Sahara Desert. Half way, you will stop for lunch in the town of Midelt, famous for its fossils and rocks. On arrival at the Kasbah in Erfoud, a hot shower or dip in the swimming pool (depending on the weather) will be a treat after the drive. Dinner will be served in the Kasbah.

Kasbah Xaluca

Sept 13 Day 5

Sahara Desert (B, D)

Most of the day will be spent relaxing at the hotel or exploring the small but interesting desert town. In the afternoon, you will head off in some 4-wheel drive vehicles across the barren land to the majestic Sahara sand dunes. You will set off by camel for a 2-hour trek out to the oasis where you will spend the night in Berber tents (Dinner is included). ***If you'd like to stay in the hotel, we can also arrange that!***



Private Berber Tent - The private tent option takes you on about 2 hour camel ride to the largest dune in the Erg Chebbi. The tent is the traditional Berber tent that would be just for you. There is a bed on the sand in your tent and there is a basic outhouse type toilet - *in the area* -(no running water) for you and your group.

Sept 14 Day 6 Todra Gorges/Dades Gorges / Ouarzazate (B, D)

After breakfast, you will return by camel to the 4x4s and head back to Erfoud. From Erfoud you set out behind the High Atlas Mountains on route to the Todra Gorges. In the afternoon, you will take a walk up in the towering Todra Gorges (600 feet high). The picturesque river valleys make for a beautiful journey towards the southeast of Morocco. You will stay the night in Ouarazate before you cross the High Atlas Mountains. Dinner will be served at the hotel.

4 Star Hotel Riad Salam



Sept 15 Day 7 Marrakech (B)

After an early breakfast you set off to Marrakech via Ouarzazate. Tucked away in the High Atlas Mountains, it is one of the jewels of Morocco. In typical Moroccan fashion, the true treasures must be searched out and discovered...usually off the beaten path. In actuality, this setting has been used for more films than any other location in Morocco; films including, *Lawrence of Arabia*, *Jesus of Nazareth*, and recently *The Gladiator*.

You will then head over the High Atlas to finish the drive to Marrakech. You will arrive in Marrakech for check-in at the conference (3:00 PM)

***Triple Room: People sharing a triple room will receive a 10% discount