Moroccan Discovery
from the Imperial Cities to the Sahara
February 24-March 9, 2023

14 days from $5,579 total price from Boston, New York, Washington, DC
($4,795 air & land inclusive plus $784 airline taxes and fees)

This tour is provided by Odysseys Unlimited, seven-time honoree Travel + Leisure’s World’s Best Tour Operators award.
Dear Washington University Alumni and Friends,

Travel with us on an exclusive 14-day journey through Morocco. From the imperial cities of Rabat, Fez, and Marrakech to the imposing High Atlas Mountains and the vast Sahara, explore Morocco's unique history and culture.

Visit five UNESCO World Heritage sites, including Meknes, Morocco's youngest imperial city; Volubilis, with its impressive ancient Roman ruins; and Fez, Morocco's oldest imperial city, prized for its cultural, religious, and educational institutions. Follow an ancient caravan route in the High Atlas mountains, see spectacular Todra Gorge, and travel to Ait ben-Haddou, a fortified city and UNESCO World Heritage site. A highlight will be your excursion to the towering sand dunes at Merzouga on the edge of the Sahara, followed by a camel ride to watch the sun set over this dramatic landscape. Spend three nights in alluring Marrakech before concluding your adventure in storied Casablanca.

Space is limited to 24 guests, and we expect this tour to fill quickly. Your deposit is fully refundable up to 95 days prior to departure. Book risk-free today!

With regards from the Washington University Travel Committee,

John Fox Arnold  Gail Lewin, JD ’76
Christy Beckmann, AB ’70 Tom Lowther, JD ’62, MA ’99 (Chairman)
Marilynne Bradley, BFA ’60 Sandy Rothschild, AB ’67, MBA ’71
Martha Cunningham, AB ’65 Ann Ruwitch
Kent Hirschfelder, AB ’67, MBA ’70 Gail Zugerman, AB ’75

WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY RESERVATION FORM: MOROCCAN DISCOVERY

To reserve your place on tour, please call Odysseys Unlimited at (toll-free) 888-370-6765. Please have the information outlined below available to share with an Odysseys Unlimited Travel Counselor.

If you prefer, you may also complete this Reservation Form and submit it to Odysseys Unlimited’s office. Once this request is received, a Travel Counselor from Odysseys Unlimited will contact you within two business days to securely take your credit card information for the deposit. Your reservation is not confirmed until your deposit is paid and processed. Payment may be made by American Express, Discover, MasterCard, or VISA, or by personal check. If paying by check, please make check payable to Odysseys Unlimited, Inc. and include with the form. Final payment is due at least 90 days prior to departure.

Send to: Odysseys Unlimited, Inc.
Attn: Special Interest Groups
One Newton Place
275 Washington Street, Suite 300
Newton, MA 02458

MOROCCAN DISCOVERY • FEBRUARY 24-MARCH 9, 2023

I/We would like to request ________ place(s). (Deposit amount is $500 per person.)

Full Passport Name ____________________________ Date of Birth ______________ Gender _____

Full Passport Name ____________________________ Date of Birth ______________ Gender _____

Address ________________________________________________________________________________

City __________________________________________ State __________ ZIP _______________

Home Phone ( _____ ) ___________________ Cell Phone ( _____ ) __________________________

E-mail(s) ___________________________________ Badge Name(s) __________________________

Please book my/our air from ___________________________ I/We request an air upgrade to ___________________________

I will share a room with ___________________________ I request a single room (limited availability) ❑
Moroccan Discovery
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This land of dramatic contrasts invites us to encounter its ancient ruins and sacred mosques, endless desert and storied mountains, imposing kasbahs and spirited souks. As we travel from the imperial cities of Rabat, Fez, and Marrakech to the High Atlas and vast Sahara, we open our eyes, and hearts, to a truly foreign land, an age-old culture, and genuinely hospitable people.

Day 1: Depart U.S. for Casablanca, Morocco

Day 2: Arrive Casablanca/Rabat Upon arrival this afternoon in Casablanca, the commercial center of Morocco, we transfer by coach to Rabat and our hotel located near famed Hassan Tower. We have time to relax and refresh before dinner tonight at the hotel. D

Day 3: Rabat One of Morocco’s four ancient capitals, or imperial cities, Rabat is again the country’s capital, at once historic and contemporary, as we discover on today’s tour. We visit the necropolis of Chellah, built on ancient Roman ruins, and have lunch in a private home; then admire the stunning architecture of the Mausoleum of Mohamed V. On tap this afternoon: the 12th-century Kasbah of the Oudaias, the peaceful Andalusian Gardens, and Rabat’s medina, a UNESCO site. Tonight we enjoy a welcome dinner of traditional Moroccan fare at acclaimed Dinarjat in Rabat’s Old Town. B,L,D

Day 4: Rabat/Meknes/Volubilis/Fez This morning we depart Rabat for Fez, stopping along the way in Meknes, Morocco’s youngest imperial city (and UNESCO World Heritage site). We visit the Bab el Mansour gateway and the ruins of the imperial stables before lunch in a local restaurant. Then we continue on to the ancient Roman ruins at the UNESCO site of Volubilis, known for its intricate and colorful mosaics. Late afternoon we reach Fez and our elegant hotel overlooking the medina. B,L,D

Day 5: Fez Today we explore Morocco’s oldest imperial city, considered the “Athens of Africa” for its wealth of cultural, educational, and religious institutions. We begin with a comfortable walk through the Fez medina, where we see some hidden treasures, including the Blue Gate, the most picturesque of the Old City’s historic gates; the medieval school of Bouanania; the 12th-century home of Jewish scholar Maimonides; and the authentic food market. We also visit the traditional quarter where we watch artisans craft the acclaimed Fez pottery and ceramics. After lunch together in the medina, we tour the old Mellah (Jewish quarter) and its 17th-century synagogue and the royal gates. B,L,D

Ratings are based on the Hotel & Travel Index, the travel industry standard reference.

Cover photo: We encounter many of Morocco’s age-old kasbahs on our journey.
Day 6: Fez
We begin today with a walk through the medina and a visit to the Al-Attarine Madrasa, whose highlight is a small courtyard showcasing intricately detailed tilework and carving decorations. Then we embark on a walking tour of the medina focusing on the artisans’ quarters, the 14th-century Koranic schools, and Al Karaouine, the medieval theological university. After lunch on our own, we visit the Borj Nord Arms Museum, an authentic Saadi fort that dates from 1582 and one of Morocco’s only European-influenced forts. After exploring the Moroccan armaments here, we are free this afternoon for independent exploration or relaxation. Tonight, we enjoy a private dinner at an intimate family-run riad in Fez. B,D

Day 7: Fez/Midelt/Erfoud
Traveling inland today, we cross the fertile plains beyond Fez and continue through the Middle Atlas mountain range. We stop in the small town of Midelt for lunch. Continuing on, we cross the Ziz River, passing rows of sky-scraping palm trees and fortified villages before reaching our kasbah-style hotel in Erfoud late in the day. Dinner tonight is at our hotel. B,L,D

Day 8: Erfoud/Rissani/Merzouga
This morning we visit the city of Rissani, with its 18th-century ksar, a virtually impenetrable warren of alleys. We enjoy a tour highlight this afternoon as we set out on a sunset excursion to the breathtakingly beautiful sand dunes at Merzouga on the edge of the Sahara. In the enormous silence we watch the sun set over the desert as we take a camel ride along the erg. We’ll have dinner together in this desert setting before returning to our hotel tonight. B,L,D

Day 9: Erfoud/Tinehir/Todra Gorge/Ouarzazate
Our destination today is in the snow-topped High Atlas. The day features one beautiful scene after another, including the village of Tinehir, a stunning mountain oasis rising on a series of riverside terraces lush with palm trees; and the spectacular 984-foot Todra Gorge, home to a variety of rare bird and plant species. Following lunch here we visit El Kelaa des Mguna, known for its roses, then set out on the fabled “Route of a Thousand Kasbahs” ancient caravan route, a region of fortresses with elaborately decorated façades. Late afternoon we reach the town of Ouarzazate where we spend the night. B,L,D

Day 10: Ouarzazate/Ait ben-Haddou/Marrakech
En route to Marrakech today, we stop first at uninhabited Ait ben-Haddou, a UNESCO World Heritage site and one of southern Morocco’s most scenic villages that is often used as a location for fashion and film shoots. Its old section consists of deep red kasbahs

We see the distinctive Koutoubia Mosque – Marrakech’s largest – on Day 11.

Traditional Moroccan tile work
packed together so tightly they appear to be a single unit. Then, as we begin our descent from the High Atlas, we pass through typical villages with fortified walls and stone houses with earthen roofs. In Tizi N’Tichka, we traverse the Pass of the Pastures (alt. 7,415 feet), where life is much as it was centuries ago: shepherds bring their flocks to the high pastures every summer, then return with them to their villages in autumn. We arrive in Marrakech late this afternoon and dine tonight at our hotel. \textit{B,L,D}

\textbf{Day 11: Marrakech} Once the capital of southern Morocco, the imperial city of Marrakech is an alluring oasis with a temperate climate, distinct charm, and fascinating sights. Our day-long tour includes the beautifully proportioned Koutoubia Mosque, the lovely Andalusian-style El Bahia Palace, and the ruins of 16\textsuperscript{th}-century Palais El Badii. After lunch at our hotel, mid-afternoon we visit Dar El Bacha, a formerly private palace full of fountains, riads, and orange trees. Then we embark on a walking tour of the medina, ending at Djemaa el Fna Square, a UNESCO site and the heart of Marrakech. Dinner tonight is on our own in this exotic city. \textit{B,L}

\textbf{Day 12: Marrakech} This morning we travel by horse-drawn carriage from Menara Park to Majorelle Gardens, a private botanical garden with some 15 species of birds native to North Africa and known for its cobalt blue accents. Following a tour of the gardens we visit the nearby Yves St. Laurent Museum, housing a vast collection of the designer’s haute couture and design works. The afternoon is at leisure before dinner tonight at a local restaurant in the city’s Old Town. \textit{B,D}

\textbf{Day 13: Marrakech/Casablanca} We leave Marrakech this morning by coach for storied Casablanca, Morocco’s largest and most cosmopolitan city. After a brief orientation tour of the city, we visit the magnificent Hassan II Mosque, Morocco’s only functioning mosque open to non-Muslims. Tonight we celebrate our Moroccan adventure at a farewell dinner at a local restaurant. \textit{B,D}

\textbf{Day 14: Depart for U.S.} After breakfast this morning we transfer to the airport for our return flight to the U.S. \textit{B}

\begin{table}[h]
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\begin{tabular}{|l|c|}
\hline
\textbf{Tour Departs:} & \textbf{February 24, 2023} \\
\hline
\textbf{Prices include int’l airfare and all taxes, surcharges, and fees.} & \\
\hline
Boston, New York, Washington, DC & \$5,579 \\
Atlanta, Chicago & \$5,779 \\
Baltimore, Charlotte, Detroit, Los Angeles, Miami, Philadelphia & \$5,879 \\
Cincinnati, Cleveland, Dallas, Denver, Houston, Minneapolis, Orlando, Phoenix, Portland (OR), San Francisco, St. Louis, Seattle, Tampa & \$5,979 \\
\hline
\textbf{Land Only (transfers not included)} & \$4,695 \\
\hline
\end{tabular}
\caption{Tour Prices}
\end{table}

\textbf{Your Tour Price Includes}
\begin{itemize}
\item Round-trip air transportation from listed cities
\item 12 nights’ accommodations in Deluxe, Superior First Class, and First Class hotels
\item 31 meals: 12 breakfasts, 8 lunches, 11 dinners
\item Extensive sightseeing as described, including all entrance fees
\item Services of an Odysseys Unlimited Tour Director
\item Private motorcoach transportation throughout your trip
\item Luggage handling for one bag per person
\item Gratuities for local guides, dining room servers, airport and hotel porters, and all drivers
\end{itemize}

\begin{quote}
\textit{One belongs to the whole world, not just one part of it.}  \\
– Paul Bowles
\end{quote}

\textbf{We ride camels in the Sahara.}
GENERAL TERMS AND CONDITIONS

Please read this information carefully, as payment of a $500 deposit per person represents your acceptance of the following Terms and Conditions.

Not Included in Tour Price: Airfare when purchasing a Land Only package; costs of passports and visas, if required; immunizations, inoculations, and COVID-19 testing; personal expenses such as beverages, laundry, room service, and meals not specified; airport transfers when purchasing a Land Only package; communication charges; gratuities to your Odysseys Unlimited Tour Director, which are at your discretion (suggested gratuities: $10-$15 per traveler, per day); optional sightseeing; and travel protection insurance. Additional baggage fees may apply and are subject to change at any time. You should confirm directly with your airline(s) prior to departure.

Cancellations, Refunds, and Changes: If you must cancel your trip, the effective date of cancellation will be upon Odysseys Unlimited, Inc.'s receipt of your notification. Refunds for cancellations are subject to the following per person charges: cancel 95 days or more before departure: full refund; cancel 94-65 days before departure: 25% of tour price; cancel 64-45 days before departure: 50% of tour price; cancel 44-30 days before departure: 75% of tour price; cancel 29-0 days before departure: no refund. If you make any changes to your reservation from 94 to 30 days prior to departure, Odysseys Unlimited, Inc. will apply a $100 per person administrative fee, in addition to any fees or penalties imposed by third parties. Changes are subject to availability and cannot be guaranteed. If your reservation charges from double occupancy to single occupancy for any reason, you will be charged the single supplement. No changes are allowed within 30 days of departure.

Upon reservation, you must provide your full legal name as it appears on your passport, as well as your date of birth and gender. In the event an airline ticket is issued with incorrect information you have provided, you will be responsible for charges associated with the ticket's reissue.

Responsibility: The liability of Washington University in St. Louis, the Alumni Association, as sponsor, and Odysseys Unlimited, Inc., as tour operator, is strictly limited. Odysseys Unlimited, Inc. purchases transportation, hotel accommodations, and restaurant and other services from independent suppliers not under our control. We serve only as agents for these suppliers in securing tour arrangements, and therefore will not accept responsibility for wrongful, negligent, or arbitrary acts or omissions of these independent contractors, or of their employees, agents, servants, or representatives. Washington University in St. Louis, the Alumni Association, and Odysseys Unlimited, Inc. are not liable for injury, damage, loss, accident, or delay that may be caused by events not within our control, including, without limitation, acts of terrorism, war, strikes, the defect of any vehicle, or the negligence or default of any third party. All coupons, receipts, and tickets issued are subject to the terms and conditions specified by the air carriers, cruise lines, and other independent suppliers. We will make every effort to operate our tours as planned, but we reserve the right to make changes as necessary. If unforeseen circumstances require us to change a hotel, we will select alternative accommodations of the same or better quality.

Health and Medical Issues: We request that you be in good health to participate in this tour. There is a reasonable amount of walking, and you must be able to get on and off motorcoaches on your own. We regret that we cannot offer individual assistance; in such cases you must be accompanied by a companion who will assist you. Please note that many of our tour itineraries, for reasons beyond our control, do not accommodate wheelchairs. We serve only as agents for these suppliers in securing tour arrangements, and therefore will not accept responsibility for wrongful, negligent, or arbitrary acts or omissions of these independent contractors, or of their employees, agents, servants, or representatives. Washington University in St. Louis, the Alumni Association, and Odysseys Unlimited, Inc. are not liable for injury, damage, loss, accident, or delay that may be caused by events not within our control, including, without limitation, acts of terrorism, war, strikes, the defect of any vehicle, or the negligence or default of any third party. All coupons, receipts, and tickets issued are subject to the terms and conditions specified by the air carriers, cruise lines, and other independent suppliers. We will make every effort to operate our tours as planned, but we reserve the right to make changes as necessary. If unforeseen circumstances require us to change a hotel, we will select alternative accommodations of the same or better quality.

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Air Transportation – Important Information: Odysseys Unlimited, Inc. reserves the right to operate air schedules, subject to federal air transportation regulations, as it deems appropriate for the benefit of all concerned. We reserve the right to substitute alternate airline(s) prior to departure. Changes are subject to availability and cannot be guaranteed. You should confirm directly with your airline(s) prior to departure. We regret that we cannot offer individual assistance; in such cases you must be accompanied by a companion who will assist you. Please note that many of our tour itineraries, for reasons beyond our control, do not accommodate wheelchairs. We serve only as agents for these suppliers in securing tour arrangements, and therefore will not accept responsibility for wrongful, negligent, or arbitrary acts or omissions of these independent contractors, or of their employees, agents, servants, or representatives. Washington University in St. Louis, the Alumni Association, and Odysseys Unlimited, Inc. are not liable for injury, damage, loss, accident, or delay that may be caused by events not within our control, including, without limitation, acts of terrorism, war, strikes, the defect of any vehicle, or the negligence or default of any third party. All coupons, receipts, and tickets issued are subject to the terms and conditions specified by the air carriers, cruise lines, and other independent suppliers. We will make every effort to operate our tours as planned, but we reserve the right to make changes as necessary. If unforeseen circumstances require us to change a hotel, we will select alternative accommodations of the same or better quality.

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COVID-19 Health and Safety Protocols: The well-being of our guests and staff members on tour will continue to be our highest priorities. To maintain a healthy environment for travel, we will be establishing and adhering to a detailed set of health and safety protocols for all facets of your tour. We are committed to following the guidelines of the State Department, CDC, WHO, and authorities of respective countries regarding travel to a particular destination. Detailed protocols for this tour, based on conditions at the time, will be provided approximately 1.5 days prior to departure.