

Travel to...

# Morocco

...with the **Osher Lifelong Learning Institute**



## Memorable Moments...

- Uncover the bustling medinas and colorful markets of Fès, Rabat & Marrakech
- Meet with pioneering organizations empowering Moroccan women & protecting the environment
- Dive head first into Moroccan culture with cooking lessons & food tours
- Engage with rural Amazigh communities nestled in the High Atlas Mountains
- Learn a variety of traditional arts from locals, from tile making to calligraphy

Operated by

# Itinerary

---

**Dates:** May 15-24, 2026

**Duration:** 10 days / 9 nights

**Locations:** Casablanca, Rabat, Fès & Marrakech

**Day 1:** A warm welcome awaits you as you arrive in Casablanca International Airport where the OLLI Corps team will meet you with open arms. After bags are collected and everyone is set to go, we'll have breakfast before taking the hour-long coastal drive to Rabat, Morocco's capital. Settle-in to our charming riad, or traditional style boutique hotel.

Tonight, we'll enjoy a delightful welcome dinner together getting to know one another along with our expert local guide that will be showing us the beauty of Morocco. *(D)*

**Day 2:** Enjoy a relaxing breakfast before heading into Rabat for a guided tour of Morocco's capital. Today, we'll visit the 12th century Hassan Tower and the Mohammed V Mausoleum, the final resting place of Moroccan king Mohammed V and his two sons, the late King Hassan II and Prince Abdallah. Afterwards, hit the road for the scenic drive to Fès.

On the way, we'll stop at Nzala, a women's cooperative dedicated to preserving traditional craftsmanship and empowering local female artisans. Meet the women behind the initiative, learn how Nzala has impacted their lives, and participate in a hands-on couscous workshop led by the artisans. After sharing tea and meaningful conversations, say goodbye to your new friends and continue the drive to Fès. Upon arrival, check into your riad and unwind for the night. *(B,L,D)*

**Day 3:** Located near the Atlas Mountains, Fès is a UNESCO World Heritage Site and truly one of the gems of Morocco. After breakfast, we'll visit the must-see historic landmarks of Fès including the honey souqs, tanneries, spice shops and more. A local expert will join us to provide a lens into the history of this cultural mecca.

After lunch, take part in a Zelij Workshop where you'll learn to paint the intricate and colorful Moroccan tiles with a pottery artisan. The rest of the day is free to explore the bustling medina or simply relax at a local café. *(B,L)*

**Day 4:** Time to head to Marrakech! Marrakech shares lots of similarities with Fès but its uniqueness is indisputable! We'll board our train for the 6 hour first class journey through the countryside.



# Itinerary

---

Upon arrival, check into your Riad in the Medina and rest before you hop on a journey for your taste buds! Our cultural food tour takes into consideration your dietary restrictions. It shows some of the most Marrakeshi traditions: marinated olives shops, orange juice stands, Harira stands, Msemen and mint tea, and Tanjia and tajines in the souqs. (B,L)



**Day 5:** Rise and shine for an immersive day in the vibrant Red City of Marrakech! Start your morning with a visit to the historic Jewish neighborhood of Mellah, where you'll explore the local synagogue and the stunning Bahia Palace. Then connect with a group of young Moroccans for an open Q&A session about local culture. Feel free to ask about topics ranging from politics and religion to education and daily life.

In the afternoon, roll up your sleeves for a hands-on cooking class with a local chef. Learn to prepare your very first tajine using fresh, locally sourced ingredients and an array of unique spices. (B,L,D)

**Day 6:** Today, we'll spend the day with a pioneering local organization working on sustainable development initiatives across Morocco. Begin the day by gathering at the High Atlas Foundations' (HAF) local office, where the founder will deliver an insightful talk on *"Sustainability in Practice: The Moroccan Context."*

Next, travel to a nearby village where the HAF operates. Participate in a meaningful tree-planting ceremony, followed by a visit to a local women's cooperative established by women who received training from HAF. This will be an insightful day immersed in the work of one of Morocco's leading development organizations. Return to Marrakech in the evening for dinner together. (B,L,D)



**Day 7:** Enjoy the morning at your own pace exploring the cafes, shops and restaurants in the medina before regrouping after lunch. Begin the afternoon with a captivating calligraphy class, where you'll be introduced to the beauty of Islamic art and the rich history of Arabic script.

Following this creative experience, engage in a meaningful conversation with a local Imam. This open dialogue will explore topics such as gender roles, stereotypes about Islam, and other thought-provoking themes, offering a deeper understanding of the culture and religion. (B,D)

**Day 8:** After breakfast, we'll set off on a breathtaking drive to Imlil, a storybook mountain village cradled by the majestic peaks of the High Atlas. While it's just over an hour's drive from Marrakech, this will feel like a different world. Upon arrival, lace up your boots for a guided scenic hike through mountain trails that lead to the home of a local Amazigh family. The Amazigh are a fascinating



# Itinerary

---

**Day 8 (cont.):** indigenous culture and the original inhabitants of North Africa. We'll immerse ourselves in their way of life, hear stories passed down through generations and gain a deep appreciation for their vibrant culture and heritage. (B,D)

**Day 9:** This morning we'll visit a nearby village to learn more about Project Soar—an association with a mission to empower marginalized teen girls to become the leaders of today and tomorrow. Learn firsthand about the challenges that young girls face in Morocco and the work this organization is doing to empower them to become their own agents of change. The afternoon is yours to explore the city before our farewell dinner hosted by a local family in Marrakech. After dinner, we will have a private concert complete with the opportunity to get a henna tattoo as a traditional way to say goodbye to guests. A night you will never forget! (B,L,D)

**Day 10:** After breakfast, bid farewell to Morocco and depart home on your international flight. (B)

---



## Morocco Boutique Hotel Lodging

We've hand-picked a portfolio of boutique hotels and riads for your journey. Riads are traditional Moroccan houses built around an inner courtyard and garden. Many of these riads have been converted into boutique hotels that provide the perfect balance of comfort and cultural immersion. In Rabat, stay at the Riad Kalaa, a peaceful property in the medina with a rooftop pool and terrace overlooking the city. Continue to Fès where we'll stay at the charming Riad dar Laura, a 200-year-old palace converted into a boutique hotel right in the center of Fès' medina – a UNESCO World Heritage Site. In Marrakech, we'll base ourselves at the Riad El Cadi, a beautiful property spread across six houses in the old medina of Marrakech. (Please note the exact properties are subject to change)



# Trip Details

---

## Group Price

- **Per Person Trip Fee (Double Occupancy):** \$4495
- **Single Room Supplement:** \$895

## What's Included - Your trip price includes the following:

- 9 nights of 4-star boutique hotel & riad lodging throughout Morocco
- Full-time local Discover Corps Guide
- Cultural and historical facilitation/interpretation from ASU professor throughout
- All meals listed in itinerary
- All scheduled activities in the itinerary
- All in-country transportation via air-conditioned motor coach and water taxi
- Unlimited drinking water aboard the bus
- Secondary international medical insurance
- Full-service pre-departure support
- 24-hour Discover Corps emergency hotline

## What's Not Included - Your trip price does not include the following:

- International Airfare
- Alcoholic beverages
- Tips for the Discover Guide & Driver
- Meals not mentioned in the itinerary

## Terms & Conditions

It just takes \$395 per person to register for a program and secure your spot.

The remainder of the program fee is due 30 days after registering for the program or 60 days prior to departure, whichever comes first.

*\*Must be an active OLLI member to attend*

## Refund Policy

The amount of your refund is based on how far in advance from the start date of the trip you notify us of your cancellation.

- More than five months prior, everything is refundable!
- Less than five months prior, 75% of program fee is refundable, except non-refundable \$30 registration fee. There is no fee to change trip destination or start date.
- Less than four months prior, 50% of program fee is refundable, except non-refundable \$30 registration fee. \$100 fee to change trip destination or start date.
- Less than three months prior, 25% of program fee is refundable, except non-refundable \$30 registration fee. \$395 fee to change trip destination or start date.
- Less than two months prior, the program fee is non-refundable. Changes to trip destination or start date are not possible and will be subject to refund policy.

If the balance has not been paid in full, the above percentages apply to all monies paid at the date of cancellation.

# The Osher Lifelong Learning Institute at ASU

## Featured ASU Faculty

---

### Dr. Mary Jane Parmentier



Mary Jane Parmentier, PhD, is a Clinical Professor at Arizona State University in the School for the Future of Innovation in Society, where she is also Deputy Director, and the College of Global Futures, where she serves as Director of Global Programs. With 25 years at ASU, a doctorate in international studies, and a background in global development, she designs and teaches courses on global development and has been working on projects most recently in the Brazilian Amazon, creating community led renewable energy for social value and empowerment. She has led nearly 20 student programs abroad for ASU, to over a dozen countries, and is passionate about cross cultural and cross-national understanding, education and service. Mary Jane lived and worked as a Peace Corps Volunteer in Morocco from 1986- 1988, and from 2013-2016 she led student study abroad and service-learning programs to Morocco. She speaks Spanish, French, Portuguese and Moroccan Arabic, and is excited to accompany and facilitate this OLLI service-learning trip to Morocco!



## About the Osher Lifelong Learning Institute at ASU

The mission of the Osher Lifelong Learning Institute at Arizona State University is to provide university-quality learning experiences for adults ages 50 and over through diverse classes, campus-based learning opportunities, and civic engagement initiatives.

We are a community of engaged learners discovering the joy of lifelong learning at its best . . . no tests, grades, or educational requirements! OLLI at ASU members have the opportunity to grow and learn inside and outside the classroom via campus events, local affinity groups, group discounts to local cultural and art events, and social media networks. Nationwide, there are 121 university-affiliated Osher Institutes, from Maine to Hawaii.



## About Discover Corps

Discover Corps believes that partnering with local programs, tours, and villages is the best way for both travelers and the communities to gain value and rejuvenate the human spirit. Discover Corps offers access and insight into our destinations' rich tapestry of cultures, for all ages, helping you and your family create memories that stay with you for a lifetime.

Our trips are split into two types: Signature Journeys & Grassroots Expeditions. All types of tours are purposeful for both our travelers and the communities we visit, so whether your focus is lending a hand teaching English to schoolchildren in Tanzania, being a part of The Sea Turtle Initiative in Costa Rica, or discovering the vibrant energy of Cuba, expect the unexpected experiences that keep life rich, no matter your age. Through responsible and sustainable initiatives, Discover Corps will connect you with the people and wildlife that keep our world inspiring.