

Travel with us to Morocco to experience a rich, diverse culture of Berber, Arab, and European influences: a kaleidoscope of colors, scents, flavors, and sounds! We'll explore the lively medinas and kasbahs (historic walled towns and fortified settlements) of Marrakech, Fez, and Meknes, all UNESCO World Heritage Sites where artisans preserve centuries-old traditions. We'll visit grand mosques, palaces, and gardens; see Roman ruins with intricate, well-preserved mosaics; wander through the bright-blue town of Chefchaouen, nestled in the scenic Rif Mountains; experience the allure of Tangier, a true crossroads of cultures with a rich Jewish heritage; and soak up the cosmopolitan vibe of Casablanca and Rabat.

Our journey will be exceptional thanks to the insights of a university professor, who is also a certified national guide, accompanying us throughout the trip. An expert in international education and cultural exchange, he has lectured on Moroccan culture and religion and has led groups of students, academics, and educational organizations to explore Morocco, its cultures, and its history.

Hotel space is limited; reservations will be accepted on a first-come basis.

To register for the tour, please provide the requested information on the reservation below and return it, along with your deposit check for \$1,000 per person, to:

**Dean Dalton Tours
1904 Banks St.
Houston, TX 77098**

TOUR DESCRIPTION

The Splendors of Morocco – March 28 to April 9, 2026

**Prices, per person
for the basic 12-day tour:**

\$4,475
sharing a double/twin

◆
\$5,295
single occupancy



**for the Aix-en-Provence
Extension:**

\$1,750 (apx)
sharing a double/twin

◆
\$2,400 (apx)
single occupancy



*Prices are stated in
U.S. Dollars
calculated on an exchange rate
of \$0.10 to the Moroccan Dinar
and \$1.10 to the Euro*

Saturday, March 28: Depart for Marrakech, Morocco

Note: If you opt for Morocco only, your best connection from Houston is Air France/Delta via Paris. If you include the extension to Aix-en-Provence, Lufthansa /United will be your best option.

Your best flight options can be found at the bottom of the left column.

Sunday, March 29: Arrive in Marrakech; group transfer to our hotel and welcome dinner.

Monday, March 30: Discover Marrakech

Today we explore Marrakech's walled medina. We admire 12th-century **Koutoubia Mosque** and visit **Bahia Palace**, a masterpiece of design adorned with marble, stucco, and mosaics, featuring an open courtyard filled with fountains and plants. Then, we discover **Ben Youssef Madrasa** (1570), a Koranic school renowned for its magnificent architecture. We end at **Le Jardin Secret**, a historic *riad* (a traditional Moroccan house or palace with an indoor garden and courtyard) whose gardens are fed by a restored original *khattara* (underground irrigation system): a living museum to demonstrate the ancient waterworks. After lunch, we wander through the mesmerizing *souks* of Marrakech, taking in a dizzying array of handicrafts, textiles, spices, foods, electronics, antiques, and everything in between.

Tuesday, March 31: Nature Meets Art in Marrakech

We start the day at **Jardin Majorelle**, a picturesque garden created by French painter Jacques Majorelle and restored by design legend Yves Saint Laurent. Then we stop at the small **Yves Saint Laurent Museum** next door, devoted to the famed designer's creations. We continue to the **Gardens of Menara**, which features expansive olive groves, a large reflection pool, and a 12th-century pavilion with sweeping views of the Atlas Mountains. Lunch follows at a non-profit organization that supports courageous women on their journey toward empowerment and financial independence. We finish the day at the **Palmery Museum**, housing a private collection of paintings, photographs, sculptures, calligraphy, and installations. The museum is set in the tranquil surroundings of a palm-filled landscape, displaying art in harmony with nature.

Accommodation in these 4- and 5-star hotels

[Atlas Palace, Marrakech](#)

[Barceló Tangier](#)

[Riad Dar Bensouda, Fez](#)

[Story Hotel, Rabat](#)



Breakfast each day



9 lunches or dinners
in Morocco
(drinks included;
alcohol where available)



Airport transfers



Ground transport by
private coach and
high-speed rail



Tours with expert guides as
described to the right

Wednesday, April 1: Free Day or Optional Activities

Today you may decide to take advantage of the spa facilities of our riad, or take any of the following extra cost activities:

- **Culinary tour and/or cooking class:** Visit the first culinary museum in Africa and discover the spices, goods, and Morocco's culinary heritage. Stroll through the souks, where you can stop by the famous lamb mechoui area, and sample a variety of Moroccan food, such as msemen (pan-fried flatbread), snail soup, tagine, tangia (stew cooked in an urn-shaped terracotta vessel), and the very popular galanga drink. Learn to cook with Moroccan spices during a cooking demonstration and tasting.

- **Atlas Mountains:** Transfer to the High Atlas Mountain region, the heart of the sublime Toubkal National Park (about one hour travel time). Explore the picturesque mountain village of Imlil and walk to Kasbah Toubkal, a luxury eco-lodge located on the slopes of Jbel Toubkal (the highest peak of the mountain range also known as the "roof of North Africa"). Feast on local specialties while enjoying some of the most dramatic mountain scenery in Morocco.

- **Hot Air Balloon Ride.** Watch the sun rise over gorgeous desert scenery with the Atlas Mountains in the background and round off the experience with a delicious Berber breakfast.

In the evening, we all gather for a traditional concert at **Musée de Mouassine**, held in the extraordinary setting of the building's *douiria* (upper-floor guest apartment).

Thursday, April 2: Travel to Tangier via Casablanca

Just the name Casablanca conjures scenes from the eponymous 1942 classic film with an all-star cast, headed by Humphrey Bogart and

Ingrid Bergman – although the movie was shot almost entirely in Burbank, California. While other cities in Morocco have their roots deep in Moroccan history and Arab culture with maze-like medieval quarters and colorful souks, “Casa,” as it is called, is a surprisingly modern cosmopolitan city, the kingdom's largest, and its commercial capital. We visit the small museum of **Dar Al Ala** in the Habbous Quarter. Created in 2011 by fans of Andalusian music in Morocco, the museum also offers (just on Thursdays!) soul-stirring performances of Andalusian music, filled with passionate melodies and infectious rhythms, organized by a foundation dedicated to the preservation of Morocco's musical patrimony. After lunch, we visit the stunning **Hassan II Mosque**, finished in 1993. It accommodates up to 25,000 worshipers inside and the minaret stands as the tallest religious structure in the world. Strolling around the beachfront promenade you'll see Rick's Café; alas, there never was a Rick's Café until a retired American diplomat created one in 2004 to pay tribute to the film and foster friendly relations between the U.S. and Morocco – and make a buck for his efforts.

In the afternoon, we board the Al Boraq train to Tangier along the picturesque Atlantic coast. Africa's first high-speed train is one of the fastest in the world (up to 199 mph).

Friday, April 3: Explore Tangier

Tangier is a melting pot of cultures. This is the city on which *Casablanca* was actually based, built on its reputation as the city of spies, well earned during various conflicts of the 19th and 20th centuries. Casablanca just made a better title!

We visit Tangier's old citadel with its newly renovated **Kasbah Museum**, built in the former Sultan's Palace, with collections that document the history of Morocco as well as priceless treasures such as a gilded, illuminated Koran, and spectacular floor mosaics from the Roman city of Volubilis, on display in its open courtyard. Afterward, we stroll through the Old Medina and enter the bustling Grand Socco (souk). We stop at the **American Legation**, a museum that traces the history of the relationship between the United States and Morocco, the only US Historic Monument located outside American soil. Housed within an elegant five-story mansion, this museum holds remarkable historical significance, notably playing a pivotal role in the Allied landings in North Africa during World War II, known as Operation Torch. After lunch, we continue to **Moshe Nahon**, one of the most beautiful synagogues in Morocco, now a museum. Finally, we visit **Cap Spartel**, a promontory covered with rock rose and cork oak trees, at the entrance to the Strait of Gibraltar, the northwesternmost point of the African continent.

Saturday, April 4: Discover the Blue City of Chefchaouen

Today we set out for Chefchaouen, where the streets and most of the buildings in the medina are painted a brilliant sky blue. After lunch we continue to Fez, the spiritual heart of the country. Founded by Moulay Idris I in the 8th century and Morocco's capital until 1912, Fez became home to Arab emigrants from Spain and Tunisia, whose influence is still felt today.

Sunday, April 5: Discover Fez

Today we visit **Fes el-Bali** (Old Fez), the cultural heart of Morocco. We wander some of the 9,000 narrow lanes, alleys and souks that make up the labyrinth of the city's old quarter, a renowned center of medieval learning. We see the **Karaouine**, one of the oldest still-functioning universities in the world, and Nejjarine Square with its beautiful fountain and elaborate tile mosaics. We then explore the **Nejjarine Museum of Wooden Arts & Crafts**, a work of art in itself. Housed in a beautifully restored 18th-century *fondouk*, or caravanserai, the museum showcases the exquisite artistry of Moroccan woodcraft. In addition to exquisite cedar carvings, there are ornate musical instruments such as beautifully crafted lutes and drums. After lunch, we continue to **Fes el-Jadid** (New Fez), where we will see the exteriors of the Royal Palace and wander through the mellah (Jewish quarter).

Monday, April 6: Discover Volubilis and Free Afternoon in Fez

Today we take a half-day trip to **Volubilis**, a UNESCO World Heritage Site that is home to some of the best-preserved Roman ruins in North Africa. The town became a prosperous center of olive oil production in the 2nd and 3rd centuries, prompting the construction of lavish courtyard houses with intricate floor mosaics. Among its finest are Orpheus charming animals with his lyre, Diana Bathing, the Labors of Hercules, and a humorous mosaic of an athlete or acrobat riding a donkey backwards while holding a cup in his outstretched hand. Lunch back in Fez is in a garden setting, at a guesthouse serving fresh, local market ingredients. The afternoon is free for you to explore the "artisan capital of Morocco." Wander through the local markets and artisans' shops from weaving to damascening to tannery, chatting with the shopkeepers to learn about their craft and watch them at work. There is also a pottery district on the outskirts, where you can watch the potters at work from pot-throwing to painting to the hand-cutting of the pieces for traditional *zellige* tilework.

Tuesday, April 7: Discover Meknes

On our way to Rabat, we stop at **Meknes**, one of the imperial cities of Morocco and another UNESCO World Heritage Site, built in the 17th century by the powerful sultan Moulay Ismail, who intended Meknes to rival the court of his contemporary, Louis XIV of France. Lunch follows at a bistro with a breathtaking

panoramic view of the medina. Afterward, we continue to Rabat, the political capital of the kingdom. On arrival, we take a panoramic tour on the bus to see historical sites flanked by wide avenues and lush parks, including the 12th-century **Hassan Tower**, an excellent example of Moorish architecture, and the nearby mausoleum dedicated to Mohamed V, the founder of modern Morocco and grandfather of the current king. We'll also look at the new emblems of the city, the **Théâtre Royal de Rabat**, designed by Zaha Hadid, and the 820-foot, rocket-like **Mohammed VI Tower**, combining residences, offices, and a hotel. The former, shaped like an undulating wave, contains a crystalline geometric 1,800-seat auditorium as well as a 7,000-seat open-air amphitheater, a restaurant, workshops, and a bookstore. Africa's largest theater was inaugurated last fall, but as of this writing the building remains closed. [*We hope to peek inside or visit when we are there.*]

Wednesday, April 8: Discover Rabat

This morning, we venture into the **Kasbah (citadel) of the Udayas**, built on a bluff overlooking the Atlantic Ocean; its gate is one of the most beautiful surviving artifacts in the Moorish world. We then explore the adjacent Andalusian Garden, complete with a melodious fountain and sweet-smelling orange trees, inspired by the Moorish gardens of Andalucía.

The design of our carefully selected boutique hotel pays tribute to singer, oud and lute player, composer, poet, and teacher Zyriab, the father of Andalusian music. He lived and worked in what is now Iraq, Northern Africa, and Andalucía during the medieval Islamic period. He was also a polymath, with knowledge in astronomy, geography, meteorology, botanics, cosmetics, culinary art, and fashion. The spaces are the reflection of this esthete who dedicated his existence to the art of living in all its forms. The facilities include a traditional Moroccan spa and hammam, a state-of-the-art gym, and a swimming pool surrounded by sculpted gardens and water features. There is no included meal today, but the hotel offers both a gastronomic restaurant (among the best in Morocco) and a bar with snacks.

Late this morning, **those continuing to Aix-en-Provence** will be transferred to the Casablanca International Airport for their flight to France. **Meanwhile, those returning to Houston** will have the afternoon and evening of the 8th to relax at the hotel and prepare for their flight home tomorrow.

Thursday, April 9:

Transfer to Rabat Salé International Airport for your homeward flight.

**Prices for the
Aix-en-Provence Extension
include:**

- ◆
Flight to Aix-en-Provence
- ◆
Accommodations (5 nights)
- ◆
2 included tours,
as described at the right
- ◆
1 Lunch
(drinks included)
- ◆
Airport transfers

Aix-en-Provence and the Festival de Pâques – April 8 to 13, 2026

For two weeks at Easter time, the entire city of Aix-en-Provence comes to life with exceptional musical events each day at the Grand Théâtre de Provence. Under the artistic direction of Renaud Capuçon, **the Festival de Pâques d'Aix-en-Provence** attracts a prestigious line-up of the some of the sought-after international orchestras and soloists such as Martha Argerich, David Fray, Alexandre Kantorow, Gil Shaham, Elisabeth Leonskaja, Orchestre National de Lille, Les Musiciens du Louvre, François-Xavier Roth's Les Siècles Orchestra, Raphaël Pichon's Pygmalion Orchestra, Camerata Salzburg, the Orchestre de Chambre de Lausanne, and more. Since **the program for 2026 will not be available until October, performances will be optional.** You will have an opportunity to select those that most interest you and in the seating category you prefer; we will then place our order in advance of general sales.

For our daytime activities, we will include two tours: a walking exploration of Aix-en-Provence and a guided tour of the **Château La Coste**, a unique property that displays sculptures by leading contemporary artists alongside works by some of the world's best-known architects, all within the grounds of a working organic vineyard.

In your free time, you can explore the **Hôtel de Caumont**, today an art center with over 11,000 sq.ft. of private gardens. The mansion's rooms, with their refined décor, recreate the atmosphere and aesthetic characteristics of the 18th century; it houses major temporary exhibitions dedicated to the great masters. **Musée Granet** offers collections of paintings from the 14th to the 19th century and gems of modern and contemporary art (pieces by Rembrandt, Renoir, Picasso, Léger, Matisse, Monet, Klee, Van Gogh and, crucially, nine works by local boy Cézanne). **Fondation Vasarely** immerses you in the fascinating world of optical art in a striking modernist structure. The building designed by Victor Vasarely, the father of the Op-Art movement, consists of 16 hexagonal modules arranged in a honeycomb-like structure, creating an optical illusion that seems to shift and change as one approaches. It's a fitting introduction to the visual feast that awaits inside.

We will also offer a couple of optional bus tours out of Aix: an excursion to **Avignon** and **Pont du Gard** one day and a full day to explore **Arles, St Remy, and Les Baux**, in the footsteps of Van Gogh.

Monday, April 13: Departures for home or further adventures.

Please note:

Festival performances and additional sightseeing programs are optional at additional cost.

**Prices for the extension are approximate, based on current hotel prices and the assumption of a minimum of 10 participants.
There will be a substantial reduction with 15 or more participants.**

Flight Recommendations

Morocco only

Outbound to Marrakech, March 28, 2026

**Depart IAH 3:50 PM, AF 637
Arrive RAK 2:55 PM, AF 1076**

Return from Rabat, April 9, 2026

**Depart RBA 6:10 AM, AF 1359
Depart CDG 2:05 PM, AF 032
Arrive IAH 8:20 PM, DL 1284**

- OR -

Depart RBA 5:45 PM April 8, AF 1459; arrive CDG at 7:50 PM

Depart CDG, 10:10 AM April 9, AF 636, arrive IAH 2:00 PM

(This schedule will involve an overnight in Paris.

*We will discount the cost of your tour by the cost of one night in Rabat;
you will be responsible for your accommodations in Paris.)*

If returning from France

*To fly Delta/Air France/ KLM use the same outbound flights as above.
For the return flight from Marseille, there are itineraries with a single stop, either in Paris or Amsterdam.*

To use United/Lufthansa:

Outbound to Marrakech, March 28, 2026

Depart IAH, 3:35 PM, LH 441

Arrive RAK, 3:10 PM, LH 4370

Return from Marseille/Provence, April 13, 2026

Depart MRS 6:15 AM, LH 1091

Arrive IAH 1:35 PM, LH 440

- OR -

Depart 10:30 AM, LH 1087

Arrive IAH 6:00 PM, UA 47

**The listed flight numbers are those of the airline operating each flight;
you may see the codeshare number of the airline through which you are booking your flights.**

**We strongly suggest that you search the flights on both airline websites
(Delta and Air France or United and Lufthansa)
since the prices sometimes differ widely.**

If not originating in Houston

*You should be able to book a transatlantic flight that connects to either the Lufthansa or Air France
flight above to Marrakech.*

*You should also be able to use the same departing flights suggested above,
making your transatlantic connection in Paris, Amsterdam, or Frankfurt.*

**IN ANY CASE, EVERYONE NEEDS TO MEET AT THE MARRAKECH AIRPORT,
MID-AFTERNOON ON THE 29TH.**



The Splendors of Morocco plus optional
Aix-en-Provence Easter Festival
 March 28 to April 9 (or 13), 2026

**Reservations will be honored in the order deposits are received.
 Payment in full is due by December 1, 2026**

<u>Prices per person</u>	<u>Sharing a double</u>	<u>Single occupancy</u>
Two-week tour (11 nights in Morocco)	\$4,475	\$5,295
Aix Extension (4 additional nights)	\$1,750 (apx)*	\$2,400 (apx)*

For details, visit DeanDaltonTours.com or email DD@DeanDaltonTours.com or call 713-213-6447.

While this is not a strenuous program, in terms of long walks or difficult terrain, some of the days will be pretty long. Of course, you can expect plenty of walking involved, including on hills, steps, and uneven pavement. If your mobility is impaired, please travel with a companion who can assist you and be prepared to miss some activities.

Complete and return this form with your deposit for \$1,000 per person payable to **Dean Dalton Tours** to:

**Dean Dalton Tours
 1904 Banks St.
 Houston, TX 77098**

Name 1 as it appears on passport (LAST/First) _____

Name 2 as it appears on passport (LAST/First): _____

Street address: _____ Mobile phone: « _____

City: «City» _____ St. _____ Zip _____ Email: _____

Passport # 1: _____ Issue date _____ Date and place of Birth: _____

Passport # 2 _____ Issue date _____ Date and place of Birth: _____

Name and phone of emergency contact: _____

If reserving for two: prefer one bed prefer two beds

If reserving for one: prefer a private room will be sharing with _____

I/we wish to participate in the Aix-en-Provence Festival extension, April 8 – 13

I/we would like information and pricing of upgrades available at each hotel, with prices.

I would like to downgrade to a small single at the Dar Bensouda, Fés - discount of \$250 (3 available).

I/we wish to pay by credit card; please send an electronic deposit invoice. (add 3.3% merchant fee)

Special needs: _____

I have read the brochure and accompanying "Terms and Conditions" and agree to their contents.

Signature: _____ Date: _____

We strongly encourage all participants to be covered by a travel protection plan, whether just for this trip or annual coverage. You should be covered at the very least for medical emergencies and evacuation. Since group policies are no longer available, we now offer a variety of individual plans through Travel Insured International, one of which can almost certainly provide coverage appropriate to your situation. Go to this address <https://www.travelinsured.com/agency/?p=deanhdalton> to compare coverage and costs, specific to you and this tour. You may also call Travel Insured International at 855-752-8303. Please identify yourself as a client of Dean Dalton Tours, agency #49076.

We encourage you to explore other providers as well, to find the coverage that best suits your needs. Once you have returned this reservation form and deposit check for the tour and have determined which plan you prefer, you must purchase coverage within the time limit indicated, usually 14 to 21 days of your reservation.

Don't hesitate to contact us for a quote or to discuss the pros and cons of the various options.

Terms and Conditions of Sale — 2026 Spring Tour to Morocco with optional Aix-en-Provence

A deposit of \$1,000.00 per person is required to guarantee your reservation; the date of receipt will determine the order in which travelers are booked, in the event of a sold-out tour. The balance of the tour price is due on or before December 1, 2026.

More than 120 days prior to departure: the deposit will be refunded, less a service charge of \$100

From 120 to 90 days prior to departure: full deposit is forfeited

89 to 45 days prior to departure: 30% of tour cost is forfeited

44 to 30 days prior to departure: 60% of tour cost is forfeited

30 days or less, prior to departure: 100% of tour cost is forfeited

Included in quoted tour prices: All ground transportation by private vehicle, from arrival at Marrakech airport to transfer to Rabat or Marseille-Provence airport on April 9 or 13, 2026; flight from Morocco to France for Aix-en-Provence extension; luggage handling (1 piece, maximum 50 pounds, at owner's risk); accommodations in hotels listed in the itinerary or comparable, including taxes and daily breakfast; lunches and dinners, sightseeing, entrance fees, performance tickets, guide and escort services, only as indicated in the online itinerary (<https://www.deandaltontours.com/tours/118>).

Not included in quoted tour prices: Airfare, costs of passports or visas, laundry; meals or beverages, optional performances and sightseeing not included in the itinerary; room service; travel protection; gratuities to guides; communication charges; excess baggage fees.

Exchange Rates: Dean Dalton Tours reserves the right to adjust prices to reflect fluctuations in foreign exchange rates and any fuel or inflation surcharges imposed by providers. The listed prices for this program were calculated at an exchange rate of 1 MAD = 0.10 USD; 1 EUR = 1.10 USD.

Dean Dalton Tours also reserves the right to withdraw a tour or any part of it, to make such alterations in the itinerary as it deems necessary or desirable, to refuse to accept or retain as a member of any tour any person at any time, and to pass on to tour members any expenditures or losses caused by delays or events beyond its control.

Passports and Visas: Passports are required; visas are not required for U.S. citizens.

Itineraries: Hotel accommodations, performances, and sightseeing are subject to change due to unforeseen circumstances.

Dean Dalton Tours guarantees the operation of this tour with a minimum of 15 participants, with exception only in case of "force majeure." That term refers to any major event, including but not limited to civil unrest, natural catastrophe, military action, public health emergency, etc. that adversely affects international travel patterns, or other circumstances beyond Dean Dalton Tours' control. In case of such cancellation by Dean Dalton Tours, refunds will be based on the actual cost of each traveler's tour package, less a proportionate share of any unrecoverable expenditures and a small overhead charge.

Health Measures: In light of evidence of the effectiveness of face coverings in limiting the spread of airborne pathogens, including the common cold, flu, and other respiratory viruses, participants in Dean Dalton Tours programs are requested to wear masks when traveling together on a coach or other enclosed conveyance and required to comply with any local masking requirements.

Claims and Refunds: Except for verifiable extenuating circumstances, refunds are not made for any missed tour services. For claims to be considered, they must be received in writing within 30 days of the termination of the tour and be accompanied by supporting documentation. Any adjustment will be based on the actual cost of the services involved and not on a per diem basis. Adjustments will not be made for sightseeing trips or meals not used at traveler's choice. Dean Dalton Tours will not accept any liability for any claims not received within 30 days of the termination of this tour.

Photography: Dean Dalton Tours reserves the right to take photographs or videos during the operation of any tour or part thereof, and to use the resulting photography for promotional purposes. By booking a reservation, tour members agree to allow their image to be used in such photography; tour members who prefer that their image not be used are asked to identify themselves to their tour escort at the commencement of the tour.

Limits on Responsibility: Dean Dalton Tours, LLC is a Texas corporation based in Houston. It purchases transportation, hotel accommodations, restaurant and other services from various independent suppliers that are not subject to its control. Dean Dalton Tours CANNOT, THEREFORE, BE LIABLE FOR DEATH, PERSONAL INJURY OR ANY OTHER LOSS that may occur (1) due to any act or omission of any such supplier, (2) by reason of any other event over which Dean Dalton Tours has no control.

Please note that the prices for the Aix-en-Provence extension are approximate and based on a minimum of 10 participants. We still lack firm 2026 prices from the hotel; the price could be reduced with 15 or more participants.