

AMBASSADOR TOURS PRESENTS:
EXOTIC & CULTURAL MOROCCO
SEPTEMBER 22 – OCTOBER 3, 2013

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 22 – CASABLANCA (D)

Arrive Casablanca King Mohammed the V airport, you will be met by a **Ya'lla Tours USA** representative and transferred to your hotel for overnight.

Our hotel, **IDOU ANFA**, is a 4-star property in the center of town. All 222 guest rooms and suites are air-conditioned and have direct-dial phone, satellite TV and mini-bar. Facilities and services include restaurants, snack-bar open during summer, 2 bars, 1 night-club, 3 conference rooms, business-center, swimming-pool, deluxe shops and room service. www.hotel-idouanfa.com

A welcome dinner will be held at **La Scuderia**.

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 23 - FES (B,D)

After breakfast we visit Casablanca.

Visit to the port; the old medina; **Place Mohamed V**, a busy shopping street lined by residential blocks dating from the 1930s; United Nations Square, designed by French architect Joseph Marrass; the League of Arab States Park, which was built in 1925 and offers a large area of greenery with palm trees, arcades, pergolas and cafés with shady terraces. Then visit the impressive **Hassan II Mosque**, the second largest mosque in the world.

Then depart for **Rabat**, capital city of Morocco. See the old medina; the picturesque Kasbah of the Oudayas and the Oudaya Gate, built during the Almohad dynasty. Also see the well-preserved Hassan Tower and the Chellah, which were built by the Merinids in the 12th and 13th centuries. Walk into the Mohamed V Mausoleum, the burial place of the present king's grandfather.

Continue to the **Belghazi Museum** of Sale (Rabat's twin city), Africa's first private museum. Over the years, the museum's owners, the Belghazi family, established strategic alliances with craftsmen, especially in Fez and Meknes, to have a name in traditional embroidery, not only in Morocco but throughout the world as well. Belghazi, who admits that he has always had a weakness for carved wood, reports that he has collected 290 pieces of woodwork, including mucharabias, gates and furniture, that date back to the 15th century. Covering over 7,500 square meters, the museum includes 20 exhibition halls that also serve as a center for artistic and cultural research for experts from Germany, Canada, Spain and Italy.

Continue to **Fes** for dinner and overnight.

Our riad, **LA PERLE DE LA MEDINA**, is situated in the prestigious Douh district near the Batha place and only one block away from the famous and monumental door of Bab Boujloud. All rooms and suites are adequately arranged for your comfort with air conditioning, safety deposit box, telephone, hair dryer, mini bar and satellite TV. Hotel facilities include 2 restaurants, massage, library, internet access, and terraces with panoramic sights of Fes. www.riadperlemedina.com



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TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 24 - FES

(B,D)

A full day tour of Fes, the religious capital of Morocco, includes the old and new medinas, and visits to the 14th-century religious schools (medersas) of Bou Inania and Attarine. Explore the impressive labyrinth of souks, declared by UNESCO to be one of the world's cultural treasures. The tour also includes stops at the imposing gate of Bab Boujloud, the splendid fountain at Place Nejjarine, the ancient ramparts, and the beautiful façade of the Royal Palace.

Return to the hotel for overnight.

Dinner tonight will be at the unique **Maison Blanche Restaurant**.

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 25 – FES

(B,D)

Drive to **Meknes**, founded in the 9th-century by Zenata Berbers. A visit of this former Imperial City of Morocco includes the old ramparts; the Agoudal Basin, once used to water the royal gardens and amuse the favorite concubines; and the Moulay Ismail royal stables, granaries and House of Water (Dar El Ma), built in the 17th and 18th centuries to house, feed and water the sultan's twelve thousand horses. See Bab El Mansour, one of the most beautiful gates in Morocco; and the Moulay Ismail Mausoleum, one of the few holy sites in Morocco which may be visited by non-Muslims.

Continue to **Volubilis**, a flourishing Roman trade city in the 2nd and 3rd centuries. The Berbers occupied Volubilis until the 8th century. The earthquake of 1755 destroyed the city. Excavations began in 1887 and continue to this day. A visit to the ruins begins with a tour of the ramparts, 5 ¼ feet wide and 1 ½ miles long, which incorporate no fewer than forty bastions and eight 2nd-century gates.

Return to Fes for overnight.

Dinner tonight will be at the **Maison Bleue Restaurant**.

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 26 - MERZOUGA (Berber tent) (B,L,D)

Set out in the early morning with a full day drive across the cedar forests and picturesque scenery of the Middle Atlas Mountains.

Stop in Midelt for **lunch** at **Kasbah Asmae** and then continue through the Ziz Gorge and Er Rachidia to Erfoud situated amongst the impressive sand dunes of the Sahara Desert and one of the largest oases in Morocco.

From Erfoud, travel approximately 1.5 hours to **Merzouga** and from Merzouga, a short drive by 4X4 will take you to your Berber camp on the edge of the Sahara Dunes.

Experience Berber life firsthand as you pass the night under the vast Saharan sky.

Dinner and overnight at your camp.



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Description of the private Bedouin bivouac tent experience

The site is surrounded by torches and the ground is covered with red antique Moroccan rugs. There will be a bonfire between the tents; the whole bivouac area will be lit with candle lanterns and oil lamps.

Sleeping Tent: 25x25 meter Royal Caidal sleeping tents are furnished with comfortable mattresses (king or 2 twins), sheets, Berber blankets, towels, Moroccan wood chest, a table with a copper top, leather poufs, copper candlesticks, a mirror, mineral water, sodas and juices, 2 glasses, candles and matches.

Bath Facilities: Each tent has its own separate shower with warm water, WC and traditional wash basin.

Dining facilities: 1 kitchen tent, 1 restaurant tent.

Dining: The restaurant tent is furnished with tables and tablecloths, traditional plates, stemware, silver utensils, a silver set for the Tea Ceremony, Tas Ouidou for the traditional hand washing, incense burner, mrach traditional rosewater sprinkler and poufs.

Proposed dinner menu: Moroccan salads & briouates (sort of samosa with various fillings), tagine of beef and dried fruits, royal couscous with chicken and 7 vegetables, seasonal fruit, fine Moroccan pastries, fresh mint tea, fine Moroccan red & white wine.



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Breakfast menu: freshly squeezed orange juice, Morocco soup and dates, eggs, tea, coffee, milk, various Moroccan pancakes and breads, butter, honey, jam.

Staff: 1 tent master, 1 cook, 2 waiters in traditional costume, 1 night watchman.

Entertainment: Gnawa group performing as welcome entertainment and during cocktails, 1 musician performing Andalousian-Moorish music during dinner.

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 27 – OUARZAZATE (B,D)

End your Bedouin experience with a camel trek to see a fantastic sunrise over the dunes. After breakfast at the camp, board your 4x4 to explore the **Oasis of Khemlia**. See the ruins of **Sijilmassa**, the first Arab and Islamic city of Morocco, and the prehistoric fossils present throughout the desert.

The Gnawa residents of the area originally came from Senegal and Mali hundreds of years ago as slave soldiers during the reign of the Moroccan sultan Moulay Ismael. They are well known as great musicians, playing large drums and castanets as they sing and dance. Continue to Erfoud where you will meet your motorcoach and drive to **Tineghir**, a former military outpost built on terraces above a magnificent palm grove and the gateway to the awesome Todra Gorge.

Then on to Boumalne du Dades, a large town and local administration center at the foot of the gorge, followed by a series of kasbahs, Skoura, and El Kelaa des Mgouna.

After Skoura, the palm trees are replaced by orchards and irrigated gardens. El Kelaa des Mgouna is a center of rose cultivation and processing. You will find some nice shopping here for rose products such as rose water, body milk, dried petals, etc.

Continue to the film industry center at Ouarzazate for **dinner** and overnight.

Our hotel, **RIAD SALAM**, is a 4 star hotel located near shops and restaurants. The hotel has 124 air-conditioned rooms in traditional Moroccan style, with bathroom, satellite or cable TV, telephone and mini bar. Other amenities include restaurant, swimming pool, sauna, solarium and tennis court.

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 28 – MARRAKECH (B,D)

A city tour of Ourzazate includes the 17th-century **Kasbah Taourirt**, once the home of the Pacha Glaoui.

Then visit **Atlas Studios**, Morocco's most important and well known movie studio. Drive to the Kasbah complex of **Ait Ben Haddou**, an impressive 11th-century structure that has been declared an historical treasure by UNESCO. Then drive through mountainous and semi-desert landscape, over the High Atlas Mountains at **Tizi N' Tichka Pass** (7,400 feet), and across the fertile countryside of the Haouz Plain to the pink city of **Marrakech** for dinner and overnight.

Our riad, **KNIZA**, and is one of the most accessible Riads in town, it is situated in the old historic Medina, a few minute walk from the famous Jemaa El Fna square and the fabulous souks of Marrakech. The best craftsmen of Marrakech have contributed to make of this very special guest house a real Oasis of calm, charm, refinement and warmth, tastefully decorated in the purest refined Moroccan style, by the owner a Moroccan antiques dealer. The riad is built around two open sky patios with water fountains. The Riad offers: large patio with fountain, small patio in the back with wall fountain, 2



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lounges with magnificent chimneys and traditional Moroccan furniture, ceiling made of carved cedar-wood all decorated in the authentic Moroccan style with a view on the big patio, where meals can be served. All rooms and suites have private bath, satellite TV, air-conditioning, safe and phone. www.riadkniza.com
Dinner will be at **La Cour des Lions Restaurant**.

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 29 – MARRAKECH (B,D)

A half-day tour of **Marrakech** begins with Menara Gardens. See the small Saadian pavilion mirrored in still water with the Atlas Mountains and olive groves in the background. Next, enter the old medina, buried within the imperial walls. Stop at the foot of the famous **Koutoubia Minaret**, a masterpiece of Islamic architecture.

Continue to the Kasbah, the 16th-century monument site of the **Saadian tombs**. Notice the wonderful Hispano-Mauresque architecture surrounding the burial grounds of the royal family.

Visit the aristocratic **Bahia Palace** with its lush Moorish-style courtyard garden and beautifully painted residential rooms. Finally, stroll through the famous **Jemaa El Fna Square**, the ancient meeting place of tradesmen in Northwest Africa.

The afternoon is at your leisure. You may want to relax by the pool, return to the souks for shopping, or visit the interesting Dar Si Said Museum (entrance fee and transportation not included). Return to your hotel for overnight.

Our dinner tonight will be at **Dar Ghizlane Restaurant**.

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 30 – MARRAKECH (B,L,D)

Pick you up at from the hotel at 9:30am.

Drive about twenty minutes to the **Faim d'Epices farm**.

Welcome with a traditional mint tea, coffee or a cool drink.

Start learning the meal you will make by yourself under the leadership of cheff Nezha.

Instruction on selection of spices and their history.

Cooking workshop takes place.

Enjoy your meal on the terrace, surrounded by lemon, orange and olive trees.

You can then leisurely end your class by enjoying your coffee or one of the many varieties of mint teas.

Detailed recipes of the dishes prepared will be given to the guests.

Return to Marrakech around 4:00pm.

Our dinner tonight will be at **Dar Nassim** a chic gourmet restaurant

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 01 – MARRAKECH (B,L)

Today we will board a 4X4 jeep for our trip to the **Atlas Mountains**.

Visit the **Imlil Valley** and Jbel Toubkal the highest peak in North Africa, just 40 miles from Marrakech. The green landscapes of this valley, the lazy meandering torrent of the rivers and the red adobe **Berber villages** hanging on the slopes will enchant you. The tranquility of Berber Village life provides the perfect contrast to the hubbub of the city. From the village of Imlil, footpaths and mule tracks mount through lush, irrigated terraces, apple orchards and walnut groves to other villages where the way of life has changed little for centuries and traditional values and hospitality are unaffected by the outside world. The Kasbah is perched on a great rock outcrop above the main village with



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panoramic views of the mountains, valleys and waterfalls. It is reached by a short donkey ride from the village. You will have about an hour to walk around and have tea with a local Berber family.

Have **lunch** at **Kasbah Toubkal** (no alcohol can be served, sorry).

Return to Marrakech and your hotel around 4.00pm.

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 02 – MARRAKECH (B,D)

You will be met in the hotel lobby at 9:30am and transferred to the legendary restaurant at **La Maison Arabe** which today offers cooking workshops designed for the amateur and professional alike.

The workshops are conducted by a dada (traditional Moroccan cook) or a chef from our Moroccan restaurant, and are held either at the Riad or at the Kasbah of our Country Club. Small groups work alongside a translator (Arabic/English/French), using easy-to-use modern equipment found in everyday kitchens. At the end of each workshop, participants dine on the meal they have prepared. At a typical half-day workshop, one learns to prepare an appetizer and a main dish, or a main dish and dessert.

You will finish your cooking class about 3:00pm, you will be dropped at the Square for a couple of hours then drive to the north-east corner of the city, La Palmeraie is a true oasis with a hundred thousand trees providing shade from the hot African sun. It also counts some of Marrakech's most exclusive residences.

Take a unique journey through the Palmeraie astride a camel the most traditional Moroccan transport! Feel the sway of these gentle dromedaries as you venture through the countryside and take a peek at local life.

Farwell dinner will be at the elegant Thai restaurant at the Amanjena Hotel.

Return to your hotel for overnight.

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 03 - (B)

You will be transferred to the Marrakech airport for your departure flight.



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Price per person in a double room: \$4,317.00

Single Prices available on request

In Marrakech, we are holding the following room categories at the Riad Kniza:

Superior/Deluxe: 2 rooms available - supplement of \$500.00 per person

Junior Suite: 2 rooms available - supplement of \$775.00 per person

Senior Suite: 4 rooms available - supplement of \$1,050.00 per person

Prices are Based on 12 Passenger Travelling Together!

TOUR INCLUDES:

- * 10 nights of hotel accommodations with breakfast daily.
- * 1 night of accommodation in a Berber bivouac tent.
- * 10 dinners and 3 lunches as per itinerary.
- * Bottled water on bus throughout the tour.
- * 10 days of **private** touring in an air-conditioned bus with driver and licensed, **English-speaking** guide.
- * Short camel ride in the Sahara Desert.
- * 4X4 jeep ride in the Sahara & in the Atlas Mountains.
- * Entry fees to monuments including Hassan II Mosque.
- * Private transfers from/to airport in Casablanca and in Marrakech.
- * Service fees and local taxes.
- * **Ya'lla Tours USA** information kit and travel bag.
- * Tips for guide, driver, hotels and restaurants.

TOUR DOES NOT INCLUDE:

- * Airfare.
- * Meals except where indicated.
- * Drinks except as specified.

IMPORTANT NOTE:

- * You must have a valid **U.S. passport** to enter Morocco (Must have at least 6 months of validity past your scheduled return date).
- * A \$500 per person deposit is required at the time of the booking.
- * Final payment will be due June 14, 2013.



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TERMS AND CONDITIONS

PRICE:

- * The price of the tour is based on a minimum of **12** participants in the tour. The price is guaranteed but if due to unforeseen circumstances beyond **Ya'lla Tours USA Inc's** control, our suppliers increase the price, **Ya'lla USA Inc.** will adjust the price accordingly.
- * Price of the airfare portion of the tour is subject to change until the air ticket has been issued.
- * Should the number of participants, **95** days prior to departure, be lower than the published minimum number of participants to operate the tour, the price will be adjusted accordingly, or the tour will be canceled.

DEPOSIT AND PAYMENT POLICY:

- * A deposit of **\$500** per person is due upon registration.
- * Final payment is due on **June 14, 2013.**

CANCELLATIONS & REFUND PER PERSON:

- * **For cancellations up to 95 days prior to departure, a fee of \$100.00 will apply.**
- * **For cancellation of 94 to 45 days prior to departure, a cancellation fee of 50% of the tour cost will apply.**
- * **For cancellation of 44 to 15 days prior to departure, a cancellation fee of 75% of the tour cost will apply.**
- * **For cancellation of 14 days and less prior to departure, a cancellation fee of 100% of the tour cost will apply.**

LAND ARRANGEMENTS:

The Tour Operator reserves the right to change the itinerary due to unforeseen circumstances. In all cases, **Ya'lla Tours USA Inc.** will strive to maintain the content of the tour.

The Tour operator reserves the right to change the hotels listed on the tour for others of similar quality.

PASSENGER RESPONSIBILITY:

Passenger has read the above terms and conditions and agrees to each of them. Passenger hereby warrants that he/she fully understand each of them. Specifically passenger understands that should he/she cancel their trip for any reason, passenger will be charged the cancellation fee set out in the 'Cancellations & Refunds' section.



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RESPONSIBILITY AND LIABILITY:

Whereas **Ya'lla Tours USA Inc.**, participating airlines and tour operators operate the land tours offered under this program only as agents of the aircraft, railroads, car rental contractors, steamship lines, hotels, bus operators, sight-seeing contractors and others who provide the actual land arrangements, we are not liable for any act, omission, delay, injury, loss or damage or nonperformance occurring in connection with these tours.

The Passenger contract in use by the airline concerned, when issued, shall constitute the sole contract between the airline and the purchaser of these tours and/or passenger.

Ya'lla Tours USA Inc. reserve the right to bring legal action to collect damages in the event that purchaser fails to pay any fees due and owing for services, including cancellation fees as set out in the section entitled 'Cancellations & Refunds'. The parties agree that should legal action be commenced, the prevailing party will be entitled to his/her or its reasonable attorney fees and court costs in addition to the actual damages sustained and proven. Venue for any dispute is Multnomah County Circuit Court, Oregon. This contract shall be governed by the laws of the State of Oregon.

PASSPORT AND DOCUMENTATION:

Your passport must be valid for at least six months following your entry date to your travel destination.

For more specific visa requirement, please contact the relevant consulate for current information.

ENTIRE AGREEMENT SEVERABILITY:

This is the entire agreement of the parties and it may be amended only by written agreement signed by **Ya'lla Tours USA Inc.** and the client.

If any part of this agreement is held unenforceable by a court of law, the rest of this agreement will nevertheless remain in force and effect.

TRAVEL INSURANCE: I

Travel insurance is not included in your tour price.

It is the passenger's responsibility to verify whether his / her local health insurance includes coverage outside of the U.S. Please contact your insurance carrier for details.

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