



PRELIMINARY ITINERARY

Updated as of August 2018; additional special programs and meetings will be added in the months to come.

Sunday, April 7	Depart Washington – Dulles International Airport (IAD) to Casablanca (CMN)
9:50 p.m.	Royal America Moroccan Flight – IAD to CMN Note: This is the suggested flight from Washington, D.C., however participants can select any flight they would like that arrives the morning of Monday, April 8
Monday, April 8	Welcome to Morocco
10:00 am	Arrive Casablanca Airport (CMN) Ground transfer to Rabat via chartered van; check in to Sofitel Jardin Des Roses
Afternoon:	Lunch and Tour The first tour will visit the picturesque, labyrinthine Kasbah des Oudaias overlooking the Atlantic Ocean and gardens outside the Kasbah. The tour will end at the majestic Hassan Tower and the Mausoleum of Mohamed V.
Evening:	Opening Reception hosted by the U.S. Ambassador (TBC)
Accommodations:	Sofitel Jardin Des Roses Impasse Souissi Rabat 10000, Morocco *Guests are recommended to arrive in Casablanca by noon.
Tuesday, April 9	Rabat Government Meetings
Day:	Meetings with government leaders will be arranged throughout the day.
Accommodations:	Sofitel Jardin Des Roses Impasse Souissi Rabat 10000, Morocco
Wednesday, April 10	Depart Rabat and drive to Fez via Volubilis/Meknes
Morning:	Breakfast; depart for Fez via chartered van. Lunch will be provided along the way. On the way to Fez, we will stop by the Roman Ruins at Volubilis and tour the capital of the ancient Roman province of Mauritania. After completing the tour of the ruins, we will make a brief stop at nearby Moulay Idriss , the holiest Muslim site in Morocco. At its center lies the tomb (zaouia) of the man who brought Islam to Morocco twelve centuries ago. We will also visit imperial Meknes – its spectacular city gates are among the finest in the Arab world. Here is the tomb of the once feared Moulay Ismail , who modeled his capital of Meknes in the image of Versailles.



Afternoon: Arrival and check into Palais Amani

Evening: Dinner

Accommodations: Palais Amani
12 Derb El Miter
Fez 30000, Morocco

Thursday, April 11 **Fez Cultural Program and Tours**

Morning: Breakfast at the hotel followed by a tour with an expert guide and private transport. Highlights will include the **Bou Inania Medersa** (Koranic University), the **Foundouk Nejjarine**, the **Shrine of Moulay Idriss II**, countless **souks** and Fez's famous **tanneries**. We will also visit the **Attarine**, one of the city's most impressively beautiful medersas which has been newly reopened after four years of careful restoration.

Afternoon: Lunch
The delegation will visit the **Dar Batha Museum**, which has a particularly impressive pottery collection dating to the 16th century, before visiting the stunning gates of the **Royal Palace**. Participants will tour the restored **Ibn Danan Synagogue**—the oldest extant synagogue in Fez. Its restoration is part of a comprehensive UNESCO project to preserve the fabric and monuments of medieval Fez. We will also visit the recently restored **Al Fassiyeen** synagogue nearby.

Evening: Dinner

Accommodations: Palais Amani
12 Derb El Miter
Fez 30000, Morocco

Friday, April 12 **Depart Fez and fly to Marrakech**

Morning: Breakfast at hotel; depart for Fez Saiss Airport

12:30 pm Flight to Marrakech via Air Arabia

1:30 pm Arrive to Marrakech; check in to La Mamounia Hotel

Afternoon: The afternoon tour will start with one of the defining landmarks of Marrakech, the 12th-century tiled minaret of the **Koutoubia mosque**. From there, participants will explore the frenetic **Djemaa el Fnaa**, one of the busiest squares in all of Africa—and perhaps in all the world. It was once the ultimate destination for traders from places as diverse as Venice, sub-Saharan Africa, and Asia. Today, it provides ever-changing entertainment for Moroccans and foreigners alike, reaching its climax at sunset when the square is alive with storytellers, healers, snake charmers, acrobats, and



countless food stalls. The entire Djemaa el Fnaa has been designated as a UNESCO World Heritage Cultural Space (one of only a handful in the world), due to its unique role in transmitting oral history and tradition from one generation to the next.

Evening: Dinner

Accommodations: La Mamounia
Avenue Bab Jdid
Marrakech 40040, Morocco

Saturday, April 13 Marrakech Cultural Program and Tours

Morning: Breakfast at the hotel followed by a tour with an expert guide and private transport. The first stop will be the tropical **Majorelle Gardens**, restored under the patronage of the late Yves St. Laurent. A small but excellent museum of **Berber culture**, located in the home of painter Jacques Majorelle, along with the newly opened **Yves Saint Laurent Museum**, is just a short walk from the Majorelle Gardens and the designer's former residence. There is a beautifully curated exhibit of his work permanently on display, as well as a research library containing many of the designer's archives.

Afternoon: Close to the medersa are two of the most interesting cultural showcases in Marrakech. The **Musee de Marrakech** is housed in the sumptuous, 19th-century **Mnebhi Palace**. Nearby is the **Dar Bellarj** cultural foundation. The group will stop for lunch at the beautifully restored **Dar Cherifa**, which houses a cultural foundation, bookstore, and art gallery (with rotating exhibitions). On the last evening, the participants will explore the colorful **souks** (marketplaces) of Marrakech. Each trade-spices, carpets, jewelry, enamel, copper, brass, cedar-is situated in its own unique quarter. You might see villagers bringing in their handmade rugs to sell to merchants, or you might observe artisans' hand-tooling crafts as they have done for centuries.

Evening: Dinner

Accommodations: La Mamounia Hotel
Avenue Bab Jdid
Marrakech 40040, Morocco

Sunday, April 14 Departure from Morocco

11:00 AM Ground transfer to Casablanca for 4:25 pm direct flight to Washington, D.C. – Dulles International Airport.

For delegates who are interested in extending their trip, a 1-2 night trip to the desert or High Atlas Mountains can also be arranged.