

CRUISE DIVISION PRESENTS:
EXOTIC & CULTURAL MOROCCO
OCTOBER 13 - 27, 2012

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 13 –

Depart from any of Air France 12 gateways in the USA to Paris.

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 14 - CASABLANCA (D)

Arrive Paris. Connect with Air France flight to Casablanca.

Upon arrival in 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, **HYATT REGENCY**, is a deluxe property set in the center of town. Facilities and services include 4 restaurants, a piano-bar (Rick's Café), a night-club, a business center, fitness center and a=, swimming-pool. www.casablanca.regency.hyatt.com

A welcome dinner will be held at **La Maison du Gourmet**.

MONDAY, OCTOBER 15 - FES (B,D)

After an early breakfast, your tour of Casablanca includes a 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 Marrast; 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.

In the afternoon, we will have a 1½ hour drive to **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.

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

You are confirmed in a Deluxe room

Our hotel, **RIAD FES**, is a palatial residential hotel nestled in the heart of the medina near the main historical sites of the old city. All 21 rooms and suites are luxuriously appointed and complete with bathrooms with bathtub, air-conditioning, and telephone. Sumptuous and exotic public areas include a large covered central courtyard with sofas and a grand piano, a fireplace lounge, a solarium terrace and a restaurant with panoramic views of the medina. Facilities and services include a swimming pool, a traditional hammam, Jacuzzi, fitness center, business center, and massage. www.riadfes.com

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 16 - 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, OCTOBER 17 - 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 Ismaïl 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 Ismaïl Mausoleum, one of the few holy sites in Morocco which may be visited by non-Muslims.

Then visit the **Dar Jamai Museum**. Not only are the exhibits housed in the museum considered to be masterpieces, but so is the building itself. In the year 1882, construction of the Jamai family home was completed. This fine structure later became an important military hospital in 1912. By 1920, the significance of the building was recognized and the decision was made to transform this magnificent historical building into the Dar Jamai Museum.

Today, the palace still displays much of its wealthy beginnings. A luxurious Arab-style garden features fruit trees and beautiful cypresses. The building boasts elegant painted windows, detailed tiles, painted wood and sculptured plasterwork. This spectacular museum is dedicated to exhibiting the local talent and skill of the craftsmen of Morocco with colorful exhibits of painted wood panels, decorated chests, pottery, metal-work, woodcarving, ceramics and leatherwork. The museum also has a wonderful collection of jewelry, traditional costumes and rare carpets.

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 dinner and overnight.

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 18 - 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 at Midelt for **lunch** 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.

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

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

Food facilities: 1 kitchen tent, 1 restaurant tent

Restaurant: The restaurant tent is furnished with tables with tablecloth, 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

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, OCTOBER 19 - 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 Mulay 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 Ourzazate for diner and overnight.

Our hotel, **BERBERE PALACE**, is a 5-star property located on 27 acres in the center of town. It has 220 rooms decorated in traditional Berber style, 3 restaurants serving Moroccan and international cuisine, piano-bar, night club, shops, a swimming-pool, 3 tennis courts, ping-pong, volley-ball and a fitness club. www.palaces-traditions.com

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 20 - OUARZAZATE

(B,L,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.

Lunch will be at Relais de Saint-Exupery

Return to your hotel for a free afternoon, dinner and overnight.

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 21 - MARRAKECH

(B,D)

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.

You are confirmed in a Junior Suite

Our hotel, **ES SAADI PALACE**, is an extraordinary site in the heart of Marrakesh, built in the serene "Hivernage" residential area, facing the snow-capped Atlas Mountains. The Es Saadi Palace is surrounded by a magnificent park, eight hectares of bougainvillea, palm, orange and lemon trees, between the old walled town and the Menara gardens. The Palace is exclusively composed of suites, all of which enjoy a view of the Atlas Mountains and the swimming-pool. Each suite is unique, designed with unique carved or painted wooden doors, 11ft. ceilings, terra cotta tiled floors and Moroccan rugs, mini-bar, Wifi internet, satellite TV, direct-dial telephone, individually controlled air-conditioning, marble bathroom, large bathtub and separate shower, double sinks, hair dryer, and private terrace with teak wood furniture. Facilities include a luxurious spa and restaurants serving gourmet cuisine, contemporary Mediterranean food and traditional Moroccan food. Guests have direct access to the Casino de Marrakech and Theatro Night Club located in the gardens, adjacent to the Palace. <http://www.essaadi.com/EN/palace.htm>

MONDAY, OCTOBER 22 - 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**.

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 23 - MARRAKECH

(B,L,D)

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 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.

Our dinner tonight will be at **Dar Ennassim** a real *1001 Nights* fantasy experience.

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 24 - MARRAKECH

(B,L,D)

Drive approximately 3 hours to **Essaouira**, the nearest seaside resort to Marrakech.

Renowned for centuries for its production of murex, a small shellfish used to make the purple dye for Roman togas, Essaouira is now a very active fishing harbor still showing traces of its Portuguese occupation in the 16th century.

Today, protected from the sea and the wind behind its commanding fortified walls, Essaouira shelters a flourishing crafts-trade in marquetry, the working of citron and lime wood with ebony, mother of pearl and silver thread to make tables, chess-boards, caskets and bracelets. In the 1970's, American rock stars such as Bob Dylan and Cat Stevens spent time in Essaouira.

Enjoy a seafood lunch at **Heure Bleue Restaurant** and some free time on your own.

Return to Marrakech for dinner and overnight.

Dinner tonight will be at the Thai restaurant at the **Amenjena Resort**.

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 25 - MARRAKECH

(B)

We'll start the morning with a wonderful surprise: **Hot air Ballooning!**

Hot air ballooning in Morocco was brought to public attention when the Virgin Challenger lifted off from Marrakech with hot air balloon enthusiast Richard Branson in the basket. The thrill of being lifted high into the air and drifting on the winds has an allure of its own. Floating above the earth, with no engine noise breaking the silence and tranquility of the heavens and nothing but endless landscapes stretching out in all directions; it is an experience that cannot be described - only lived. To be part of a hot air balloon ride in Morocco, visitors will have to be prepared for an early start.

Most pilots take off before sunrise, so you will be collected from your hotel at approximately 5:30AM. Hot air balloon pilots are in constant contact with the vehicles that follow them on the ground in case of emergency and to notify the ground crew as to their landing location. The flight duration is approximately one hour and passengers will have spectacular views of the Atlas Mountains and the Al Haouz Plain.

Return to the hotel for breakfast.



Then visit the **Bert Flint Museum** at Maison Tiskiwin, a must see in Morocco. This museum belonged to the Dutch anthropologist, Bert Flint who was a collector of local Marrakech art. On display is an excellent collection of Moroccan art and artifacts including baskets, jewelry, textiles and much more.

Adjoining the museum, Mr. Flint's beautiful town house contains carpets, fabrics, clothes and jewelry from across Morocco, including the south and sub-Saharan.

Return to the hotel for overnight

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 26 - MARRAKECH B,D)

Free day in Marrakech

Our farewell dinner will be at the elegant **La Ciur des Lions Restaurant** at the Essadi Palace Hotel.

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 27 -

(B)

Depart Marrakesh for Casablanca Mohamed V Airport by bus.

Connect with your Air France flight to Paris.

Then connect with your flight to one of Air France's 12 gateways in the USA.

Price per person in a double room from:

- BOS, JFK, EWR: **\$12,310**
- ATL, CVG, DTW, HOU, MCO, MIA: **\$12,410**
- LAX, SEA, SFO: **\$12,510**

Business Class air supplement: \$3,195

Reduction for not using the air: less \$800
plus cost of transfers from/to the airport if traveling on different flights than the group

Rates from connecting Delta Airlines cities to AF hub cities, or to Paris, are available upon request.

Single room supplement: \$2,295

Prices are GUARANTEED for October 2012

PRICE INCLUDES:

- * Round trip economy class airfare from any AF's gateways to Casablanca.
- * Departure and fuel taxes. (\$515 as of March 22, 2011, subject to change until the final invoice is issued).
- * 11 nights of accommodations with breakfast daily.
- * 1 night of accommodation in a Berber bivouac tent.
- * 12 dinners and 4 lunches as per itinerary.
- * ½ bottle of wine and water per included lunch or dinner.
- * 11 days of **private** touring in an air-conditioned bus with a driver and a licensed, English-speaking guide.
- * Short camel ride in the Sahara Desert.
- * 4X4 jeep ride in the Sahara & 4X4 jeep ride in the Atlas Mountains.
- * Entry fees to monuments including Hassan II Mosque.
- * Hot air balloon ride in Marrakech.
- * Transfers from/to airport in Casablanca.
- * Service fees and local taxes.
- * **Ya'lla Tours USA** information kit and travel bag.
- * Tips for guide and driver.

PRICE DOES NOT INCLUDE:

- * Meals except where indicated.
- * Personal expenses.
- * Travel insurance, highly recommended.

IMPORTANT NOTE:

- * Air France offers full mileage credit on their Sky Miles program.
- * Air schedules are subject to change.
- * You must have a **U.S. passport** to enter Morocco (valid at least 6 months after your return to the U.S.).
- * A \$1,000 per person deposit is required upon booking. The deposit is **FULLY REFUNDABLE** up to 90 days prior to departure.
- * The deposit guarantees the price of the airfare and the land services. Failure to pay the deposit may cause an increase in the price.
- * Final payment is due on **July 15, 2012.**
- * All funds paid to **Ya'lla Tours USA Inc.** are held in a trust account until paid to our suppliers.

TERMS AND CONDITIONS

PRICE:

- * The price of the tour is **from \$12,310 to \$12,510** per person in a double room (depending on the departure city) based on a minimum of **15** participants. 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 a single traveler wish to share a room with another traveler, and **Ya'lla Tours USA Inc.** is unable to match him/her with a roommate, the single room supplement will apply.
- * Should the number of participants, **90** 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 **\$1,000** per person is due upon registration.
- * Final payment is due on **July 15, 2012**, **90** days prior to the group departure.

CANCELLATIONS & REFUND:

- * **For cancellation of 89 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.**
- * No refund will be paid for unused services such as: transfers, sightseeing, meals, hotel accommodation, entrance fees, and others that are listed in the tour program.
- * **The travel insurance is NON-REFUNDABLE.**

RESPONSIBILITY AND LIABILITY:

Whereas **Ya'lla Tours USA Inc.** and the 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. reserves 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.

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 do its best 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.

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 update information.

ENTIRE AGREEMENT SEVERABILITY:

This is the entire agreement of the parties and it may be amended only by written agreement signed by both **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:

Travel insurance is not included in your tour price.

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

Ya'lla Tours USA Inc. highly recommends the purchase of comprehensive travel insurance, which covers health, luggage and trip cancellation. A waiver must be signed if insurance is declined.