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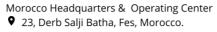
# 9 Days 8 Nights – The Roman Maghreb, The Land of Saints & The Battle of Kings Tour

This tour, we will examine the important and founding of Morocco port. Their important position in the Phoenician period, 1550 BC to 300 BC, an ancient Canaan civilization and owe their wealth from maritime trade. The story of their arrival and founding of Tangier, Larache and Lixus has maintain it mark and influences of each of these cities as important maritime trading post until today.

The Roman, who was in power from 31 BC and until their fall on 476 when Emperor Romulus Augustus was ousted from power. The Roman came into North Africa after their victory during the Punic war in 149 – 146 BC for military expansion and also find fertile ground for cultivation of grains to feed the ever expanding population and troops to sustain the empire. From their ruin, it is clear that Roman food production at that period, are very advance, mass producing olive oil, salted fish, garum, a type of fish sauce and the nearby ocean provide tuna, mackerel and other seafood. Their presence and food technology left an indelible mark on history. First the pastoral of Morocco, spurred the growth of a settled, agricultural way of life and the rise of towns and cities. Secondly, it helped make long-range shipment of goods a regular feature of the world economy through the establishment of shipping lanes, the construction of special containers, boats, docks, lighthouses and road, not to mentioned the development of techniques and occupations associated with these. Thirdly, it leads to the invention of food processing technologies and founding one of the world first factories.

Our journey carried us to step back in time, and offer a moment of a silent prayer, in the remembrance for those who died in the worst war of the entire history of North Africa and also Portugal. The "Battle of 3 Kings" as it is known, where Spanish King Sebastian 1, Moroccan ousted Sultan Abu Abdullah and Sultan Abd Al Malik, three famous leader of powerful kingdom died in one day together with an estimate of 15,000 men perish in the 6 hours battle. Many historian believed that if this incident did not occur history will have a new story to tell.

This special tour program proceed to present you with our signature series "The Invisible Museum" a project dedicated to search for "Morocco's Lost Jewish Heritage". According to oral tradition, Jews started to arrive some times in 70 AD, right after the destruction of the first temple in Jerusalem. There are about a quarter of million population before Morocco independence and only less than 2500 Jews left residing here. Morocco used to be having the highest Jewish population in the world. As we navigate into the ancient medina, Jewish presence in what we known as Jewish Quarters together with beautiful synagogue and 500 years old cemetery.





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Judaism which is the Jewish religion, and Islam, two major religion that coexisted share similar spiritual and cultural practices carried down even until today. One of it is the venerable of sainthood. Morocco has a long history between the relationship of king and saint, together with the surge of Sufism popularity, many Moroccan scholar has been acknowledge to produce extremely important work on Islam. Today, Morocco is known as the "Land Of Saints" in which every year, many pilgrims came to pay respect to their teacher, just like the Jews to their Rabbi. This tour offer the opportunity to Non-Muslim to visit on of the outdoor zaouia of the famous Moulay Abd Assalam, the founder of tariqa Shadhiliyyah, perch up in Jabal Alam with serene atmosphere, crips mountain air, wide spread of valley space and sound of dhikir with concentrated devotee to request blessing from the chosen one, will remain a piece of memory beyond conceptual.

This amazing program provide you with various types of accommodation to energize your sensory. From a Resort for modern and relaxation, stepping back in time for a stay in the Riad, Moroccan traditional courtyard house to hotel for an easy fun time at the coast. The diversified Moroccan cuisine from tagine to pizza will bring satisfaction and huge loads of freshness to your daily adventure.

## **Tour Highlights**

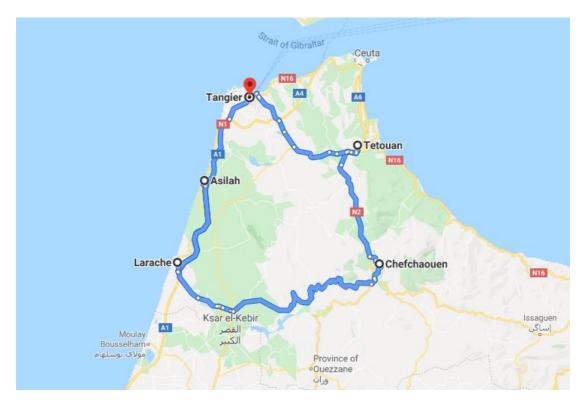
- 1. Enjoyable stay at resort facing the Atlantic oceans at Larache which is a laid-back town with plenty of Spanish influence,
- 2. Re-trace the history of Phoenician, nickname "the invaders", when they arrive sometimes in the 12 BC moving from Larache, Lixus and Asilah to establish their trading port,
- 3. Up closed with the beautiful remains of the Roman Empire at Lixus and a leisure walk on the classical town of Asilah where Roman's coin were minted.
- 4. Observed the Muslim conquest of the Mahgreb with the fall of Tangier in 708, expressed through architecture design in the square-shafted minaret of mosques, which later set the Moroccan own identity.
- 5. Re-visit the era the Spanish in Morocco from 1610-1689 and 1912-1956 with the imposing fortress, Spanish Electic style of architecture and their food culture at Larache old town, Chefchaouen, Tetouan and Tangier,
- 6. Opportunity to meditate and radiate one compassion, on visit to the site that cemented history with fall of dynasties, death of Kings and a war gone wrong,
- 7. Experience the mystical spiritual aura of North of Morocco with Judism and Islam with it many Saints, Maroubat, Shakys, Rabbi, the believe of the quest to consciously deepen the insight about life.
- 8. Souk in the picturesque mountain city of Chefchaouen with walk around to admire it winding, cobbled stone village, sit around it cosy square for a coffee or simple flip out your phone for covershot photos.
- 9. Wake up your sensory by getting hypnotized with vibrant traditional Moroccan souk. Treasure lurk behind ordinary door, craftsmen plying





their handiworks, colorful slashing your sights, herbs perfuming the air and the sound of unfamiliar language like music to your ears.

10. Tuck into all the delicious Moroccan cuisine with long history, unique feature and exquisite cooking style.



# Day by Day Itinerary

### Day 1 – Tangier – Larache (89 Km, 1 Hrs 10 Min)

(D)

You be greeted by our driver at the point of meeting and will take a leisure drive to Larache which founded around 1000 BC by the Phoenician colonist and become the first trading post in Africa. Larache fall to the Arab during the 7<sup>th</sup> century and then to the Spanish in 1610 with in between changes from Spain to Arabs until the Spanish official control from 1911 – 1956. Rest and relax at the beach resort.

Hotel – Lixus Beach & Spa Resort





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### Day 2 – Larache – Ancient Lixus – Larache

### (B/D)

After a good breakfast, we proceed to visit the ancient Roman city of Lixus. This part of land is the oldest and most continuously inhabited sites in Morocco. It has been here since the Pre-historical times even before the arrival of the mighty ship builder of the Phoenician. Later it was turn into important Carthaginian and Roman city by Emperor Calusius 1 in the early 1<sup>st</sup> century AD. It was deserted only in the 5<sup>th</sup> century. Here it served as a fascinating vibrant of the past. Some ancient Greek writer believed that the mythological Garden of Hesperidia, a sanctuary for Hercules and the keepers of the golden apples located here. What we see here is only one quarter of the excavation done.

We continue to the ancient medina which originally being built by the Arabs and extension and renovation by the Spanish has make the mixture of culture evidence today. Marvel at the Moorish-Hispano architecture of the Bab Barra (door), experience the vibrant local market at the Kaissaria and the 18<sup>th</sup> century Grand Mosque. If you are a Muslim, you may pay a visit to the Zaouia of Abdelkrim Bakouri which is situated near the mosque. One end we will find the Chateau de la Cogogne (Stork's Castle), which is the fortress built by the Islamic Saadian Dynasty in 1578 and remodel by the Spanish and enjoy the Kelibat district which is has the old Kelibat castle and made into a hospital in 1911.

We then walk to the Plaza de la Liberation former Plaza of Spain built in the 1920s'. It is elliptical in shape and surrounded by Spanish colonial building and the always busy fishing port.



Hotel – Lixus Beach & Spa Resort

#### Day 3 – Larache – Assilah – M'Soura – Larache

(B/D)

We start our day to the art city of Assilah. This is where coin are minted here before and also during the Roman period. Today thank to International Cultural Moussem of asilah, it has become one of the cities that have the platform for art and cultural development in Morocco. Art galleries, studios and exhibition spaces fill the medina, covering everything from Arabic calligraphy to modern art. Admire antiques and painting at Alkamara or simple enjoy the sight of Berber's



handicraft at Bazar Atlas and a walk at the promenade gazing at the Atlantic waves splashing away.

We continue our journey to the M'soura Stone Circle. This is the only circle that is every much out of the usual monolithic area of discovery making M'soura the most important structure in Morocco and Africa. Today it still has the remaining 168 stones with the tallest reaching 5 meters (16.5 feet) in height.

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Day 4 – Larache – Ksar El Kabir – Chefchaouen

(B/D)

Today we drive to the town that is fashionable for mystic, scholar and refugee in the past. The patron saints of this city are Ibn Ghalib (1177) and Fatimah al-Andalisiyya. It play host to one of the greatest battle story of the Islamic empire, the Battle of 3 Kings. In one day three of the most courage Kings died in the largest war ever fought in North Africa between 1400 – 1700. It all started when the uncle, Abu Marwan Abd al-Malik dethrone the Saadian King, Abu Abdallah Mohammed 11. 24 years old King of Portugal decided to help Abu Abdallah with some concession of territory. The war was not a properly plan out and Don Sebastian although not a good general proved himself a bold warrior as he fight until the very end. His body was never recovered. Mohammad 11 trying to flee and drowned while trying to cross a river and Abd Malik as seriously ill after taking ill by food poisoning die on the same day too.

Here it sit the 12<sup>th</sup> century Great Mosque in Bab El Oued, founded by the Almohad dynasty in which the minaret is built by re-using Roman and Byzantine materials. Around here, you can take in the sight of Kasbah of Ghailan, the barracks for his troops, the ancient Jewish quarter and the Sultan foundouk. Admire the beautiful carved wooden ceiling and garden of Maison des R'miki.

We continue of drive and have an amazing dinner experience in a traditional style accommodation.

Hotel – Casa Hassan



Day 5 – Chefchaoune – Tetouan (64 KM, 1 hrs 30 min)

(B/D)

We start our day with the visit to this unique building on the slope, under the Rif mountain and with charming blue wash houses of various shades. Guests can enjoy the entire town by foot, vibrant street of colorful local product being offered, and simple sip tea or coffee at cafes the quaint square, taking unforgettable photographs or simple soak in the ambiance. Take your time and simply relax.

Our drive today to Tetouan will be after lunch and overnight in a Riad for the experience of staying in Morrocan tradition courtyard houses.



Hotel – Dar Fama

Day 6 – Tetouan Day Tour.

(B/D)

Tetouan known as the "white doves" and the old medina is the Unesco World Heritage Site, retained its authentic Andalusian soul. The medina is one of the finest preserved in the country. Sight-seeing here is just simple engage with this picture perfect local scene and it calmness of the place. In the souk district, try the El Fouki Market for freshly bake Moroccan bread. Head on to Guersa El Kebira where the clothing abd textile shops is with loads of local textile to choose from. Beautiful ceramic work and goldsmith handcrafted jewellery are available in the El Hot Market section. Finding souvenir or home decorative products here is simply amazing and not to be missed.



We will spend an exciting time in this Archaeological Museum which has many beautiful and historical of value artifacts unearth from Lixus and site across north of Morocco. It has a library of more than 60,000 volumes dedicated to the preservation of North African literature.

Entnograhy Museum established in 1948, located inside the fortress wall of Sultan Moulay Abderrahman, in Bab el Okla is a good place to study the Moroccan culture. It has a good displays of local customs from marriage ceremonies to daily life. The roof of this museum is a good spot to take photos the town.

Hotel – Dar Fama



Day 7 – Tetouan – Moulay Abd Assalam (60 Km, 1 Hrs 50 min) – Tangier (80 Km, 2 Hrs) (B/D)

We start our day after an early breakfast to experience the ultimate place of Islamic Sufi sanctuary. Morocco is known for the country of "saints" and as per Mohammad VI Institute of Oulema, it stated that "Sufism came into Morocco when Islam entered Maghreb. The Sufi teachings were indivisible as Moroccans are Muslims and Sufi in their indissoluble relationship." Moulay Abd Assalam, one of the most respected Sufi scholar who lived in the Almohad dynasty and famous for works on collection of reflections about Islam and political life in his time. Today it is a sacred place that is visited by people from all over the world. Located at Jabal Alam (Mountain of Alam) it is a serene and spiritual place that is not found in the any other places in Morocco. Not only it has a picturesque landscape of layered of rocky mountain, fairy land atmosphere, concentrated Sufi practitioner and simple majestic feel of vast open valley transported you to the top of the world. Take a walk or a trek and feast your eyes of great nature and beauty of Jabal Alam. We drive to Tangier and overnight here.

Hotel – Kenzi Solazur Hotel



#### Day 8 – Tangier City Tour

(B/D)

After a breakfast, we visit the most northern city in Morocco, Tangier. Today Tangier is one of the economic zone with a world class port, resort and industrial park. As with all the northern cities, it make contact with the Phoenicians in the 8<sup>th</sup> century and has been a trading port since. Of course Tangier was made famous by many celebrities from the West, such as Paul Bowles who came in 1947 and settle down here until his death in 1999.

In the morning after breakfast, we will take a drive to Cap Spartel and the Cave of Hercules. The caves has many historical craving from the stone for milling of grains. As the caves impressively look out to the Atlantic Ocean. Along the beach, there is many small cafes for visitor to soak in the atmosphere.

We drove back to the new cities, Ville Nouvelle and continue to the terrace that look out to the strait of Gibatral before entering to the old Medina. Here you may enjoy the beautiful narrow alleyways to visit the memorial of Ibn Batuta, the famous Moroccan explorer, then the Church of the Immaculate Conception which is built by the Spanish in 1880 and the Grand Mosque. We further explore the Kasbah which is the old palace for the King and to the Kasbah Museum. We then walk to the Grand Socco which is one of the largest street for everything Moroccan. For some souvenir, handicraft or spices, this is the best area to browse around in Tangier.

Hotel – Kenzi Solazur Hotel





### Day 9 – Tangier Transfer

**(B)** 

After breakfast, we will transfer you to Ibn Batuta International Airport or the ferry terminal for your onwards journey. Tour End.

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# **Tour Details**

Number of pax	2	4	6	8	Single Supplement
Tour Price Per Pax	€2119	€1809	€1709	€1659	€349

#### **Price inclusive:**

- 1. Private vehicle during excursion with English-speaking driver guide
- 2. 8 nights' accommodation on twin sharing basis
- 3. Hotel Breakfast & hotel/Local dinner as per itinerary
  - Hotel breakfast and dinner are usually buffet. Hotel dinner do not include water or any other drinks. Traditional accommodation will be ala carte traditional Moroccan food.
- 4. 1 small mineral water/person/day
- 5. Local taxes

## Price not inclusive:

- 1. Lunch
- 2. Entrance ticket
- 3. All tipping
- 4. Personal expenses
- 5. Single supplement
- 6. Travel insurance
- 7. Visa (If applicable)
- 8. Sightseeing, programs and activities outside the itinerary.
- 9. Different transfer location (pick up & return)

## **Booking Details**

Documents Required	Copy of flight itinerary, email address, phone number, guest list (full name, passport number, passport expiry date, room type)	
Minor below 18 years of age	<ol> <li>Minor below 18 years of age must be accompanied by an adult.</li> <li>Children discount:         <ul> <li>Age of 0-2 years old child sharing room with two adults (INFANT) FOC</li> <li>Age of 3-6 years old child sharing room with</li> </ul> </li> </ol>	



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	<ul> <li>two adults (CHILD NO BED) 15 % DISCOUNT</li> <li>Age of 3-6 years old child sharing room with two adults (CHILD EXTRA BED) 10 % DISCOUNT</li> <li>Age of 3-6 years old child sharing room with one adult (CHILD TWIN) NO DISCOUNT</li> <li>Age of 7 years and above no child discount is provided (ADULT)</li> </ul>
Non-admittance of passenger	A moderate degree of physical health and physical ability is required to travel in Morocco. In the event of any passenger over 70 years of age or with special physical or mental needs, Morocco2u must be informed in writing at the time of booking, which will be analyzed on a case by case basis, and it is possible that Morocco2u may request a medical report. In cases in which the customer accepts the tour, Morocco2u cannot assume any responsibility in relation to the difficulty or impossibility that the said passenger may encounter during the tour, nor can Morocco2u assume any responsibility for providing assistance for their adaptation to, or continuation of the trip.
Payment Policy	<ol> <li>30% deposit per person must be paid as reservation fee.</li> <li>Deposit made are non-refundable or transferable.</li> <li>The balance or full payment must be made 30 days before travelling.</li> </ol>
Cancellation Policy	<ol> <li>Cancellation of booking must be made in writing to avoid any misunderstanding.</li> <li>If the company receives notice cancel 31 days or more before the date of departure, tour deposit will be forfeited. Otherwise, the following charges will apply:         <ul> <li>30-16 days before arrival 60% loss of the total price.</li> <li>15-8 days before arrival 70% of the total price.</li> <li>7-3 days before arrival 80% of the total price.</li> <li>Less than 3 days before arrival date is 100% of the total price.</li> </ul> </li> </ol>
Payment details	(Morocco) Name : Ste Morocco 2u Sarl Bank : Attijariwafa Bank Account No : 007218000297700000027145 SWIFT Code: BCMAMAMC (Malaysia) Name : Foster Planet Travel & Tour Sdn. Bhd. Bank : Maybank Berhad
	Account No : 568621011876 SWIFT Code: MBBEMYKL



- Asia Headquarters (Malaysia) ♥ 47-2 Jln Bola Jaring 13/15, Seksyen 13, Shah Alam, Selangor, Malaysia
- **L** (+60)13-3697813

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