Penn Alumni Travel presents

MOROCCAN DISCOVERY

From the Imperial Cities to the Sahara

February 26-March 10, 2016

14 days from $4,479 total price from Boston, New York, Wash, DC

($3,795 air & land inclusive plus $684 airline taxes and departure fees)

An Exclusive Small Group Tour for
Alumni & Friends of the University of Pennsylvania

With Roger Allen, Professor of Arabic Language & Literature
This land of dramatic contrasts invites you to encounter its ancient ruins and sacred mosques, endless desert and storied mountains, imposing kasbahs and spirited souks. Travel from the imperial cities of Rabat, Fez, and Marrakech to the High Atlas and vast Sahara, to experience a truly foreign land, an age-old culture, and genuinely hospitable people.

Day 1: Depart U.S. for Casablanca, Morocco
This evening, you depart the U.S. for Morocco with a connecting flight to Casablanca.

Day 2: Arrive Casablanca/Rabat
We arrive this afternoon in Casablanca, Morocco’s chief port, economic capital, and largest city. You’ll meet your tour director at the airport then transfer by coach to Rabat. After checking in at our elegant, well-located hotel near famed Hassan Tower, we have a short time to rest and refresh ourselves before this evening’s activities. Tonight you’ll meet your fellow travelers over a welcome dinner at Dinarjat, an acclaimed restaurant in Rabat’s Old Town serving traditional Moroccan fare.

Day 3: Rabat
One of Morocco’s four ancient capitals, Rabat is again the country’s capital, at once historic and contemporary as we discover on today’s tour. We visit the fortified Kasbah of the Oudaia, the peaceful Andalusian Gardens, and the necropolis of Chellah, built on ancient Roman ruins. Then we cross the river to Sale for lunch in a private home followed by a visit to Rabat’s newly opened Museum of Contemporary Art and a walk through the medina. Late afternoon we return to our hotel, where we enjoy dinner tonight.

Day 4: Rabat/Meknes/Volubilis/Fez
This morning we depart Rabat for Fez, stopping along the way in Meknes, Morocco’s youngest imperial city (and UNESCO World Heritage site). We visit the Bab el Mansour gateway and the ruins of the imperial stables before lunch in a local restaurant. Then we continue on to the ancient Roman ruins at the UNESCO site of Volubilis, known for its intricate and colorful mosaics. Late afternoon we reach Fez and our elegant hotel overlooking the medina, another UNESCO World Heritage site.

Day 5: Fez
Today we explore Morocco’s oldest imperial city, considered the “Athens of Africa” for its wealth of cultural, educational, and religious
institutions. We begin with a walking tour of Fez’s fascinating medina, a UNESCO World Heritage site, focusing on the artisans’ quarters, the 14th-century Koranic schools, and Al Karaouine, the medieval theological university. We return to the hotel for lunch and some time at leisure then mid-afternoon tour the old mellah (Jewish quarter) and its 17th-century synagogue, the royal gates, and the Museum of Fez. Tonight we enjoy a private dinner at an intimate family-run riad in Fez. **B,L,D**

**Day 6: Fez** This morning we return to Fez’s medina to see the picturesque Blue Gate and a visit to a medieval school dating back to the 14th century. We also stop at the renowned pottery factories. The remainder of the afternoon is free for independent exploration. **B,D**

**Day 7: Fez/Midelt/Erfoud** Traveling inland today, we cross the fertile plains beyond Fez and continue through the Middle Atlas mountain range. We stop in the small town of Midelt for lunch. Continuing on we cross the Ziz River, passing rows of sky-scraping palm trees and fortified villages before reaching our kasbah-style hotel in Erfoud late in the day. Dinner tonight is at our hotel. **B,L,D**

**Day 8: Erfoud/Rissani/Merzouga** This morning we visit the city of Rissani on the edge of the Sahara and formerly the last staging post on the southern caravan route. Once the seat of the Alawite dynasty, Rissani boasts some striking architecture with its 18th-century ksar, a virtually impenetrable warren of alleys. We enjoy a tour highlight this afternoon as we set out on a sunset excursion to the breathtakingly beautiful sand dunes at Merzouga on the edge of the Sahara. In the enormous silence we watch the sun set over the desert as we take a camel ride along the erg, Morocco’s only Saharan dunes. Following this experience we return to our hotel, where we dine together tonight. **B,L,D**

**Day 9: Erfoud/Tinehir/Todra Gorges/Ourzazate** Our destination today is in the snow-topped High Atlas. The day features one beautiful scene after another, including the village of Tinehir, a stunning mountain oasis rising on a series of riverside terraces lush with palm trees; and the spectacular 984-foot Todra Gorge. Following lunch here we visit El Kelaa des Mgouna, known for its roses, then set out on the fabled “Route of a Thousand Kasbahs” ancient caravan route, a region of fortresses with elaborately decorated façades. Late afternoon we reach the town of Ourzazate (the “door of the desert”) where we spend the night. **B,L,D**

**Day 10: Ourzazate/Ait Ben-Haddou/Marrakech** En route to Marrakech today, we stop first at uninhabited Ait Ben-Haddou, a UNESCO World Heritage site and one of southern Morocco’s most scenic villages that is often used as a location for fashion and film shoots. Its old section consists of deep red kasbahs packed together so tightly they appear to be a single unit. Then as we begin our descent from the High Atlas, we pass through typical villages with fortified walls and stone houses with earthen roofs. In Tizi N’Tichka, we traverse the Pass of the Pastures (alt. 7,415 feet), where life is much as it was centuries ago: shepherds bring their flocks to the high pastures every summer, then return with them to their villages in autumn. We arrive in Marrakech late this afternoon and dine tonight at our hotel. **B,L,D**

A typical kasbah, as we see along the “Route of a Thousand Kasbahs” on Days 9 & 10.
Day 11: Marrakech  Once the capital of southern Morocco, the imperial city of Marrakech is an alluring oasis with a temperate climate, distinct charm, and fascinating sights. Our day-long tour includes the beautifully proportioned Koutoubia Mosque with its distinctive 282-foot minaret visible from miles away; the lovely Andalusian-style El Bahia Palace (part of which is still used by the royal family); and the ruins of 16th-century Palais El Badii. After lunch at our hotel, mid-afternoon we embark on a walking tour of the medina, ending at Djemaa el Fna Square, a UNESCO site and the heart of Marrakech, crowded with snake charmers, entertainers, storytellers, musicians, barbers, and sellers of fruit, water, and spices. Dinner tonight is on our own in this exotic city.  

Day 12: Marrakech  This morning we travel by horse-drawn carriage from Menara Park to Majorelle Gardens, a private botanical garden with some 15 species of birds native to North Africa and known for its cobalt blue accents. Following a tour of the gardens we visit the newly renovated Berber Museum there, with art and artifacts reflecting Berber culture in Morocco. The afternoon is at leisure before dinner tonight at a local restaurant in the city’s Old Town.  

Day 13: Marrakech/Casablanca  We leave Marrakech this morning by coach for storied Casablanca, Morocco’s largest and most cosmopolitan city. After a brief orientation tour of the city, we visit the magnificent Hassan II Mosque, Morocco’s only functioning mosque open to non-Muslims. Tonight we celebrate our Moroccan adventure at a farewell dinner at a local restaurant.  

Day 14: Depart for U.S.  After breakfast this morning we transfer to the airport for our return flight to the U.S.  

Your Tour Price Includes

• Round-trip air transportation from listed cities
• 12 nights’ accommodations in Deluxe, Superior First Class, and First Class hotels
• 31 meals: 12 breakfasts, 8 lunches, 11 dinners
• Extensive sightseeing as described, including all entrance fees
• Services of an Odysseys Unlimited Tour Director
• Private motorcoach transportation throughout your trip
• Luggage handling for one bag per person
• Gratuities for local guides, dining room servers, airport and hotel porters, and all drivers

Tour Departs: February 26, 2016

Prices include international airfare and all taxes, surcharges, and fees.

- Boston, New York, Washington, DC $4,479
- Atlanta, Chicago $4,679
- Baltimore, Charlotte, Detroit, Los Angeles, Miami, Philadelphia $4,779
- Cincinnati, Cleveland, Dallas, Denver, Houston, Minneapolis, Orlando, Phoenix, Portland (OR), San Francisco, Seattle, Tampa $4,879
- Land Only (transfers not included) $3,395

Please call if your city is not listed. Prices are per person based on double occupancy and include airline taxes, fuel surcharges, and departure fees of $684, which are subject to change until final payment is made.

Single travelers please add $1,395.

All tour prices above (excluding airline taxes, fuel surcharges, and departure fees) are guaranteed.

Please note: This trip involves full days of sightseeing and significant amounts of walking. You should be in good physical condition to enjoy the tour to the fullest.

For reservations and information, please call Odysseys Unlimited toll-free at 888-370-6765

Monday-Friday, 9:00am-7:00pm, Eastern Time
Dear Penn Alumni and Friends,

Join alumni, friends, and Penn faculty host Roger Allen, Professor of Arabic Language & Literature, on a comprehensive and exciting 14-day exploration of Morocco. Discover this land of age-old traditions, and witness its striking natural beauty. Your tour will highlight Morocco’s unique history and culture as we travel from the imperial cities of Rabat, Fez, and Marrakech to the imposing High Atlas and the vast Sahara.

Visit five UNESCO World Heritage sites, including Meknes, Morocco’s youngest imperial city; Volubilis, with its ancient Roman ruins; and Fez, Morocco’s oldest imperial city, prized for its cultural, religious, and educational institutions. Follow a fabled ancient caravan route in the snow-topped High Atlas Mountains, see spectacular Todra Gorge, and travel to Ait ben-Haddou, another UNESCO World Heritage site. Along the way, experience lush desert oases, precipitous mountain canyons, dozens of kasbahs and souks (markets), and villages where life proceeds much as it has for centuries. A tour highlight is a sunset excursion by four-wheel drive vehicles to towering sand dunes at the edge of the Sahara, followed by a camel ride. Spend three nights in alluring Marrakech before concluding your adventure in cosmopolitan Casablanca.

This air-inclusive small group tour is limited to only 24 Penn alumni and friends. We encourage you to register today to guarantee your place on this special journey to Morocco.

Sincerely,

Emilie C. K. LaRosa
Assistant Director, Alumni Education & Alumni Travel

P.S. For more information about the Penn Alumni Travel program, please visit www.alumni.upenn.edu/travel.

Full Passport Name _______________________________ Date of Birth __________ Gender ___
Badge Name _______________________________ Penn Sch/Yr ______________________

Address __________________________________________________ E-mail ____________
City __________________________________________________ State __________ ZIP ______________
Home Ph. (______) _____________ Cell Ph. (______) ______________________

Please book my/our air from __________________________
I will share a room with _______________________________ I request a single room (limited availability) ✓

Please Note: The undersigned has read the schedule of activities for Moroccan Discovery, February 26-March 10, 2016, and agrees that their signature below represents their acceptance of the General Terms & Conditions.

Signature(s) _________________________________________________________________ Date _________________

Method of Payment
- Check
- American Express
- Discover
- MasterCard
- VISA

Account # ______________________________________ Security Code _________ Exp. Date _______________

Name of Cardholder ____________________________________________________________________________

Signature ______________________________________________________________________________________

Final invoicing will be sent by our tour operator, Odysseys Unlimited, Inc. The balance of the program price must be paid to Odysseys Unlimited, Inc. Final payment is due 95 days prior to departure, and is payable by check or credit card.

Penn Alumni Travel is proud to offer valuable trips and programs to alumni and friends through a number of partnerships. Any revenue that may be generated from Penn Alumni Travel above our program expenses supports Penn Alumni Programming.
GENERAL TERMS AND CONDITIONS

We regret that we cannot offer individual assistance; in such cases you must be accompanied by a companion who will assist you. Please note that our itineraries cannot accommodate wheelchairs.

Not included in tour price

Airfare when purchasing a Land Only tour package; costs of passports and visas, if required; personal expenses such as beverages, laundry, room service, and meals not specified; airport transfers when purchasing a Land Only tour package; communications charges, gratuities to your Odysseys Unlimited Tour Director, which are at your discretion (suggested gratuities: $10-$15 per day per person); optional sightseeing, travel protection insurance. Additional baggage fees may apply and are subject to change at any time. You should confirm directly with your airline prior to departure.

Cancellations, refunds and changes

If you must cancel your trip, the effective date of cancellation will be upon our receipt of your written notification. Refunds for cancellations are subject to the following per person charges:

- Cancel 95 days or more before departure: $200 charge;
- Cancel 94-65 days before departure: 25% of tour price;
- Cancel 64-45 days before departure: 50% of tour price;
- Cancel 44-30 days before departure: 75% of tour price;
- Cancel 29-0 days before departure: No refund.

If a guest makes any changes to their reservation from 94 to 30 days prior to departure, Odysseys Unlimited, Inc. will apply a $100 per person administrative fee, in addition to any fees or penalties imposed by third parties. Changes are subject to availability and cannot be guaranteed. Your reservation changes will be processed as soon as possible, but may have an impact on your travel arrangements. If unforeseen circumstances require us to change a hotel, we will select alternative accommodations of the same or better quality.

Health and Medical Issues

We request that you be in good health to participate in this tour. There is a reasonable amount of walking, and you must be able to get on and off motorcoaches on your own. If we cannot provide assistance, you must be accompanied by a companion who will assist you. Please note that our itineraries cannot accommodate wheelchairs.

JOIN PENN ALUMNI TRAVEL ON AN EXCLUSIVE TOUR TO MOROCCO!

EXCLUSIVE TOUR TO MOROCCO!

Limited to 24 Guests

Guaranteed Small Group:

E. Craig Sweeten Alumni House
3533 Locust Walk
Philadelphia, PA 19104-6226

With Roger Allen, Professor of Arabic Language & Literature

Alumni & Friends of the University of Pennsylvania

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Due to the nature of tour operator tickets, other restrictions apply, including but not limited to, frequent flyer mileage accrual, stopovers, alternate travel dates, upgrades, and airline taxes and departure fees. If you prefer to make your own travel arrangements, Land Only is available on most tours. Since international and domestic air schedules are subject to change at any time, we recommend that you choose to make your own airline reservations, do not purchase non-refundable tickets, and do not book non-refundable international round trip airfare. Airline tickets must be purchased through Odysseys Unlimited, Inc. for this tour. You must use the airline tickets that are provided by Odysseys Unlimited, Inc. for all international flights, regardless of your own personal travel plans. If Odysseys Unlimited, Inc. is unable to guarantee your itinerary due to unforeseen circumstances, Odysseys Unlimited, Inc. reserves the right to make itinerary changes as necessary, if unforeseen circumstances requires us to change a hotel or the ticket's reissue.

Air Transportation - Important Information

Odysseys Unlimited, Inc. includes in its tour price round trip economy air from designated gateway cities as shown and contracts with those airlines they feel provide the level of service, routings, and value necessary for your entire trip. While Odysseys Unlimited, Inc. accepts responsibility for all bookings, airline tickets are non-refundable, and are subject to airline terms and conditions. Special travel arrangements requiring additional documentation or special approvals may not be available. Odysseys Unlimited, Inc. is not responsible for any unauthorized or non-refundable reservations made through the airline. Additional airline regulations apply to air tickets purchased on your own initiative, and Odysseys Unlimited, Inc. assumes no financial responsibility for any unauthorized portion of this tour.

Airfare when purchasing a Land Only tour package; costs of passports and visas, if required; personal expenses such as beverages, laundry, room service, and meals not specified; airport transfers when purchasing a Land Only tour package; communications charges, gratuities to your Odysseys Unlimited Tour Director, which are at your discretion (suggested gratuities: $10-$15 per day per person); optional sightseeing, travel protection insurance. Additional baggage fees may apply and are subject to change at any time. You should confirm directly with your airline prior to departure.

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