

# Lewis & Clark College

## Trip to Morocco - May 2022



# Itinerary at a Glance :

Our proposed itinerary covers most of the key highlights of Morocco.

After landing in **Casablanca (A)** You will head to **Rabat (B)** the kingdom's capital for the first 2 nights of your stay. Next stop will be **Fes (C)** the cultural capital for your first 3 nights.

You'll then embark on your Saharan adventure, with a drive into the desert town of **Merzouga (D)** for 1 night, followed by 1 night in **Ouarzazate (E)** to break a long drive to Marrakech.

You'll then drive to The Ochre city **Marrakech (F)** where you will stay for 4 nights. Your trip ends with two nights in the seaside of **Essaouira (G)**.



# Proposed Itinerary:



	Monday May 30 <i>Rabat</i>	Tuesday May 31 <i>Rabat</i>	Wednesday Jun 1 <i>Fes</i>	Thursday Jun 2 <i>Fes</i>	Friday Jun 3 <i>Fes</i>	Saturday Jun 4 <i>Merzouga</i>
Morning		Visit of The Mausoleum & Hassan tower	Drive to Fes with stop to visit Volubilis and Meknes wooden doors	Guided tour of Fes (Qarawiyyin, madrasa, palace, tanneries)	Tasting tour / Morning at leisure	Early scenic drive to Merzouga  Lunch en route (incl.)
Afternoon	Arrival into Casablanca airport with VIP fast track & pick up  Drive to Rabat	Lunch at Dar Naji (incl.) Visit of The Kasbah and Chellah Necropolis  Tea break at Cafe Maure	Lunch in Meknes (incl.)  Drive to Fes	Lunch in medina (incl.) Continued guided tour	Lunch (n/incl)  Tasting tour / Afternoon at leisure	Continued drive to the Sahara SUV ride to the camp and sunset Camel ride
Evening	Welcome dinner at you Riad (incl.)	Evening at leisure  Dinner at Dinarjat (incl)	Evening at leisure  Dinner at your hotel (incl)	Evening at leisure  Dinner (n/incl)	Evening at leisure  Dinner (n/incl)	Dinner (incl.) campfire accompanied by local tribal music
Lodging	Riad Kalaa	Riad Kalaa	Palais Amani	Palais Amani	Palais Amani	Luxury Camp
Driving	~ 1.5 hrs	N/A	~ 5 hrs	N/A	N/A	~10 hours



# Proposed Itinerary:



	Sunday Jun 5 <i>Ouarzazate</i>	Monday Jun 6 <i>Marrakech</i>	Tuesday Jun 7 <i>Marrakech</i>	Wednesday Jun 8 <i>Marrakech</i>	Thursday Jun 9 <i>Day trip to The Atlas</i>
Morning	Sunrise sandboarding and drive to Ouarzazate through Dades & Todgha gorges	Drive to Marrakech through the Tizi N'tichka peak with stop to visit Kasbah Ait Benhaddou	Guided tour of Marrakech monuments	Morning at leisure	Drive to Imlil for a day hike in the High Atlas Mountains Tea with local family
Afternoon	Lunch en route (incl.) Arrival & Check-in	Lunch near the kasbah (incl.) Continued drive to Marrakech	Lunch in the medina (incl.) Guided tour of Marrakech souk	Lunch (not incl.) Afternoon at leisure	Lunch in a berber village (incl.) Drive Back to Marrakech
Evening	Evening at leisure Dinner at your hotel (incl)	Evening at leisure Dinner at your riad (incl.)	Evening at leisure Dinner (n/incl)	Evening at leisure Dinner at Al Amal (on your own)	Evening at leisure Dinner (n/incl)
Lodging	Ksar Ighnda	Riad Elegancia	Riad Elegancia	Riad Elegancia	Riad Elegancia
Driving	~ 6.5 hrs	~ 6 hrs	N/A	N/A	~ 1.5 hr per way



# Proposed Itinerary:

	Friday <b>Jun 10</b> <i>Essaouira</i>	Saturday <b>Jun 11</b> <i>Essaouira</i>	Sunday <b>Jun 12</b> <i>Departure</i>
<b>Morning</b>	Drive to Essaouira	Guided tour of Essaouira	Drive to Marrakech airport for your departure flight or drop off in Marrakech
<b>Afternoon</b>	Lunch in a local vineyard (incl)  Arrival & Check in	Lunch (n/incl)  Afternoon at leisure	
<b>Evening</b>	Evening at leisure  Dinner (n/incl)	Evening at leisure  Farewell dinner at Caravane Cafe (incl)	
<b>Lodging</b>	Villa De L'O	Villa De L'O	N/A
<b>Driving</b>	~ 3.5 hrs	N/A	~ 3.5 hrs



# Accommodations

## Rabat: Riad Kalaa 2

*This beautifully restored riad that dates back to 1815 offers plenty of sunny and tranquil spaces in which to relax, like the greenery-filled internal courtyard or its rooftop pool.*





## Rabat: Riad Kalaa 2

*All the rooms are spacious and uniquely decorated using locally-sourced design pieces.*





# Fes: Palais Amani

*An oasis of luxury in the middle of Fes's busy medina, Palais Amani is a stylishly-decorated riad where the staff pride themselves on making you feel at home.*





# Fes: Palais Amani

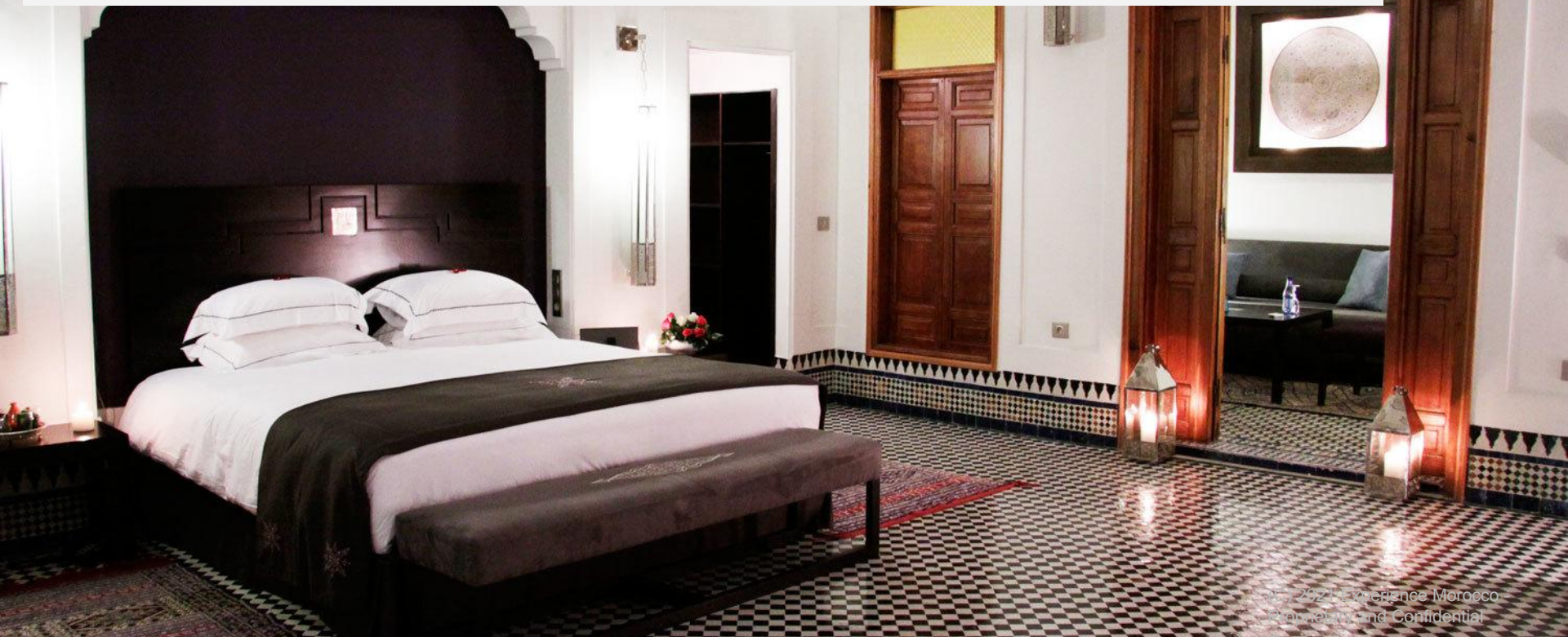
*The panoramic views and flower-filled gardens are the perfect accompaniment to your drinks or breakfast on the rooftop terrace.*





# Fes: Palais Amani

*Rooms are spacious and showcase stunning Moroccan craftsmanship in the intricate mosaics and the hand-carved wooden doors!*



# Merzouga: Saharan Tents

*Your scenic drive to the Sahara finishes at your saharan tent camp where hot mint tea awaits and a local band will welcome you to a night you won't soon forget.*





# Merzouga: Saharan Tents

*Your tents are comfortably appointed with double beds and access to a comfortable central terrace filled with traditional plush pillows and rugs to relax upon.*





# Ouarzazate: Ksar Ighnda

*Situated at the gates of Ouarzazate, Ksar Ighnda opens its doors to a relaxing retreat on the edge of both the desert and the Atlas Mountains.*





# Ouarzazate: Ksar Ighnda

*Rooms feature comfortable beds and warm touches of Moroccan decor.*



# Marrakech: Riad Elegancia

*Riad Elegancia is aptly named. It's a perfect retreat with a Majorelle Gardens inspired courtyard, a central location, and exceptional service.*





# Marrakech: Riad Elegancia

*Rooms are beautifully appointed with traditional Moroccan furnishings and decor.*





# Essaouira: Villa de l'O

*Hidden behind the walls of the old town near the landmark of Bab Sbaa, Villa de l'O is a wonderful option for guests wishing to immerse themselves in the charm of the village and tranquility of the ocean.*



# Essaouira: Villa de l'O

*This 18th century villa combines oriental and colonial spirit through its use of traditional stone, intricate woodwork, and luxurious fabric in all 12 of its entirely renovated and individually designed rooms.*





# Experiences



# Chellah Necropolis

*Step into Rabat's ancient history while exploring the medieval fortified necropolis of Chellah- with structures dating back past the Almohads, past the Romans, and all the way into Phoenician times.*





# Cafe Maure

*Tucked behind the blue alleyways of the Kasbah of the Udayas, Cafe Maure is our favorite spot for a mint tea break with a panoramic view of Rabat and the Bouregreg river.*





# Hassan Tower

*When construction began in 1159, Sultan Yacoub al-Mansour intended for this to be the largest minaret in the world. When the Sultan died four years later, construction came to a halt, and left us with the structure we see today. Facing the tower is the Mausoleum of King Mohammed V is considered a masterpiece of the modern Alaouite Dynasty. This esplanade with its views back toward Rabat and out to the Atlantic is not to be missed.*





# Al Qarawiyyin University

*No stop in Fes is complete without a visit of Al Qarawiyyin, the oldest existing, continually operating and first degree awarding educational institution in the world. The university is equally well-known for its education as for the stunning architecture of its main building.*





# Fes leather tanneries

*Prepare for a sensory sensation unlike any other when we visit the leather tanneries where where vats of dye are used in techniques unchanged for centuries!*





# Jewish Heritage Sites

*The Jewish community in Morocco dates back to 587 BCE, and Sephardic traditions are important components of Moroccan Heritage. This treasured legacy is preserved in the historic Jewish neighborhoods in Rabat and Fes and at the synagogues that are still active in Marrakech, Essaouira, and Casablanca.*





# Fes Tasting Tour

*Your day in Fes will combine historical highlights of the old city along with stops at different stalls where you can try all manners of Moroccan treats and pastries including mlawi (pancakes), briwates (sambosas), potato cakes, cured olives, local fruits, an array of delicious wild honeys and more!*





# Kasbah Ait Benhaddou



*A picture-perfect fortress located on the ancient caravan route between the Sahara and Marrakech, Kasbah Ait Ben Haddou makes for a phenomenal lunch spot and a deep-dive on the customs and architecture of Southern Morocco!*



# Travel through the Dades Gorge & River Valley

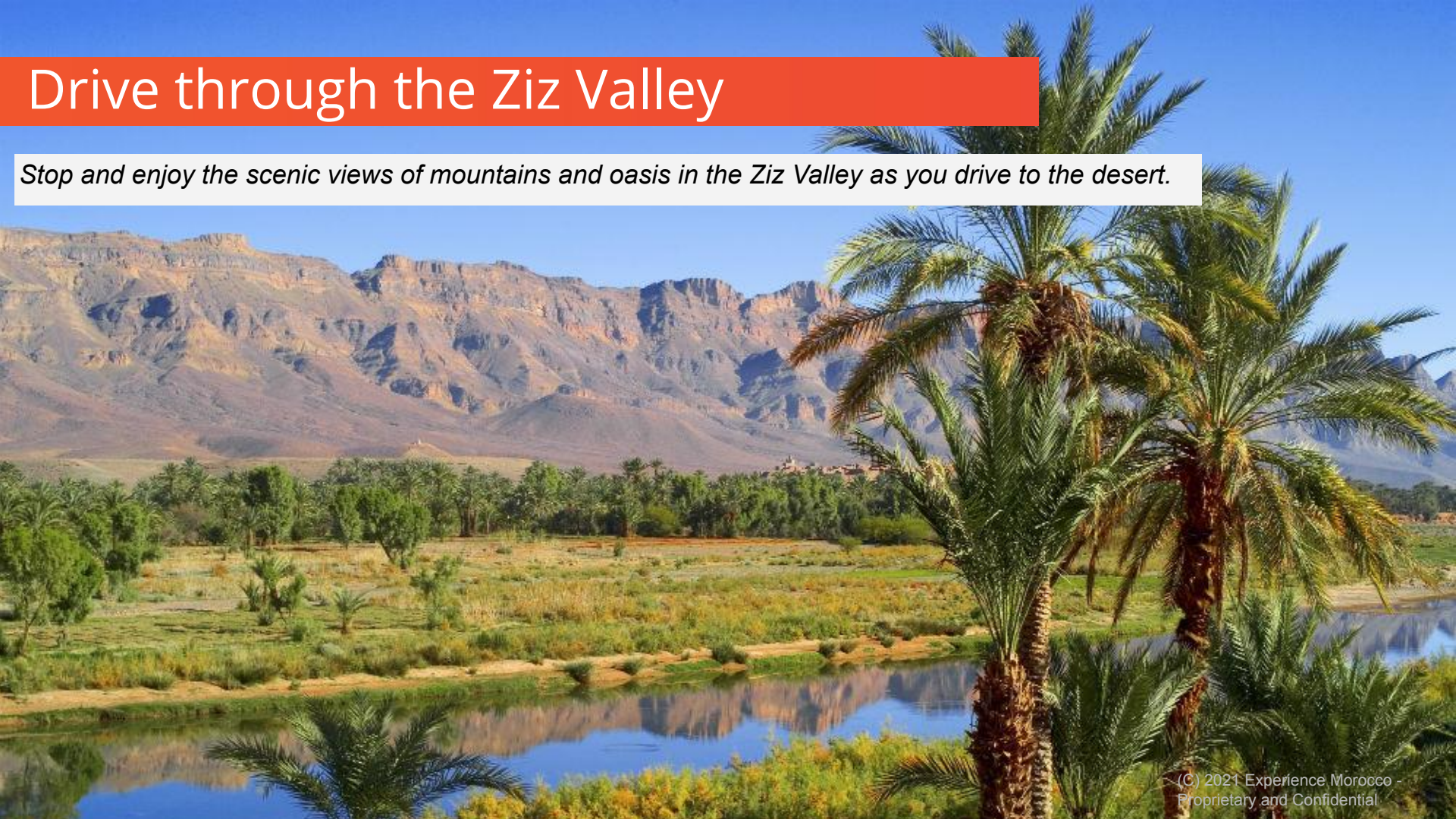
*Known as the Grand Canyon of Morocco, the Dades Gorges provide the backdrop for a beautiful drive dotted with mountain vistas and ancient clay Kasbahs.*





# Drive through the Ziz Valley

*Stop and enjoy the scenic views of mountains and oasis in the Ziz Valley as you drive to the desert.*





# Camel Ride in the Sahara

*Your trip to Morocco wouldn't be complete without a proper camel ride in the dunes! We'll make sure you get your picture-perfect Saharan moment!*



# A Saharan Night to Remember

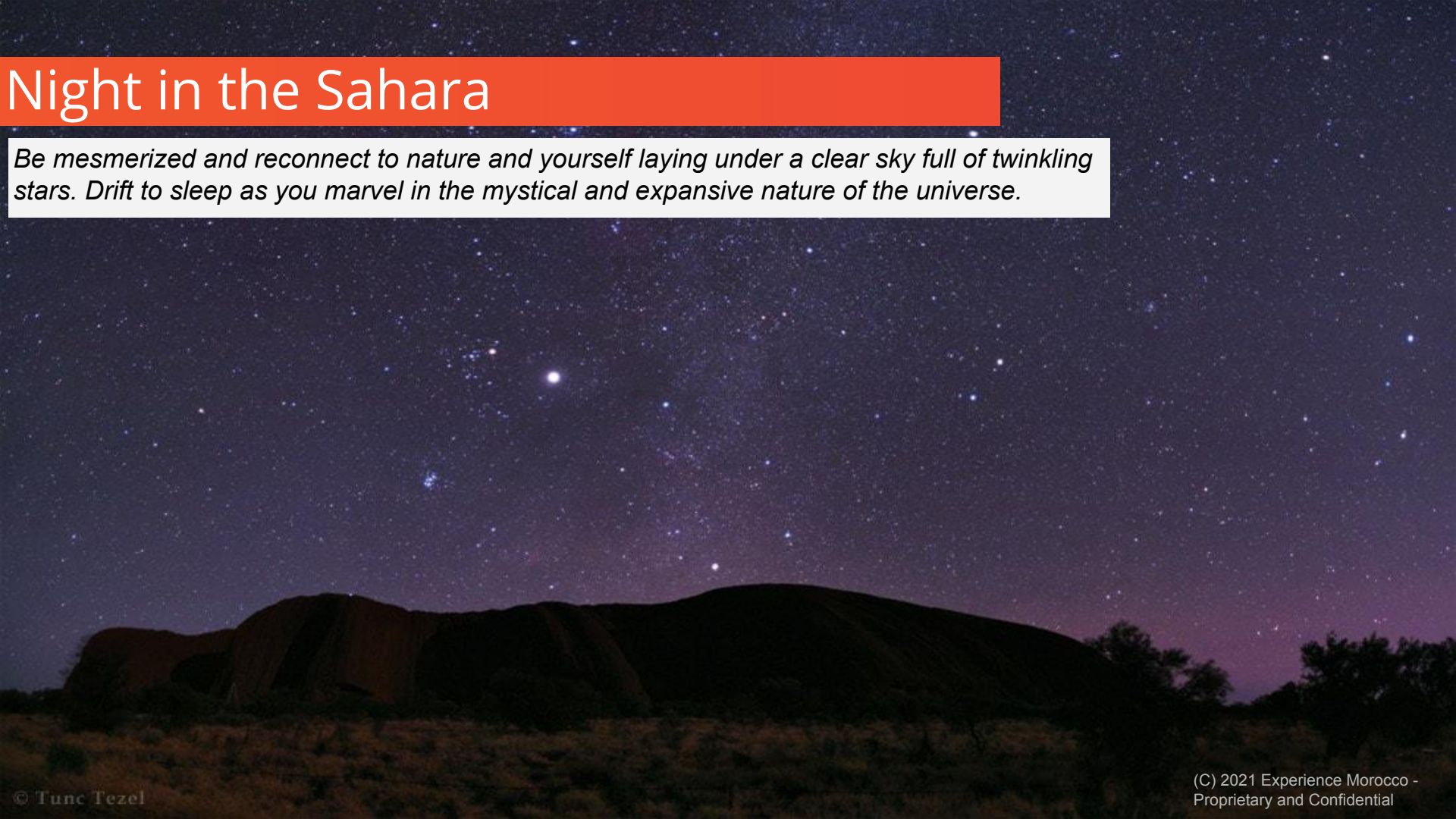
*After a tasty meal of Moroccan tagines, settle in for a night to remember, starting off with the beats of tribal songs resonating around the campfire and culminating in the views of the stars better than a planetarium!*





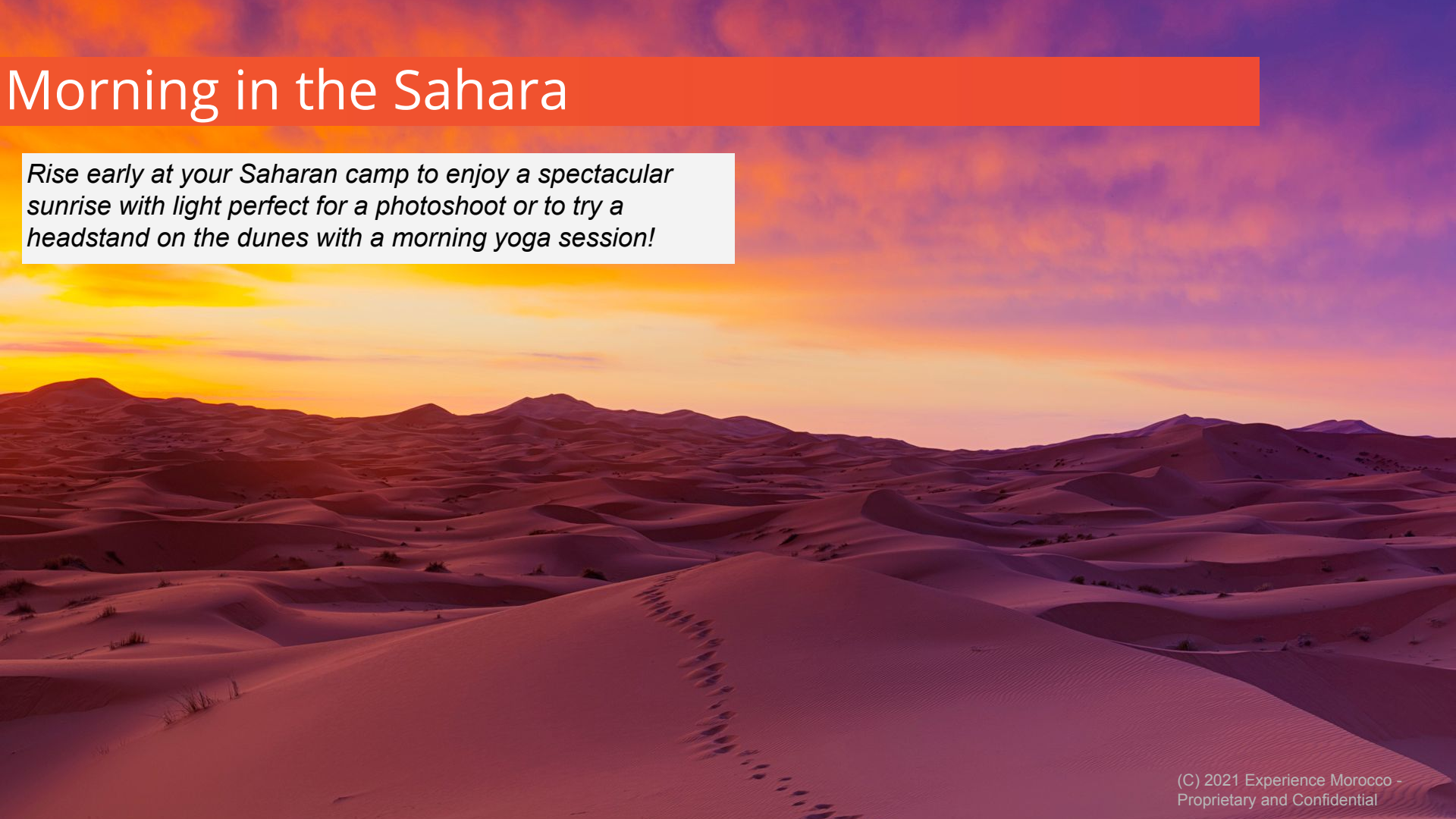
# Night in the Sahara

*Be mesmerized and reconnect to nature and yourself laying under a clear sky full of twinkling stars. Drift to sleep as you marvel in the mystical and expansive nature of the universe.*



# Morning in the Sahara

*Rise early at your Saharan camp to enjoy a spectacular sunrise with light perfect for a photoshoot or to try a headstand on the dunes with a morning yoga session!*





# Dinner at La Maison Arabe

*La Maison Arabe was the very first restaurant in the Medina of Marrakech, and it continues to uphold its august reputation with a flawless cuisine. We particularly recommend the Tangia, a slow-cooked meat specialty that's a signature dish of Marrakech. At dinner time, local musicians alternate between soft traditional moroccan music and luth solos, providing a lovely accompaniment for the meals.*



# Marrakech: Historical Palaces

*An early morning entry offers the most tranquil conditions to explore Palais Bahia and Palais Badii, both imposing palaces and relics of a different architectural and historical eras from Morocco's imperial past.*





# Exploring the Souk in Marrakech

*After an introductory tour to get your bearings, explore the souk and shop till you drop for everything from leather goods to Moroccan lamps and traditional metal and woods crafts.*





# Djema El Fna By Night

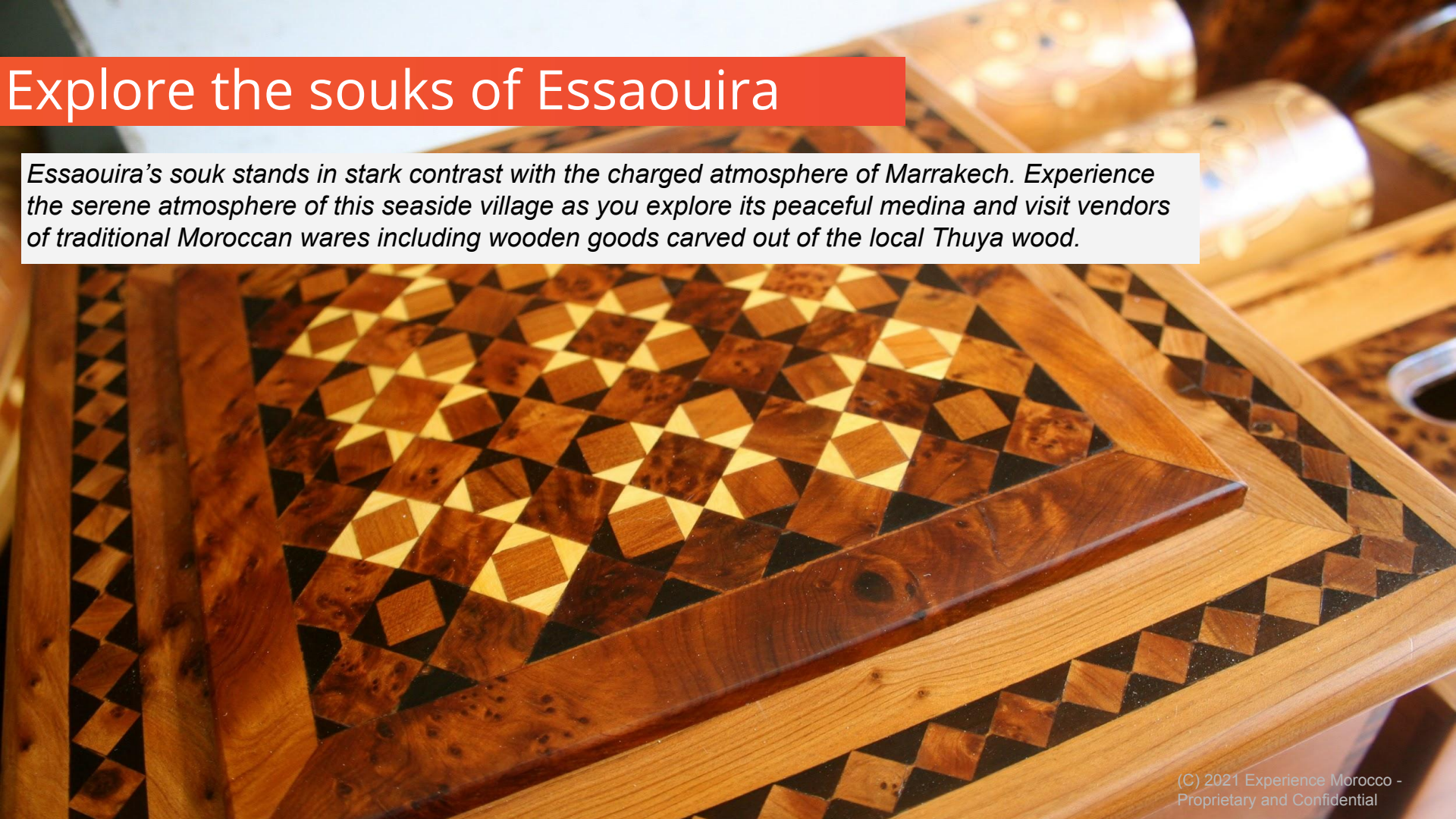


*Arguably the single most mythical location in Morocco, Djema El Fna comes to life at night. Enjoy a walking tour of the place for the ultimate souk experience, going from fortune-tellers, snake charmers, and acrobats to the famous stands selling orange juice and vast arrays of street food.*



# Explore the souks of Essaouira

*Essaouira's souk stands in stark contrast with the charged atmosphere of Marrakech. Experience the serene atmosphere of this seaside village as you explore its peaceful medina and visit vendors of traditional Moroccan wares including wooden goods carved out of the local Thuya wood.*






# Vineyard Lunch in Essaouira

*Morocco is well-known for its mint tea, but you may not know that the country is also an established exporter of fine wines. We can visit one of the leading vineyards in the region of Essaouira where you'll be treated to a gourmet lunch with a view on the property.*





# Dinner at the Amal Association

A group of five women are standing outdoors, smiling and laughing. They are all wearing white long-sleeved shirts and bright orange aprons. The aprons have the Amal Association logo, which consists of the word 'أمل' (Amal) in blue Arabic calligraphy. Four of the women are wearing hijabs: two in teal and two in pink. The woman on the far right is not wearing a headscarf. In the background, there are green trees and a building. A sign with the Amal logo is visible on a tree to the left.

*The Amal Association empowers women from impoverished backgrounds through training in culinary skills and helps them gain independence and employment. Dinner at this very worthy NGO is not only is super tasty, but also you'll be supporting a great cause!*



# Hiking in the Atlas

*Just an hour outside of Marrakech lie a myriad of hiking paths and trails winding up through the Atlas and leading to small berber villages where the way of life has remained intact for hundreds of years.*





# Tea with a Berber Family

*Take a short break from your hike to drink some tea with a local Berber family. You'll join them in their home with your guide to help translate and learn about the traditions and customs of the region first hand.*





# FAQs



# Meals

**M** Enjoy gastronomic dining at Morocco's best restaurants including leading spots of international renown as well as smaller spots that only locals know of, with savory authentic Moroccan cuisine as well as international fare. We will accommodate any dietary restrictions.



# About Experience Morocco



- Experience Morocco is a leading provider of highly-curated, authentic trips across Morocco. Co-founded by two Moroccans who got their MBAs in the US, we aim to offer a genuine understanding of Morocco's culture and history through catered journeys that go beyond typical touristic circuits.
- Over the last 5 years, we hosted thousands of travelers on highly-customized trips tailored based on each traveler's interests.
- We have a team of 20 full-time travel professionals and we partner with Morocco's leading hotels, restaurants, NGOs, and other service providers for trips that are truly one-of-a-kind.



A photograph of a person taking a picture of a wall with many small holes, framed by a series of arches.

Get ready for an  
**Amazing Journey**

Lewis & Clark  
College



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