



**FESTIVAL**



**Discover Corps**

*Unforgettable Vacations With Purpose*



## **MOROCCO:** FÈS WORLD FESTIVAL OF SACRED MUSIC



### MEMORABLE MOMENTS

- Soak in the hues of blue in the exquisite northern city of Chefchaouen
- Experience the iconic Fes World Festival of Sacred Music with all-access passes to evening performances
- Uncover the sights and sounds of the colorful souks of Marrakech
- Dive into Moroccan culture through cooking classes, workshops and meetings with leading social organizations

*Immerse yourself in the cultures, music, and cuisines of Northern Morocco*

## TRIP AT A GLANCE

10 Days / 9 Nights

### PHYSICAL DEMAND

Easy

### GROUP SIZE

Average 6, Maximum 16

### LODGING

Premier



# FESTIVAL



## CASABLANCA

**DAY 1** - Arrive in the beautiful city of Casablanca and take a short drive to the hotel to settle in before our evening cultural overview and orientation

**DAY 2** - Tour the Hassan II Mosque in the morning and then drive to visit the Mohammed Mausoleum and Hassan tower in Rabat. Finish out the day with a drive to our next destination, Chefchaouen

## CHEFCHAOUEN

**DAY 3** - Soak in the hues of blue with a day of leisure in the exquisite northern city of Chefchaouen

## FES

**DAY 4** - Visit the ancient Roman city of Volubilis before catching your first sacred festival show in Fès

**DAY 5** - Spend your morning immersed in the culture of Fes followed by an Islamic Geometry workshop. Catch the sunset at Marinid ruins before joining the festival for a second night of music!

**DAY 6** - Take a cooking class with a local chef in the morning which includes a guided visit to the market for ingredients. We'll then have an afternoon bookbinding workshop followed by dinner and another night of festivities

## MARRAKECH

**DAY 7** - Take a short flight Marrakech where we'll take a calligraphy workshop and experience a rooftop sunset

**DAY 8** - Immerse yourself in the culture of Marrakech in the morning followed by a cultural food tour your taste buds will love

**DAY 9** - Enjoy morning tea with the local Amazigh family and end the night with a goodbye dinner that includes a private concert, henna tattoos and an open Q&A

**DAY 10** - Depart home

## MOROCCO: FÈS WORLD FESTIVAL OF SACRED MUSIC

### OUR PURPOSE

Perhaps known most notably in the West for its role in the Hollywood classic Casablanca, the country of Morocco is rich in history, cuisine, and musical traditions. This mountainous region is Africa's Northwesternmost country, lying directly across the Strait of Gibraltar from Spain. Its history has been influenced by a variety of other cultures over the last few millennia, including ancient Rome, Arab nations, Spain, and France. The majority of its population identifies as Arab, and Arabic is the number one language spoken in the country.

Our adventure takes place exclusively in Northern Morocco, a region of the country known for its picturesque mountain views and unique blend of ancient and modern cities. We'll tour old-world Fès (the largest car-less city in the world!), the beautifully blue-hued Chefchaouen, and the bustling Marrakech, making brief stops in Morocco's capital, Rabat, and the world-famous Casablanca.

Your Fès World Festival of Sacred Music experience will be unforgettable thanks to the exclusive experiences and unparalleled guidance offered by Discover Corps. Our expert guide is with you every step of the way, from historic tours to cooking classes to facilitating conversations with locals about their culture, religion, education and more. You'll be treated to Sacred Music Festival performances and behind-the-scenes experiences with local musicians. Enjoy the majesty of Morocco with this exciting, one-of-a-kind adventure from Discover Corps.







## DISCOVER FÈS WORLD FESTIVAL OF SACRED MUSIC

The Fès World Festival of Sacred Music is an exciting, multi-day event showcasing the diversity of spiritual music around the world. Created in 1994, it encompasses a vast variety of musical types and features artists from the Middle East, Africa, Asia, and Western Europe, all committed to sharing the quest for the sacred. For several years, the festival has welcomed not only musicians, dancers, and poets but large-scale multidisciplinary performances with artists ranging in the dozens. Most festivities take place at the grandiose Bab Makina square while others are showcased across the medina (old city) in traditional locations such as riads (estates).

### FESTIVAL HIGHLIGHTS



#### FÈS - A CITY THAT COMES TO LIFE

Often referred to as Morocco's cultural and spiritual capital, the city of Fès boasts a rich heritage dating back to the 8th and 9th centuries. Its medieval heritage is seen throughout the original portions of the city, referred to as the Medina of Fès. We'll soak in the city on foot over two days, as Fès is the largest car-free urban area in the world. Roaming on foot will allow us to explore the city's labyrinths of streets, tanneries, spice shops, and more before attending festival performances in the evenings.



#### DIALOGUE OF CIVILIZATIONS

Because of its magnetic attraction, the Festival manages to gather world renowned artists from all horizons. Each year, the festival celebrates artists from Muslim, Jewish, Christian, Hindu and other faiths to perform together in a spirit of mutual respect and collaboration. Musicians sing and play spiritual sounds, creating a dialogue between cultures and religions.



#### A DIVERSITY OF MUSIC

In the afternoon, evening, and late at night, there are concerts with performers arriving from all across the globe. The types of music you will hear includes (but is not limited to), Arab-Andalusian rhythms, early European classical, Sufi ritual songs and trance music, a Bulgarian orthodox choir, Hindustani chants, Christian Gospel, Swedish chamber choir, Celtic sacred music, Egyptian madhi odes, ancient Indian gwalior chants, Turkish whirling dervishes, and so much more!



#### ENGAGING WORKSHOPS

The Festival offers more than just music and concerts. There are also workshops and discussions on climate change, human and civil rights, social justice and other world issues. It truly is an incredible event that brings us all together to experience stunning art, entertainment, spiritual energy and intellectual challenges.





## TRIP HIGHLIGHTS



### CHEFCHAOUEN

Located in the Rif Mountains, this fifteenth century city was originally a military outpost but is most known today for its stunning, blue-washed buildings. Some claim the blue keeps away mosquitos while others point to it as a symbol of the sky and heavens. Whichever theory you choose to believe, you'll want your camera ready as you explore this exquisite town on foot before attending a private performance with a local band specializing in sacred music.



### MARRAKECH

Immerse yourself in local culture when we visit Marrakech, the fourth largest city in Morocco. The heart of the medina is Jamaa el-Fna square, a vibrant marketplace that is called the "red city" because of its buildings of beaten clay. Filled with architectural richness, colorful souks, oriental palaces, and intimate gardens, Marrakech is sure to be an unforgettable experience.



### STAYING IN A RIAD

While in Marrakech, we'll be staying in a traditional Moroccan Riad. Generally rectangular in shape, a riad is a large, luxurious estate with multiple stories and plenty of guest rooms, all centered around an open-aired courtyard with a fountain. Most Moroccan riads are located in the medinas, or the historic parts of the city and were once the homes of Morocco's wealthiest citizens. Over time, many riads have been converted into hotels and have become a quintessential part of the Moroccan travel experience.



### RABAT

The twelfth-century city of Rabat is Morocco's capital, resting along the shores of the Bouregreg River and the Atlantic Ocean. The city is known for its landmarks that speak to both its Islamic and French-colonial heritage, including the Mohammed V Mausoleum and the Hassan Tower. While our visit to Rabat is brief, we'll have a chance to experience the city's cultural cornerstones and dine aboard the famous Rabat river.

## WHY TRAVEL WITH DISCOVER CORPS?

- Experience Morocco's charms during one of the most festive times of year alongside your expert guide
- Go behind-the-scenes and learn about both the music and culture of Morocco with private workshops & performances
- Get all-access passes to the Fes World Festival of Sacred Music. Be inspired by this UNESCO designated event!
- Stay in beautiful, hand-picked boutique hotels & riads across Morocco's iconic cultural epicenters





# ITINERARY

## DAY 1: Welcome to Casablanca

Arrive in historic Casablanca and take a short drive to your hotel where you can settle in before dinner and orientation. (D)

## DAY 2: Venture through Morocco's capital Rabat and head to Chefchaouen

In the morning we'll visit Hassan II Mosque – the largest functioning in Africa and 7th largest in the world. Its minaret (or tower) is the second tallest in the world at 210 meters tall. Enjoy lunch on a boat on Rabat's iconic Abi Rraq River

On our way to the northern city of Chefchaouen, we'll make a stop in Rabat, Morocco's capital. While there we'll visit the 12th century Hassan Tower and the Mohammed V Mausoleum, final resting place of Moroccan king Mohammed V and his two sons, the late King Hassan II and Prince Abdallah. We'll then enjoy a picturesque drive to the Rif Mountains and Chefchaouen. (B,L,D)

## DAY 3: Explore the city of blue and enjoy a private performance and Q&A with a local band

We'll start our day with a typical northern breakfast before breaking into small groups to explore the blue-hued city of Chefchaouen. Enjoy lunch and an afternoon on your own in this car-free medina (ancient city). We'll reconvene at dinner before enjoying an exclusive performance by a local band specializing in sacred music. Before the performance, you'll have the opportunity to learn more about the band with an open Q&A. (B,D)

## DAY 4: Experience the ancient Roman city of Volubilis and enjoy your first sacred festival show

No need to feel blue as we head for the city of Fès. En route, we'll make a stop in the ancient Roman city of Volubilis to capture the diverse history of Morocco as a Roman province. Once we arrive in Fès, we will check in to our Riad, get settled in and then head out to join the people in the Sacred Music Festivities. (B,L,D)

## DAY 5: Learn about the Fès culture and catch a sunset at the Marinid ruins

In the morning, we will visit historic landmarks and local staples such as honey souqs, tanneries, spice shops, and more. Later this afternoon, we will join an Islamic Geometry workshop followed by a beautiful sunset at Marinid ruins. The day will conclude with a Sacred Music Festival concert. (B,D)







## **DAY 6:** Take a cooking class and attend a bookbinding workshop

We'll start off the morning taking a cooking class with a local chef who will take us on a guided visit to the market. In the afternoon, we will attend a bookbinding workshop followed by an optional relaxing Hammam. In addition to attending evening festival performances, you'll get to meet and engage with local artists participating in the festival. (B,L,D)

## **DAY 7:** Travel to Marrakech and enjoy a calligraphy workshop

We'll take a short flight from Fès to the city of Marrakech, where you'll check into your authentic Riad (historic estate). In the afternoon, we'll join a local artist for a calligraphy class. before making our way to Jemaa el-Fnaa (Marrakech's main city square) where we will experience a rooftop sunset unlike any other. Our evening will wrap up with an open Q&A with a local storyteller. (B,D)



## **DAY 8:** Learn about Marrakech culture and take your taste buds on a journey cuisine

We'll have a full day to explore Marrakech, nicknamed "red city" because of its buildings of beaten clay. Our day begins with a visit to the Bahia Palace, followed by the Secret Garden and the Jewish neighborhood (Mellah).

After a mid-day break, we will visit the beautiful Majorelle Gardens as well as the The Yves Saint Laurent Museum.

Tonight, we'll take our taste buds on a journey through Marrakechi cuisine with a delicious, unforgettable food tour!

The evening is yours to shop for last-minute souvenirs and wander in the medina. (B,L,D)

## **DAY 9:** Learn about the important work of Project Soar and enjoy your last night with a private concert and henna tattoos

This morning we'll visit a nearby village to learn more about Project Soar – an association with a mission to empower marginalized teen girls to become the leaders of today and tomorrow. Learn firsthand about the challenges that young girls face in Moroccan culture and the work this organization is doing to empower the girls to become their own change agents. *(Please Note: we may visit a different socially-focused NGO depending on availability closer to the trip dates)*

The afternoon will be yours to explore the city before our goodbye dinner. After dinner, we will have a private concert complete with the opportunity to get a henna tattoo as an authentic way to say goodbye to guests. (B,L,D)

## **DAY 10:** Depart Home



# MOROCCO: FÈS WORLD FESTIVAL OF SACRED MUSIC

10 DAYS / 9 NIGHTS

DATE	ADULT	CHILD
May 22-31, 2025	<b>\$5,195</b>	<b>\$4,995</b>

*Accepting bookings for 2025! Date not confirmed. Festival dates will be released in early 2025.*

*There is an additional single room supplement fee of \$895 per person. This will guarantee you your own, single occupancy room for the entirety of the trip. If you are a solo traveler and would like us to match you with a roommate of the same gender, please book as double occupancy. See full details on the website page for the trip.*

## WHAT'S INCLUDED

- Accommodation at a range of hand-picked 5-star boutique properties
- All transportation including roundtrip airport transfer
- Most meals from welcome dinner on Day 1 through breakfast on final day
- An active daily itinerary that includes all scheduled activities & access to the Fès World Festival of Sacred Music
- A bilingual, licensed guide that will be by your side through the entire journey
- \$50,000 emergency medical evacuation insurance
- Trip literature and pre-departure support from Discover Corps
- 24-hour Discover Corps emergency hotline

## WHAT'S NOT INCLUDED

- Tips for the Discover Corps guide and driver
- Three Lunches
- Mandatory one-way domestic flight supplement (\$100)
- Alcoholic beverages
- International airfare

## RESERVE YOUR TRIP TODAY

Trips are limited to 16 travelers and do fill. Reserving a trip with Discover Corps is easy. Simply visit our website and fill out the online registration form and pay a \$365 deposit and \$30 non-refundable booking fee per person. If you have any questions or would like to speak to a Travel Specialist, call/text us at (619) 758-3030 or e-mail us at [info@discovercorps.com](mailto:info@discovercorps.com)

## RETURNING ALUMNI?

We like to reward those who travel with us again and again. Enjoy a \$250 discount off our trip if you are a returning Discover Corps traveler.

## MONTHLY PAYMENT PLANS AVAILABLE

Discover Corps offers monthly payment plan options for all of our trips. Contact us anytime, before or after booking, to sign up for a monthly payment plan or with any questions:

Call/Text: 619-758-3030 Email: [info@discovercorps.com](mailto:info@discovercorps.com)

## THE FINE PRINT

Child prices apply to those 16 years younger sharing a room with an adult.

Although unlikely, prices, dates, and accommodations subject to change with a 60 day notice from Discover Corps.

(B, L, D): Breakfast, Lunch Dinner



# Our Mission



The mission of Discover Corps is to inspire travelers to become advocates for our planet's natural wonders, cultural treasures, and local communities through immersive and sustainable travel experiences.

## OUR DESTINATIONS

ALASKA	ITALY
AUSTRALIA	JAPAN
BELIZE	KENYA
BHUTAN	MEXICO
BRAZIL	MOROCCO
COSTA RICA	PERU
CUBA	SOUTH AFRICA
DOMINICAN REPUBLIC	TANZANIA
EGYPT	THAILAND
GALÁPAGOS ISLANDS	UGANDA



FAMILY FRIENDLY • SMALL GROUPS • POSITIVE LOCAL IMPACT • DISTINCTIVE LODGING • HANDPICKED GUIDES



**Discover Corps**  
*Unforgettable Vacations With Purpose*

Visit [discovercorps.com/register](https://discovercorps.com/register) to place a \$395 deposit down to hold your space, or reach out to us at the contact information below with questions.

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