

Travel to...

Morocco

...with the **National Peace Corps Association**



Memorable Moments...

- Explore the rich culture & bustling medinas of Morocco alongside fellow NPCA members
- Meet with local Peace Corps Volunteers to get a glimpse into their projects
- Engage in discussions with local experts around immigration, religion & politics
- Venture through Marrakech's historic medina on a Moroccan food tour
- Learn traditional Arabic calligraphy and how to paint colorful Moroccan tiles
- Visit an NGO working to empower young girls in Morocco

Operated by



Itinerary

Dates: March 30-April 11, 2025

Duration: 13 days / 12 nights

Location: Casablanca, Rabat, Tangiers, Fes, Marrakech

Lodging: Combination of boutique hotels & riads

Day 1: A warm welcome awaits you as you arrive in Casablanca International Airport where the Next Step Travel team will meet you with open arms. After bags are collected and everyone is set to go, we'll venture into the historic city center to check into our hotel before paying a visit to the Hassan II Mosque. This beautiful seaside mosque is the largest in Morocco and its minaret is the tallest in the world!

Tonight, we'll enjoy a delightful welcome dinner together getting to know one another along with our expert local guide that will be showing us the beauty of Morocco. *(L,D)*

Day 2: Enjoy a relaxing breakfast before taking the hour-long coastal drive to Rabat, Morocco's capital. Settle-in to our charming riad, or traditional style boutique hotel, and venture into the city. Today, we'll visit the 12th century Hassan Tower and the Mohammed V Mausoleum, the final resting place of Moroccan king Mohammed V and his two sons, the late King Hassan II and Prince Abdallah. We'll also have the opportunity to visit the Udaya Gardens, a hidden jewel in the center of Rabat.

In the evening, we'll have an engaging dinner alongside staff from the Peace Corps who will share their work in the country and open the conversation to any questions you may have. *(B,L,D)*

Day 3: Rise for a full day in the capital! After breakfast, we'll be treated to a talk about politics in Morocco along with a discussion around the impact of Islamic life in Morocco. This will be the perfect opportunity to gain a bit more understanding of the role that religion plays in Moroccan society.

The afternoon will be independent for you to visit the Medina of Rabat. Recognized by UNESCO as a modern capital and historic city, the Medina is filled with history, from the Old Market to a souk with alleys of shops selling ceramics, spices and jewelry. We'll give you suggestions that suit your interests and preferences. *(B,L)*

Days 4 & 5: The next morning we'll hop on a train for a 90-minute ride to Tangier, a historic port town located on the Strait of Gibraltar just across from Spain. Upon arrival, we'll settle-in to our riad, a boutique property with a charming courtyard located walking distance to the medina.



Itinerary

After lunch, we'll make a visit to the historic American Legation, a historic building in the center of the Tangier Medina that formerly housed the U.S. diplomatic mission to Morocco. Enjoy a guided tour and exclusive meeting and discussion with the Director. In the evening, we'll have tea at the famous Café Hafa along with a discussion alongside a local resident about immigration issues in Morocco. This will be followed by dinner together.

The following day, enjoy a guided walking tour of the colorful medina of Tangier, a labyrinth of alleyways that snakes through shops, homes and markets. The afternoon will be independent to explore on your own. *(Day 4: B,L,D / Day 5: B)*



Day 6: After breakfast, we'll hit the road to Fes, the historic cultural capital of Morocco. Tucked in the Atlas Mountains, Fes is a UNESCO World Heritage Site and truly one of the gems of Morocco. After a full morning on the road, we'll arrive in Fes for lunch and check-in to our charming riad located on the edge of the ancient Fes medina. Later the afternoon, take part in a Zelij Workshop where you'll learn to paint the intricate Moroccan tiles with pottery expert. *(B,L,D)*

Day 7: In the morning, we'll visit the must-see historic landmarks of Fes including the honey souqs, tanneries, spice shops and more. A local expert will join us to provide a lens into the history of this cultural mecca. After lunch, we'll join a local Peace Corps Volunteer for a discussion about the Peace Corps' role in Morocco along with a Q&A. The day will conclude with a beautiful sunset over the Marinid Ruins overlooking the medina followed by a free dinner. *(B,L)*

Days 8 & 9: After breakfast, we'll join a local artist for a calligraphy workshop where you'll also learn a bit of Arabic. After lunch, we'll head to the airport for our flight to Marrakech, a haven of Islamic architecture and Moroccan culture. Upon arrival, check-in to our traditional riad in the center of Marrakech followed by a relaxing dinner together in the medina.

We'll have a full day to explore Marrakech the following day. Our adventure begins with a visit to the Bahia Palace, followed by the Secret Garden and the Jewish neighborhood. After a mid-day break, we'll have a discussion around the topic of civil society in Morocco with a leading NGO. Tonight, we'll take our taste buds on a journey through Marrakechi cuisine with a delicious, unforgettable food tour! *(Days 8 & 9: B,L,D)*



Itinerary

Day 10: After breakfast, we'll venture to a nearby village to meet with a Peace Corps Volunteer working in the sector of Youth and Development. Learn about her experience in Morocco and some of the issues that the Peace Corps is working to address. We'll have lunch together with the Volunteer before heading back to Marrakech. Later in the afternoon, take part in a fascinating intercultural discussion with a group of local Moroccans from Marrakech. This is a safe space to connect with locals and learn a bit more about contemporary Moroccan culture. Dinner tonight will be independent. (B,L)

Day 11: 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). Afterwards, return to Marrakech for some free time followed by a sunset camel ride in the Palm Grove of Marrakech. (B,L)

Day 12: Enjoy some free time to do some final explorations around Marrakech. Visit the medina for souvenirs, book a massage, visit the local hammam or simply relax. In the afternoon, we will have a private concert complete with the opportunity to get a henna tattoo as an authentic way to say goodbye to guests that visit Morocco. An unforgettable Farwell Dinner will follow. (B,L,D)

Day 13: After breakfast, bid farewell to Morocco and depart home on your international flight. (B)

Please note that the sequence of events is subject to change and all meetings with Peace Corps Volunteers are subject to approval.



Morocco Boutique Hotel Lodging

We've hand-picked a portfolio of 3 & 4 star boutique hotels and riads for your journey. In Casablanca, stay at the Hotel Odyssee Center located in the heart of the city. Continue to Rabat where we'll stay at the charming Riad El Pacha in the center of the medina. In Tangier we'll base ourselves at the Dar Nour, a small boutique hotel located in the historic Casbah. In Fes, we'll stay at the traditional and elegant Riad La Perle. End the journey at the boutique Riad Moulay and Riad Bensaid, featuring rooftop terraces and traditional Moroccan design. At your doorstep is the bustling medina of Marrakech. *(Please note the exact properties are subject to change)*



Trip Details

Pricing

- **Per Person Trip Fee (Double Occupancy):** \$4495
- **Single Room Supplement:** \$595

What's Included - Your trip price includes the following:

- 12 nights of 3- and 4-star hotel lodging in boutique hotels and riads
- Dedicated Discover Corps Guide throughout the entire trip
- All meals listed in itinerary
- Gratuities for all local staff on the trip
- All scheduled activities in the itinerary
- All in-country transportation via air-conditioned motor coach
- One-way domestic flight between Fes-Marrakech
- Unlimited drinking water aboard the bus
- Secondary international medical insurance
- 24-hour Discover Corps emergency hotline

Terms & Conditions

It just takes \$365 per person to register for the trip. The remainder of the trip fee is due 30 days after registering for the trip or 60 days prior to departure, whichever comes first. The registration can be completed [HERE](#).

Refund Policy

The amount of your refund is based on how far in advance from the start date of the trip you notify us of your cancellation.

- More than five months prior, everything is refundable!
- Less than five months prior, 75% of program fee is refundable, except non-refundable \$30 registration fee. There is no fee to change trip destination or start date.
- Less than four months prior, 50% of program fee is refundable, except non-refundable \$30 registration fee. \$100 fee to change trip destination or start date.
- Less than three months prior, 25% of program fee is refundable, except non-refundable \$30 registration fee. \$395 fee to change trip destination or start date.
- Less than two months prior, the program fee is non-refundable. Changes to trip destination or start date are not possible and will be subject to refund policy.

If the balance has not been paid in full, the above percentages apply to all monies paid at the date of cancellation.



About the National Peace Corps Association

National Peace Corps Association (NPCA) is a mission-driven social impact organization that encourages and celebrates lifelong commitment to Peace Corps ideals. NPCA supports a united and vibrant Peace Corps community, including current and returned Peace Corps volunteers, current and former staff, host country nationals, family and friends in our efforts to create a better world. NPCA exists to fulfill three specific goals:

- Help the Peace Corps be the best it can be
- Empower members and affiliate groups to thrive
- Amplify the Peace Corps community's global social impact



About Discover Corps

Discover Corps believes that partnering with local programs, tours, and villages is the best way for both travelers and the communities to gain value and rejuvenate the human spirit. Discover Corps offers access and insight into our destinations' rich tapestry of cultures, for all ages, helping you and your family create memories that stay with you for a lifetime.

Our trips are split into two types: Signature Journeys & Grassroots Expeditions. All types of tours are purposeful for both our travelers and the communities we visit, so whether your focus is lending a hand teaching English to schoolchildren in Tanzania, being a part of The Sea Turtle Initiative in Costa Rica, or discovering the vibrant energy of Cuba, expect the unexpected experiences that keep life rich, no matter your age. Through responsible and sustainable initiatives, Discover Corps will connect you with the people and wildlife that keep our world inspiring.