Kingdom of Morocco

FROM THE SAHARA TO THE SEA

March 13 to 27, 2020

a program of the stanford alumni association
Highlights

TASTE some of the finest crus of Morocco and take a cave tour at Domaine de la Zouina, one of the country’s prime wine producers.

MEET with Moroccan academics at the Center for Cross-Cultural Learning, a private institution in Rabat’s 17th-century medina.

SPEND the night in a desert camp and enjoy the romantic thrill of taking a camel ride atop the dramatic windswept dunes of the Sahara Desert.

Few destinations offer as much intrigue as Morocco, a land of impressive mosques, exquisite palaces and labyrinthine souks. Morocco is home to a richly diverse landscape with its snow-capped Atlas Mountains, vast Saharan sand dunes, haunting Roman ruins and bustling fishing ports. Above all else, Morocco’s people are welcoming and gracious, inviting travelers into their homes in the centuries-old Berber tradition. On this trip we’ll have a chance to experience the traditional, indigenous Berber culture during a mule ride at the base of North Africa’s highest peak. With Dr. Martha Crenshaw, we’ll meet local educators and artisans who will share with us their experiences and perspectives as citizens living in a multifaceted kingdom. We invite you to join us on this remarkable and memorable adventure!

BRETT S. THOMPSON, ’83, DIRECTOR, STANFORD TRAVEL/STUDY
"Professor Crenshaw possesses that rare combination of extensive knowledge and the ability to communicate it flawlessly and effectively. She is a star!"

CARL SCANDELLA, PHD '71, ALONG THE MEKONG, 2017

MARTHA CRENSHAW is a senior fellow at the Center for International Security and Cooperation and the Freeman Spogli Institute for International Studies. Her primary areas of interest are international conflict and political violence. Since 2005, Dr. Crenshaw has been a lead investigator with the National Consortium for the Study of Terrorism and the Response to Terrorism under the aegis of the Department of Homeland Security, and has lectured for the U.S. State Department on Morocco and Algeria. She continues to conduct research on the rise and expansion of violent Islamism in the Maghreb as well as in the Sahel region. On this trip, Dr. Crenshaw will lecture on how Morocco and other monarchies largely escaped the turmoil of the Arab Spring, and its relations with other countries in North Africa. She will also touch on the often-overlooked history of Moroccan nationalism and resistance to French colonialism. Finally, she will expand upon the country’s role as an international ally, and as a moderate force in the region today.

- Co-author of Countering Terrorism, 2017; Author of Revolutionary Terrorism: The FLN in Algeria, 1954–1962, and Explaining Terrorism: Causes, Processes, and Consequences
- Senior Fellow, 2007, and emerita Senior Fellow, 2019, Center for International Security and Cooperation, Stanford University
- Professor of political science by courtesy, School of Humanities and Sciences, Stanford University, since 2007
- Wesleyan University Award for Teaching Excellence, 1995
- International Studies Association Distinguished Scholar Award, 2016
- Corresponding fellow, British Academy
- ABA, political science, 1967, Newcomb College of Tulane University

SIGN UP ONLINE: alumni.stanford.edu/trip?morocco2020
OR BY PHONE: (650) 725-1093
**Itinerary**

**FRIDAY & SATURDAY, MARCH 13 & 14**

**U.S. / MARRAKECH, MOROCCO**
Depart the U.S. on overnight flights to Marrakech, arriving on Saturday and transferring to our hotel. This evening enjoy a welcome cocktail reception and dinner of local specialties in the heart of the old city. **HOTEL LA MAISON ARABE (3/14: D)**

**SUNDAY, MARCH 15**
**MARRAKECH**
Start the day with a visit to the 12th-century Koutoubia Mosque—a reference of world Islamic architecture—and the late-19th-century Bahia Palace of vizier Ba Ahmed, an example of Moorish-Andalusian art. Also visit the nearby private Tiskiwin Museum of fine rural Moroccan and sub-Saharan crafts, and the Saadian Tombs, a last window into the splendor of early-17th-century Moroccan interior art. After lunch in the medina, enjoy the afternoon at leisure before a cocktail reception at the famed Hotel La Mamounia. **HOTEL LA MAISON ARABE (B,L,D)**

**MONDAY, MARCH 16**
**MARRAKECH**
Explore Marrakech’s vast souks and its quarters where all types of crafts are still fashioned by hand (and foot!). Stop at the Ben Youssef Medersa, the largest of the theological schools initially set up in the 14th century by the Marinid Dynasty. After lunch in the medina, enjoy the afternoon at leisure. **HOTEL LA MAISON ARABE (B,L)**

**TUESDAY, MARCH 17**
**MARRAKECH / ESSAOUIRA**
Drive to the coastal city of Essaouira, noted for its lovely blue-and-white architecture displaying both Moroccan and Portuguese influences, 18th-century ramparts, colorfully painted fishing boats, and for being the setting for much of Orson Welles’ Othello. On the way, look for the area’s infamous goats climbing up argan trees. Dine independently this evening back in Marrakech. **HOTEL LA MAISON ARABE (B,L,D)**

**WEDNESDAY, MARCH 18**
**MARRAKECH / MT. TOUBKAL NATIONAL PARK**
Take a mule ride through walnut-shaded terraced fields at the base of 14,000-foot-high Mount Toubkal, North Africa’s highest peak, to observe the ways of Berber tribesmen. Enjoy a tea break in a local home and a Berber lunch at the award-winning Kasbah du Toubkal ecolodge. Returning to Marrakech, attend a private dinner at the home of the president of the Marrakech Art Biennale, set amid the palm groves outside the city. **HOTEL LA MAISON ARABE (B,L,D)**

**THURSDAY, MARCH 19**
**MARRAKECH / AGHMAT / OUARZAZATE**
Head south to the archaeological site of Aghmat, the first capital of the 11th-century Berber Almoravid Dynasty that founded Marrakech. After a light lunch, cross the spectacular Tizi n’Tichka pass to Aït Benhaddou, an assembly of multi-storied granaries often used as background for films (e.g., Gladiator). Next, visit the international film center of Ouarzazate, whose surroundings have been used in dozens of films, including Lawrence of Arabia. **LE BERBERE PALACE (B,L,D, D)**

**FRIDAY, MARCH 20**
**OUARZAZATE / BOUMALNE DADES**
Today, follow the Kasbah Trail with its fortified residences made of adobe. Drive up the Dades Valley, considered southern Morocco’s most picturesque, with its variety of orchards and odd rock forma...
tions. Take an excursion to the dramatic Todgha Gorge, Morocco’s “Grand Canyon,” before settling in for the night in Arfoud. HOTEL KASBAH XALUCA (B,L,D)

SATURDAY, MARCH 21 BOUMALNE DADES / ERG CHEIBBI
Head south to the Tafilalet Oasis—Morocco’s largest—and visit the ruins of former caravan hub Sijilmassa. After lunch in Arfoud, board 4WD vehicles and head into the Sahara’s Erg Chebbi, one of Morocco’s great sand dune areas, rising 600 feet above the desert floor. Spend the night in a desert camp, ride a camel or clamber up the dunes to witness sunset over the Sahara, followed by dinner and a bonfire at our overnight camp. GOLD SAND CAMP (B,L,D)

SUNDAY, MARCH 22 ERG CHEIBBI / MIDELT / IFRANE NATIONAL PARK / FES
Follow the palm-filled Ziz Valley across the stark, multihued expanses of the Eastern High Atlas range to the Berber enclave of Midelt for lunch. Take a detour into Ifrane National Park, the last forest of giant Atlas cedars, and try to spot a band of indigenous Barbary macaques before arriving this evening in the spiritual capital of Fes. RIAD FES (B,L,D)

MONDAY, MARCH 23 FES
Walk the narrow alleys of Fes, considered the last true example of a typical medieval Arab town with its bustling bazaars, colorful tanners’ quarters and fragrant spice market. Visit the restored Attarine Medersa; the mausoleum of city founder Idriss II; the 17th-century Nejjarine caravanserai, now an exquisite museum of wood arts; the 700-year-old Bou Inania Medersa; the famed Blue Gate; and pottery and zellige mosaic tile workshops. RIAD FES (B,L,D)

TUESDAY, MARCH 24 FES / VOLUBILIS / MEKNÈS
Venture west to Volubilis, Rome’s commercial hub for the region until the 3rd century, renowned for its numerous mosaics still in situ. Then travel south to former imperial city Meknès and its astounding granary, a World Heritage site built in the late 17th century by Sultan Moulay Ismail to feed the city’s population and his 12,000 (!) horses. Tour the cave at Domaine de la Zouina, the Kingdom’s prime wine producer, and enjoy a tasting of its finest crus before returning to Fes. RIAD FES (B,L,D)

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 25 FES / RABAT
Drive to the capital city of Morocco, Rabat, designated in 2013 as a World Heritage site. Enjoy a seafood lunch by the crashing waves of the Atlantic, a leisurely walk through the white-washed Oudaïa Kasbah and the Chellah fortress, and an afternoon stop at the Mausoleum of Mohamed V, considered by many to be modern Morocco’s “father.” VILLA MANDARINE (B,L)

THURSDAY, MARCH 26 RABAT / SALÉ
Cross the Bou Regreg River for a morning tour of Salé, a traditional residential town with a restored 14th-century medersa, a gem overlooked by many tourists. Enjoy lunch and a lecture on post-Arab Spring developments at the Center for Cross-Cultural Learning situated inside Rabat’s medina. Visit the new Museum of Modern and Contemporary Art, a magnificent structure of neo-Moorish architecture, followed by a farewell cocktail reception and Moroccan dinner. VILLA MANDARINE (B,L,D)

FRIDAY, MARCH 27 RABAT OR CASABLANCA / U.S.
Transfer to the Rabat or Casablanca airport for flights home. (B)
Trip Information

DATES
March 13 to 27, 2020 (15 days)

SIZE
Limited to 34 participants

COST*
$8,995 per person, double occupancy
$10,995 per person, single occupancy
*Stanford Alumni Association nonmembers add $300 per person

INCLUDED
12 nights of deluxe hotel accommodations; 1 night of desert camping • 13 breakfasts, 12 lunches and 9 dinners • Welcome and farewell cocktail receptions • Gratuities to porters, guides and drivers for all group activities • All tours and excursions as described in the itinerary • Transfers and baggage handling on program arrival and departure days • Minimal medical, accident and evacuation insurance • Educational program with lecture series and pre-departure materials, including recommended reading list, a selected book, map and travel information • Services of our professional tour manager to assist you throughout the program

NOT INCLUDED
International and U.S. domestic airfare • Passport and visa fees • Immunization costs • Meals and beverages other than those specified as included • Independent and private transfers • Trip-cancellation/interuption and baggage insurance • Excess-baggage charges • Personal items such as internet access, telephone and fax calls, laundry and gratuities for nongroup services

AIR ARRANGEMENTS
You are responsible for booking and purchasing airfare to the start location and from the end location of the program. These air purchases are NOT included in the program cost. To assist you in making these independent arrangements, we’ll send you information with your confirmation materials on when to arrive and depart.

WHAT TO EXPECT
We consider this to be a moderately strenuous program that is at times is physically demanding. Much of the walking takes place at ancient sites, where paths can be rocky and uneven. In some instances steps are a necessary part of the tour and may not have handrails. While hotels on this program do have elevators, in some occasions they can only be reached by first ascending a staircase. Some days require early-morning starts, as we often have a full schedule. Our journey may require several hours of travel by motor coach, the longest drives being up to eight hours including stops. Participants must be physically fit, active and in good health. We welcome travelers 15 years of age and older on this program.
Deposit & Final Payment
A $1,000-per-person deposit is required to reserve space for this program. Sign up online at alumni.stanford.edu/trip?morocco2020 or call Travel/Study at (650) 725-1093. Final payment is due 120 days prior to departure. As a condition of participation, all confirmed participants are required to sign a Release of Liability.

Cancellations & Refunds
Deposits and any payments are refundable, less a $500-per-person cancellation fee, until 120 days prior to departure. After that date, refunds can be made only if the program is sold out and your place(s) can be resold, in which case a $1,000-per-person cancellation fee will apply.

Insurance
Stanford Travel/Study provides all travelers who are U.S. or Canadian citizens with minimal medical, accident and evacuation coverage under our group-travel insurance policy. Our group policy is intended to provide minimal levels of protection while you are traveling on this program. You may choose to subscribe to optional trip-cancellation and baggage insurance. Information offering such insurance will be provided to travelers with their welcome materials. The product offered includes special benefits if you purchase your policy within 14 days of written confirmation of your participation on the trip.

Eligibility
We encourage membership in the Stanford Alumni Association as the program cost for nonmembers is $300 more than the members’ price. A person traveling as a guest paid for by a current member will not be charged the nonmember fee. For more information or to purchase a membership, visit alumni.stanford.gov/membership or call (650) 725-0692.

Responsibility
The Stanford Alumni Association, Stanford University and our operators act only as agents for the passenger with respect to transportation and exercise every care possible in doing so. However, we can assume no liability for injury, damage, loss, accident, delay or irregularity in connection with the service of any automobile, motor coach, launch or any other conveyance used in carrying out this program or for the acts or defaults of any company or person engaged in conveying the passenger or in carrying out the arrangements of the program. We cannot accept any responsibility for losses or additional expenses due to delay or changes in air or other services, sickness, weather, strike, war, quarantine, force majeure or other causes beyond our control. All such losses or expenses will have to be borne by the passenger as tour rates provide arrangements only for the time stated. We reserve the right to make such alterations to this published itinerary as may be deemed necessary. The right is reserved to cancel any program prior to departure in which case the entire payment will be refunded without further obligation on our part. The right is also reserved to decline to accept or retain any person as a member of the program. No refund will be made for an unused portion of any tour unless arrangements are made in sufficient time to avoid penalties. Baggage is carried at the owner’s risk entirely. The airlines concerned are not to be held responsible for any act, omission or event during the time that passengers are not on board their plane or conveyance. Neither the Stanford Alumni Association, Stanford University nor our operators accept liability for any carrier’s cancellation penalty incurred by the purchase of a nonrefundable ticket in connection with the tour. Program price is based on rates in effect in May 2019 and is subject to change without notice to reflect fluctuations in exchange rates, tariffs or fuel charges.
"An immersive experience in the culture of Morocco, with all the colors, scents, tastes and sounds on full display."

PATRICIA JONES, '76, THE KINGDOM OF MOROCCO, 2019

STANFORD TRAVEL/STUDY