



VPR

CITIZENS OF THE WORLD TOURS

Discover Morocco

with Steve Zind

June 11-19, 2014

About your host, Steve Zind

Senior Reporter & Special Projects Producer

Steve has been with VPR since 1994, first serving as host of VPR's public affairs program and then as a reporter, based in Central Vermont. Many VPR listeners recognize Steve for his special reports from Iran, providing a glimpse of this country that is usually hidden from the rest of the world. Prior to working with VPR, Steve served as program director for WNCS for 17 years, and also worked as news director for WCVR in Randolph. A graduate of Northern Arizona University, Steve also worked for stations in Phoenix and Tucson before moving to Vermont in 1972. Steve was honored in 2007 with two national Edward R. Murrow Awards for his reporting on VPR.

Day 1 June 11th/USA-Casablanca

Depart the USA to Casablanca

Day 2 June 12th/Rabat

Upon arrival we are met and assisted by our local representative who helps us through customs and immigration formalities. We take a 60 mile drive to Rabat, the capital of Morocco and official residence of King Mohamed VI. Check in at our hotel. Our afternoon tour includes walking to the bustling Medina, followed by a visit to the Kasbah of the Oudayas, the great Mosque, the Hassan Tower, and the magnificent Mohamed V Mausoleum (outside visit). Continue driving past the ramparts and the walls of Mechouar that encompass the Royal Palace. Return to our hotel for our welcome dinner and overnight.





Day 3 June 13th/Rabat-Fez

Today we begin our exploration of the Imperial Cities. This morning we depart by bus to Fez with a stop at the holy city of Moulay Idriss where the founder of Islam in Morocco is buried. Continue to the archaeological site of the Roman ruins Volubilis. Stop for lunch then continue driving to Meknes where we go through the walls and numerous gates of the city. Visit the famous gate of Bab el Mansour, the shrine Mosque, the tomb of Moulay Ismail, Dar Jami Palace and the royal stables. Arrive in Fez, the first imperial city which was built in 790 A.D. by Moulay Idriss. Dinner at our hotel. Anyone interested can walk to the square to listen to the Sacred Music Festival.

Day 4 June 14th/Fez Old City

A full day to explore Morocco's most fascinating city and the world's largest surviving medieval city. Travel downtown to visit the King Palace. Walk through the Jewish and the Arab section and view the south King Palace. Continue along the river for a panoramic view of the Old Town Medina. We enter the city through one of the main gates for a walking tour highlighting the Quaraouine University (the oldest in the world), the Mederssa Attarine, the Bouanania Religious school, and the Najarin Fountain. We stop for lunch then continue for a visit to the Moulay Idriss Mausoleum and the famous tannery, where skins are cured and dyed in enormous vats. We have time to stop and shop for some Fez's famous handicrafts. Dinner at our hotel, followed by a night at the Sacred Music Festival (with tickets for seating).



Day 5 June 15th/Fez New City

Another full day in Fez exploring the new city, including lunch at a local restaurant offering Morocco's famous cuisine. Dinner at our hotel. Those interested can walk to the square to listen to the Sacred Music Festival.

Day 6 June 16th/Fez-Marrakesh

Depart early and travel through the middle Atlas region of Imouzer Kender, through Berber villages to the ski resort of Ifrane. Continue to Azrou, a Berber village known for its handicrafts and carpet weaving.

Traveling through wooded and mountainous scenery brings us to Beni Melal for lunch. Continue on to Marrakesh, known as the pearl of the south. Dinner at our hotel and overnight.

Day 7 June 17th/Marrakesh

Morning drive to visit the monuments of Marrakesh with stops to the 16th century grandiose Saadin tombs; the Bahia Palace, a splendid example of Moorish Andaloussian architecture; Menara Gardens; and the Koutoubia Mosque. Lunch at a local restaurant. In the afternoon visit the world famous Djemaa El Fna Square, a spectacular open theater with story tellers, fire eaters, snake charmers, and palm readers. Tonight we enjoy a special farewell Moroccan dinner in a private house, within the walls of the Medina. Overnight at our hotel.



Day 8 June 18th/Marrakesh-Essaouira-Casablanca

Depart early morning to Casablanca via Essaouira, a picturesque port of an 800 year old city that shows traces of Iberian influence in its forts and towers. Outdoor lunch at a seafood restaurant. Continue our visit and enjoy the Sea Castle Dar el Bahar and the old fort built by the Portuguese in the 16th century. Continue along the coast of El Jadida visiting the place that the Portuguese occupied during the 11th century (Bastion De L'ange). Drive to Casablanca for our dinner and overnight.



Day 9 June 19th/Casablanca-USA

After breakfast we are transferred to the airport for our return flight back home.

\$5,315 per person double occupancy
\$790 single supplement

What's included:

- Visits as the schedule permits to artisans of pottery, wood, and other handcrafted factories as well as to textile and carpet factories. We will also visit a tannery.
- Visits to Rabat, the Old and New cities of Fez, Marrakesh, Essaouira, and Casablanca.
- 1 night open seating at the Music Festival in Fez
- All meals are included
- All group transfers to and from the airport
- All tips for transfers, meals, hotels, driver, and guide
- All entrances and visits to sites and activities listed in the itinerary
- Water on the bus

What's not included

- Airfare
- Passports
- Travel insurance
- Mini-bar, faxes, telephone calls, Internet service where there is a cost, laundry services or anything of a personal nature
- Anything not listed in the itinerary



GENERAL INFORMATION

Tour Administration

This tour of Morocco is designed for Vermont Public Radio (VPR) by Cultural Crossroads, LLC. VPR Journalist Steve Zind will host the tour. A tour director will accompany the group throughout the program. A portion of the tour benefits Vermont Public Radio, but is not considered a tax-deductible contribution according to IRS regulations.

Air Travel Arrangements

Flights are not included in the cost of the tour. Travelers can book with their travel agent, or Cultural Crossroads LLC can connect you to one. We urge you to check airline cancellation penalties before purchasing airline tickets since departure times and flights can change. Tours also can be cancelled due to low enrollments. Neither VPR nor Cultural Crossroads LLC accepts liability for cancellation penalties related to airline tickets purchased independently in conjunction with a tour. Arrival of all



flights must be within 60 minutes for group transfer, otherwise transfers can be organized, but paid for by the traveler. Please call Cultural Crossroads LLC, toll free 877-479-7040 for more information.

Reservation Procedure

You may register by phone (toll free 877-479-7040) e-mail: Carrie McDougall: carrie@culturalcrossroads.com. Registrations will be accepted in the order in which they are received. Please remember, space is limited, and we need a minimum of 10 travelers.

Changes in the Itinerary

VPR and Cultural Crossroads LLC, reserve the right to alter the order of events or to make changes deemed necessary for the comfort, convenience, and safety of the participants. Every effort will be made to adhere to the printed itinerary, but weather conditions, transportation difficulties or other circumstances beyond the control of VPR and Cultural Crossroads, LLC, and the local suppliers could force the cancellation or substitution of events or specific services.

A Note About Costs

Tour costs are based upon current airfares, tariffs, currency values, and on the basis of a minimum number of participants. (10 on this tour) While we will do everything possible to maintain the listed prices, they are subject to change. Should actual enrollments fall significantly below minimum numbers, a surcharge may be added. **Due to fluctuations in oil prices, a fuel surcharge may be added to your tour fee. Details and costs, if necessary, will be advised prior to departure.**

Photography/Video

Participants on the tour may be photographed/videoed for the educational and promotional purposes of the Cultural Crossroads LLC and VPR.

Travel Insurance

Travel insurance is highly recommended and plans should include emergency evacuation and medical expense coverage and 24-hr worldwide travel and medical assistance. Please call Cultural Crossroads LLC, toll free 877-479-7040 for more information. Please note that these tours require that participants be in good physical condition: you must be capable, without assistance, of walking a minimum of two miles over uneven terrain and of climbing stairs that may not have handrails. Participants should have sufficient stamina to keep pace with an active group of travelers on long days of touring.

Payment Policy & Schedule

Tour payments must be made by check, payable to **Cultural Crossroads**. After your **initial deposit of \$1500 per person, due upon signup, the balance payment is due by April 4th, 2014**. Deposits and payments are refundable if written notice of cancellation is received 70 days or more in advance of departure, less a \$100 per person non-refundable administration fees. 70-60 prior \$400 per person, 60-50 days prior, \$600 per person, 50 – 35 prior, \$2500 per person, plus an non-refundable expenses and less than 35 days, the full amount. Travel insurance is highly recommended. Cancellation charges also apply to additional accommodations reserved prior to and after the tour. VPR and Cultural Crossroads, LLC, cannot assume responsibility for any fees relating to the issuance and/or cancellation of air tickets. **Please understand that there will be no exceptions to our cancellation policies.**

Smoking Policy

For the comfort of all participants, we ask that there be no smoking during all group activities, including excursions and meals.





RESPONSIBILITY STATEMENT AND LIABILITY DISCLAIMER

Read Carefully: Responsibility Statement and Liability Disclaimer

Cultural Crossroads LLC hires local independent contractors. This allows us to not only provide a wide array of educational travel opportunities, but gives economic opportunities in the countries where we work. The respective ground agent and its suppliers make arrangements for transportation, accommodations, and other services. Neither VPR, Cultural Crossroads LLC, nor the ground agent shall be held liable for personal injury, death, property damage or accident, delay or irregularity arising out of any act or omission of these suppliers. VPR, Cultural Crossroads LLC and the ground operator reserve the right, without penalty, to make changes in the published itinerary whenever, in their judgment, conditions warrant, or if they deem it necessary for the comfort, convenience, or safety of tour participants.

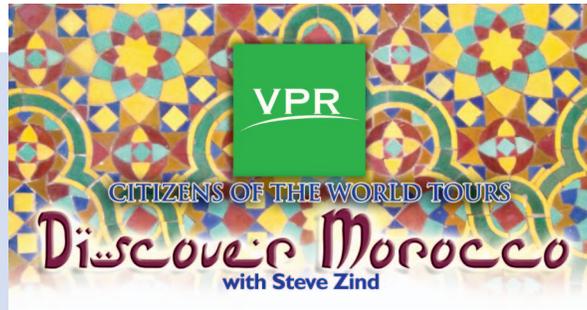
VPR, Cultural Crossroads LLC, and the ground agent also reserve the right, without penalty, to withdraw the tour announced, to decline to accept any person as a participant in a tour, or to require any participant to withdraw from the tour at any time, when such action is determined by tour staff to be in the best interests of the health, safety or general welfare of the tour group or the individual participant, subject only to the requirement that the recoverable portion of the total amount paid that corresponds to the cost of unused services and accommodations be refunded, if any. Participants are encouraged to purchase airline tickets once the minimum of 10 travelers has been met to avoid airline cancellation penalties if a tour is canceled or otherwise modified subsequent to the participant's purchase of those tickets. VPR, Cultural Crossroads LLC and the ground agent accept no liability for the purchase of non-refundable airline tickets to the tour departure city and return. Baggage and personal effects are at all times the sole responsibility of the participant.

Dates, schedules, program details, and costs, although provided in good faith based on information available at the time of publication, are subject to change and revision.

AS A CONDITION OF ACCEPTANCE OF ANY APPLICATION, EACH APPLICANT MUST AGREE TO THE STATEMENT SET FORTH BELOW:

The undersigned has read carefully the Responsibility Statement and Liability Disclaimer set forth above, the schedule of activities for this tour, as well as the terms and conditions of application and participation as set forth, and recognizes and accepts any risk associated with the tour and the conditions, including the refund policy. The undersigned further acknowledges that there are many risks and uncertainties inherent in any travel tour, including but not limited to the hazards of various modes of transportation, forces of nature, acts or omissions of foreign governments, terrorism, war or insurrection, theft, illness, and damage to person or property due to the negligent acts or omissions of tour staff or others. In consideration of, and as part payment for, the right to participate in the tour, the undersigned, on behalf of himself, his dependents, heirs, executors, administrators and assigns, agrees to release VPR, Cultural Crossroads LLC, its ground agent and suppliers, officers, employees, representatives or agents, the United States, and the tour operator and its officers, employees and agents, from liability for personal injury, death, property damage or loss suffered by any person in connection with this tour, even if caused by the negligence (but not the reckless, willful, or fraudulent conduct) of tour staff or other related persons or entities. In addition, by registering for this tour, the applicant certifies that he or she is mentally and physically capable of full participation in this tour.





REGISTRATION

By registering for a Cultural Crossroads Tour, the participant agrees to the Responsibility Statement and Liability Disclaimer and the Terms and Conditions herein.

Please reserve _____ place(s) for the following individuals on VPR's Tour of Morocco, June 11-19, 2014. A tour deposit of \$1,500 per person payable to Cultural Crossroads is enclosed.

NAME (as on your passport): _____

Address _____

City _____ Zip _____ Country _____

Phone (days) _____ Email _____

NAME (as on your passport): _____

Address _____

City _____ Zip _____ Country _____

Phone (days) _____ Email _____

Travel preferences (please check all that apply)

Double occupancy with traveling companion

I would like a single room (single supplement of \$790 applies)

I would like to share a room (every effort will be made to help connect you to a traveler to share with)

I (we) have read the itinerary and terms and conditions as found above and agree to abide by all the stipulations contained therein.

SIGNED _____ DATE _____

SIGNED _____ DATE _____

Please make tour checks payable to **Cultural Crossroads** and mail registration to:

20 Meadowcrest Lane, Barre, VT 05641

For more information call: 1-802-654-4309 or email Ty Robertson: trobertson@vpr.net