

# MOZAICS & MEDINAS



## Sketching Northern Morocco

8 days /7 nights, Casablanca to Casablanca

14-21 May 2025

€2850

**Morocco is a feast for the senses.**

***The sights, sounds, smells, tastes, colours and experiences of this country are like no other!***

### HIGHLIGHTS

- *Have dinner at Rick's Café, a replica of the famous café in the movie, Casablanca*
- *Tour of the Hassan II Mosque, one of the largest mosques in the world (for people booked on to both Northern & Southern Morocco Sketch tours)*
- *Spend an afternoon in Asilah, a small coastal town, famous for its art scene*
- *Wander the blue painted streets of beautiful Chefchaouen, known as the Blue Pearl*
- *Visit the Roman ruins of Volubilis, a thriving city in 1<sup>st</sup> Century AD.*
- *Explore the ancient medina of Fes, a UNESCO World Heritage Site*
- *Learn the secrets of Moroccan cuisine in a cooking class*
- *Shop for textiles, jewellery and other handicrafts in the many souks*
- *Create lifetime memories through your personalised travel journal of colourful sketches*

Book with Heather on +61 448 739946 or [heather@moroccanescapes.com.au](mailto:heather@moroccanescapes.com.au)

<https://www.moroccanescapes.com.au/>



### **Included**

- *Daily sketching opportunities and tuition by Tricia Sullivan*
- *All land-based travel in Morocco*
- *7 nights accommodation in carefully chosen boutique riads and hotels*
- *7 breakfasts, 2 dinners (including cooking class meal)*
- *Entry fee to Volubilis*
- *Local medina guide in Fes*
- *Moroccan cooking class*
- *Private transport in an air-conditioned Mercedes Vito or minibus, depending on numbers*
- *Airport pick up and drop off in Casablanca at scheduled times on arrival and departure dates*
- *Local English-speaking guide/driver*
- *Escorted by Heather McNeice, owner of Moroccan Escapes*

### **Not included**

- *International flights*
- *Transfers to and from your home to your departure airport*
- *Travel insurance – mandatory*
- *Meals and activities, other than those specified in the itinerary as included*
- *Personal items such as drinks, laundry, etc*
- *Tips (widely expected in Morocco) – we will organise a kitty for tips*
- *City tax, if not included in hotel rate*

Cost is €2850 Euros, per person, twin share. Single supplement €335 Euros. Terms and conditions apply – see website for details. Price is in Euros and is converted to Australian dollars, or other major currency, at date of final payment. Minimum/maximum group size: four/ten. Non-refundable deposit of €430 Euros, or equivalent in other major currency, will confirm your booking. Discounts available for booking both Northern and Southern Morocco Sketching tours, and/or for non-sketching partner accompanying a sketcher.

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## **Casablanca – Tangier – Chefchaouen – Volubilis – Fes – Casablanca**

### **Day 1: 14 May 2025, Casablanca**

Arrive at Casablanca international airport in the early afternoon, to be met by our local guide and driver who will transfer you to our hotel in central Casablanca. This evening, we will celebrate the beginning of our trip, with dinner at Rick's Café, a replica from the movie, **Casablanca**. "Here's looking at you, Kid"! (B, D)



### **Day 3: 16 May 2025, Tangier to Chefchaouen**

This morning, we will see the point where the Mediterranean Sea meets the Atlantic Ocean at Cap Spartel, just outside Tangier.



### **Day 2: 15 May 2025, Asilah – Tangier**

Leaving Casablanca, we drive north to Asilah, a small coastal town with a pretty medina. There are numerous sketching opportunities here, from colourful doorways and heavy wooden gates to the old Portuguese ramparts.



After a creative afternoon in Asilah, it's a short drive to the city of Tangier where we will stay the night and have dinner together in a local restaurant. Perhaps you will choose a delicious Moroccan tagine for your meal? (B)

From there, we drive through the Rif Mountains to Chefchaouen.

Known as the Blue Pearl, Chefchaouen is one of Morocco's prettiest towns, with all the buildings in the old medina painted beautiful shades of blue. Our biggest problem here will be deciding what NOT to sketch! (B)



## **Casablanca – Tangier – Chefchaouen – Volubilis – Fes – Casablanca**

### **Day 4: 17 May 2025, Chefchaouen**

We will spend today in Chefchaouen medina, sketching this morning, with free time in the afternoon to relax, explore and shop. This evening, before dinner, we have an optional 30-minute walk to the Spanish mosque to watch sunset over the town. (B)



### **Day 5: 18 May, Chefchaouen – Fes**

Our first stop today is the ancient Roman city of Volubilis. Founded in 3<sup>rd</sup> century BC, it grew to a bustling Roman city in 1<sup>st</sup> century AD. We will hear the fascinating stories of its history.



By the afternoon we will be in the exotic city of Fes. If time permits, we may visit the famous Chouara tanneries, where leather has been dyed in stone vats in the same way for hundreds of years. Tonight, our accommodation is in a stunning riad in the medina. You cannot get more Moroccan than that! (B)



### **Day 6: 19 May 2025, Fes**

We begin today with a guided walking tour of Fes medina, to learn about the history of this UNESCO World Heritage Site. Our guide will take us to see some of the key sights, including the stunning Al Attarine Madrasa. We will be spoilt for choice for sketching opportunities in Fes, and Tricia will find the perfect spot, after our tour.



This afternoon is free to explore, rest, or perhaps have a traditional Moroccan spa (hamman). Tonight, we have a short drive to a viewpoint at the Merenid tombs for a sunset view over the city of Fes, before returning to the medina for dinner. (B)

### **Day 7: 20 May 2025, Fes**

We'll be picked up this morning by our driver to visit a ceramics and zellig (Moroccan tiling) centre on the outskirts of the city. We can watch the artisans at work here as they hand paint the ceramics. From there we'll drive to the impressive gates of the King's Palace.



Tonight's treat to mark the end of an amazing, creative week together, will be a cooking class in a private home. (B, D).

## **Casablanca – Tangier – Chefchaouen – Volubilis – Moulay Idriss – Fes – Casablanca**

### **Day 8:21 May 2025, Casablanca**

For anyone leaving us today, it's a three and a half hour drive to Casablanca airport this morning. Please allow enough time for the transfer to Casablanca and check-in (recommended time at the airport is 3 hours) before your onward flight.



If you are continuing with us on the second tour, we'll visit the Hassan II Mosque in Casablanca, one of the largest in the world and a stunning example of Moroccan architecture. Please refer to the separate itinerary for Week Two - Sketching in Southern Morocco.

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*Morocco is a truly unique country, where you can step back in time to experience centuries old culture, that is a mix of Berber, Arabic, Andalusian, Mediterranean, French, Moorish and African. These influences are seen in everything from the architecture to the food, the culture and the Moroccan people.*

*Heather and I will take you on a journey to safely explore this wonderful country - to experience the warmth of its people, the ancient trades, the cuisine, the markets, the tiled palaces, the history, culture, music, handicrafts, current artists and so much more.*

*I will help you to capture your memories through quick, simple, vibrant travel sketches. We will capture the feeling and essence of Morocco that a photograph can't always do. Your sketches (like your memories) will be unique to you.*

*We will sketch every day, and I can guide you in the creation of your sketch as much or as little as you want. Sketching gives us the opportunity to "stop and smell the roses", to be creative and observant, while we put together a vibrant little drawing of Moroccan daily life. All level of sketchers are welcome on this trip - from complete novices, to experienced sketchers.*

*But it's not all about sketching! There is plenty of free time in every day as well, to explore, rest and experience the local area on your own, or with the new friends that you will make on this trip. We always like to meet up at the end of the day, to swap stories and enjoy a delicious meal together, to live like a local even if it's just for a day.*

*Come join me on this creative, sketching tour of Morocco. You will capture memories to last a lifetime.*

*Tricia Sullivan*



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