



**SUMMER 2025  
EDUCATOR  
TRAVEL PROGRAM**

AZROU, MOROCCO  
JUNE 25-JULY 2, 2025

# MOROCCO

Situated on the **western tip of North Africa**, Morocco - also known by its ancient name Al Maghreb, meaning “the West” in Arabic - contains a mix of indigenous Amazigh, Arab, African, and European influences. Most of its 33 million people live near the northern plains and cities along the Atlantic coast and speak Arabic, French, or one of the varieties of Tamazight. As the region’s only monarchy, the kingdom has fashioned its **rich cultural heritage** into a tolerant state, whose pragmatic and inclusive approach to social and economic development has allowed it to sidestep the instability that has shaken some of its neighbors in recent years. A spate of modest political and governmental reforms, alongside a rapidly improving business environment, has allowed the country to **expand its influence** both in the Mediterranean basin and more broadly on the African continent.



# APPROACH TO GLOBAL ISSUES

A **kingdom located at a crossroads** between Europe and Africa, Morocco has maintained stability despite economic hardship in the past and large numbers of migrants passing through on their way to Europe. The government has been working hard over the past few years to develop a **sustainable and healthy economy** for all of its citizens, including major infrastructure improvements and housing schemes while working closely with Europe and the U.S. to both **ensure regional stability and create open markets** for trade and commerce. Improvements in human rights have occurred and there is a largely free press. Despite the continuing reforms, ultimate authority remains in the hands of the monarch.

Moroccans are predominantly Sunni Muslims of Arab, Amazigh, or mixed Arab-Amazigh ancestry. More than 99.5 percent of the population is Sunni Muslim. Although Islam permeates most aspects of their **everyday lives**, Moroccans practice their religion relatively conservatively. Besides being denied entry into the country's mosques, and perhaps being woken in the predawn by the muezzin's call to prayer, non-Muslims will find their daily travel largely unhindered by any Islamic codes of conduct.



# BASIC ITINERARY, LODGING & FOOD

Educators will fly into Casablanca and will quickly be immersed in complex **Moroccan culture**. We will make a quick transfer up the coast from Casablanca to Morocco's capital city of Rabat where they will settle into a family run riad, which is a **traditional Moroccan house** that features an interior garden or courtyard. The group will have a few days in the capital to visit local mosques, museums, and explore the maze-like old city, otherwise known as the medina.

Educators will then travel to their host community, a small city called Azrou nestled in the Middle Atlas Mountains where students will immerse themselves in the local routine. Each day will be filled with different activities to help the group become **immersed in local culture, traditions, and current projects** and activities happening in the area. We will have time to pursue specific interests, such as cooking and playing sports, or to explore and **deepen personal bonds with community members**. The group will visit a local youth center, learn from leaders of a rug-making cooperative as well as an artisanal women's association, and experience the **indigenous Amazigh culture** through a traditional dance performance. On many evenings, the group

will reconvene for Learning Sessions designed to **promote the understanding of global issues, leadership, and local culture**.

Following time spent in the community, educators will return back to Rabat for final reflection before return home via Casablanca once again.

“  
This experience inspired and validated my role as an educator and as a student who enjoys experiential learning.

The most fabulous and impactful professional development an educator could have...and the most fun!

- EDUCATORS FROM  
SUMMER 2024  
TRAVEL PROGRAM

”

# DAILY ITINERARY

*(subject to change)*

Other cultures function differently than some of our cultures, especially regarding schedules and timelines. Despite our best attempts to plan thoroughly, unanticipated circumstances and last-minute changes to the itinerary will happen. Community engagement experiences, which are determined according to the host community's interests, availability, and otherwise, can change at the last minute. Students often say that learning to be flexible and accepting different (and often challenging) cultural practices is one of the most valuable things they take from a World Leadership School program. Please be flexible and remember that adapting to change is a critical skill for future leaders working in global settings!

JUNE  
25

Day 1 - Wednesday

- Arrival into Casablanca (no later than 3 PM)
- Transfer to Rabat and stop for dinner en route
- Welcome dinner
- Stay at a family-run **riad** in Rabat

JUNE  
26

Day 2 - Thursday

- Community orientation
- Full-day tour of old medina with visits to **Hassan Tower**, **Chellah**, and **Kasbah des Oudayas**
- *WLS Learning Sessions*
- Stay at a family-run **riad** in Rabat

JUNE  
27

Day 3 - Friday

- Morning transfer to Azrou (3 hours)
- Walking tour of city
- Traditional couscous lunch with homestay families
- *WLS Learning Sessions*
- Afternoon hike in Cedar Forest to see the wild macaques
- Stay overnight at local guesthouse

JUNE  
28

Day 4 - Saturday

- *WLS Learning Sessions: Community Adventure Race*
- Cooking class with lunch
- Afternoon visit to youth center
- Stay overnight at local guesthouse

JUNE  
29

Day 5 - Sunday

- Day trip to Fez (1.5 hours)
- Afternoon return to Azrou
- Stay overnight at local guesthouse

JUNE  
30

Day 6 - Monday

- Morning visit to local pre-school
- Afternoon visit to rural women's cooperative
- Performance by traditional **Amazigh** dance group and henna ceremony
- Stay overnight at local guesthouse

JULY  
1

Day 7 - Tuesday

- Morning visit to weekly souk (market)
- Mid-morning transfer to Rabat with lunch en route
- Afternoon free time in old medina for shopping and exploration
- *WLS Learning Sessions*
- Celebration dinner
- Stay overnight at family-run **riad** in Rabat

JULY  
2

Day 8 - Wednesday

- Morning transfer to Casablanca for return flights (departing any time after 10 AM)

## UNPLUGGED POLICY

World Leadership School has pursued an “unplugged policy” on our student programs since 2007 for risk management, group dynamic, and logistical reasons. We seek to create immersive experiences, which begin with the idea that students disconnect from technology and their normal rhythms of life. This is part of our larger strategy to help students “disconnect, decenter, and re-envision.” A WLS program is a powerful opportunity for participants to experience life without the distraction of technology, which was how students traveled before the introduction of the iPhone in 2007. We believe, and our experience supports, that cell phones on our programs create more risk because they are distracted and prevented from being fully present both mentally, physically, and emotionally on our programs. We encourage educators on our programs to attempt the unplugged policy, as well.

## OTHER REQUIREMENTS

- Educators should have a satisfactory level of physical fitness to participate in manual labor and other physical activities, such as hiking and swimming.
- Participants are required to complete all required World Leadership School forms, including the general registration, Terms & Conditions, the Acknowledgment and Assumption of Risks & Release and Indemnity Agreement, the Medical Form & COVID Addendum. [Terms and Conditions](#) can be viewed online.

Faculty who attended our Summer 2024 Educator Travel Program shared their reflections with us:

**100%**  
would recommend WLS Educator Travel to others

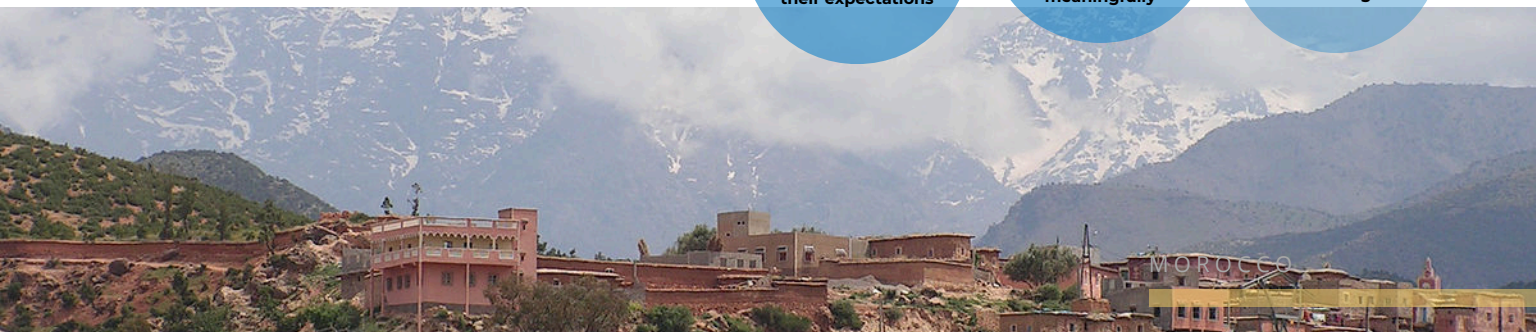
**100%**  
said the ideas and information shared provide value to their work

**100%**  
felt safe, seen, and heard during the program

**100%**  
said the program met or exceeded their expectations

**100%**  
felt the instructional methods allowed them to engage with the content meaningfully

**100%**  
were able to make connections with new colleagues



# STAFF

The safety of our programs rests on the experience and skills of our Staff, Instructors, and Country Coordinators, who convene annually at our staff training in one of our program locations across the world.

- The **Staff** of World Leadership School, based in Boulder, Colorado and Washington, DC, have many years of experience working in different educational environments. Their focus is logistics, risk management, program design, professional development, and consulting.
- Our **Instructors** are veteran educators with extensive international experience. They have wilderness medical training and often have past affiliations with Peace Corps, Outward Bound, NOLS, and/or independent schools.
- Our **Community Coordinators** live and work year-round in the communities we partner with. They screen our homestay families, evaluate our transport and other service providers, and provide emergency support.





## PROGRAM FEE

The fee for this program is **\$3,500 USD** per person. The program fee includes:

- All logistical coordination and in-country arrangements
- In-country ground transport, including charter transport and airport pick-up and drop-off
- Accommodations, including eco-lodges and homestays (where applicable)
- Nutritious snacks and meals
- Cultural presentations, adventure activities, rental gear, entry fees, and tips
- Community coordinators who live year-round near the community and maintain relationships of trust with local leaders
- Risk management protocols and 24-7 emergency communication
- Emergency medical, evacuation, and international liability insurance

## THIS PROGRAM FEE DOES NOT INCLUDE:

- Round-trip airfare to Casablanca, Morocco (CMN)
- Airline baggage fees
- Tourist visa fees (when applicable)
- Personal spending money for souvenirs, snacks, soft drinks, toiletries, medications, medical treatment, internet, phone calls, and other personal spending
- Personal medical insurance (all students should have U.S.-based health insurance)
- Immunizations & COVID testing (when applicable)
- Any other costs (whether or not covered by participant's insurance or WLS' purchased insurance, as applicable) in the event of hospitalization, evacuation, testing and/or quarantining and any related expenses whether participant remains on the program (e.g., program is interrupted or delayed) or is dismissed or departs early, and whether resulting from COVID-19 or otherwise.
- Trip cancellation insurance – We strongly encourage participants to explore this option which can protect from financial loss of program fees or airfare costs if a participant were to be sick or injured before departure and cannot travel on the program.

## PAYMENT SCHEDULE & REGISTRATION

- **Due upon registration**– \$1,000 deposit
- **March 15th** – remainder of program fee
- **For registration, please click [HERE](#) or scan:**



**QUESTIONS?**

[jessica@worldleadershipschool.com](mailto:jessica@worldleadershipschool.com)

