

Textile Quest Morocco

Preliminary Itinerary

Exploring Morocco, its' people and culture through the traditional textile artisanship.



Day 1

Convene at Tantalizing Tangiers

1 p.m. onwards – Arrival & Check-In Our journey begins at Morocco's northwestern coastal tip in Tangier, a city of layered histories and cultural crossroads. Whitewashed walls trace the contours of its 10th-century past, where Islamic, Moorish, and French influences blend seamlessly. The kasbah and medina, a maze of alleyways, rise above the Strait of Gibraltar, offering glimpses of distant shores and centuries of trade, exchange, and artistic expression.

5 p.m. Orientation & Welcome Gathering

Meet your Textile Quest leaders for an introduction to the journey ahead. This is a chance to connect, ask questions, and get to know your fellow travelers.

eve. Welcome Meal Unwind over a traditional Moroccan meal, where conversation flows as we discuss the itinerary, exchange stories, and settle into the rhythm of the adventure. **M**



Day 2

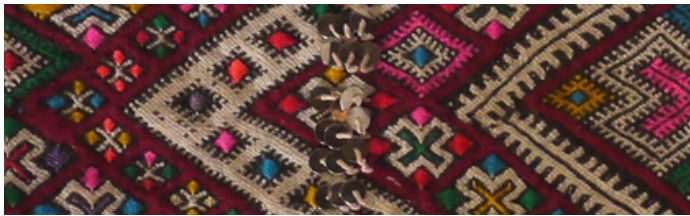
Dialogue on Women in Moroccan Society & Roam the Kasbah

a.m. – We begin with a short walk through Tangier's kasbah and bustling food market, winding narrow streets where daily life unfolds—merchants, artisans, spices, and carpets line the walls, while centuries-old stone is polished smooth by millennia of foot traffic. At DARNA, a community center dedicated to equipping unschooled Moroccan women with employment skills, we meet three young Moroccan contemporaries for a discussion on the evolving roles of women in Moroccan society—past and present.

Lunch – A meal at DARNA is recommended.

p.m. Weaving our way back through the medina, we stop at an exquisite Jewish synagogue, now a small museum, and a multicultural church—each offering insight into Tangier’s layered cultural heritage. Return to the riad for some downtime, or explore the area independently.

eve. Gather for a fireside chat with a local female guide who will bring Tangier’s history to life, sharing the city’s unique character and its place at the crossroads of civilizations. There are plenty of options to dine locally.



Day 3

Peruse Tetouan & Engage with the Artisans

a.m. We set off on a short one-hour drive through mountain roads lined with spring-green farms, villages, and roadside stalls. Arriving in Tetouan, we check into our stylish riad before we visit Green Olive Arts (GOA), an artist residency that fosters connections between contemporary artists and Tetouan’s skilled craftspeople. Here, we meet textile-focused artisans to discuss their practice, market connections, and the challenges they navigate.

p.m. Join us for lunch at a reserved table or enjoy a juice in a medina café. In the afternoon, we step out to explore this Andalusian-influenced city with 2,000-year-old origins. With a knowledgeable facilitator, we meander through the medina’s souks, encountering artisans at work in a maze of craft workshops, market stalls, and vendor displays that capture the pulse of daily life.

eve. The evening is free to explore at your own pace. The rooftop restaurant at our riad is an excellent option for dining with a view.

Day 4

Go Astray in the Rif

a.m. We head south in our bus for an 80-minute drive to Chefchaouen, the 15th-century magical blue city built in a narrow valley as a fortified Kasbah to protect from Spain. Its maze of pedestrian only cobbled medina streets and houses jumbled together, painted cornflower blue, and surrounded by mountains, we dip into an experience you won’t forget. A juice stop and hours meander to soak up the vibes, and we hop back onto the mountain road.

p.m. A serene spot along the road where a traditional tagine is served is our lunch destination. Back en route, we head to Fez via Ouezzane, an Islamic and Jewish holy town and home of saints’ tombs and places of pilgrimage.

eve. We arrive in the early evening at the imperial city of Fez, one of the main crafts capitals of Morocco and home to a UNESCO heritage ancient labyrinth of the old medina. Dinner is independent of the program, though the Riad can provide a meal or you may explore the local eateries close by.



Day 5

Craft in Process: Artisanship, Sustainability & Amazigh Identity

a.m. We start the day at the Crafts Training Center for Moroccan Youth with over 25 different workshops where young Moroccans are apprenticed in one of the many traditional crafts of Fez. An important stop to know where the traditional artisanship is heading as many Moroccans look to modern living and mass-produced wares.

11 a.m. We will visit The Anou's headquarters to explore more of their project, a fair-trade, artisan-run organization dedicated to developing the artisans' livelihoods and making a social, economic, and environmental impact.

p.m. Lunch is recommended at Cafe Clock. At the same abode, we are treated to a presentation by Professor Rddad Sadik on Amazigh (Berber) culture as it will be predominantly Amazigh artisans that we will connect with for the rest of the trip.

eve. The evenings' program is free for Questers to dine as they choose.



Day 6

Explore the Crafts Culture of the Fascinating Imperial City of Fez

a.m. This deep dive into Fez's medina and the artisanship will blow your mind and every one of your senses. On this inspiring morning, join us for an official tour of the textile artisans' workspaces in the ancient city and artisan quarter of Imperial Fez.

Weavers, tanners, saddle makers, and dyers are just some of the artisan workshops we will encounter. A delicious lunch is recommended in the artisan quarter. Wander some of the 9000 winding alleyways, see donkeys carrying wares around the medina, see djellaba-wearing residents, thousands of stalls, riots of colour, thronging crowds, delicious and confronting smells and sights, and experience the famous Moroccan bartering and deal-making.

p.m. We will continue exploring the crafts until mid-afternoon, when we will meet our transport and head out to our lovely country abode with a magnificent view out across the plains, swimming pool, nomad tent, and rooms decorated with handwoven rugs on the outskirts of Sefrou.

eve. Dinner here is highly recommended.



Day 7

Enjoy the deep connections with the local Sefrouian crafts community

Sefrou is older than Fez, surrounded by castle-like, honey-coloured walls and is a hard-working market town, one of Morocco's caravan trading routes and it is where we engage even deeper with an artisan community.

a.m. Orientation in Sefrou at Culture Vultures home and hub, a shared space with SAMA Association and a micro museum project. Here we have an orientation on the town and association projects and then meet a few local women who live by the local cottage industry of textile button making. A significant, tiny ethnographic object that has a huge impact on Sefrou socially, economically, and, some might say, spiritually. For those who wish, you may try your hand at the art of Sefrouian textile button making.

p.m. In the afternoon, we will partake in exploration around the heart of the old city to visit the artisans in their workshops, including (but not solely) tailors, weavers, embroiderers, tassel and belt makers, and more.

eve. Dinner is available at our Riad overlooking the planes towards Fez.



Day 8

Traverse the Middle Atlas Mountains with a few sweet pit stops.

a.m. Our biggest day of travel: Heading out in the morning we will make our way through the Middle Atlas Mountains, stopping first at our friends at a local women's cooperative who weave both flat and tuft carpets. Tea, locally produced 'snacks', insights, and inspirations will be laid out. Moving after an hour on to lunch at a recommended spot under a fig tree.

South to Tinjedad, across planes and through an oasis into another landscape and subculture altogether. We will arrive in the early evening at the desert town of Tinjedad, where the clay-coloured kasbah and surrounding hills blend into one. Settle into our ecotourist Kasbah hotel, inside the ancient mud brick walls of the fortified village amongst local Amazigh families. You will pinch yourself at the beauty of our surroundings.

eve. Dine at the hotel. **M**



Day 9

Taharuit Creations & Sweet Rose Distillation

a.m. Meet a local women's textile cooperative over tea, visit the adjoining Museum on the local heritage and we will engage in a workshop involving the practice of the embroidery of the local shawl of the region (Tahruit) and examine the designs they adorn themselves with.

p.m. After a traditional lunch made by the cooperative members, we will head west towards the Magouna mountain range, stopping at Klaat Magouna where the roads are lined in rose bushes smothered in pink blooms and where between April and mid May 4000 tonnes

of the precious metals are picked for the perfume industry in France and locally.

eve. An hour later check into our lodgings around sunset and rest for the night. We arrive at our abode, a humble mountain lodge on the mountain road. We will dine here.



Day 10

A Striking Journey to a Valley of Craft and Geology

a.m. We wake and head out through the spectacular scenery, passing mountain villages and photo opportunities at every turn. After a few hours' drive, we arrive at Ait Bouguemez valley, arguably one of the most striking valleys with its life-giving river lined with walnut trees, gardens, and traditional Moroccan rural houses surrounded by multi-coloured ochre mountains. A region rarely visited by tourists. Lunch is an option at the hotel.

p.m. In the afternoon, we will visit the women at one of the many local cooperatives in the valley who card, spin, weave, and knot wool for carpets and djelaba cloth. We will spend some time here, practicing some of the skills with the woman. Accompanied by our local guide, there is the opportunity here to engage with the women about local life and the crafts culture over tea, carder, and spindles.

eve. In the early evening, we will sit with our guide for an hour; in the style of a fireside chat, we will learn of the geology, sociology, and culture of a valley that has only had road access in the last 20 years. **M**



Day 11

An Inspirational Vision and a Knitting Shepherd

a.m. We visit Atlas Wool Supply, an inspiring initiative addressing the realities of Morocco's wool industry—where carpets for international markets are often made with either roughly spun local wool or imports from as far as New Zealand. This eco-built factory redefines sustainability, setting new standards for social, environmental, and economic impact.

p.m. A visit to an Ait Boughuemes resident European who is gathering and presenting a collection of textile objects from the region and sharing their stories is programmed. Sfia will open her space and share her experiences and insights about local sheep breeding and wool production with us.

In the late afternoon, we will meet a local knitter, Mohammed, once a Shepherd who, typically, in the months of deep snow, would knit his long johns to keep warm. These ethnographic garments provide cultural and environmental context.

eve. Dine at the hotel



Day 12

Ancient Marks & Living Threads

a.m. We leave and drive along the valley through green pastures and past traditional villages, first, we stop at the Tizi n Tirghist to discover a large slab of impressive rock engravings reminiscent of the paintings of Kandinsky though executed 3500 - 4000 years previously. Driving on we stop along the way for a light lunch.

p.m. Along the road, we will stop to carry out an exclusive workshop to explore Moroccan textiles, handcrafted in a sustainable and inspirational atelier. Using henna from a small Saharan farm, dyed luxuriously soft yarn from the rare Siroua sheep—sheared, hand-washed in mountain streams, and spun in village homes.

eve. We will arrive and settle into our Marrakesh abode. Dinner is an option here or nearby.



Day 13

Kech Unwoven: Hidden Gardens, Heritage & Textile Treasures

a.m. With our fabulous local female guide, we dive into the energy of Marrakech's medina, gaining insights into its layered history and contemporary buzz. Stops include a 400-year-old stately Arab-Andalusian garden, a hand-carved 16th-century madrasa, and some of the city's funkier boutiques. Lunch is suggested in a garden restaurant.

p.m. The afternoon brings an inspiring visit to the Dar Si Said Textile Museum, just a short walk from our elegant riad. Some Questers may wish to book a spa or massage for the end of the day.

eve. Head to Marrakech's main square for an evening meal at a local stall, surrounded by the timeless spectacle of storytellers, snake charmers, and musicians who have animated this space for centuries.



Day 14

Creative Marrakech: Design & Discovery

a.m. We will spend a few hours in Sidi Ghanem, Marrakech's emerging art and design hub, where industrial spaces have been transformed into contemporary galleries, innovative production workshops, and cutting-edge design studios. This dynamic district offers a glimpse into Morocco's evolving creative landscape, where traditional craftsmanship meets modern aesthetics. Lunch is an option here.

p.m. The rest of the day is free time to explore the souks. There is a lifetime of discovery in Marrakech from palaces to gardens, museums to herbalists, or just sitting in a cafe and watching the world go by.

eve. A final farewell dinner after a wonderful Moroccan adventure, experiences shared, and friends made. **M**



Day 15

Breakfast and goodbyes as Questers leave to transfer to various airports and turn their compasses towards home.

Additional information:

Meals Breakfast is included. Midday and evening meals are not included in the price. We have found that many people like to make their own arrangements and to explore culinary offerings or dietary requirements.

We often recommend restaurants that we can escort guests to. Food is ample in Morocco and Moroccan hospitality never lets a stomach rest. Textile Quest assures a feast for all the senses, not only the taste buds.

There are occasional lunches and evening meals included in the itinerary, indicated by a **M**

Accommodation:

Textile Quest accommodates you in various comfortable lodgings including carefully selected hotels, ecolodges, and traditional Moroccan riads.

Rates are based on twin shares, respecting gender or previously bonded friendships. We travel as a group and leave with a camaraderie.

Note:

The itinerary is subject to modification should the opportunity arise or the universe decide otherwise; however we do guarantee the delivery of equal quality and quantity of content.

Price:

3450 euros/€. *Twin Sharing.
+ 400 euros/€ Single Supplement

The Price includes

- A rich program of engagement
- Transportation.
- Breakfast every day.
- Occasional main meals when indicated
- Nights in mentioned hotels or equal.
- Entrance to museums
- Accompaniment by professional tour leader

Excluded in the price:

- All other meals
- Flights
- Personal insurance

Additional Documents include:

- [Recommended Moroccan-Centric Booklist](#)
- [Women in the Moroccan artisanship media list](#)
- [Infectious Illness Guidelines](#)



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