

**JRoots in conjunction with
Ohr Yisrael proudly presents its **SECOND**
journey to Morocco & Gibraltar.
Retracing the roots of the Sephardic World
Tuesday 8th - Sunday 13th May 2012
Over Lag Baomer**

Itinerary – Subject to Change

We may be able to add more locations to the ones mentioned below. This is dependant on time and traffic conditions.

Tuesday 8th May 2012

Depart London Gatwick for Marrakesh on EasyJet at 06:25am
Arrive in Marrakesh at 09:10am

Experience Marrakesh's 500 year old Synagogue. The Mellah (Jewish Quarter) which became home of a thriving community of native and Spanish Jews, famed for their rabbinical schools and scholars.

Depart onto the Ourika Valley; visit a Berber village. Continue to meet the last Jew in the Atlas Mountains when we visit the grave of R. Shlomo Bel Hence.

Visit of the old medina and time to explore the souks where the endless journey of shopping begins. Included will be a visit to the world's famous Djemaa El Fna, a place which offers various entertainments (story tellers, acrobats, snake-charmers, magicians, etc.).

Meet with Mr. Jacqui Kadosh the President of Moroccan Jewry.

Drive to Casablanca. Dinner in the local community centre.

Overnight in:

The 5 * Kenzi Tower:

<http://www.kenzi-hotels.com/hotels/casablanca/tower-hotel.html>

Wednesday 9th May 2012

Breakfast with Rabbi Sebag of the Neve Shalom School and an opportunity to meet the Chief Rabbi Of Casablanca .

Full day excursion to Casablanca which is home to the largest Jewish community in Morocco and has numerous congregations and active communal institutions, some of which we will visit.

Continue the tour with a visit to the Habbous Quarter in the Medina, Mohammed V Square, the United Nations Square. Visit the only Jewish museum in Islamic world.

Experience the street of the 7 synagogues and the famous Bet El Synagogue

Travel onto Rabat, visit its Jewish Quarter, the mellah. See The Mausoleum of Mohammed V, a man who is reputed to have saved the Jews of Morocco from the Nazis. See the old Synagogue of Rabbi Shalom Azawie. Rabat is considered the Political Capital of Morocco.

Drive down to Fes. Fes is considered Morocco's Spiritual Capital. It is designated as a UNESCO World Heritage Site. Step back six centuries into the medieval world, where narrow cobbled streets are filled with ancient mosques and towering green-glazed minarets.

Fes, the oldest of the Imperial cities and ancient cultural center of Morocco surrounded by hills

Experience the medieval Medina, the 17th Century Synagogue IBN Dannan inside the Mellah (the Jewish Quarter) which harbours eleven Synagogues, eight of which are still in use, the old Jewish cemetery.

An opportunity to visit the gravesites of Rabbi Yehudah Ibn Atar – the uncle of Orach Chayim, and the gavesite of Sulika – also known as the "*Rachel Imenu*" the *Matirach Rachel of Morocco*.

Visit the beautiful Reuben Bensadoun synagogue.

Dinner in the Fes community centre.

Overnight in:

The 5 * Ramada, Fes

http://www.ramada.com/Ramada/control/Booking/property_info?propertyId=19894

Thursday 9th May 2012 – *LAG BAOMER*****

Early morning shacharit for men at the Reuben Bensadoun synagogue.

Breakfast at the Ramada

Visit the old City of Fes. Experience Africa's biggest Tannery and leather factory. See the loom factory, the old weaving instrument still churning out beautiful silk pashminas. Visit the house of Maimonides, the Rambam and explore the local Shouk.

Drive to Ouzanne and the gravesite of Rabbi Amram ben Diwan a venerated 18th-century Rabbi whose tomb has become the site of an annual pilgrimage to 1000s on lag baomer.

Be part of the special "hilulah" festivities and enjoy a great lunch in the special halls set up for the day.

Drive to Tangiers. The city sits on the Atlantic coast of Morocco at the western opening to the Mediterranean Sea.

Eat a light dinner in the community centre and visit the Sha'ar Raphael Synagogue.

Travel on the Fast Hovercraft Ferry from Tangiers to Tarifa in 35mins.

Shuttle down to Gibraltar and check into the Eliot Hotel. Our home for the next 3 nights.

<http://www.eliotthotel.com/>

Friday 10th May 2012

Shacharit at the local Nefusot Yehuda Bet Kenesest.

Breakfast at the hotel.

Pick up Packed Lunch for the day.

Climb the Rock! – visit the Pillars of Hercules, the majestic St Michaels cave, the famous Barbary Apes Den, the Moorish castle, the Great Siege Tunnels, the old Jewish Cemetery on the upper rock. A special visit to the Europa

point, a place where the waters of the Mediterranean Sea and Atlantic Ocean converge.

Time to shop – duty free!

Friday Night Kabbalat Shabbat at one of the 5 local Shuls

Full Shabbat Dinner at the local Jewish Tamid Restaurant Hall

Shabbat 12th May 2012

Breakfast at the hotel.

Shacharit at one of the 5 local Shuls.

Full Shabbat Lunch, Seuda Shelishit & Melaveh Malka at the local Jewish Tamid Restaurant Hall

Sunday 13th May 2012

Breakfast at the hotel.

An opportunity for more shopping or a visit to see the amazing dolphins on the dolphin safari. (Optional and extra cost)

See <http://www.dolphinsafari.gi/>

Depart Gibraltar for London Gatwick on EasyJet at 16:20

Arrive in London Gatwick 18:15