

## **Morocco April 5-23, 2018**

**A personal adventure discovering the culture of the Berbers with Wendy Smith-Wood, and painting with Maxine Thompson.**



### **Outline: 19 days.**

- Day 1-2 Marrakesh. Souks, palaces, gardens, monuments and night bazaar.
- Day 3-7 Berber village in the Atlas Mountains. Optional day-trekking.  
Painting. Cooking class. Family visit. An intimate look at Berber life. Day-hiking.
- Day 8-9 Drive to desert via N'Kob Kasbah. Nomads, Sahara.
- Day 10-12 Erg Chebbi, the red dunes. Camel ride to desert camp. Then stay in a real Ksar.
- Day 13 -14 Drive to Taroudant via Ouarzazate. Film studios, saffron co-op, argan oil.
- Day 14-15 Taroudant, mellow ancient walled city. Souks, tannery, real Morocco.
- Day 16-18 Essaouira – beautiful white-walled city and port. Fresh fish from the port side. Great bazaars, restaurants, beach.
- Day 19 Depart Marrakesh.

This is a tour **designed by artists for artists**. 14 art sessions in 18 days, and the locations and venues are chosen for their spectacular visuals. You have the privilege of being with Maxine and her exceptional skill and knowledge, and vacationing in the exclusive company of other artists with shared interests and aspirations.

Our aim in Morocco is to learn as much about the culture of Morocco as we can in our time there – its people, history, architecture, life-style, religion, agriculture, economy and its place in the modern world. We can explore how that affects our own observations of the world and ultimately our artistic vision.

**Why this is more than an ordinary tour:** Small, family run boutique hotels and Riads, each one unique and chosen for its style of Moroccan architecture. Small group – no big buses, no queuing, no crowding, no anonymous, resort hotels. Two guides – one Moroccan, one western – between them with 50 yrs guiding experience and an intimate personal knowledge of our locations. Air conditioned, high standard transport, lots of stops to take pictures when we like. A flexible, adaptive approach to the itinerary on a day to day basis - if necessary changing for weather and maximizing our possibilities as we go. Unique out-of-the-way places other tourists don't find. As many art sessions as possible without exhausting you - almost one every day! A personal, friendly approach, with direct attention to you individually.

**In Land Cost:** ~estimate is \$6,100 AUD; \$6,400 NZD (TBD, dependent on currency rates and final quote) for all in-land Moroccan costs: transport, guiding, logistics, accommodation, and art sessions. Riads/hotels are mostly 4-star and B&B or half-board. Village is full board. Price is based on **double occupancy**. **Price for non-painters: \$5,350 AUD**

**Not included:** flights, tips, restaurants. **For mandatory tips:** €320 in cash in Morocco.

**To book:** E-mail Wendy – wendysmithwood@gmail.com for a detailed itinerary and more information. Deposits are required to secure a place, refundable to 12.31.17. Max 16 people. Trip is confirmed in Oct/Nov.