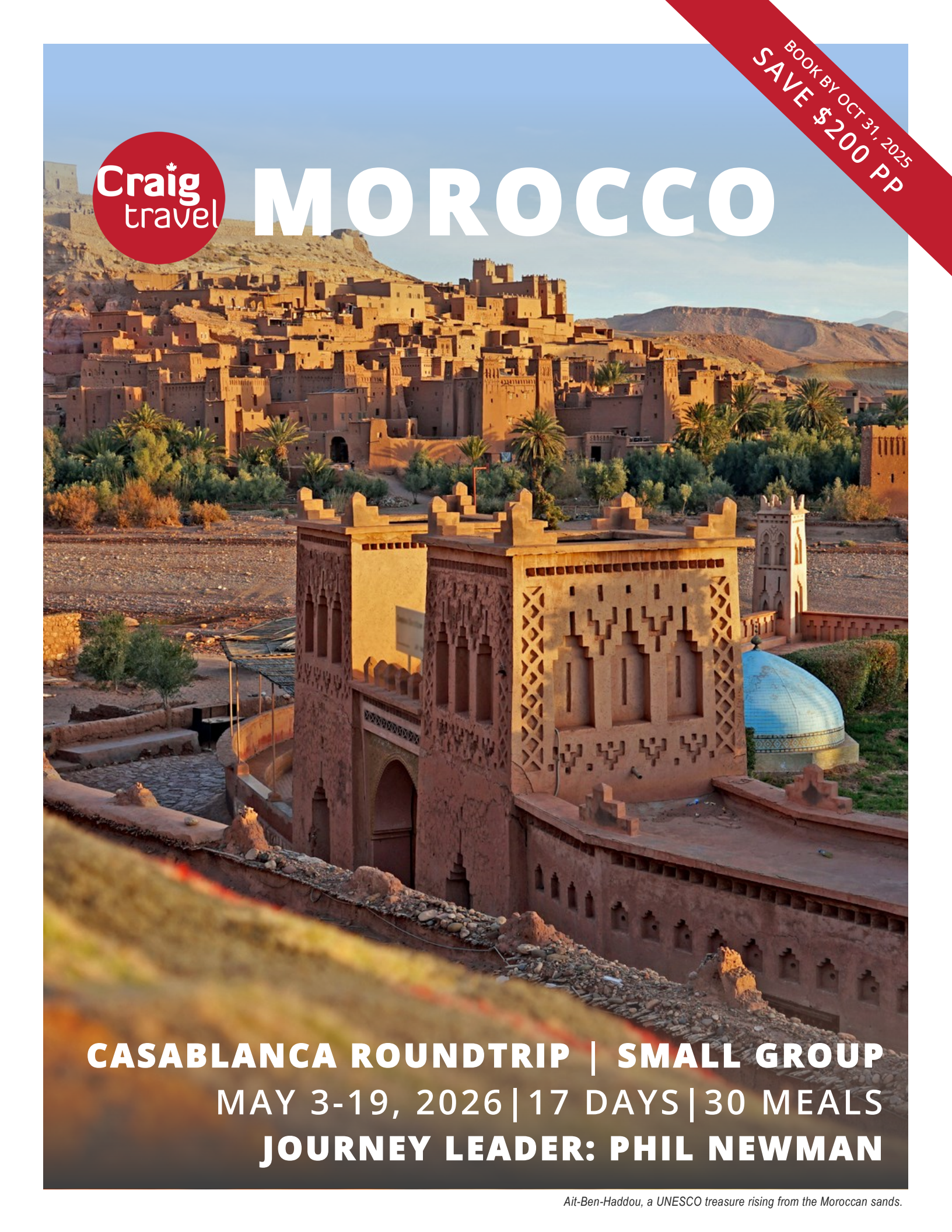




Craig
travel

MOROCCO

BOOK BY OCT 31, 2025
SAVE \$200 PP

CASABLANCA ROUNDTRIP | SMALL GROUP
MAY 3-19, 2026 | 17 DAYS | 30 MEALS
JOURNEY LEADER: PHIL NEWMAN

Ait-Ben-Haddou, a UNESCO treasure rising from the Moroccan sands.

Nestled at the crossroads of Africa and Europe, where Christianity and Islam converge, Morocco dazzles with its rich tapestry of history, culture, and timeless charm. From the Atlantic shores of Casablanca to the red-hued walls of Marrakech, we'll uncover the legacy of Berber tribes, Roman outposts, and Moorish dynasties.

Winding through ancient medinas and lively souks, we'll stay in charming riads—intimate, traditional dwellings that reflect the warmth and elegance of Moroccan hospitality. Beyond the city walls, our path leads into the vast Sahara, where golden dunes rise like waves beneath a setting sun. A thrilling 4x4 adventure carries us to a deluxe desert camp, where the night sky shimmers with stars and the air comes alive with Berber music and tradition.

Along the way, we'll share meals with local families, trace the echoes of imperial cities, and journey through landscapes that have inspired storytellers for centuries. Morocco awaits—with wonder around every corner.

SMALL GROUP EXPERIENCE

LIMITED TO ONLY 25 MEMBERS

Inclusive Features

- Return economy group airfare from Canada
- 15 nights in first-class hotels and comfortable riads, as indicated or similar
- 30 meals (B -15 breakfasts, L-3 lunches, D-12 dinners)
- Bottled water on the coach (daily) and at all included lunches and dinners
- Transfers, and baggage handling (where available)
- Gratuities, taxes, and fees for included services
- Services of our journey leader and local guides
- Airport transfers in Canada or equivalent value with purchase of group airfare

Journey Leader

The Reverend **Phil Newman** and his spouse, **Kim Logan**, have great fun exploring this amazing planet we inhabit. Phil has led groups to Italy, Austria, Switzerland, Germany, Ireland, France, Belgium, The Netherlands, the UK, the Czech Republic and Russia. Kim and Phil continue to discover the beauty of Canada camping in their RV, and chasing the sun to fun destinations in the USA, Caribbean, Mexico and the Mediterranean. Phil spent 40 years in pastoral ministry in The United Church of Canada with congregations in New Brunswick, Ontario and British Columbia and with remarkable experiences in NSW, Australia and Jerusalem, Israel. Phil and Kim are eagerly anticipating sharing this amazing adventure with you!



Tour Highlights

- Experience the four imperial cities of Morocco: Rabat, Fez, Meknes, and Marrakech
- Overnight in a deluxe tented camp under the stars
- Venture to the edge of the Sahara with 4x4 excursions
- Discover Kasbah Country, the old Berber trading route
- Tour the Hassan II Mosque in Casablanca
- Marvel at the impressive Hassan Tower and the tranquil Chellah Necropolis in Rabat
- Enjoy Volubilis, a UNESCO World Heritage Site
- Journey across the Middle Atlas Mountains
- Explore the Dades Gorge and the ancient fortifications of Ait-Ben-Haddou, a UNESCO World Heritage Site
- Participate in a cooking class, creating traditional Moroccan dishes

MAY 3, Sunday

DEPART CANADA

Tour members from across Canada gather in Toronto and Montreal for the overnight flight to Casablanca.

MAY 4, Monday

CASABLANCA / RABAT

Welcome to Morocco! On arrival in Casablanca, we will meet our local guide and transfer along the coast to our hotel in Rabat. In the evening, we gather for dinner at our hotel. **Tour Hassan Palace** (2 nights) **D**

MAY 5, Tuesday

RABAT

Rabat welcomes us with a sea breeze and a sense of calm grandeur. Marvel at the graceful Hassan Tower, wind through the Kasbah's narrow lanes, and pause at the Mausoleum of Mohammed V. From the stately Royal Palace to the ancient ruins of Chellah, the city reveals its rich and varied past. Later, enjoy free time to explore or simply relax at your own pace. **BD**

MAY 6, Wednesday

MEKNES / VOLUBILIS / FEZ

We travel inland to Fez, the world's oldest and largest medieval city. En route, we shall visit Meknes, which once rivalled Versailles in its beauty and opulence. Built over a fifty-year period as an imperial city by Moulay Ismail, Meknes is a treasure trove of palaces and gardens enveloped by 40km of mighty walls. Enter through the

monumental gates of Bab Mansour to find the exquisite mausoleum of the city's builder. Nearby, we explore the Roman ruins at Volubilis. This UNESCO World Heritage Site dates back to AD 40 and was the capital of the Roman province of Mauretania. Later this afternoon, we arrive in Fez where we will spend two nights in the heart of the Medina with its bustling markets and heady mix of aromas, sounds, and sights. **Hotel Les Merinides** (2 nights) BD

MAY 7, Thursday

FEZ

This is a day woven with enchantment. We step into the heart of the Medina of Fez, where time seems to pause within its ancient walls. Here, skilled artisans shape brass and weave intricate textiles, just as their ancestors did centuries ago. As we wander deeper, the narrow lanes of the souks beckon us into another world—one rich with the mingling scents of cedarwood, tanned leather, and warm spices. We'll meander through bustling districts where tanners dye hides in vibrant vats, shopkeepers call out their wares, and every corner holds a new wonder waiting to be discovered. You may want to visit the Kairaouine Mosque and University, the Bou Jeloud Gardens and the Sultan's Palace, each offering displays of classical Islamic art. BD

MAY 8, Friday

MIDELT / ERFOUD

Departing Fez, we cross over the Middle Atlas Mountains into the heart of Berber country. En route, we pass by the charming ski resort of Ifrane and the handicraft centre of Azrou. Midelt is a pleasant town surrounded by verdant pine trees amid a tranquil mountain setting. Take in the scenery as we head to the edge of the Sahara via the palm-fringed Errachidia and Ziz Valley.

Kasbah Hotel Xaluca (1 night)

BD

MAY 9, Saturday

RISSANI / MERZOUGA

After breakfast, we depart for Rissani, the holy city where Moulay Ali Cherif, an ancestor of the Alaouite dynasty, is buried. We'll visit the ruins of a 17th-century kasbah and the imposing remnants of the 19th-century castle, Ksar Abbar. We continue to Merzouga and the remote Erg Chebbi dunes. Nestled among these undulating dunes is our deluxe tented camp, featuring comfortable beds, private en suite bathrooms with hot and cold water, and all of the amenities of a well-appointed desert retreat. As the sun sinks low, casting the dunes in rich amber hues, we have the opportunity to ride camels and witness the sunset. At night, we gather for a traditional Berber meal, with music filling the air as we dine under a canopy of stars.

Sahara Stars Camp (1 night)

BD

MAY 10, Sunday

MERZOUGA

We'll take a 4x4 off-road journey through the stunning desert landscapes of the Erg Chebbi dunes to visit Khamlia, a nomadic village with roots in sub-Saharan Africa, before returning to Merzouga.

Kasbah Hotel Tombouctou (1 night)

BD

MAY 11, Monday

TODRA GORGE / DADES

Following an early morning call to admire the sunrise over the desert, we continue to Tinghir to explore the Todra Gorge, where magnificent towering limestone cliffs soar 1,000 ft (300 m) overhead. After lunch, we travel through the rugged Dades Valley to Dades, renowned for its blooming roses each spring.

Hotel Xaluca Dades (1 night)

BD



Visit Hassan II Mosque in Casablanca



Golden doors in Fez



Fez's historic leather tannery: a timeless craft captured in the heart of Morocco



Vibrant Moroccan tajines, a colourful find in the market

MAY 12, Tuesday DADES VALLEY / OUARZAZATE

Today, we travel through the Dades Valley, where the Dades River nourishes a variety of colourful fruit and nut trees and extraordinary red rock formations, to reach the stunning Dades Gorge. This area is often referred to as "Kasbah Country" due to the impressive forts that grace the valley, evoking memories of ancient desert caravans travelling from deep within Africa to the Moorish cities in the north. **Hotel Karam Palace** (1 night) BD

MAY 13, Wednesday AIT-BEN-HADDOU / MARRAKECH

After breakfast, we will explore Ait-Ben-Haddou, the UNESCO World Heritage Site where the timeless masterpiece, *Lawrence of Arabia*, was filmed. We then continue onward to Marrakech, the fabled imperial city that once served as a painting retreat for Winston Churchill. Later, we settle into a riad in the heart of the city and close to all the action. Tonight we gather for dinner.

Angsana Heritage Collection (4 nights) BD

MAY 14, Thursday MARRAKECH

Today, we immerse ourselves in the sights, sounds, and crafts of Marrakech. Our day begins with a peaceful stroll through the Jardin Majorelle, offering a tranquil escape from the city's hustle and bustle. Next, we'll visit the Berber Museum and then dive into a special cooking class at Palais Sebba. In the afternoon, we journey back in time exploring the Medina's labyrinthine streets, alive with local handicrafts. Highlights include the iconic Koutoubia Minaret, the intricately adorned Saadian Tombs, the historic Kasbah, and the vibrant Jemaa el-Fna Square. BL

MAY 15, Friday MARRAKECH

Delve deeper into the fascinating city of Marrakech with a visit to the Ben Youssef Madrasa, an iconic landmark renowned for its exquisite Islamic architecture and rich heritage. Marvel at the striking artistry of the 19th-century Bahia Palace, with sections still reserved for the royal family. A special highlight will be our visit to the Amal Centre, created to support local women from disadvantaged backgrounds. BL

MAY 16, Saturday TOUBKAL NATIONAL PARK / IMLIL

Just outside Marrakech lies Toubkal National Park. We drive up the mountain to the Berber village of Imlil, followed by a gentle walk along country roads and local paths. A graciously hosted lunch with a local family offers insights into rich Berber traditions. As the day ends, we return to Marrakech, leaving the evening open for leisure. BL

MAY 17, Sunday MARRAKECH / CASABLANCA

Legendary Casablanca awaits, made famous by Humphrey Bogart. Explore this vibrant port city, highlighted by the eclectic Medina, the Royal Palace, and the magnificent Ain Diab Corniche. Our farewell dinner will be at Rick's Café, recreated to capture the ambiance of the 1942 film *Casablanca*. **Le Palace D'Anfa Hotel** (2 nights) BD

MAY 18, Monday CASABLANCA

Today we visit the iconic Hassan II Mosque, the seventh-largest building of its kind in the world. After a visit, we shall enjoy some free time to explore the area. BD

MAY 19, Tuesday HOMEWARD BOUND

This morning, as we bid farewell to Morocco, we catch our flights to Montreal and Toronto, with connections home. B

CT Rating 3.5 / 5 - Challenging: Members should be prepared for crowded cities and busy souks (bazaars). In the countryside, services and facilities can be basic, especially in remote areas. This is a fast-paced itinerary with several one-night stays. This journey includes long walks, uneven surfaces, and stairs. Members must be in good health and physically fit to fully appreciate this journey. A riad is a traditional Moroccan house or palace built around a central courtyard that has been converted into a private boutique-style hotel, with atmosphere and great locations, but often with limited restaurant and other facilities, no elevators or direct coach access.



**Book by October 31, 2025
and save \$200 per person**

**Tour Cost in Canadian Dollars Per Person**

Land Only* (Join / Leave at hotel)	\$6,425
Montreal	\$7,375
Toronto	\$7,575
Halifax / St. John's / Winnipeg	\$7,795
Regina / Saskatoon	\$7,965
Calgary / Edmonton / Vancouver	\$7,895
Victoria	\$7,965
Single Supplement	\$2,095

*Land-only price is based on joining at the hotel in Rabat and leaving at the hotel in Casablanca and excludes flights and airport transfers.

Airfares from other gateways are available on request. Airfares and air carriers are subject to change and will be confirmed prior to final payment. Refer to inclusive features for details.

Tour price is based on sharing a twin room at hotels and on a minimum of 20 members, based on rates, taxes and fees effective June 2025 and is subject to change due to factors beyond our control. Group to be escorted from Canada with a minimum of 20 group members.

Insurance is NOT INCLUDED but is highly recommended. Premiums are calculated based on the individual's age, destination (country), trip length, and trip booking window – please contact our staff to receive a quote. Your coverage starts on the effective date of your confirmation of coverage. Please discuss your insurance coverage prior to booking. Check our website for the most current information. Refer to the enrollment form for terms and conditions.

**Final payment is due January 29, 2026
Deposit is \$700 per person**

To reserve your spot on this tour, you can either book online through our website or submit an enrollment form along with your deposit to:

1092 Mount Pleasant Road, Toronto, ON M4P 2M6

416-484-0926 • 1-800-387-8890

tours@craigtravel.com • craigtravel.com



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