Lara and Tessa’s Creative Adventures in Morocco September 2023

Day 1 - Welcome to Marrakesh and introductions

You will be met at the airport and escorted to the Riad accommodation in Marrakesh medina. If you arrive earlier in the day you will be able to relax on the Riad rooftop terraces, have lunch and maybe go out and explore a little. Later arrivals should be in time for evening drinks and an introductory talk by Tessa and Lara which will give you the opportunity to meet each other and we can discuss the following days arrangements. Dinner will be in the Riad.

Day 2 - Sketching in Dar Is Said Museum, Henna Cafe & Souk

After breakfast you will be transported by private taxi to the Arts and Crafts Museum where Lara and Tessa will demonstrate their sketching techniques and accompany you in the Palace to draw and explore. A short walk away we will have lunch at the Henna Café followed by a walk up to the main square and back to the Riad, through the souk. For those of you who like gardens there will also be the opportunity to visit the beautiful Jardin Secret (small entry fee) in the Medina for more sketching and some peaceful relaxation. In the evening we have dinner at the Riad.

Day 3 - Sketching in Musee de la Palmeraire and visit Majorelle Gardens

After breakfast we will go by private transport to the Musee de la Palmeraire, a gallery of contemporary Moroccan art with three wonderful gardens. Lara and Tessa will demonstrate and advise, and you will have the morning to wander and sketch in the gardens or sit and soak up the atmosphere. We will then return by our transport to the Riad for lunch. In the afternoon we propose a visit the gorgeous Majorelle Gardens (entry fee) where you will be able to draw and photograph the exotic colourful garden. You can also visit the new Yves St Laurent museum next door and the Berber museum within the gardens. Return late afternoon to relax at the Riad. Pre-dinner show and tell Dinner will be at the Riad.
Day 4 - Place Des Epices and the Souks of Marrakesh

We will spend the morning in the Place des Epices where Lara and Tessa will discuss and demonstrate techniques for capturing sketches of people and busy market scenes. You are then free to explore the square and draw with Tessa and Lara offering tips and encouragement. You are free to choose your own lunch venue today and could spend the afternoon exploring the souk with its fabulous shopping opportunities or visiting another museum- maybe the Photography Museum or the Musee Boucherouite (entry fee) with its wonderful rag rugs.

After an early dinner at the Riad we will walk down to the famous Jemaa El Fnaa square to experience the wonderful atmosphere of Marrakesh evenings.

Day 5- to the Kasbah du Toubkal

After breakfast at the Riad we will depart for the High Atlas Mountains and Kasbah du Toubkal at Imlil. (approximately 90 minute journey). Arriving at Imlil, you will be met by a member of the Kasbah staff who will ensure your luggage is loaded onto a mule and you will be guided on a short mule ride or walk up to the Kasbah. On arrival we will enjoy Berber tea and pastries, followed by a welcome talk about the Kasbah and time to relax. Lunch will be at the Kasbah overlooking the wonderful mountain views. In the afternoon you will be able to join a short, guided walk up the valley to the waterfall, with time to stop and draw with Lara and Tessa, or you can stay and paint from the Kasbah terraces. Dinner will be at the Kasbah.

Day 6 - Walking and sketching in the High Atlas Mountains

After breakfast we will take a guided walk up along the ancient paths and mule tracks, enjoying the spectacular views of landscape and on to the village of Arrempct,. Tessa and Lara will accompany you sketching. Lunch will be at the Kasbah, in the afternoon you will have demonstrations of mixed media and drawing techniques and time to develop sketchbook drawings in the studio. Pre-dinner show and tell. Dinner will be at the Kasbah.

Day 7 - Drawing and painting in the valley by the river

This morning we will walk a short way down to the river valley below the Kasbah for sketching and painting. Lara and Tessa will demonstrate and advise. Lunch will be a splendid picnic under the shady walnut trees. In the afternoon you are free to explore the village shops and cafes or draw in the Kasbah gardens or out on the terraces. In the evening we will share our ideas and discuss the following days printmaking. Dinner will be at the Kasbah.
Day 8 - Studio day to explore printmaking and mixed media at the Kasbah

Today you will be based at the Kasbah, where Lara and Tessa will hold demonstration and small group taster workshops in screen printing and monoprint. Lunch will be at the Kasbah, and in the evening we will have a small show of work to share with the Kasbah, and a traditional Berber supper for our last night.

Day 9 - Farewell breakfast and departure

After breakfast you will be taken by private transfer back to Marrakesh for onward travel. If you are not heading directly to the airport, your luggage can be left securely while you are free to enjoy your last day. We recommend afternoon or evening flights to avoid a very early start to the last day (Allow 5 hours for travel and check in before your flight leaves.) More info about travel arrangements will be send out to you after booking.

Price for this trip is £1675 for a shared room / £2945 single (limited places).

For Bookings please email: bookings@discover.ltd.uk

(Deposit is 30% on booking) We are partnering with Discover Ltd. (ABTA bonded and ATOL licence holder)

Price does not include flights & insurance or alcohol (except Welcome drinks). Tessa can advise on flight options. Transfers from Airport to Riad will be arranged once we have this info from you.

All meals (except lunch on Day 4) are included, all non-alcoholic drinks with meals. All transportation and local tips are provided. Optional venues may incur entry fees. Hotel tips are at your discretion.

Artists are asked to provide their own painting and drawing materials, but printmaking materials and extra art media will be provided at the studio in the Kasbah.