
KASBAH DU TOUBKAL

MOROCCO'S PREMIER
MOUNTAIN RETREAT

Despite the snow on Jbel Toubkal, the skies over Imlil are a glorious blue, although the usually pulsating streets of Marrakech are almost devoid of human presence. It's a world we've never seen before; a world that has changed beyond recognition. But what will always stay the same is the warmth of the Moroccan welcome. We're not going anywhere; the washing of hands and gift of dates dipped in milk will still be there to welcome you through our door, just as it has been in every Moroccan home for generations.

Mike and Chris McHugo

and everyone at **KASBAH DU TOUBKAL**



UNIQUE LODGES
OF THE WORLD



News From Imlil

ALICE MORRISON - Indiana Jones for Girls



Listen **HERE** to Alice's latest podcast

While most foreign nationals were trying to get **out** of Morocco as the skies closed, Alice Morrison, adventurer, desert crosser, Indiana Jones for Girls, was trying to get **in**, to her home in Imlil. We'll be hearing more from and about Alice in the next issue of the Kasbah du Toubkal magazine, but here's her story about getting home to lock-down in Morocco.

*"Corona Lockdown. Covid-19. Isolation. Aaaaaaaaaghhhh! I am sure everyone feels the same. I flew back here instinctively, I didn't even think it through to a possible corona lockdown in Morocco, on the 14th March, although I felt a bit like a person going the wrong way down a one way street as holidaymakers tried desperately to leave. This is my home and I wanted to get home." **Read on...***

Around Morocco with



Ramadan recipes

The holy month of Ramadan is an opportunity to try out delicacies that will add delightful color and variety to the iftar table.



Lockdown does not have to shut down kindness

Self-isolation and social distancing are saving lives all over the world, but have plunged many families into poverty. Communities all over Morocco are keeping hope alive in these dark times.

A society reborn

The novel coronavirus has stripped Morocco of its vibrancy and dynamic energy, replacing its eclectic magic with uncertainty and fear. Rising from the deserted streets, however, is a new kind of unanimity that is taking place within communities across Morocco



Education For All Home Learning Unit

Are you homeschooling children in school years 7, 8 or 9? If so, we have a teaching resource you may be interested in. It focuses on the impact our charity Education For All is making on the lives of girls living in rural mountain villages in Morocco. (Click on logo to download.)

A Letter from Latifa

My name is Latifa Aliza and I am head housemother for EFA. I wanted to share with you what the girls' lives in the boarding houses are on a daily basis so that it can shed some light on what they are missing during the lockdown due to the pandemic.

Firstly. The boarding house was built and is located directly opposite the only high school in town, as it is with all the other boarding houses in the other places. This gives the girls a very close proximity to the schools as many of them live extremely far away from the school and therefore being admitted into the EFA program not only gives them the chance to go to high school but also a very close proximity.

The houses have everything inbuilt and give the girls the most comfortable and rewarding experience to achieve excellence in their school work. There are classrooms for after studies, there is a library with an extensive collection of books for school and other educative purposes, and there is constant internet for the girls for learning and for homework.

We also have volunteers who come and work with the girls year round, who help them with English, French, computer lessons and their school work.

Most of these girls come from very poor backgrounds with parents who have menial jobs and are unable to provide any of these to these girls, so their lives in the boarding house were arranged so that they had access to everything to make them excel with the school work. And the results have been amazing! We have over 150 girls enrolled at University since 2013!

However, once the pandemic hit Morocco, the schools were shut down immediately and unfortunately the girls had to leave the boarding houses and go back to their villages.

Right now, because the girls live in some of the most rural areas, they are completely cut off from

the world with no access to news or anything happening in the world. Their parents cannot afford computers and internet for them and as all the schools in the country are finishing the curriculum for the year through the internet, unfortunately only the children in the big cities with access to internet are able to complete their curriculum for the year. But our girls they have no books or internet to read to keep their minds engaged.

In the boarding houses, the girls have a daily timetable that is both interactive and stimulative such that there is something to learn everyday as the day is filled with activities after school and constant interaction with the volunteers who teach the girls so much. They had structure.

I would say that the lock down has affected EFA because our main focus is the girls and they are so hard-working and always eager to learn. They cannot wait for this period to be over because they miss studying. By supporting our campaign, we can try to improve their situation and get them smart phones and sim cards. Thank you to everyone who has donated and please keep sharing it with your friends!



Latifa Aliza

JustGiving™

As of 15th May we had hit 98% of our goal to raise enough money to ensure that all our girls had Internet connections to allow them to continue their studies while schools in Morocco are closed due to coronavirus. Please click on the logo to go to our JustGiving page and help us to reach our goal.

Could you ever have imagined Marrakech like this!



But imagine how wonderful it will feel to be back!

Credits: @delight_event_management•@carolinedarcourt_photography•@visitmarrakechregion

ADVENTURE

Top 5 Family Travel Experiences You Need to Try

SIMPLY WOMAN MAGAZINE

Marrakech holidays

Postcard from the future: I will lose myself in Marrakech

theguardian