



CASABLANCA



MARRAKECH



MEKNES



RABAT



FES

*Journey*  
TO  
*Morocco*  
AND  
*Gibraltar*





# RETRACING THE ROOTS OF THE SEPHARDIC WORLD

PROJECT 613, J-HYPE, & PARTNERS DETROIT  
26TH DECEMBER 2021 – 2ND JANUARY 2022

Led by JRoots Educator Raphy Garson



Jews arrived in morocco over 2,500 years ago less than 3,000  
remain today. Let the journey begin...



# Sunday 26th December 2021

Arrival in Marrakech

Overnight Radisson Blu (5\*)

# Monday 27th December 2021

## Marrakech – City

The Jewish community has a long history in Marrakech with a history stretching back to antiquity under the Roman empire following the destruction of the Temple. The community played a prominent role in Moroccan life until the formation of the state of Israel when large numbers left to emigrate to Israel. A noticeable legacy has however been left by the community both physically and culturally. We will visit the old medina & it's beautiful 500 year old shul. A chance to explore the souks & the world's famous Djemaa El Fna, featuring story tellers, acrobats, snake-charmers and magicians. Time permitting we will meet the President of the Jewish community.

## Marrakech – Atlas Mountains

Jews were living in Morocco for 2000 years since the destruction of the Temple in Jerusalem. Berber Jews lived in the Atlas Mountains. We will visit a Berber village and see how the Jews used to live. Explore the incredible mountain graveside of Rabbi Shlomo Bel Hence and learn about his legacy.

Overnight Radisson Blu (5\*)

*Itinerary subject to change*





# Tuesday 28th December 2021

## Casablanca

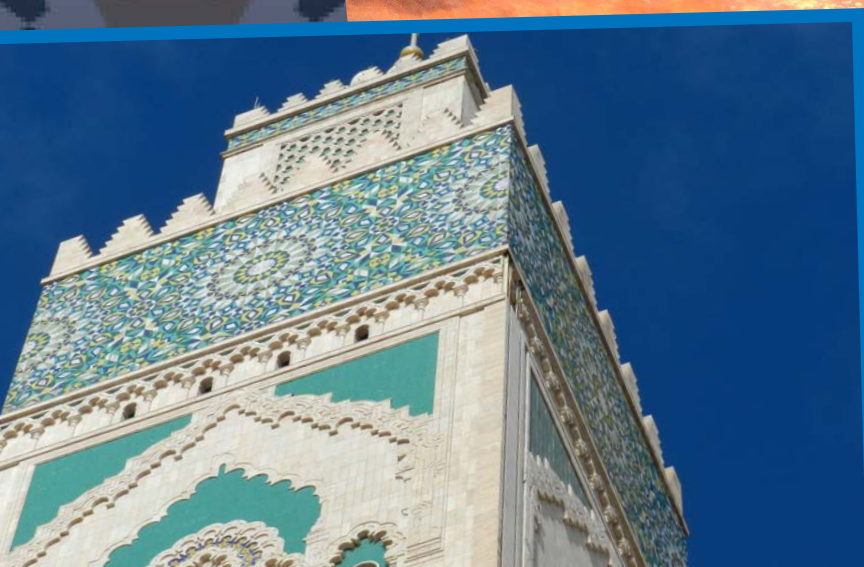
Casablanca is the dynamic economic capital of Morocco & is home to the largest Jewish community in Morocco today. We will tour the ONLY Jewish Museum in the Islamic world & walk round Casablanca City, seeing the 'Street of the Seven Synagogues' & the famous Bet El Synagogue.

Our visit to the Hassan II Mosque (the second largest functioning mosque in Africa and 7th biggest in the world) will be eye opening. We hope to have an opportunity to meet with the power team of Rabbi & Rebbetzen Sebbag, together with the beautiful children of the local Talmud Torah (School).

Dinner in the local club.

## Overnight Radisson Blu (5\*)

*Itinerary subject to change*





# Wednesday 29th December 2021

## Rabat

The political capital of Morocco houses the main palace of the King. We will visit its Jewish Quarter, the Mellah with its the synagogue of Rabbi Shalom Zaoui. Our visit to the the Mausoleum of the late King Mohammed V will showcase the deep relationship between the Jews of Morocco and its Kings. Time permitting we will have a chance to visit the famous Kasbah Des Oudaia gardens.

## Meknes

Jews settled in the region of Meknes before the advent of Islam. Until the 19th century the community of Meknes was one of the best developed and organized in Morocco. It was a city of Chakhamim(Rabbis) and merchants. Once known as the Jerusalem of Morocco, now a dwindling community of some 7 Jews. We will visit the local Talmud Torah & the new and ancient cemeteries. An opportunity to see the Bab Mansour Laleuj gates

## Fes

Fes is considered Morocco's spiritual capital & is a designated UNESCO World Heritage Site. We will experience the 17th Century Ibn Danan Synagogue inside the Mellah (the Jewish Quarter), as well as the old Jewish cemetery. Here there will be a powerful opportunity to connect at some of the holiest grave-sites of Great Rabbis and Holy Women. We will visit the Dar al-Makhzen – the royal palace of the Alaouite Sultan & the stunningly beautiful Bensadoun Shul

## Overnight Palais Medina (5\*)



*Itinerary subject to change*



# Thursday 30th December 2021

## Fes

The Medina of Fes preserves, in an ancient part comprising numerous monumental buildings, the memory of the capital founded by the Idrisid dynasty between 789 and 808 A.D. Considered one of the most extensive & best conserved historic towns of the Arab-Muslim world. It not only represents an outstanding architectural, archaeological and urban heritage, but also transmits a life style, skills and a culture that persist and are renewed despite the diverse effects of the evolving modern societies. A visit to the famous Tannery, factories, shouks and more. An opportunity to visit the Rambam's House.

Drive to Tangiers

Ferry Boat to Tariffa, Spain

Drive To Gibraltar

**Overnight: The O'Callaghan Elliott Hotel(4\*)**

*Itinerary subject to change*





# Friday 31st December 2021

## Gibraltar

Jews settled here in the 13th century. After the Treaty of Utrecht in 1713, it came under the rule of the Great Britain. In the Treaty, the Spanish added a clause barring Jews and Moors from the city. The British ignored this provision & Jews have lived here since then. Visit the Upper Rock and its apes, magical caves and breath-taking views. Enjoy the tax free shopping in this shopper's paradise. Boat with the dolphins on the dolphin safari. Get ready for Shabbat & pre-Shabbat tisch. Shabbat dinner at Tamid restaurant. Welcome in the new year with the firework display over the straights of Gibraltar.

**Overnight: The O'Callaghan Elliott Hotel(4\*)**

## Shabbat 1st January 2022

Enjoy a full Shabbat program in Gibraltar! We will meet with local dignitaries and members of Parliament. Havdala Service on the roof! Team escape room fun after Shabbat followed by debrief and singing on board the luxurious Sunborne Casino Cruise Liner.

**Overnight: The O'Callaghan Elliott Hotel(4\*)**

## Sunday 2nd January 2022

Transfer from hotel to Spanish border Drive to Malaga airport & return home

*Itinerary subject to change*





Rabbi Shalom Garfinkel graduated Stanford University in 1996 & headed to Ohr Somayach in Israel. He and his wife Suri moved in 2004 to UCLA to do Jewish outreach. In 2007 they moved to Chicago to continue their outreach work and founded Project 613 in 2017. The Garfinkels love sharing their love of Judaism!



Rabbi Raphy Garson was raised in Gibraltar. He lives in Elstree together with his wife Deborah and their children and are the Rabbinic team of Ohr Yisrael Federation Synagogue of Borehamwood and Elstree. Working with the Holocaust Educational Trust, he has in the last few years, he has led over 5000 non-Jewish students to Poland. Rabbi Garson works for JRoots as an educator and guide, regularly taking groups to Poland, Spain, Portugal and Morocco.



Rabbi Noam Gross is both director and educator for the Young Professional Division of Partners Detroit, where he keeps busy learning one on one with his many YP students, giving weekly classes, hosting large Shabbat meals, and running inspirational trips and programs.



Rabbi Johnny grew up in a Sephardic Jewish family in Toronto. After high school, he devoted 8 years in Israel to study in Kol Torah Yeshiva and then the Jerusalem Kollel under Rabbi Yitzchak Berkovits. Rabbi Johnny moved to Houston in 2013 and is the founder and director of J-HYPE, the Jewish Houston Young Professionals Experience.

Delivered by JRoots



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