The Chantry School

EXCELLENCE IN ALL | EXCELLENCE FOR ALL

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April 2026

Dear Parents and Carers of current Year 9 pupils

Year 10 trip to Morocco 2027 (Wednesday 24 March – Tuesday 30 March 2027)
6 nights – cost £1380

We are delighted to once again offer our unforgettable trip to Morocco following this year's success. This exciting journey provides pupils with a unique opportunity to experience a vibrant and diverse culture firsthand. Through a rich and immersive itinerary, pupils will broaden their global perspective, develop greater empathy, and gain a deeper appreciation of different ways of life. With a full and engaging programme, and all entry fees included, we aim to provide a smooth, enriching, and thoroughly enjoyable experience for all. Building on the highlights from this year's trip, we have further enhanced the experience for 2027, with an additional night, a new artisan workshop, a visit to the beautiful Secret Gardens, and more time to explore the vibrant city of Marrakech.

The group size is **45 pupils plus 5 members of staff.**

Briefly, the itinerary is as follows:

Day One
Depart school for the airport and morning flight to Marrakech. Arrival in Marrakech and transfer to the hotel to unload luggage. Late afternoon visits to the **Medina, Djemaa El Fna, Koutoubia Mosque, The Madrasa Ben Youssef** and a local **apothecary**. Evening meal at the hotel (**Central House or Equity Point or similar**).

Day Two
Breakfast at our hotel and transfer to the **High Atlas Mountains**. Stops on the way include **Ait Benhaddou Kasbah**, a fortified village which is now a World Heritage Site. Visit with a local guide of the Ksar. The traditional buildings are constructed from earth and clay bricks, and the village has been used as the location of numerous movies and TV shows. Drive to **Zagora desert** and enjoy an evening **camel ride**. **Sunset on the sand dunes**. Traditional evening meal in the **desert camp** with music and dancing.

Day Three
After breakfast and **sunrise** on the sand dunes, we will head off to **Tamgroute** – the pottery village. There will be a tour with a local guide and live demonstration of **ancient pottery techniques**. Pupils will witness its unique underground housing, traditional pottery and the challenges present in this small village. We will visit a **400-year-old Islamic library**.

After lunch, we will depart for **Kasbah Tamangalt**, where we will have a tour with a local guide of **Kasbah Tamangalt and the oasis of Palms**. Departure to Ouarzazate and arrival at our accommodation. Evening meal and live music.

Day Four
Breakfast and departure for the **Atlas Film Studios -** the world's largest film studio which has been used as the set for films such as Black Hawk Down, Gladiator, Star Wars and The Mummy.
During the afternoon, we shall meet the **local students** - make donations of books and stationery – and visit the **Oasis** near the accommodation with a local guide. Late afternoon **Tea and Moroccan pastries** by

the oasis with the local women of the village. Optional football match with local people. Dinner at our accommodation.

Day Five – New for 2027: Additional Day
The group will head back to **Marrakech** stopping en route to participate in various village activities. These activities can include bread making, couscous making and vegetable preparation or fetching water from the village well, making traditional mud and straw bricks and making charcoal.
After lunch, we will take part in a hands-on artisan workshop at **ArtEscape** Marrakech, where pupils can work directly with local artisans to take home their own creations. Transfer to the hotel in Marrakech. Evening meal in Marrakech.

Day Six – New for 2027: Le Jardin Secret Visit
Breakfast followed by a visit to the **Le Jardin Secret**, an oasis of calm and one of the most ancient places in the heart of the medina. We will then spend the afternoon exploring the **souks** in Marrakech and watch the sunset from **a rooftop smoothie bar** in the main square of **Jmaa El Fnaa**. Supper - the **Moroccan national dish of Tagine** which is slow-cooked in heavy earthenware pots.

Day Seven
Breakfast and transfer to the airport for the return flight to the UK. Transfer to school.

Prices are fully inclusive. The travel programmes include **ALL** of the features outlined below:

- Accommodation in specified hostel/hotel
- All meals starting lunch Day One and ending with a breakfast on Day Seven (money needed for snacks and souvenirs)
- Rooftop bar and smoothie
- All entrance fees
- All cultural workshops and experiences, including a bread-making workshop and pottery workshop.
- Risk assessments on venues and accommodation
- Coach transport in Morocco and UK airport transfer
- At least one Tour Director throughout the visit, who will travel with the group, lead excursions and organise meals
- Additional local guides at key locations
- Village experiences, including tea and time with the local association
- Access to local activities (including football space for the pupils at the football fields)
- All payments to local communities and cooperatives, including the apothecary and argan oil cooperative
- All tips and gratuities throughout the trip (guides, drivers, restaurants, camel handlers etc.)
- A paramedic present for the duration of the trip.

ESSENTIAL REQUIREMENTS
Each pupil must be in possession of:

- **A valid passport that is not damaged (including any visa documents, if you require it to travel to Morocco).**
- **Your child's passport must be valid for at least 3 months after the date of arrival in Morocco.**
- As of May 2025, British Nationals can visit Morocco without a visa for up to 90 days for tourism. Make sure the border officials stamp the passport for entry and leaving Morocco.
- The FCDO recommends checking the latest vaccine recommendations for Morocco at least 8 weeks before the trip.

Foreign Travel Advice: Warnings and Safety

Morocco's laws and customs are very different to those in the UK and reflect the fact that Morocco is a conservative Islamic country. Always respect local traditions, customs, laws and religions. Women are advised to wear modest, loose-fitting clothing in rural areas, covering their shoulders, legs and chest.
For more information, please got to: https://www.gov.uk/foreign-travel-advice/morocco

HOW TO SECURE A PLACE

To secure a place for your son/daughter on this trip, **a non-refundable** deposit payment of **£140.00** must be completed on Arbor Pay (trips section) by **Friday 15th May 2026. Please ignore the automatic message that you will receive from Arbor stating your child has successfully gained a place on the trip. Miss Bullock will confirm if your child has been successful after the sign-up deadline has passed.** If the trip is over-subscribed, we will draw names from all the pupils who have paid deposits by the deadline, according to the school's trips and visits policy. Any unsuccessful pupils will have their deposits returned. We also reserve the right to withdraw a pupil from the trip later in the year if we have serious behaviour concerns.

If your child requires any reasonable adjustments or additional support to take part in this trip, please contact the trip leader in advance so that we can explore the possibility of making the necessary adaptations.

If payment may present a barrier to your child's participation and they are eligible for the Pupil Premium fund, we may be able to offer support. Please contact the trip leader in confidence prior to the deposit deadline.

Prior to the trip departing, I will arrange a parents' information evening in February 2027. If you have any questions or would like further information, please contact me at ebullock@chantryschool.com.

Yours sincerely

Miss E Bullock
Trip Lead