




Classical
Movements

CHOIR, ORCHESTRA
AND BAND TOURS TO

MOROCCO





319 Cameron Street, Alexandria, VA 22314, USA
Tel: +1 (703) 683-6040 • Fax: +1 (703) 683-6045
E-mail: info@ClassicalMovements.com
Website: www.ClassicalMovements.com

Travel Specialists for Music and Performing Groups

WHY MOROCCO WITH CLASSICAL MOVEMENTS

Highlights: Morocco's attractions include colorful markets brimming with local handicrafts, Jemaa El-Fna in **Marrakech**, **Fez** with its walled medina, antiquities, the ancient architecture of Chellah in **Rabat**, shopping, beaches, diverse scenery, religious shrines, great food, **Atlas Mountain** scenery and Tuareg culture. Morocco has many spectacular sights ranging from the World Heritage Roman ruins at Volubilis, which are more than 2,000 years old, to the architectural splendor of the Hassan II Mosque in **Casablanca**. Natural wonders include the Atlas Mountains and the breathtaking **Dades Valley**, which is sometimes referred to as the "Valley of a Thousand Casbahs" because of the oases and casbahs found along its length. Morocco boasts seven other World Heritage sites: Fez El Bali; Meknes' Imperial City; the medinas in Essaouira, Tetouan and Marrakesh; the Portuguese port of El-Jadida and the mud-brick architecture of Ksar of Ait Benhaddou to the south of Marrakesh.

Shopping: Good buys in **wool carpets** can be found. Other items available include **leather goods** of a very high quality (house shoes, ottomans, various types of bags), gems, fossils from the Sahara, thuya wood carvings, pottery, **ceramic tile mosaics**, inlaid mirrors and frames, brass and copperware (trays, lanterns), silk, hand embroidered clothing, and silver and gold **Berber jewelry**. Particularly popular, reasonably priced and useful at home are the miniature tajines, or conical clay dishes that can be used to store salt and pepper sets.

Food and Drink: Moroccan cuisine is essentially tasty comfort food with exotic spices. **Harira**, the traditional garbanzo-and-noodle soup, is a good starter. Various **couscous** dishes, **tajines** (stewed meat or chicken with vegetables, served in a conical clay dish of the same name) and **kebabs** (also called brochettes) are the most common entrees. Visitors should also try **fish stew**, **mchoui** (roast mutton) and **djaja mahamara** (chicken stuffed with almonds, raisins and couscous). **Bastilla** is pigeon or chicken cooked in dough with nuts and honey. Almond and phyllo like pastries are excellent. Sweet mint tea, served in a clear glass, is available everywhere. Fresh-squeezed juices and milk shakes (almond and avocado are amazing) are also very refreshing.

Neighboring Countries: A classic combination of **Spain and Morocco** may be just the tour you are looking for.

PERFORMANCES AND CULTURAL IMMERSION

Morocco celebrates numerous Muslim, Jewish, Christian and even remnants of Pagan celebrations and national festivals throughout the year. Festivals have always played an important role in Moroccan culture, where thousands gather for annual festivals, which are the preferred venues for cultural activities in Morocco. The festivals range from low-key local events to major international music festivals.

Every June, the **Fes Festival of World Sacred Music** is host to a week of religious music from around the world. Many acts are drawn from Morocco's own diverse history of sacred music, which includes songs from the Jewish and Muslim traditions. The **Festival des Arts Populaires**, lasting a week every summer in Marrakech, is a celebration of traditional Moroccan music and performance.



319 Cameron Street, Alexandria, VA 22314, USA
Tel: +1 (703) 683-6040 • Fax: +1 (703) 683-6045
E-mail: info@ClassicalMovements.com
Website: www.ClassicalMovements.com

Travel Specialists for Music and Performing Groups

There are a few **Christian churches** for concerts, but there are also **national historic sites, museums** and **intimate village concerts** in local, university, and school halls.

Collaborative concerts and workshops with local choirs and cultural exchange activities, as well as homestays, are a possibility.

A tour to Morocco can also include outreach concerts for local schools and non-profit organizations.

TESTIMONIALS

Kevin Fox, Artistic Director [Pacific Boychoir]

"The musical and non-musical arrangements were truly exceptional as always. The concert halls were some of the best places we've ever performed...Impressive. We look forward to the next tour with Classical Movements."

Selina Midkiff, Music Director [Appalachian Children's Chorus]

"We had a fabulous time. The venues were amazing!! The accommodations were lovely!! We could not have asked for a better guide!! The musical experience was extraordinary!! Once again, thanks for all of your hard work, Classical Movements, to make this experience such a grand one."

Chuck Moore, Executive Director [Greater Dallas Youth Orchestra]

"Under Classical Movements' direction, our 6-concert tour... was flawless from start to finish. We enjoyed a comfortable flight itinerary, nice hotels, good meals, wonderful sightseeing, and most importantly great concerts. Our venues included three stunning contemporary halls, an elegant baroque room, a delightful castle courtyard, and a beautiful spa town. We are all ready to do it again! The Classical Movements staff was awesome!"

Lorraine Granderson, Music Director [Bishop Anstey High School Choir]

"I must thank you again for the wonderful time we all had on this trip. It was more than we expected and more than we could have dreamed about. Congrats to everyone at Classical Movements for putting together a wonderful experience for so many."

Debbie Mello, Music Director [Children's Chorus of Sussex County]

"The performance venues were fantastic and varied. Our tour guide Margarit was exceptional – providing excellent information and possessing a wonderful sense of humor, which is essential when traveling with children. Thank you again for this wonderful opportunity!"

Eric Conway, Music Director [Morgan State University]

"Thank you for Classical Movements' attention to making this tour so memorable... I would definitely use Classical Movements again! Thank you for your part in making this tour so very successful!"



319 Cameron Street, Alexandria, VA 22314, USA
Tel: +1 (703) 683-6040 • Fax: +1 (703) 683-6045
E-mail: info@ClassicalMovements.com
Website: www.ClassicalMovements.com

Travel Specialists for Music and Performing Groups

PRESS

A Limited Selection

“Classical Movements founder Neeta Helms delivers musicians and singers all over the world with the precision of a Steinway piano tuner.”

The Washington Post, Tom Heath, September 15, 2013

“Classical Movements is the go-to company for ensembles planning concert tours. The firm's who's-who list of clients includes the Baltimore Symphony Orchestra, Morgan State University Choir and National Symphony Orchestra, not to mention the New York Philharmonic, Philadelphia Orchestra and Vienna Philharmonic.”

Baltimore Sun, Tim Smith, June 29, 2012

“From June 14 to June 28 the YAC (Yale Alumni Chorus) decided to discover the musical treasures of the Silk Road in Turkey, Georgia and Armenia. YAC Glee Club often travels around the world to share their music with other nations but they had been the first American college clubs to visit Georgia. Mark Dollhopf, the founder of Yale Alumni Chorus, said it was a huge opportunity for his chorus to visit Georgia especially on the 150th anniversary of the Yale glee club which is the student course that began in 1861.”

Georgia Messenger, Salome Modebadze, June 28, 2011

“Neeta Helms, president of Classical Movements, which works with major orchestras as well as tours by youth orchestras and choirs, says 2009 looks to be its busiest year ever. But Helms works hard for that business. The Wednesday flight from Barcelona to Lisbon had the most stringent bag restrictions yet, with hefty fines for those deemed too heavy. But the loaded-down musicians were allowed to board unimpeded. ‘Neeta worked her magic,’ murmured one.”

Philadelphia Inquirer, David P. Stearns, February 6, 2009

“All the Excuses you have for not visiting- it is too far, too expensive, too complicated to arrange- are just excuses.”

Travel Holiday Magazine, 1995/1996

“Citing success in its South Africa programs, Blue Heart Tours (Classical Movements formal name) has expanded into Zimbabwe, Botswana and Namibia with itineraries. According to the tour operator, South Africa is favorable for tourism because it is one of the most diverse and beautiful areas in the world and has tremendous potential for tourism in that it can offer safaris, a varied countryside, and the lure of big, cosmopolitan cities.”

Jax Fax Travel Marketing Magazine, February 1995