

THE ROAD TO MARRAKESH

(MOROCCO, THAT IS!)



Looking at the world through the sun-
set in your eyes
Traveling the train through clear Mo-
roccan skies
Ducks and pigs and chickens call
Animal carpet wall to wall
American ladies five-foot tall in blue
Sweeping cobwebs from the edges of
my mind
Had to get away to see what we could
find
Hope the days that lie ahead
Bring us back to where they've led
Listen not to what's been said to you
Wouldn't you know we're riding on
the Marrakesh Express
Wouldn't you know we're riding on
the Marrakesh Express
They're taking me to Marrakesh
All aboard the train, all aboard the
train
I've been saving all my money just to
take you there
I smell the garden in your hair
Take the train from Casablanca going
south
Blowing smoke rings from the corners
of my mouth
Colored cottons hang in the air
Charming cobras in the square
Striped djellebas we can wear at home
Well, let me hear you now
Wouldn't you know we're riding on
the Marrakesh Express
Wouldn't you know we're riding on
the Marrakesh Express
They're taking me to Marrakesh
Wouldn't you know we're riding on
the Marrakesh Express
Wouldn't you know we're riding on
the Marrakesh Express
They're taking me to Marrakesh
All on board the train, all on board the
train
All on board

(Crosby, Stills and Nash,
The Marrakesh Express)

Hello classmates! Since retirement, my husband Bob and I have been continuing to take advantage of the retired US military space-available flights. We went to BWI and caught a flight to Germany. From Germany we flew Ryan Air (a no frills airlines) to Marrakesh, where we started a ten day adventure in Morocco.

Marrakesh is the most fascinating city I have been to. The ancient medina (old city) is like many, surrounded by walls, and everything is made from the red clay of the area, so the entire city is a terra cotta color, much of it made from the handmade bricks that are still produced today. There is a central open square that holds thousands of people all at once, many locals selling everything from fresh orange juice, kabobs, and snails to real snake charmers and real teeth for your own set!

The adjoining alleys are full of market stalls with butchers, spice merchants, silver, shoes, carpets, fruits and a great choice of riads, or B&B's as we would call them. From the outside the entrances are small doors in small alleys, but when you go inside you are in beautiful Moorish or French style homes with three or four stories with an opening to the sky in the middle.



The central open market square in Marrakesh. Morocco

We spent three days in Marrakesh and then went on a ten hour trip across the Atlas Mts. to the desert where we rode in a camel caravan into the desert and slept in Bedouin tents. I could only imagine what it was like to travel across North Africa in such barren sand, carrying all the items from one culture to trade with another. It was really great fun and I like to think I bonded with my camel rather well.



We spent two days in Casablanca (white house) and three days in Fez, the ancient capital that has been declared a "World Heritage Site" which tells you how historic it is. I just don't have the words to convey the scope or history of this city. I also don't type fast enough!

Love and best wishes to all classmates, Angela

