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THINGS YOU SHOULD BRING

Please limit yourself to one checked bag and one carry-on (day-pack)

Most Important:

- Passport & credit card

Personal Items:

- Sunscreen
- Lip balm with sunscreen
- Sunglasses
- Tissues
- Toiletries
- Van/Plane Entertainment (books, cards, small board games, etc.)
- Travel Towel
- Outlet converter (Type C or E)

Clothes:

- *It should be warm... but it might be chilly in the mountains*
- Hiking boots or good cross trainers
- Lightweight hiking pants
- Swimming Suit
- Hats (both for sun protection and warmth)

Equipment:

- Water Bottle
- Field Notebook
- Pencils/Pens
- Rock Hammer (must be packed in checked luggage)
- Hand lens

Money:

- You cannot get Moroccan Dirhams from your bank. It is a closed currency, meaning it is not traded as a currency globally.
- We will have to exchange money at the airport or at ATMs in Morocco.
- Your credit/bank cards should work fine, but it is always a good idea to tell those companies you are going overseas so they don't shut you down to thinking it might be fraudulent.

Other:

- **WhatsApp** – I would like everyone to download WhatsApp. This is a phone/text service that is free and will allow us to stay in contact via Wifi. This way we will not need to add expensive international calling/data plans to our phone.

TRIP RULES

1. Don't do anything that would put yourself or others else in danger.
2. Buddy System – do not wander off by yourself, ALWAYS have another group member with you AT ALL TIMES!!!
3. Do not invite strangers back to our hotels
4. Please practice moderation – do not overdo it. Please.

You are representing the University of Pittsburgh at Johnstown. Do not embarrass the university. Do not do anything that would jeopardize future trips of the Geology Club!

After the trip:

After the trip, I would like you to upload your pictures to shared cloud folder. I use these pictures in lectures and advertising for future trips.

You will attend the Geosciences Banquet on Friday April 24th, where the attendees of the Geology Club Spring Break trip will present pictures from the trip.

Important Phone Numbers

Pitt-Johnstown Geology Prof Ryan Kerrigan: +1 612 229 6810

Morocco Explorer Guide Youssef: +00212662-895-735

BRIEF ITINERARY

Day 1: Friday, March 6th, 2026 – Fly to Morocco

Find your way to Washington Dulles International Airport!

Overnight flight to Morocco

Flight #1: Departure: Royal Air Maroc, AT219, Friday, March 6, 2026, 8:45PM, Washington DC (Dulles – IAD) to Casablanca (CMN)

Arrival: Casablanca on Saturday, March 7, 2026 at 8:50AM

Day 2: Saturday, March 7th, 2026 – Arrive in Marrakech

8:50 AM: Arrive in Casablanca. Clear immigration.

10:55 AM: Depart Casablanca for Marrakech

Flight #2: Departure: Royal Air Maroc, AT411, Saturday, March 7, 2026, 10:55AM, Casablanca (CMN) to Marrakech (RAK)

Arrival: Marrakech on Saturday, March 7, 2026, 11:45AM

12:00 PM: Arrive in Marrakech

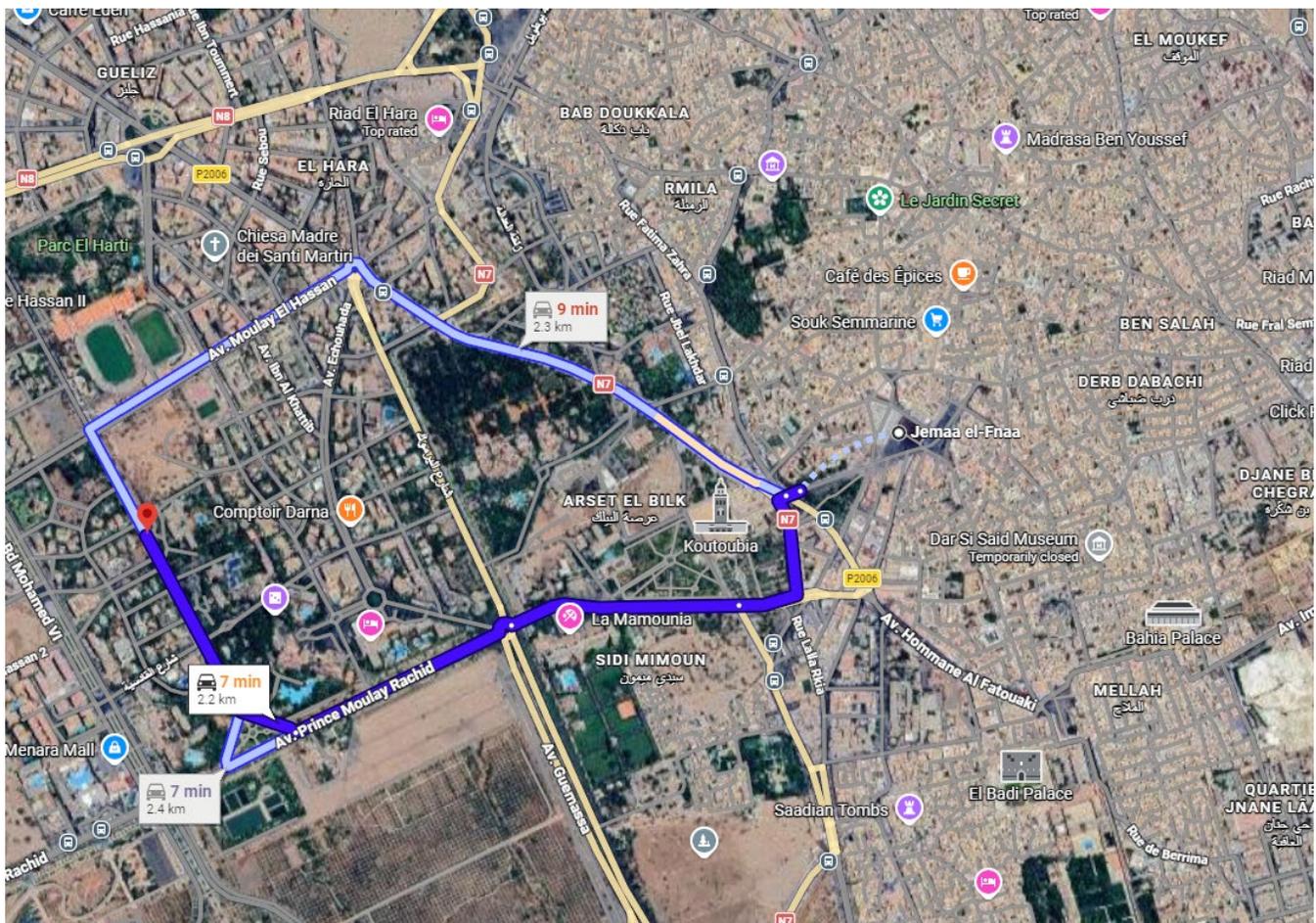
1:00 PM: Arrive at the Hotel

Kennedy Hospitality Resort – Marrakech

Av. du Président Kennedy, Marrakech 40000, Morocco

<https://www.kennedyhospitalityresort.com/>

Rest of the day: Free afternoon and evening to explore Marrakech.



Day 3: Sunday, March 8th, 2026 – Marrakech – Sidi Rahal – High Atlas – Ait ben Haddou – Ouarzazate

STOP 3.1 – Sidi Rahal Agate Mine

STOP 3.2 – Fault near Zerkten

Lunch Stop

STOP 3.3 – Col du Tichka

STOP 3.4 – Telouet Salt Mine

STOP 3.5 – Ounila Valley

STOP 3.6 – Ait-Ben-Haddou

STOP 3.7 – Ouarzazate

Hotel Information:

Les Jardins de Ouarzazate

13 N9, Tarmigt 45000, Morocco

<http://www.lesjardinsdeouarzazate.com/>



Day 4: Monday, March 9th, 2026 – Ouarzazate – Anit-Atlas Stromatolites – Draa Valley – Alnif Fossils

STOP 4.1 – Ediacaran Stromatolites

STOP 4.2 – Tizi-n-Tiniffitt Pass

STOP 4.3 – Agdz and The Draa Valley

STOP 4.4 – Orthoceras Quarry near Tazzarine

STOP 4.5 – Trilobite Preparation Workshop near Alnif

Hotel Information:

Auberge Kasbah Meteorites

Ksar Tighirna à 13 km d'Alnif BP138, Alnif 52452, Morocco

<http://www.kasbah-meteorites.com/>



Day 5: Tuesday, March 10th, 2026 – Around Alnif – Trilobites of the Maider Basin – Mharch Desert Oasis

STOP 5.1 – Cambrian Trilobite Fossils

STOP 5.2 – Ordovician Trilobite Fossils

STOP 5.3 – Devonian Trilobite Fossils

STOP 5.4 – Desert Oasis in Mharch

Hotel Information:

Auberge Camping Oasis El Mharech

QC6P+4J6, Sidi Ali, Morocco

[https://www.tripadvisor.com/Hotel_Review-g304019-d1733903-Reviews-](https://www.tripadvisor.com/Hotel_Review-g304019-d1733903-Reviews-Auberge_Camping_Oasis_El_Mharech-Rissani_Meknes_Tafilalet_Region.html)

[Auberge_Camping_Oasis_El_Mharech-Rissani_Meknes_Tafilalet_Region.html](https://www.tripadvisor.com/Hotel_Review-g304019-d1733903-Reviews-Auberge_Camping_Oasis_El_Mharech-Rissani_Meknes_Tafilalet_Region.html)



Day 6: Wednesday, March 11th, 2026 – Mader Basin to Erg Chebbi Dunes (So many fossils, you are going to throw up...)

STOP 6.1 – Guelb el Mharch

STOP 6.2 – Aferdou el Mrakib

STOP 6.3 – Jebel el Krabis

STOP 6.4 – Fezzou for lunch

STOP 6.5 – Butte 760

STOP 6.6 – Jebel Amelane

STOP 6.7 – Eifelian-Givetian GSSP Golden Spike

STOP 6.8 – Merzouga

Hotel Information:

Mohayut Camp

4XMP+4MG, village hassi labiad, Merzouga 52202, Morocco



Day 7: Thursday, March 12th, 2026 – Kem Kem Dinosaur Beds & Filon 12 Mine

STOP 7.1 – Fulgerites!

STOP 7.2 – Kem Kem Dinosaur Mine

STOP 7.3 – Tadaout-Tizi n’Rsas anticline

STOP 7.4 – Silurian Orthoceras and Permian dikes

STOP 7.5 – Filon 12 Hematite Mine

STOP 7.6 – Late Devonian Anticline

Possible Stop – Camel Ride into the Erg Chebbi Dunes SAME HOTEL AS LAST NIGHT



Day 8: Friday, March 13th, 2026 – Merzouga – Todra Gorge – Ouarzazate

STOP 8.1 – Hamar Laghdad (Kes Kes) Overlook

STOP 8.2 – Erfoud Orthoceras Quarry

STOP 8.3 – Erfoud Fossil Factory

STOP 8.4 – Todra Gorge Overlook

STOP 8.5 – Ouarzazate

Hotel Information:

Les Jardins de Ouarzazate

13 N9, Tarmigt 45000, Morocco

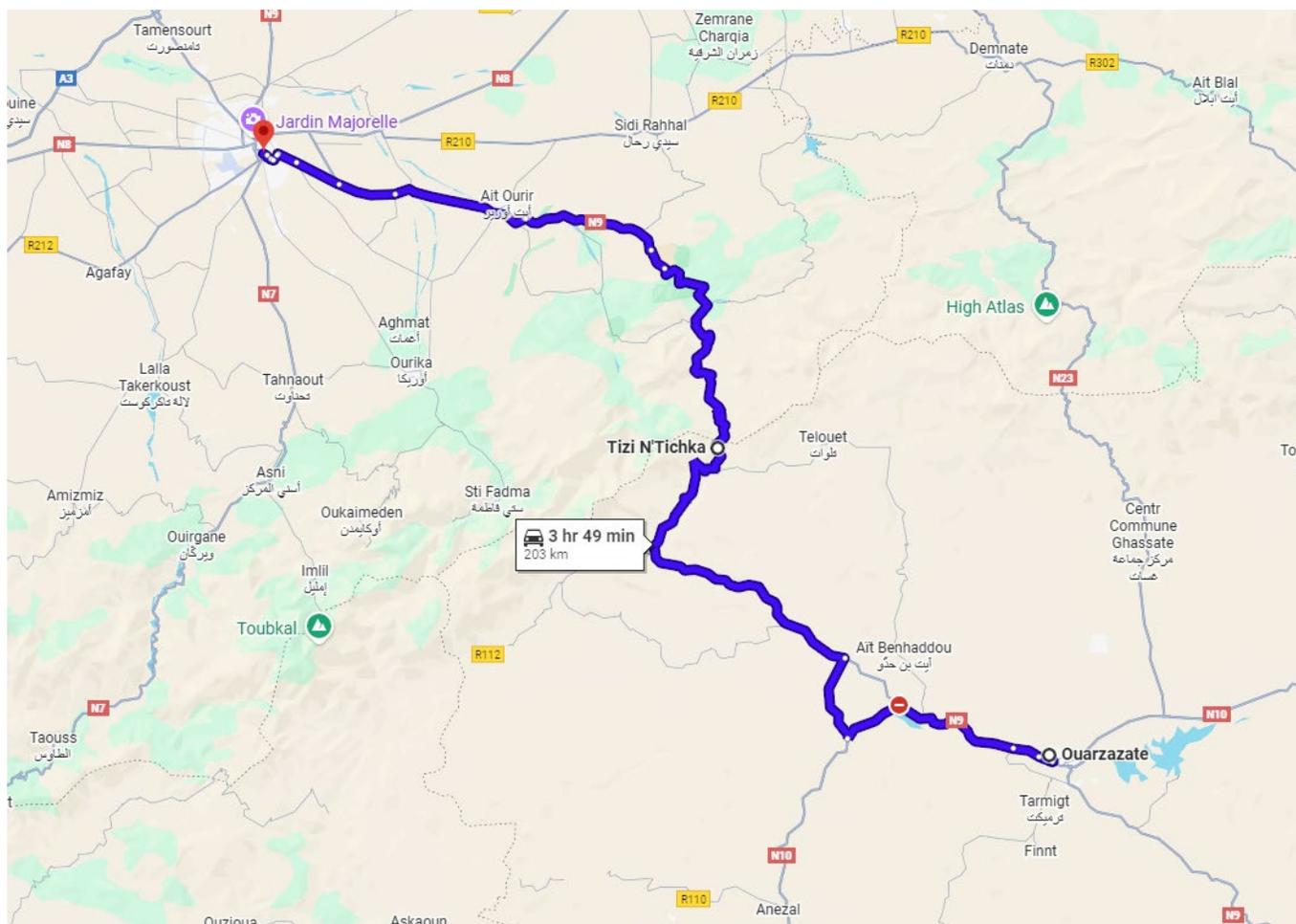
<http://www.lesjardinsdeouarzazate.com/>



Day 9: Saturday, March 14th, 2026 – Ouarzazate – High Atlas – Marrakech – Casablanca
STOP 9.1 – Mostly Driving back to Marrakech
STOP 9.2 – Marrakech
STOP 9.3 – Casablanca

Hotel Information:

Silver Suites Hotel & Spa Casablanca
9 Rue Kaddour El Alami, Casablanca 20250, Morocco
<https://silversuiteshotel.com/>



Return Flight

Flight #1: Departure: Royal Air Maroc, AT412, Saturday, March 14, 2026, 5:50PM, Marrakech (RAK) to Casablanca (CMN)
Arrival: Casablanca on Saturday, March 14, 2026 at 6:50PM
Long layover (~22hrs) for sight-seeing in Casablanca

Day 10: Sunday, March 15th, 2026 – Casablanca and flight home

Flight #2: Departure: Royal Air Maroc, AT218, Sunday, March 15, 2026, 3:25PM, Casablanca (CMN) to Washington DC (Dulles – IAD)
Arrival: Washington DC on Sunday, March 15, 2026, 7:45PM

Make sure you have made arrangements for a ride home from Dulles International Airport