

Frequently Asked Questions
STUDYING AT AHLAN MOROCCO
2020

MOROCCO أَهْلَانِ

« جـل تـر المعاني »

«Travel, you will see
the meaning of things»

Moroccan proverb



Morocco

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AHLAN WORLD

CONTACTS

The Ahlan philosophy is promoting language as a tool in order to build bridges between cultures. That's why we see a language as a tool not a purpose. Learning Arabic and other languages the Ahlan way is also a path to personal development and fulfillment. Ahlan World creates initiatives between its centers and local organizations, NGOs and foreign institutions, which enable its students to further understand Arabic and the local communities that speak it.

Now, more than ever, understanding is needed between the Arab countries and the rest of the world. This is why Ahlan World organizes language courses based on a humanistic communicative approach with cultural activities, seminars on inter-cultural understanding in primary and high schools, and periods of study abroad. Travel is a great educator, promoting trust, knowledge, understanding and respect between people of different cultures.



ABOUT US

WHO ARE WE?

Ahlan World introduces its students to local traditions and activities to further mutual understanding and respect. It encourages sustainable tourism and organizes a series of initiatives aimed at reviving cultural traditions. These support the community and sustainable development of the region.

Over the years, the various Ahlan centers have developed good relations with a number of foreign companies and institutions, including banks, hotels and embassies. This has contributed to Ahlan World's ability to work as inter-cultural mediators and translators for a number of corporations and associations in the Middle East and North Africa. We also offer recruitment services (job and internships) and university advice for final dissertations and exams. Those services are offered in the region for both local and foreign staff.



WHY STUDY IN MOROCCO? ABOUT US

There are many advantages to learning Arabic in Morocco.

Rabat is the capital of the Kingdom of Morocco. The ancient imperial city attracts many tourists every year and Rabat was named capital of Arab youth for the year 2016 by the Council of Arab Ministers of Youth.

Living in Morocco will be your perfect chance to study and learn Moroccan dialect and also to practice foreign languages, such as English, French and Spanish with Moroccans and foreigners that live there. Study in Ahlan School will be also a great opportunity to meet other people and organize activities.

The locals really appreciate those who try to communicate in Arabic, whether in Fusha or Darija. They are always willing to help students and, on a daily basis, you can improve your vocabulary, practice what you studied in class, and immerse yourself in the exciting, multicultural atmosphere of the city. After classes, you can barter in the Arab souks of the city, stroll on the beaches near Rabat, or go for walks in the Kasbah des Oudayas, where you can sip on mint tea and enjoy an ocean view in Le Café Maure.

Furthermore, Rabat is a quiet, clean and modern city. You'll feel immediately at ease. It is so well connected by public transportation (tramway, taxi, small bus and also bike!) if you are interested in exploring more of the city. Finally, Rabat is one of the most important cultural centers of Morocco. You will often have the opportunity to attend cultural events, such as concerts, plays, and conferences.



- Dis moi pourquoi tu n'as pas de amis
Tous les jours, tu es seul et tu n'as pas d'amis
1. Pourquoi n'as-tu pas d'amis ?
2. Pourquoi n'as-tu pas d'amis ?
3. Pourquoi n'as-tu pas d'amis ?
4. Pourquoi n'as-tu pas d'amis ?
5. Pourquoi n'as-tu pas d'amis ?
6. Pourquoi n'as-tu pas d'amis ?
7. Pourquoi n'as-tu pas d'amis ?
8. Pourquoi n'as-tu pas d'amis ?

COURSES

WHAT TO EXPECT?

Rabat is a wonderful environment for studying the Arabic language. Also, Arabic is a beautiful, dynamic language and it is worth spending time studying it.

Apart from lessons with our professional teachers, Ahlan Morocco offers many activities that provide opportunities to practice speaking Arabic. You will have the opportunity to meet Moroccan native speakers in our center during our Language Exchange or in the many cafés around the city. No matter what your level is, Ahlan Morocco encourages you to embrace Arabic and practice speaking outside the institute as much as possible. Doing so will help you master the language in the shortest time possible.

Although all of our students improve drastically during their time with us, students should not expect to become fluent after only one month or two here. Arabic, like any language, takes much time to master!

Our team of teachers is composed of professional, fully qualified and highly experienced native Arabic speakers. They have graduated with degrees in Arabic language and are specialized in teaching Arabic to foreigners.

The Institute offers Modern Standard Arabic (MSA) courses at five different levels of ability and Moroccan Colloquial Arabic (MCA - dialect) courses at eight different levels of ability. Intensive and one-to-one courses are also offered.

COURSES

Modern Standard Arabic Basic (MSA)
Modern Standard Arabic Intensive
Moroccan Colloquial Arabic (MCA - dialect)
Teacher-Training Programme
One-to-one classes
One-to-one Skype classes

Teaching methods are based on the principle that languages are studied to enable communication in everyday situations and that it is important to practice what has been taught in the classroom. Improvised scenes, role play, group discussions and games are all part of the learning process, as well as multi-media, literature, poetry, songs and movies. The reference textbook used for Modern Standard Arabic is Al-Kitaab fii Ta'allum al-'Arabiyya by Kristen Brustad, Mahomoud Al-Batal and Abbas Al-Tonsi, Second Edition.

MODERN STANDARD ARABIC (MSA)

The normal course in MSA involves three hours of class each day from Monday to Friday. This course is taught by professional instructors. The other MSA course involves three hours of class each day from Monday to Friday and one extra hour of daily of culture.

Note: if there is only one student per course the class time will be halved

Minimum course length: 2 weeks.

INTENSIVE MSA

The intensive MSA course consists of five hours classes per day combining the basic MSA course with two additional hours of linguistic activities in the afternoon. These activities are tailored towards developing conversational skills. This course takes place from Monday to Friday and it is not available for absolute beginners.

Note: if there is only one student per course the class time will be halved.

Minimum course length: 1 week.

MOROCCAN COLLOQUIAL ARABIC (MCA -dialect)

The course in Moroccan Colloquial Arabic consists of two hours daily from Monday to Friday. This course can be combined with the standard MSA courses, but not the intensive MSA course.

Note: if there is only one per course the class will be halved

TEACHER - TRAINING PROGRAMME

Ahlan Morocco offers a unique training program to young, committed Moroccans that have studied the Arabic language and wish to become teachers. Under the supervision of tenured and experienced teachers, the trainees will learn educational theory while practicing their skills with the students at Ahlan Morocco. Students are welcome to study with trainee-teachers from reduced price (Subject to availability, from November to April).

Minimum course length: 1 week.

ONE - TO - ONE CLASSES

Throughout the year we offer one-to-one classes for interested students. The student can choose between normal classes with experienced teachers, cheaper classes with trainee- teachers, or courses for advanced students that are tailored to particular interests or desired outcomes.

ONE - TO - ONE SKYPE CLASSES

We can also organize one-to-one Arabic classes at your home with Skype. Once you choose the type of course you prefer, you should purchase a package of at least 10 hours and send payment to our bank account (including bank charges). As soon as we receive the payment, we'll put you in contact with the teacher. If we do not receive the net amount of money, your course hours will be adjusted according to the amount received. The first meeting with the teacher is about 15 minutes long and is free of charge. In the meeting, you will take a test to determine your level and then you and the teacher can discuss the program directly and arrange the schedule.

Please note that the time of each lesson will be indicated in Moroccan time.

One-to-one classes are very flexible in their timing.

A woman with shoulder-length brown hair is in the foreground, looking towards the camera. She is holding a black camera. Behind her is a chalkboard with Arabic calligraphy written in pink. The calligraphy includes the words 'المصادر الإعلامية' (Media Sources) and 'الذوئانية' (Subjectivity).

COURSES

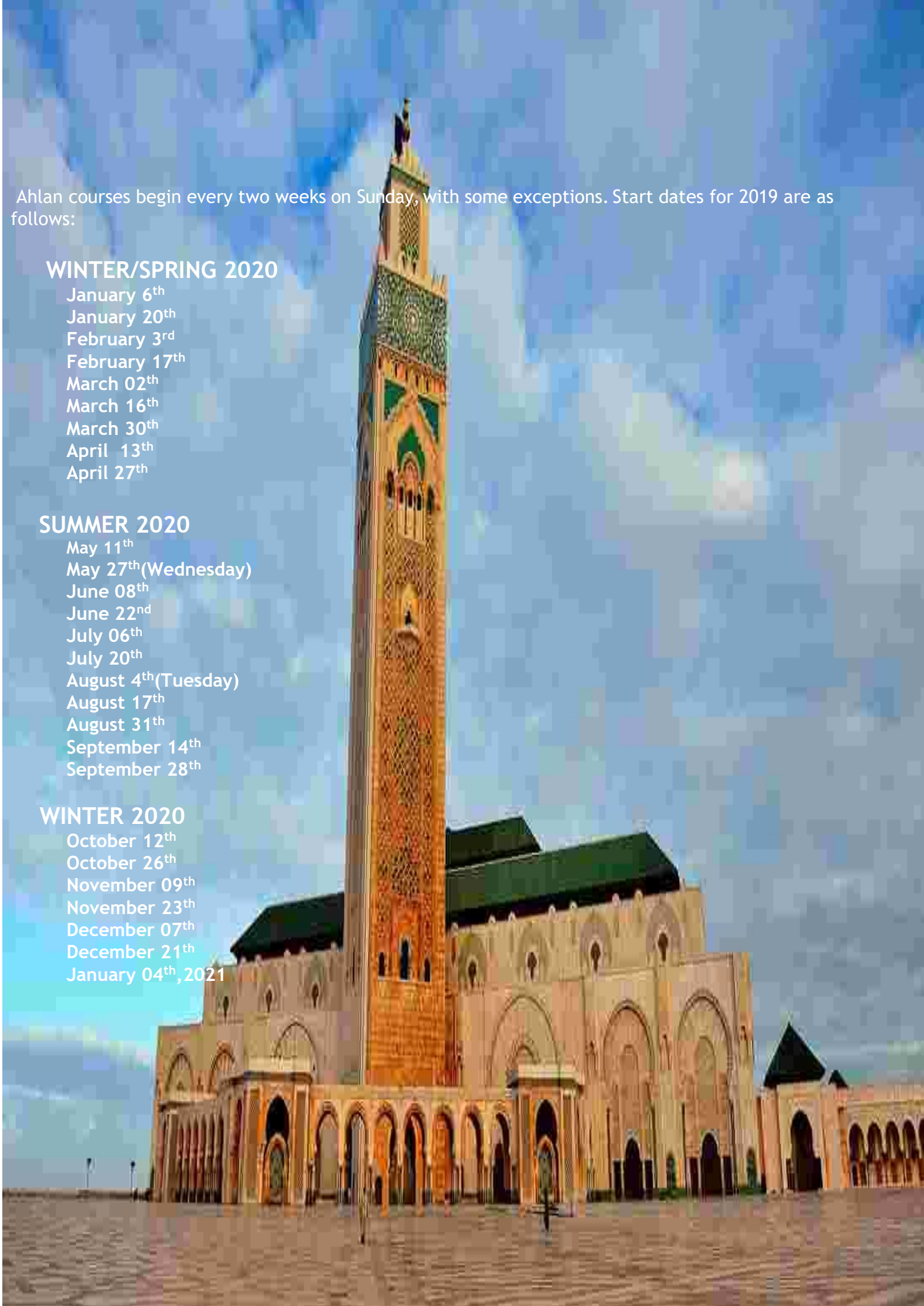
MEDIA CLASSES

The role of media in the Arab world has gained more and more importance in recent years. In this course, which lasts four weeks, you will learn useful media vocabulary, the basics of reading and writing articles in Arabic, and how best to approach and navigate Arab news sources, especially those distributed on the internet.

Minimum and maximum number of course participants: 3-5

If alone, you will take half the scheduled hours.

Course: 86h - € 700



Ahlan courses begin every two weeks on Sunday, with some exceptions. Start dates for 2019 are as follows:

WINTER/SPRING 2020

- January 6th
- January 20th
- February 3rd
- February 17th
- March 02th
- March 16th
- March 30th
- April 13th
- April 27th

SUMMER 2020

- May 11th
- May 27th (Wednesday)
- June 08th
- June 22nd
- July 06th
- July 20th
- August 4th (Tuesday)
- August 17th
- August 31th
- September 14th
- September 28th

WINTER 2020

- October 12th
- October 26th
- November 09th
- November 23th
- December 07th
- December 21th
- January 04th, 2021

COURSES PRICES

Modern Standard Arabic MSA regular
€ 95 / week (15 hr per week)

Modern Standard Arabic MSA
€ 115 / week (20 hr per week)

MSA Intensive
€ 135 / week (25 hr per week)

Moroccan Colloquial Arabic MCA
€ 80 / week (10 hr per week)

One to one classes
€ 15 / hour

One-to-Two Classes
€ 10 / hour per student

Under-trainee teachers program MSA
€ 70 / week (15 hr per week)

Under-trainee teachers program MSA Intensive
€ 100 / week (15 hr per week)

Under-train teachers program MCA
€ 60 / week (10 hr per week)

Under-trainee teachers program one to one classes
€ 8 / hour

Minimum course length: 1 week.

A fee of 50 euro payable to Ahlan Morocco will be added to all course costs for organization, service and administrative fees.

CANCELLATION POLICY

If you have to cancel your course after booking and/or paying it, the following cancellation policy will be applied:

- Cancellation up to 45 days before the arrival: refund of the total amount
- Cancellation up to 30 days before the arrival: refund of tuition fees (which do not include inscription fees and accommodation)
- Cancellation up to 15 days before the arrival: refund of the only pick-up service
- Last minute cancellation: no refund

NB: Students are always welcome to change destination at any time and go to another Ahlan School! Also, you can convert the amount of the tuition fees into Skype classes!

FOLLOW OUR WEBSITE FOR CALENDAR AND OFFERS: www.ahlan-world.org

SCHOOL LIFE

CLASS HOURS

On the first day - after being warmly welcomed at school - each student will be given a series of tests to determine which level is the most appropriate for his/her abilities. Other administrative tasks and placement issues are usually dealt with on the second day.

Other information: tea is complimentary during the 15-minute morning break.

Each class will have a maximum of three different instructors throughout the week that will follow a consistent curriculum for each group. In case there is only one person in a level, instead of pushing him/her into a lower or higher level, we prefer to organize private tuition of half hours of the package.

Lessons are held from Monday to Friday and the schedule is as follows:

From 9:30 to 11:00 Morning lessons Modern Standard Arabic.

From 11:00 to 11:15 break.

From 11:15 to 12:45 Modern Standard Arabic.

From 12:45 to 13:45 Lunch break

From 13:45 to 15:45 Intensive Modern Standard Arabic.

From 1345 to 15:45 Moroccan Colloquial Arabic”.

One-to-one: this is completely independent and students are encouraged to communicate their preferred times to the staff at the institute (morning, evening).

Note: We strive to achieve consistency in our schedule, yet on rare occasions adjustments must be made to accommodate changing circumstances.



CAN I GET A DETAILED ESTIMATE?

Of course! If all components of the customer questionnaire are completed then we can provide you with an estimate. The customer questionnaire is not legally binding, but it will enable us to calculate the precise cost of your course.

HOW DO I REGISTER?

After we have received your application via email, the Institute will send you back the invoice with a summary of all the services to be provided, and related costs. Payment must be made by the date indicated on the invoice.

HOW DO I PAY?

Payment can be made via bank transfer, postal money order or registered check.

The procedure for transferring funds (and all necessary banking information) will be included in the invoice mailed to prospective students.

Additional private classes or courses (for example Moroccan Colloquial Arabic), can be paid for in Rabat. 50% of the costs for the basic course package and accommodation must be paid as soon as possible to confirm your enrollment .

Of course, if you are already here then please come and see us!

SCHOOL LIFE

FINAL CERTIFICATE

EVALUATION AND CERTIFICATE

There are two exams during each month of tuition, one at the end of the first two weeks of class and one on the last day of class. A certificate of completion is presented on the evening of the last day of class.

For those unable to attend their final evening, arrangements will be made to send the certificate via mail. The certificate will show the number of class hours completed, the level and type of course taken, and a final evaluation of the students' progress. For special classes and seminars, the certificate will be given and signed by Ahlan Morocco and any co-partner.

WHAT WILL MY CERTIFICATE REPRESENT?

Your certificate will indicate that you have studied the Arabic language for a stated period and that you have achieved a certain level of ability/progress during that time.

Your mark on the certificate will be calculated as follows: 60% for your final exam and 40% for you mid-course exam, attendance and participation in class.

Many universities will award credits for the course but it is up to each student to confirm the policies and requirements of their respective universities.

Students are suggested to contact their Universities before they register.



part of the Ahlan family

SCHOOL LIFE

EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

A timetable of activities will be posted each week on the notice board in the school and we welcome all suggestions from students regarding additional activities. A list of interesting activities and events that will take place in Rabat will also be posted and you can of course ask the staff for more details concerning the events/places.



- **Moroccan cuisine** is well known around the world and is easy to learn. It is unique in its use of a large number of different spices. With Ahlan, you can learn to prepare delicious Moroccan dishes using the extensive repertoire of spices. Enjoy making (and eating) Couscous, Tajine, Rfissa, Msemmen and Hrira, a Moroccan soup. We are ready for your tasty Moroccan dishes! Bi saha!
[2 hours per week, € 10 / week. Minimum 2 pers. Maximum 6 pers.]

- **Moroccan Naksh Henna** is a workshop dedicated to the art of henna, a form of skin decoration used by Moroccan women during celebrations and weddings. The art of henna is also used in other Arabic cultures and is known around the world.
[1 hour per week, € 6,5 / week. Minimum 2 pers. Maximum 10 pers.]

- **Other activities** like surfing, belly bance, and linguistic tandems are also possible to do, depending on times and availability of the teachers. When you are at the school, you can ask the staff for more information and even make suggestions of other activities you'd like to see! In addition, there are also many sites in the city, such as museums, that will only cost you the price of the ticket.

SCHOOL LIFE

OUTDOOR TRIPS

Ahlan Morocco organizes trips for students. You can also travel by yourself although it will cost more or at least as much as going with the group and may have some other complications. Of course, this applies to some places and not all of Morocco: there are cities you can go visit yourself and others that are best visited with the school. You can suggest some cities and places to the staff and they will try their best to make it happen. The most popular trips are Chefchaouen/Akchour and Merzouga Desert. The prices differ depending on the number of students going; the fewer the students, the higher the prices.



Morocco has cheaper costs of life than European Countries. Of course, there are places that are cheaper than others, though if you want high quality products, sometimes it can cost a bit. This is valid for trips as well as consumption in general when you go out to restaurants or clubs. To give you an idea of typical prices: the trip to Merzouga (the desert) is between 120 euro to 150 euro (three days, two nights all inclusive) and you sleep in beautiful hotels but also Bivouacs, camel ride, safari jeep and full board.

Marrakesh tour 2 days all inclusive from 65 euro to 85 euro.

Meknes 1 day from 15 euro to 25 euro.

ACCOMMODATION

OUR OFFER

WHAT TYPES OF ACCOMMODATION WILL BE AVAILABLE?

We try to offer a large variety of accommodation to suit any budget, from luxurious to basic. Most residences are located within 15 minutes of the Institute by taxi or by public transportation, and all are located in active, interesting areas of Rabat such as Hassan, Centre Ville (modern Medina), old Medina Agdal and L'océan. We endeavour to provide you with information regarding the exact location of your accommodation at least ten days before your departure date.

Basic maps are also provided to clearly indicate the locations of the accommodation, important nearby features and the location of the school.

Check-in Sunday after 12.00

check-out Saturday before 11.00



ACCOMMODATION

APARTMENTS

The available apartments are roughly middle-class and the cost of rental is dependent on the number of rooms in an apartment.

Therefore, a single room costs € 340 (winter) / € 400 (summer) monthly and a shared double room costs € 180 (winter) / € 220 (summer) per person. Private apartments are also available; contact us to receive more informations about the fees. In summer (from June to September) the prices are € 400 for the single room and € 210 for the double room.

Our basic accommodation is less expensive than equivalent accommodation in Europe and is located centrally in Rabat. All utility costs are included, excluding tips for the local staff.

The apartments are usually gender segregated but in some cases it may be possible for males and females to share the same unit. If desired, some rooms contain double beds and would be appropriate for couples. For further information on alternative apartments (whether more luxurious or less) please contact us directly.

Note: since the check-in for the accommodation is 2 days before the start of the course and the checkout is 1 day after the end of the course, if you will need to stay for additional days, you will be charged € 15 = MAD 160 per night if you're staying in single room and € 8 = MAD 85 per night if you're staying in double room (subject to availability).

HOW ARE STANDARD APARTMENTS EQUIPPED?

All apartments are furnished and equipped with kitchen facilities (oven, dishes, cutlery, refrigerator, washing machine). If upon arrival you find that there is anything that you require, please contact the apartment manager right away and your needs will be addressed as quickly as possible.

Apartments do not include sheets or towels so you will need to supply them yourself. Please note that the apartments do not have a Landline and not all come equipped with air conditioning.

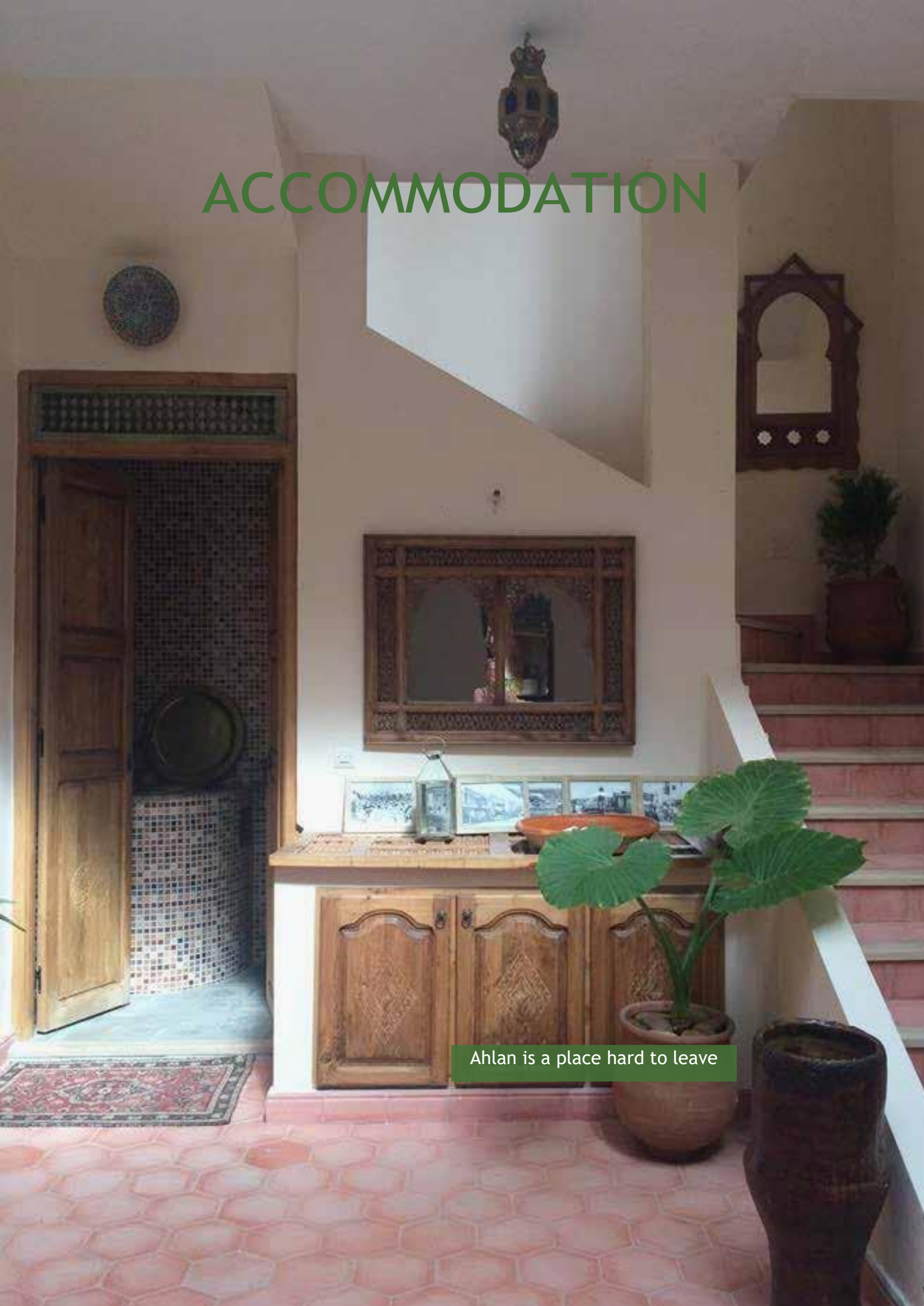
If you find something broken or missing when you arrive, we ask that you inform Ahlan Morocco staff immediately so that the apartment manager can be notified. On the last day of your stay, an apartment manager will inspect your accommodation to make sure that nothing is broken or missing, and that the apartment is CLEAN. Any broken or missing items will have to be paid for before leaving and you will be charged for cleaning expenses if the house is left in filthy conditions.

HELP US SAVE THE PLANET: the future of the Earth depends on your everyday choices!

We don't charge students for electricity or water bills, but we appreciate thoughtful use of the utilities. Please do not use excessive electricity and remember to turn off the lights, television and all other electrical devices when you are not in your apartment.

Also remember that in Rabat (and Morocco in general) there is an acute shortage of water and as such we ask that you adapt your usage to the conditions found here. Water is allocated to residences on a weekly basis and must be rationed in order to avoid unpleasant situations such as not having enough water for the shower. Your sensitivity to this issue is greatly appreciated by the staff at Ahlan and also the people and environment of Morocco.

ACCOMMODATION



Ahlan is a place hard to leave



HOTELS

Rabat is a popular destination for tourists and as such there are many hotels and hostels.

Some hotels are close to the Institute and their prices start from MAD 150 per night per person.

However, please note that prices depend on seasonal availability. There are plenty of cheap hotels and hostels that are located in Medina and our favorite starts from MAD 150 per person, in a triple room with shared bathroom. In some hotels breakfast is included.

HOST FAMILIES

Carefully selected Moroccan families are able to host students in their homes for a month or less, breakfast included. You will have your own room and you can use the kitchen to cook yourself. Of course, you are expected to clean up after yourself.

A typical Moroccan family will have their main meal (lunch) at around 2:00 PM, so it can be difficult to fit this in to a typical students' schedule. However, it is possible to book for half board if you want to have dinner or lunch with the family and shoulder the additional costs. Please ask us about this option if you are interested and we will discuss further details before booking the accommodation.

If you are hosted by a Moroccan family you should strive to return home at a respectful time - before 10:30 PM would be much appreciated. Nonetheless, special permissions can be obtained from the school administration when you are late because of school activities.

Accommodation with a host family costs € 110 / week.

For accommodation in host families students are required to organise their arrival and departure at a proper time (from 8:00 AM to 10:00 PM).

ACCOMMODATION

HOTEL AND HOST FAMILIES

ACCOMMODATION PRICES

Summer Prices (1st May - 30th September):

Single Room

€ 400 per 4 weeks

€ 330 per 3 weeks

€ 250 per 2 weeks

€ 140 per 1 week

Double Room

€ 220 per 4 weeks

€ 180 per 3 weeks

€ 140 per 2 weeks

€ 80 per 1 week

Winter Prices:

Single Room

€ 340 per 4 weeks

€ 280 per 3 weeks

€ 210 per 2 weeks

€ 120 per 1 week

Double Room

€ 180 per 4 weeks

€ 150 per 3 weeks

€ 115 per 2 weeks

€ 65 per 1 week

FAMILY

€ 110 per 110 week

Note: the prices indicated are per person.

Those prices include breakfast from Monday to Friday. The host family option also includes dinner.

HOW DO I GET TO MY ACCOMODATION?

Transfer from the airport or the bus station to your accommodation can be arranged. In this case, you will find one of our drivers waiting for you at the airport (more details on the next page). The driver knows where your accomodation is and will bring you directly there, helping you with your luggage if needed. Please, if there is any change in your flight 48h before your arrival (or less), call the Moroccan branch to inform us!

If you choose to stay in one of our apartments: if you book for the transfer, the person meeting you in Rabat will have the key for your apartment. If you don't have the transfer, you can come to the Institute during working hours (from 9:00 AM to 9:00 PM) and pick up your keys.

Students arriving outside of these working hours must contact the Institute in advance to organise a suitable time and location for handing over keys.

Access to accommodation will be available for new students 2 days before the beginning of the course. Check out time will be on Saturday evening (usually the day following the last day of the course). For extended stays, please contact the Institute administration to arrange alternative accommodation (usually a hotel).



TRAVEL

HOW TO GET TO RABAT

Rabat is well connected to Europe Thanks to LOW COST AIRLINES, FOR EXAMPLE Ryanair, which flies directly from Paris, Bruxelles, Marseille, Madrid, Barcellona, London and Rome. Also the city of Fès (2 hours and half from Rabat by car and 3 hours and half by train) is cheaply connected to Europe by Ryanair from the following cities: Bruxelles, Dole, Marsiglia, Nantes, Nimes, Parigi, St Etienne, Düsseldorf, Frankfurt, Milano, Pisa, Eindhoven, Londra, Barcellona, Madrid.

AIRPORT TRANSFERS AND COSTS

If requested, an Institute representative will meet students at the scheduled arrival time in Rabat and transport them to their accommodation. He will be carrying a sign with “Ahlan Morocco” and the name of the student written on it. The driver will wait in the Arrival Terminal, after passport control. The prices for the transfers are:

Rabat-Salé € 30 | Casablanca-Rabat € 65 | Fes-Rabat € 90 | Marrakech € 135

Taxis at Rabat airport should have fixed prices - the average is € 24 (MAD 250) but taxi drivers often try to fool foreigners and ask for much more than what should be paid, or may tell you a price at the beginning and then change it along the way with excuses, such as “There is a lot of traffic today, you have to pay me more”, so be careful if you decide to get a cab from the airport. Buses also connect the Rabat airport to the train station of the city.

Note: If you do not book an airport transfer, the first bus from Salé-Rabat airport is at 8.00 AM and the last one is at 10.00 PM. If you choose this option please contact us before and one of us can pick you up in Rabat Ville (Train Station or Bus stop), escort you to your flat, and give you the keys.



Trip to the desert

USEFUL INFO

DOCUMENTS

Generally, you will need your passport and a visa that you can obtain at the airport when you arrive in Morocco. When asked to fill in the motivation for your trip to Morocco, you must write down "Tourism." This visa remains valid for 3 months. When asked for an address, please provide the address of your apartment. Keep in mind that visas may be required to visit other countries in the region. Before your departure always check your local authority for more information.

In summer 2018 the exchange rate with Euro was € 1 = MAD 10,07 and USD 1 = MAD 9,60

WHAT TO PACK

During the summer the climate is hot in Rabat but it gets colder at night, with cool breezes, so you generally will need a light jacket or jersey.

On private beaches in touristy areas near Rabat, you are free to wear a bikini or any kind of bathing suit without issues. You can ask any staff member to show you where these places are and if you have any suggestions for activities to such places, don't hesitate to tell the staff.

In the winter, the weather is cold and rainy and although it is not as cold as in Europe, we advise you to bring heavy clothes. Please also note that not all houses in Rabat have a central heating system like those in Europe or USA. Sometimes you will only find small electrical or gas heaters in the homes, so we suggest you to bring some heavy clothes to wear at home if you decide to come during the coldest months (from December to February).

DRESS CODE IN MOROCCO

The city of Rabat is frequently visited by European tourists but in some areas inhabitants are not used to the more revealing styles familiar in Western cities. You are welcome to bring your bathing suit or bikini to be used ONLY in private beaches on the Atlantic Ocean. Outside private beaches, to show respect for the local population and to prevent harassment of any kind, women are advised not to bring/wear low necked blouses or dresses, miniskirts, halter tops, or any other garment that will leave your midsection exposed. In general, you can bring whatever you want, but keep in mind that once you arrive, you may have to adapt, depending on your location.

The Institute and its associates cannot be held responsible for any problems that may arise from failures to respect this warning.

LIFE IN RABAT

UTILITIES

PLUGS AND ELECTRICITY

The electrical voltage is 220V (most of the sockets take two pin plugs, for example the ones in the apartments, but some take three, for example at the Institute).

TELEPHONE SERVICE

International calls: Cell phones are convenient and practical because they allow for text messages (contact your provider first to confirm services and pricing). International Calling Cards to call from Rabat to your home country are available starting from MAD 10 (about € 0,92) and last for about 10 minutes. Skype and Whatsapp calls are restricted in Morocco but you can get around it using VPN..

To call within Morocco: It can be very useful to buy a Moroccan number during your stay. SIM cards can be purchased at the Inui, Meditel or Maroc Télécom centers in Rabat, or in one of the many phone shops around the city. The price of a SIM card is MAD 20 (€ 1,85). If you have a smart phone you can also purchase a monthly data package for around MAD 20 for 1 GB for 7 days or MAD 100 for 10/12 GB (depending on promotions from different companies).

COMPUTER AND INTERNET

The school has free Wi-Fi inside the Institute, and the library is provided with Wi-Fi as well. There are also plenty of Internet cafés in Rabat. If there is a fee for internet, the approximate cost for 1 hour of Internet is less than € 0,37 (MAD 4), but most of the cafés in the Rabat city centre have free Wi-Fi. Almost all the apartments of the school have wifi.

If you need regular Internet connection for your laptop you can buy an Internet USB for around MAD 30 (€ 2,80) for 24 hours of internet use and then you can buy data (around MAD 100 for 10GB).

LIFE IN RABAT

COST OF LIVING

GENERAL

1 kg apples	€ 0,70
1 kg potatoes	€ 0,50
1 kg chicken	€ 6,00
1 kg meat	€ 8,00
1 L milk	€ 0,70
1,5 L water	€ 0,60
1 pack of coffee	€ 1,90

EATING OUT

Typical Moroccan food costs from € 2,50 to € 10,00 in sit-down restaurants. Dinner can range from €8,00 to € 15,00 according to the kind of restaurant. “Western style” cafes and restaurants with imported food and beverages are particularly expensive. Alternatively, cheaper lunch and dinner options including pastries and sandwiches can be found for less than MAD 20, which is about € 2. In general, you can find many different types and styles of restaurants.

TRANSPORTATION

Taxis in Rabat are blue. All taxis have a meter inside (counter). Always remember to ask the driver to turn the meter on as soon as you get inside the taxi if he hasn't done so. The “Big Taxi,” which is white, is meant for longer rides and the fee is MAD 5. The basic fee for shared taxis is MAD 5.

Public Buses cost MAD 5.

Tramway is the best public transportation. IT'S MODERN AND EFFICIENT, IT COVERS PRETTY MUCH THE WHOLE CITY, AND THE TICKET IS ONLY 6 MAD.



Ahlan leaving its mark even in the desert!

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