



## BOTANICAL PAINTING IN MOROCCO

Few destinations will capture the imagination as richly as Morocco. This 9-day trip will unveil the essence of Morocco, with a workshop under the expert guidance of world-renowned teacher and foremost botanical artist, Margaret Best. A land of spice-scented mystery and medieval kasbahs, Morocco puts your senses on high alert. It is a magic carpet ride, from the searing Sahara to the snow-dusted High Atlas Mountains and Marrakech's thronging medina. Spend 5 days in the exclusive oasis of Jnane Tamsna, the stylish, petal-strewn home to interior designer Meryanne Loum Martin and ethnobotanist Gary Martin. In April, profusions of pittosporum, jasmine, daturas, roses and bougainvillea grow amidst the date palms, pomegranate, flowering oleander and fruits of Atlantic pistachios. Explore the alleys of the ancient medina and some of the city's finest gardens. Set out into the foothills of the Atlas to visit an organic herb garden, and carry on up to the High Atlas to sleep in the crisp mountain air of an ancient Kasbah. Explore the alpine flora and Berber villages of the Atlas before returning home.

## Itinerary April 22 - 30, 2013

### 8-NIGHT ITINERARY OVERVIEW (ACTIVITY LEVEL: MODERATE)

- DAY 01** Arrive in Marrakech. Make your way to Jnane Tamsna, your exotic guesthouse in the Palmeraie district. This evening, over a glass of wine and sumptuous dinner, Gary will share his expertise on the local and seasonal plant life.
- DAY 02** Explore the lush gardens and spend time painting. Take a guided walking tour of the Majorelle Gardens and historic medina.
- DAY 03** Spend the day in studio and in the garden with Margaret. Lunch served at Jnane. Dinner at leisure.
- DAY 04** This morning, head into the medina for a guided tour of the winding souks, truly a feast for the senses. Return to the studio this afternoon and spend the evening at leisure.
- DAY 05** Spend your final day in the palmeraie working on your painting. Enjoy a refreshing cocktail in the garden before a final farewell meal under the stars at Jnane Tamsna.
- DAY 06** Head to the Ourika Valley to visit the Jardine Bio-aromatique de l'Ourika, Gary's organic herb garden, to learn about essential oils, and how to make Berber bread. Carry on to the High Atlas to Imlil, and check into the Kasbah du Toubkal.
- DAY 07** Set out for a walk through the nearby mountain villages, or journal the unique mountain flora.
- DAY 08** Take today to paint or to walk, or enjoy a traditional Hammam at the Kasbah. Dine by candlelight at the Kasbah.
- DAY 09** After breakfast, depart from Imlil back to Marrakech where you will leave the group and carry on your journey.

## Highlights

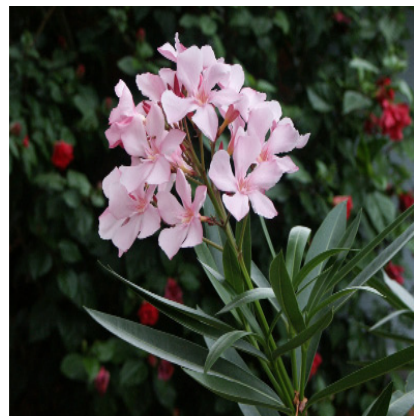
- Highly personalized artistic instruction from Margaret Best, tailored to individual needs and mediums.
- Limited number of workshop participants to ensure best possible learning experience.
- Exclusive use of beautiful studio space and the chance to paint outdoors in the garden; several hours of painting time daily.
- Staggeringly idyllic settings; secluded, exclusive accommodations with local hosts and surrounded by exotic palm grove and spring Alpine flowers.
- 5 nights in luxury accommodations created by your elegant hostess, Interior Designer Meryann Loum-Martin.
- Hosted by expert ethnobotanist and garden designer extraordinaire, Gary Martin.
- Three exclusively home-hosted Moroccan meals prepared by your resident gourmet chefs.
- Privately guided city tours in Marrakech.
- 3 nights in the exquisite mountain retreat, historic Kasbah du Toubkal, set amidst lush alpine gardens.
- Exclusive use of the panoramic studio space at the Kasbah, surrounded by snow-capped mountains.
- Many wonderful activities in each location for non-artists participants/spouses.
- The full-time guidance of a French-speaking trip guide.
- Assistance with tailored pre or post-trip travel arrangements upon request.



## How to Book

Contact us for more information or to make a booking  
at 416.366.2777 or [tripdesign@quenchtravel.com](mailto:tripdesign@quenchtravel.com)

# Your Instructor & Hosts



**MARGARET BEST** is an internationally recognized botanical artist and teacher offering tuition in graphite, colour pencil and watercolour. She has taught group workshops to all levels of experience, including beginners, intermediates and advanced levels, in Canada, UK, USA Italy and Bermuda. These workshop venues have included respected botanical gardens and institutions such as Huntington Gardens, Pasadena; Santa Barbara Botanical Gardens; San Diego Natural History Museum; Filoli near San Francisco; Dow Learning Center in Zoo Conservatory, Calgary; and Bermuda Art Center, Hamilton Bermuda. Margaret's watercolours have been widely exhibited, including in New York; Weisman Museum, Minneapolis; Hunt Institute of Botanical Documentation, Carnegie Mellon University, Pittsburgh; and Los Angeles, Denver, Bermuda, Toronto and San Francisco. Her work is found in numerous private and corporate collections around the globe. Recently, the Royal Canadian Mint released a wild rose coin designed by Margaret. For the past 6 years, Margaret has painted regularly with her mentor Pandora Sellars, who is widely regarded by experts as the leading contemporary botanical artist of our time. She has also completed master classes with Katie Lee, Lizzie Sanders and Anne-Marie Evans. A professionally qualified art teacher, Margaret is known for her nurturing style and her ability to readily identify student skill level in order to steer advancement.

**GARY MARTIN** studied botany and anthropology, completing his PhD at the University of California, Berkeley. He is the author of *Ethnobotany: A Methods Manual* and was the general editor of the *People and Plants Handbook: Sources for Applying Ethnobotany to Conservation and Community Development* from 1996 - 2001. He has been awarded Fulbright fellowships for his work in Mexico (1985) and Bolivia (1993 - 1994), and received the 1998 Janaki Ammal Medal from the Society of Ethnobotanists, India. Since 1999, he has been a Research Fellow and Lecturer in the Anthropology Department at the University of Kent, where he teaches students in the Ethnobotany MSc. programme. He became a Fellow of the Linnean Society in 2000. He served as President (2002 – 2003) of the Society for Economic Botany, the largest professional society of ethnobotanists.

## Included

- Painting daily under the guidance of acclaimed botanical artist Margaret Best.
- Personalised workshop books prepared for each student by Margaret.
- Private transfers from Marrakech to the High Atlas.
- Private transfers for all excursions as described.
- Charming deluxe accommodations for 8 nights as described.
- Continental breakfast daily, 4 lunches and 5 dinners.
- Activities and excursions as outlined in the itinerary.
- Guided mountain walks into small Berber villages.
- A full-time, French-speaking trip guide.
- One group transfer to Marrakech on the final morning.

## Not Included

- International flights & local airport taxes.
- Meals not mentioned as included.
- Airport transfer Marrakech Airport to Jnane Tamsna.
- Personal expenses and tipping.
- Art supplies.
- Hotel gratuities.
- Travel insurance.

**Price from CDN \$5,600\***

\* Price per person based on double occupancy. Single supplement starts from CDN \$1,395 per person.

\* All bookings may be subject to HST and subject to availability.

\* Non-Workshop participant rates start from CDN \$5,300.

**Early Booking Bonus: Book by July 31, 2012 and save CDN \$200 per person based on double occupancy.**