PHOTOGRAPHY

RIW

ANG

PATTERNS OF MOROCCO

RITA WONG

PATTERNS OF MOROCCO

RITA WONG

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CASABLANCA

IN THE OLD MEDINA (WALLED CITY), SHOPS ARE FILLED WITH LOCAL WARES - COLOURFUL SCARVES, DELICATELY BEADED MOROCCAN SLIPPERS, LEATHER BAGS AND POUFS WITH DECORATIVE DESIGNS, AND METAL LAMPS WITH ARABESQUE MOTIFS.

THE HASSAN II MOSQUE, WITH THE WORLD'S TALLEST MINARET, IS A BLEND OF ISLAMIC, MOORISH AND MOROCCAN ARCHITECTURAL STYLES. IT FEATURES HORSESHOE ARCHES, CEILINGS WITH ORNAMENTED VAULTS OF PAINTED WOOD AND SCULPTED PLASTER, CARVED MARBLE FOUNTAINS AND GRANITE COLUMNS. CAST BRONZE FINISHES AND ZELLIGE MOSAIC TILEWORK CAN BE FOUND ON THE EXTERIOR.

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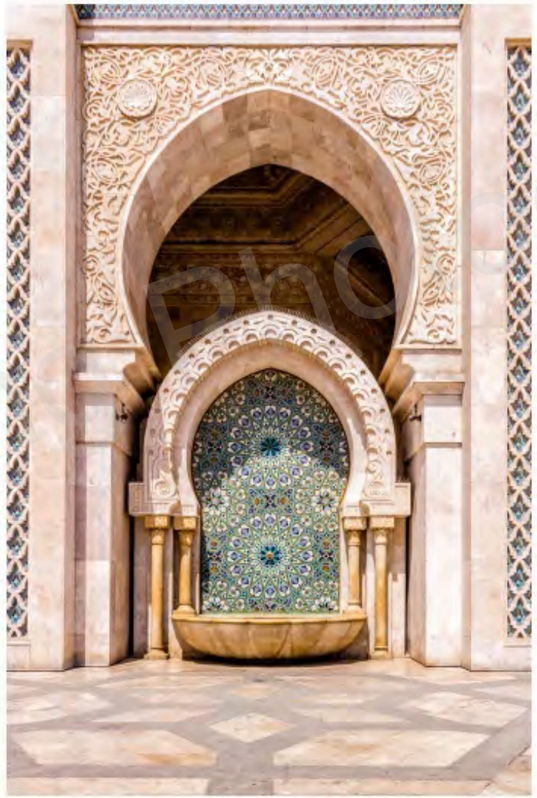
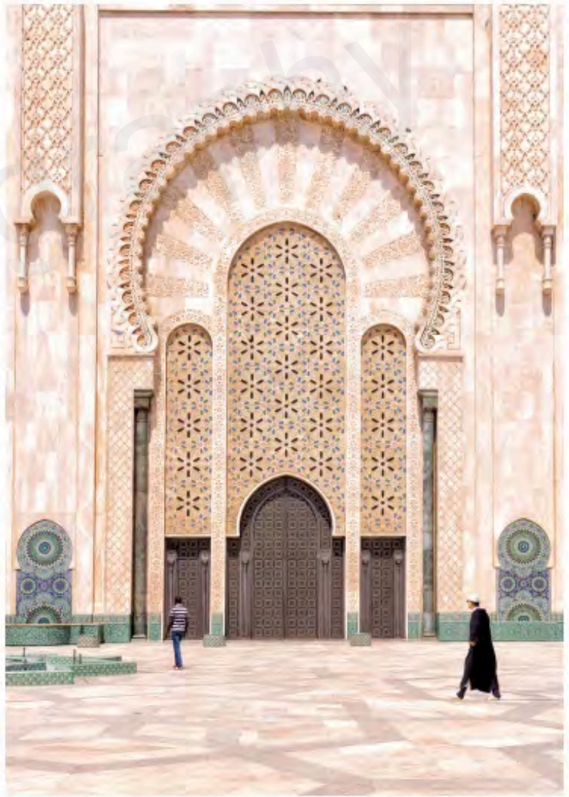
STREET SCENES OF CASABLANCA

MARKET WARES IN CASABLANCA

HASSAN II MOSQUE IN AFTERNOON SUN (CASABLANCA)





HASSAN II MOSQUE EXTERIOR DETAILS (CASABLANCA)

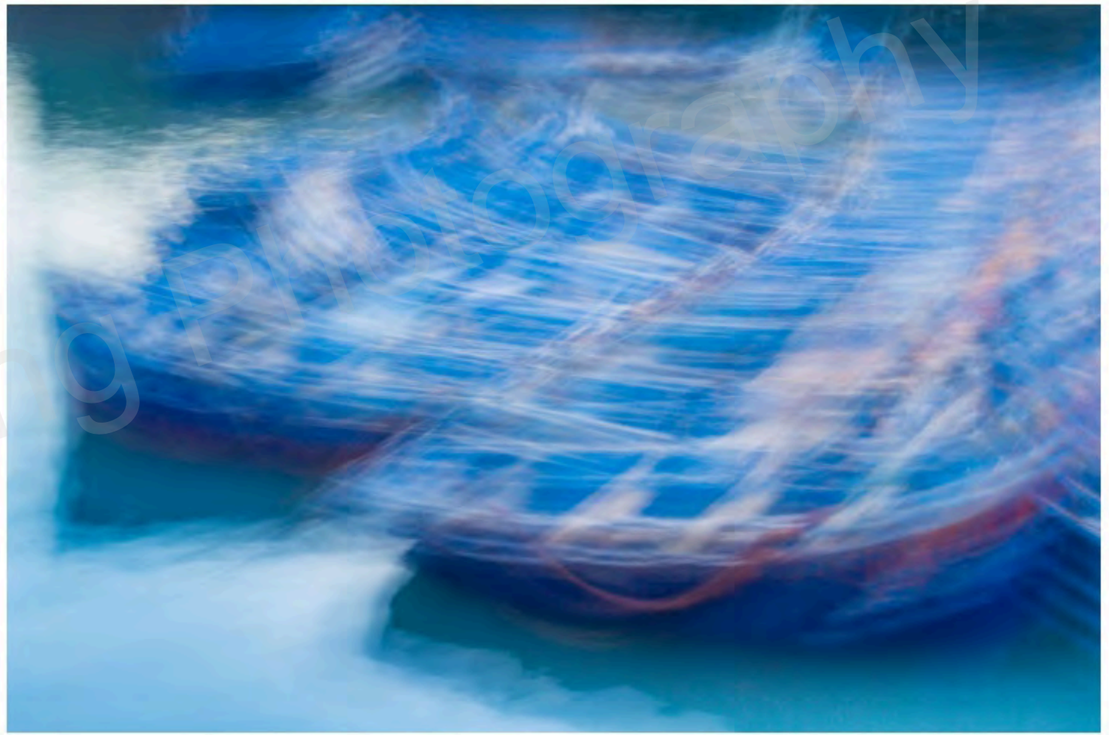
ESSAOUIRA

THIS SEASIDE TOWN IS NAMED FOR THE FORTRESS WALLS BUILT WHILE UNDER PORTUGUESE RULE. AS ONE OF THE MAJOR FISHING HARBOURS OF MOROCCO, THERE ARE BOATS APLENTY IN THE SCALA HARBOUR.

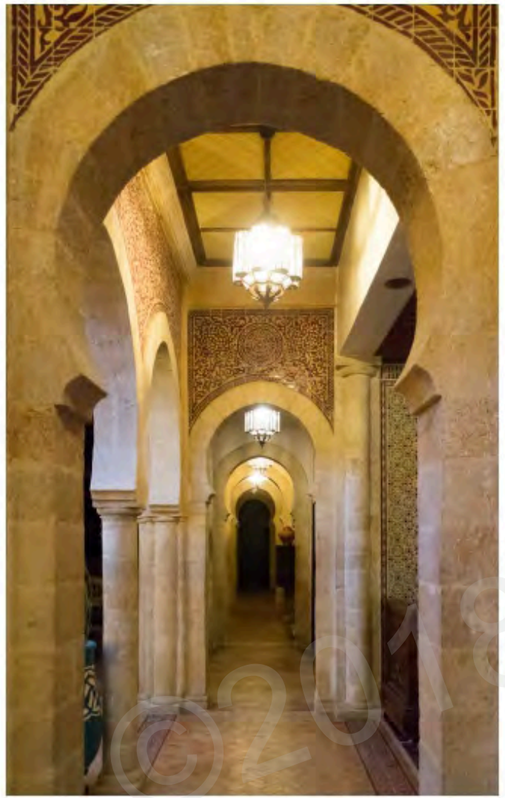
THE MEDIEVAL ARCHITECTURE HERE IS A MIX OF EUROPEAN, ARAB AND AFRICAN DESIGNS, WITH ARCHES AND DOORS ADORNED BY TILES, STONE CARVINGS AND METALWORK.

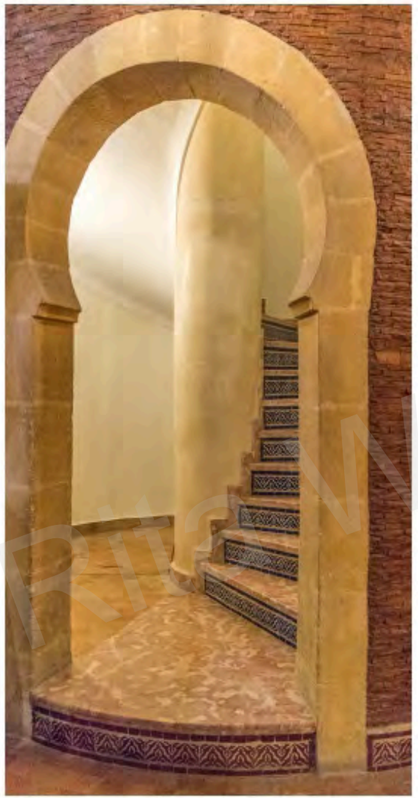
CRAFTSMEN SELL THEIR WARES IN THE MEDINA - WOOD SCULPTURES, SILVER JEWELLERY, COLOURFUL FAIENCE POTTERY, AND CERAMIC TAGINES SYNONYMOUS WITH MOROCCAN CUISINE. SEVERAL ARGAN OIL COOPERATIVES CAN BE FOUND OUTSIDE OF ESSAOUIRA.

FORTRESS WALLS, ESSAOUIRA



FISHING BOATS IN MOTION (ESSAOUIRA)





ARCHITECTURAL DETAILS, ESSAOUIRA

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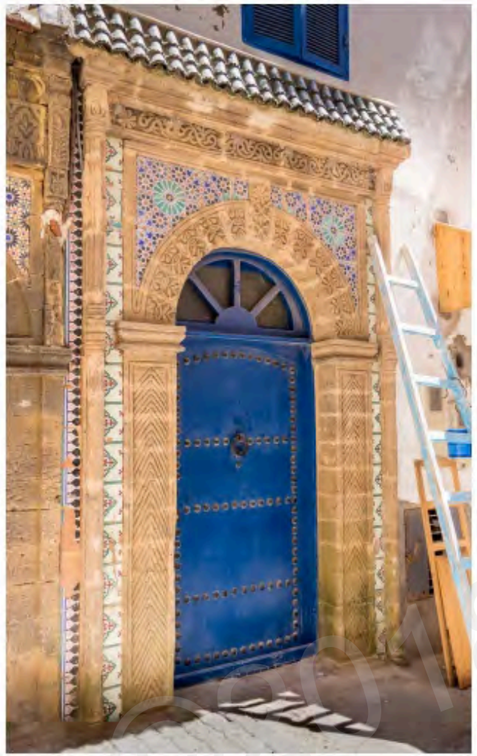

ARCHITECTURAL DETAILS, ESSAOUIRA

STREET SCENES, ESSAOUIRA

ESSAOUIRA AT BLUE HOUR

ARTISTIC IMPRESSION, TOWN OF ESSAOUIRA

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MARRAKECH

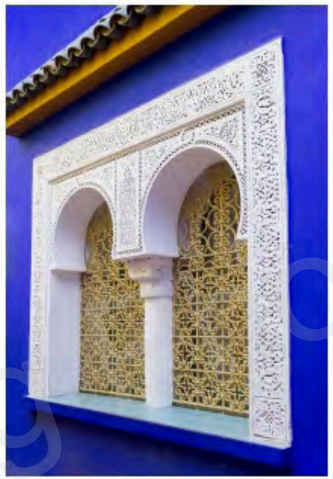
AS MARRAKECH'S MAIN PLAZA, THE DJEMAA EL FNA SQAURE IS BUSY WITH HORSE-DRAWN CARRIAGES, VENDORS, SNAKE CHARMERS AND MONKEY TRAINERS. THE MARKET IS FULL OF ARTFULLY ARRANGED FRUITS, TEAPOTS, METAL LAMPS AND OTHER CRAFT PRODUCTS.

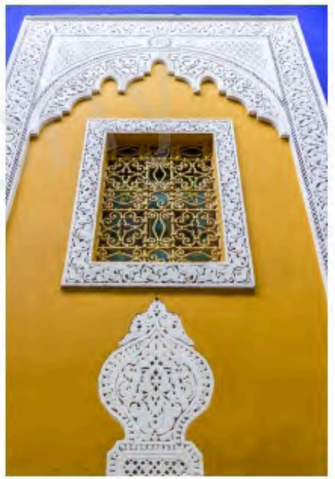
THE JARDIN MAJORELLE CONTAINS 300 PLANT SPECIES FROM 5 CONTINENTS IN FRENCH-DESIGNED GARDENS, AND AN ART DECO STUDIO IN VIBRANT COLOURS.

A GREAT EXAMPLE OF ISLAMIC ARCHITECTURE IS THE EL BAHIA ("BRILLIANCE") PALACE FROM THE LATE 19TH CENTURY. ITS ROOMS ARE DECORATED WITH PAINTED CEDARWOOD CEILINGS AND CARVED STUCCO DETAILS. ZELLIGE MOSAIC TILEWORK IS PROMINENT THROUGHOUT THE PALACE AND ITS COURTYARDS.

FRUITS, SPICES AND MARKET WARES, DJEMAA EL FNA SQAURE (MARRAKECH)

COLOURS AND DETAILS, VILLA AT JARDIN MAJORELLE (MARRAKECH)





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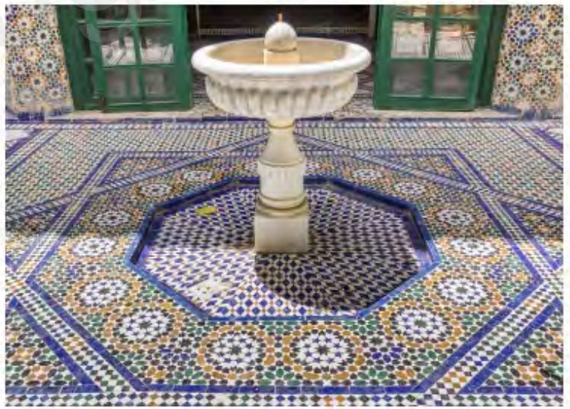
ARCHITECTURAL FEATURES AT EL BAHIA PALACE (MARRAKECH)



CEILINGS AND ZELLIGE MOSAIC DETAILS, EL BAHIA PALACE (MARRAKECH)

HIGH ATLAS MOUNTAINS

THIS IS THE HIGHEST MOUNTAIN RANGE IN AFRICA WITH PEAKS OVER 4000m. TERRACED FIELDS IN SHADES OF GREEN AND RUSSET, SHEPHERDS WITH FLOCKS OF SHEEP, ZIGZAG SWITCHBACK ROADS AND CLUSTERS OF CUBIC BERBER VILLAGES ARE COMMON SIGHTS.

A BERBER ADOBE HOME DISPLAYS MOROCCAN DESIGN FOR A FAMILY OF THREE GENERATIONS LIVING TOGETHER, ALONG WITH THEIR HOSPITALITY OF MOROCCAN MINT TEA.

TERRACED FIELDS IN HIGH-ATLAS MOUNTAINS

DRIVING THROUGH HIGH ATLAS MOUNTAINS

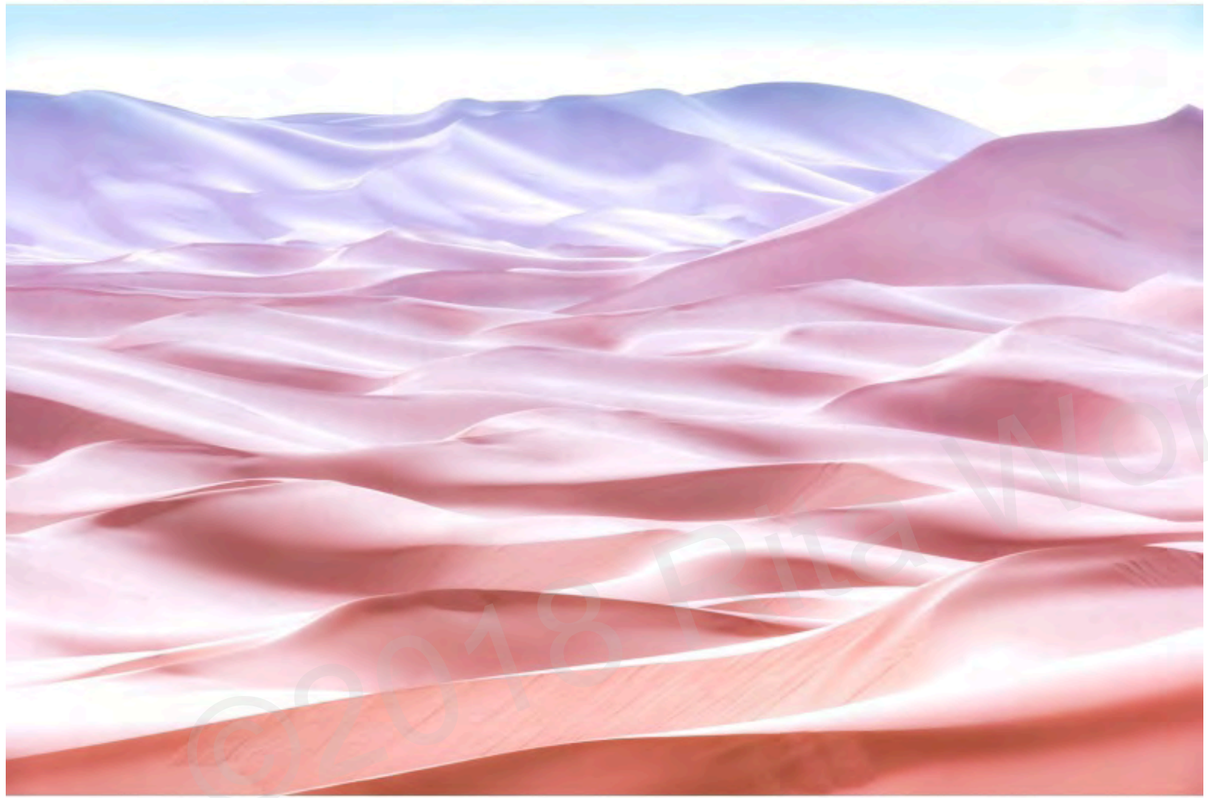
BERBER HOME,
HIGH ATLAS
MOUNTAINS

OUARZAZATE TO ERG CHEBBI

WITH A TRANSITION IN LANDSCAPE, OUARZAZATE IS KNOWN FOR ITS UNESCO HERITAGE SITE - THE KSAR OF AIT-BEN-HADDOU, MADE UP OF EARTHEN TOWERS AND DWELLING BLOCKS.

THE TODRA GORGE, LIMESTONE RIVER CANYONS WITH ROCK WALLS UP TO 160M, IS POPULAR WITH ROCK CLIMBERS. AT 1500M, BOUMALNE DU DADES IS A HILLSIDE TOWN AT THE EDGE OF THE DESERT PLATEAU.

ON THE WESTERN EDGE OF SAHARA DESERT, THE ERG CHEBBI SAND DUNES REACH HEIGHTS OF 150M, SENSUAL DUNE PATTERNS FORMED BY SHIFTING WINDS, BEDOUINS WITH CAMEL CARAVANS, AND MAGICAL SCENES AT SUNRISE AND SUNSET ARE SIGHTS TO BEHOLD.



SILKEN SAHARA (ERG CHEBBI)

STROLLING ON SILK (ERG CHEBBI)

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SAHARA PYRAMID (ERG CHEBBI)

SARAHA CAMEL CARAVAN (ERG CHEBBI)

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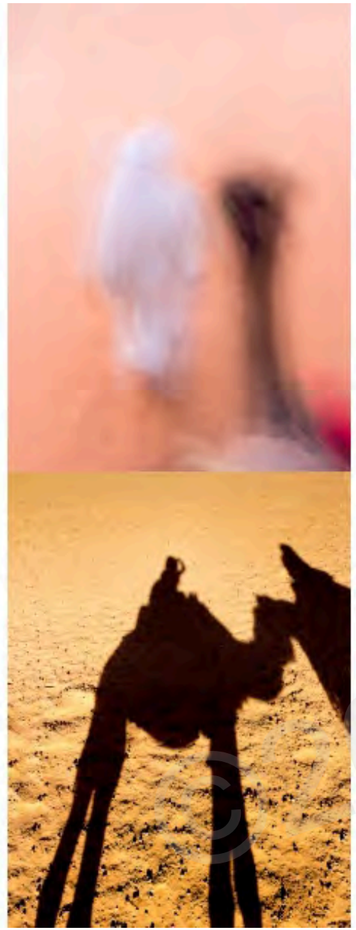

FROM THE CAMEL'S BACK (ERG CHEBBI)

SAHARA CAMEL TREK (ERG CHEBBI)

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SENSUAL SAHARA (ERG CHEBBI)

SAHARA CONTRAST STUDY (ERG CHEBBI)

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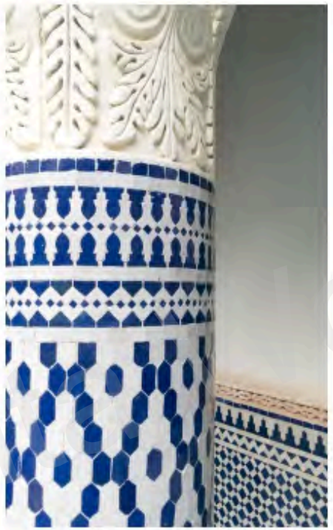
FES

THE MIDDLE ATLAS MOUNTAIN REGION HAS A MULTITUDE OF PATTERNED FIELDS. NORTHWEST OF THIS MOUNTAIN RANGE IS FES, THE CULTURAL HEART OF MOROCCO.

THE MEDINA OF FES, FULL OF NARROW CROWDED ALLEYWAYS, IS A WORLD HERITAGE SITE. BESIDES COLOURFUL SPICES AND FOODS IN THE MARKET, SKILLFUL CRAFTSMEN CAN BE SEEN IN THEIR SHOPS, SEWING LEATHER BAGS AND CAFTAN DRESSES, FORMING BRASS TEA TRAYS AND KNIVES, WEAVING BERBER RUGS, PAINTING POTTERY AND CHISELLING MOSAIC TILES. WITH SOME OF THE WORLD'S OLDEST LEATHER TANNERIES, THEY ARE BUSY WITH WORKERS IN AND AROUND MULTIHUED VATS OF DYES.



MOROCCAN DESIGNS IN RIAD, FES

ARCHITECTURAL FEATURES IN RIAD, FES

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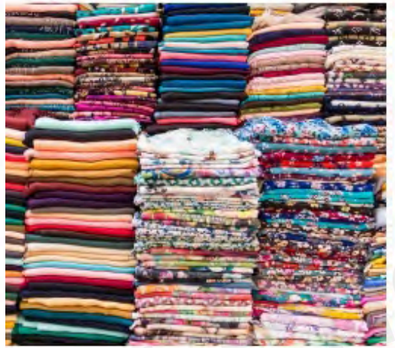
FOOD AND MARKET WARES IN SOUK, FES



CRAFTING ZELLIGE MOSAIC TILEWORK, FES

MESMERIZING MOROCCAN ZELLIGE, FES

AT WORK IN LEATHER TANNERY, FES

WORKERS AND PRODUCTS IN LEATHER TANNERY, FES

CHEFCHAOUEN AND RABAT

FURTHER NORTH IN THE RIF MOUNTAINS IS CHEFCHAOUEN, THE BLUE PEARL OF MOROCCO. STAIRS, WALLS AND DOORS OF HOMES AND SHOPS ARE PAINTED IN VARIOUS SHADES OF BLUE, COMPLEMENTED BY COLOURFUL TILED THRESHOLDS AND FLOWERPOTS, PATTERNED AND VIBRANT GARMENTS. WINDOW FRAMES AND HANDRAILS ARE ORNAMENTED WITH WROUGHT IRON DETAILS, AND SPANISH INFLUENCE CAN BE SEEN IN OVERLAPPING ROOF TILES. ARCHES ARE A DOMINANT FEATURE, AND EVERY TURN IN THE STREET IS A PICTURE ON ITS OWN.

RABAT, THE CAPITAL CITY OF MOROCCO, ALSO HAS AN AREA OF BLUE-TONED BUILDINGS, ALONG WITH A CRESCENT-SHAPED BEACH.

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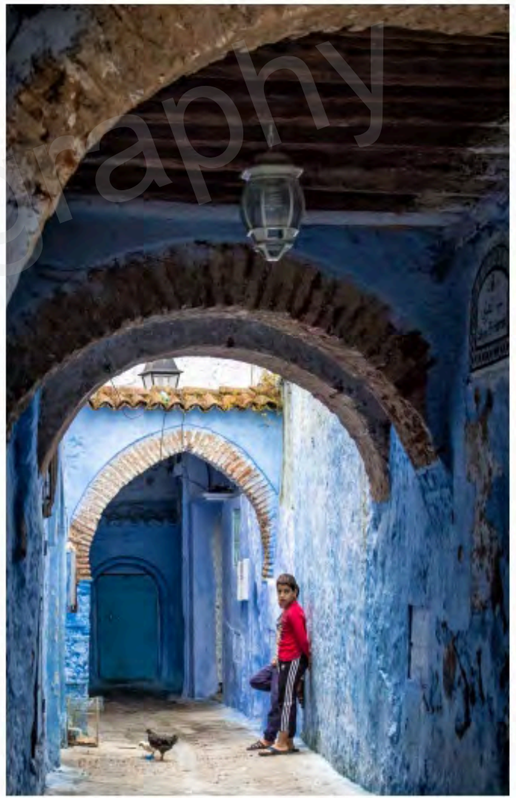
CHEFCHAOUEN SHOPS IN EARLY MORNING



THROUGH THE ARCHES OF CHEFCHAOUEN

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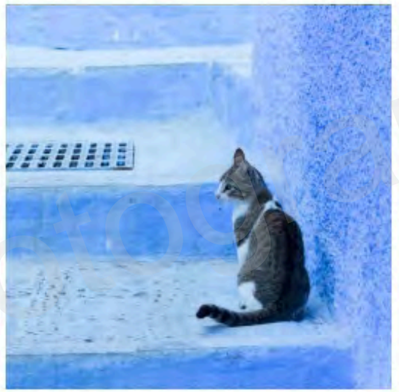

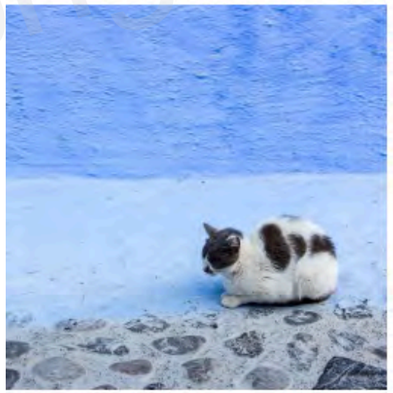

STREET SCENES, CHEFCHAOUEN

ART PATTERNS IN CHEFCHAOUEN

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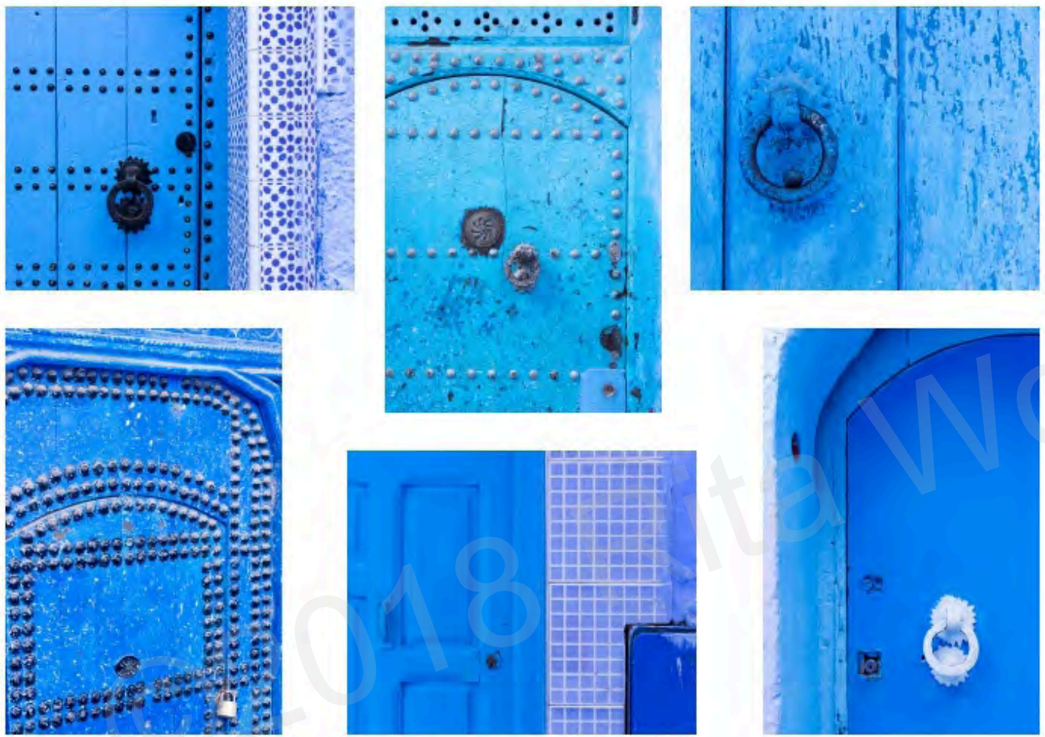

DOOR DETAILS, CHEFCHAOUEN

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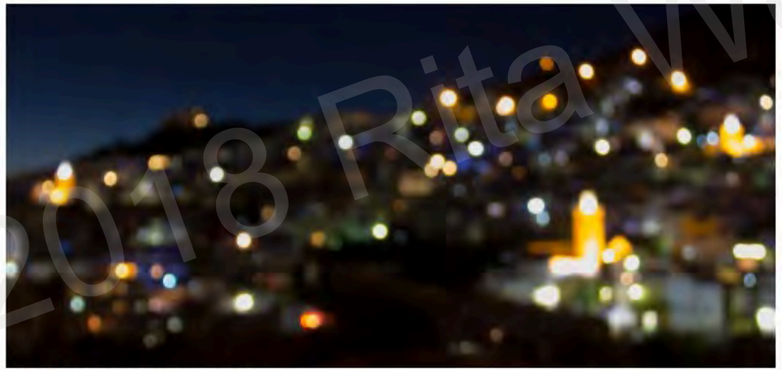
SPANISH INFLUENCE ON CHEFCHAOUEN'S ARCHITECTURE

GEOMETRIC DESIGNS IN CHEFCHAOUEN

BLUE TOWN AT BLUE HOUR (CHEFCHAOUEN)



NIGHT LIGHTS OF CHEFCHAOUEN

ARTISTIC IMPRESSION, CHEFCHAOUEN AT NIGHT

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