OUTLOOK EXPEDITIONS

PROGRAMME GUIDE
MOROCCO

Outlook was formed in the foothills of Snowdonia in 2001, by a group of passionate enthusiasts who believed in the outdoors as a vehicle for building character and increasing resilience.

Since then, we've taken tens of thousands of students on life changing journeys to over 60 countries on five continents across the world.

OUR PURPOSE

To deliver inspirational, immersive learning experiences, outside the classroom, that accelerate core skills development in young people

To empower teams to grow and learn through challenge, as they develop character, build resilience, and improve their wellbeing

To develop 'life-readiness', instilling the idea that everyone can be a leader

To encourage young people to travel responsibly and become active global citizens of the future, with an awareness of the world and their place in it

To provide long-lasting transformational benefits to our participants, the communities they're visiting, and the planet

Put simply, we exist to help young people get ready for life.

WE ARE OUTLOOK EXPEDITIONS

OUR VALUES

We believe that what we do and how we do it are of equal importance.

We practise what we preach; demonstrating the character and qualities that our products are designed to instil in young people, through the way we operate as an organisation.

Our core values are our guiding principles for working together internally, but also for managing customer relationships. The values are embedded into every aspect of our company culture — we call it the 'Outlook Way'

» We have and promote a positive growth mindset
» We work together
» We find new ways
» We believe in kindness

OUR RESPONSIBILITY

We understand a balance must be reached between the importance and value of international travel, against the polluting effects of aviation on the environment.

We also understand the need for self-awareness in travel, ensuring our experiences are always ethical, justified, and only ever a cause for good.

It is therefore our responsibility not only to stand up for the planet in the fight against climate change, but also to stand up for unheard voices within our global community.

It's our responsibility to educate our teams effectively about ways they can reduce their own carbon footprints, to understand the importance of meaningful travel, and have open conversations about what it means to be a responsible traveller.

UK LEADERSHIP
DEVELOPMENT

When you book an Outlook Expedition, you aren't simply booking an overseas trip. You are benefiting from an in-depth, two phase programme that starts up to two years before departure.

1 EXPEDITION LAUNCH

2 MAPPING YOUR JOURNEY

3 LEADER MEETING

4 PRACTICAL LEADERSHIP WEEKEND

5 FINAL PREPARATION

PAY YOUR WAY / LEADER IN ME

Our UK Leadership Development Phase is unique to Outlook and is designed to develop character, build resilience, and improve well being — the tools required to be a leader and tackle life's challenges effectively. Delivered in a hybrid format of both face-to-face and interactive, online events, along with additional supporting activities, resources, and materials — this is where the journey really begins!

From engaging in meaningful discussions and activities about sustainable tourism, to immersive learning experiences in the UK's National Parks.

LEADER IN ME

The UK Leadership development phase is underpinned by Leader in Me, our Life Readiness leadership qualification.

Based on Covey's '7 Habits of Highly Effective Teens' Leader in Me is a comprehensive evidence-based learning model designed to increase effectiveness in students.

Through the completion of this online course, students will learn about character concepts and skills that they will use not only on expedition, but for the rest of their lives. Including; taking responsibility for your life. managing your time, teamwork, communication, and tools to manage your own wellbeing.

The key learnings from this award-winning leadership training programme will be drawn upon throughout both phases of the Outlook Programme and will form a framework that can be applied to any life scenario.

PAY YOUR WAY

The Outlook Programme is like a savings account for yourself and your future development. The more you put in, the more you get out! That's why self-funding is such an important part of your journey as it gives you the opportunity and experience to develop key life skills that you'll take forward into your expedition and beyond — from planning and organisation, to budgeting and communication — it's your chance to take ownership, set goals and really invest in your future!

Every year we're impressed by the innovative ways our students generate funds for their trip — from launching small businesses to providing services in the community, we love sharing self-funding success stories to inspire others on their journeys.

RESPONSIBLE TRAVEL

We know that for a lot of people, sustainable travel is a contradiction in terms. How can something that generates so much carbon possibly be sustainable long term?

We understand that aviation releases more CO2 per passenger than any other mode of transport and that put simply, travel is an incredibly carbon intensive activity.

But we also know how important it is to be part of a global community, with whole countries and communities relying on international visits for their livelihoods and well-being. We also know how essential rich, engaging overseas experiences can be in guiding personal development, empathy, and perspective.

At Outlook, we take an active role in caring for our planet — and educating our teams to do the same. From being proud members of the Tourism Declares a Climate Emergency movement, and founding signatories of the Glasgow Declaration on Climate Action in Tourism, to partnering with climate consultancy, Positive Planet, to help us to take control of our carbon footprint.

We don't believe in greenwashing, confusing jargon and labels, or claiming perfection overnight. We know the fight against climate change is a journey — the most important of all the journeys we've made. But we also know that we're in this together, and we're committed to learning and growing through the process, as we empower our students to do the same.

But being a **responsible traveller** is about more than simply caring for the planet — it's being a **Global Citizen**, someone that takes an active role in making the planet more equal, fair, and **sustainable for all**.

During our UK Leadership Development Phase we provide an **educational framework** for students to better understand the impact of their travels on the communities they visit. From discussing ways to contribute towards the **Untied Nation's Sustainable Development Goals**, to understanding responsible travel do's and don'ts regarding photography, shopping, and respecting different cultures.

Through **service-learning opportunities** overseas, students work in partnership with local community and environmental initiatives, to gain a **unique insight** into some of the world's biggest issues.

It is of the utmost importance to us that our partnerships never disrupt, strain, or negatively impact a host community, and as proud partners of **ChildSafe** — an award-winning advocacy and actionoriented child protection movement — we're solidifying our commitment to taking a **leading role in child welfare**, ensuring we take best practice actions linked to child protection in the workplace, in our supply chain and in the communities, we operate in.

WELCOME TO MOROCCO

It's best known for its mix of Berber, Arabian and European cultural influences.

A gateway to Africa, it offers a treasure trove of gems for adventurous travellers - from the Saharan desert dunes to the peaks of the High Atlas mountains. There's a melting pot of cultures to discover and one of the best places to immerse yourself is among the blazing colours and enticing aromas of Marrakech; a crossroads for travellers and traders for centuries where souks and bazaars offer a continent's worth of riches.

The purpose of this brief is to introduce you to your destination and the types of activities that you can do in-country. We hope this brief snapshot will leave you feeling inspired and wanting more!

MOROCCO HIGHLIGHTS

- Trek the High Atlas Mountains
- Enjoy a camel ride in the coastal town of Essaouira
- Explore the sights and sounds of Marrakech
- Experience traditional Berber life
- Attempt to summit Northern Africa's highest Mountain – Jebel Toubkal

DESTINATION FACTS

- **RELIGION/S:** Islam.
- **CULTURAL OR HISTORICAL INTEREST:** Morocco is an ethnically diverse country with a rich, varied history due to its unique geographical location.
- **LANGUAGES:** Arabic, Berber, French, Spanish.
- **GEOGRAPHY:** Mountainous desert interior with forests and fertile plains in the Mediterranean north.
- **CLIMATE:** Hot and dry in the summer, comfortably warm in the winter. Cooler at the coast.
- **ALTITUDE:** Summit height of 4167m, if tackling Toubkal.
- **VISA:** Not required for British nationals*

* Please note requirements may change

WHAT YOU CAN EXPECT

CHALLENGE RATING
VERY CHALLENGING

» Altitude may at points go above 2500m

» In country support may be minimal i.e. all personal and group kit is to be carried by self

» Distances covered are often more than10km per day

» Height gain and loss may be high per day

» Challenging terrain in places (boulder fields etc..)

» Where kayaking activities are undertaken, distances covered can be up to 15km per day and water conditions are difficult i.e. tidal sea traverses, strong winds etc.

CULTURE SHOCK
MODERATE

» English less commonly spoken

» Road signs likely in English in tourist heavy areas only

» A mix of transport available and a schedule that may or may not, be kept to

» Amenities such as hot water and WiFi are less common outside large cities

» In Moroccan cuisine, cous cous is a national delicacy and is often eaten with tagines with red meat, chick peas and vegetables

Expeditions allow you to spread your wings, see and experience the big wide world and discover what you're truly capable of.

Take the leap and step outside your comfort zone to achieve more than you ever imagined:

» Accelerate your learning and life skills development

» Gain a deep understanding of other cultures and global issues

» Uncover your strengths and discover new passions

» Strengthen friendship bonds and make new connections

» Build character, resilience and the confidence to face life's challenges

» Boost your CV for university and job applications

SERVICE-LEARNING

This phase is not only one of the most valuable but often the most memorable parts of the expedition experience for our teams, as it's where you gain unique insights and perspectives on the world through providing a meaningful service to one of our overseas partners.

With all the organisations we partner with, we're committed to ensuring that our presence never disrupts, strains or negatively impacts the communities we're visiting. Instead, these are opportunities for students to be empowered and educated by our partners in a way that is mutually beneficial for all.

PHYSICAL CHALLENGE

For many students, the physical challenge of a trek is a really important part of their expedition, as this it's where you can push yourself — physically and mentally — as you take a step outside of your comfort zone. It's also a great opportunity to connect with nature and one another in some incredible landscapes.

From summitting a mountain peak to exploring rural life and remote villages, the duration and challenge level of your trek will be dependent on the team's aims and objectives.

LEADERSHIP

Equipped with your Leader in Me toolkit, your expedition is an opportunity to put your leadership skills to the test. Not only will the 7 Habits form part of your team culture while away, you'll also have an active role in the team's management each day.

One day you could be the team coordinator, the next taking charge of the budget. An expedition is all about putting you in the driving seat and giving you ownership of your adventure!

R&R/ACTIVITIES

Your itinerary will also include time to explore your destination, engage with fun activities, and take some time for a well-earned rest!

From sight-seeing in the city and visiting must-see attractions, to taking part in adventure sports and reading a book in a perfectly placed hammock.

This is the time to rest and recuperate while experiencing local culture and seeing more of the destination!

EXAMPLE ITINERARY

The duration and number of phases included in your final itinerary will be dependent on the length of your expedition

DAY	PHASE	SUMMARY
1	**Flight/ Orientation** Marrakech	**After departing the UK and arrival to Marrakech where you will be transferred to a pre-booked hostel for the night. Your first day in-country will be spent adjusting to your new surroundings – the hustle and bustle of Jemaa el-Fna; Marrakech's main square and the compact yet sprawling maze of souks. It's also when you'll undertake some key tasks to prepare you for the phases ahead.**
2	Travel to **Ouarzazate**	**Today you will be collected from your hotel and transported to Ouarzazate, a 4-5 hour journey. Ouarzazate is known as the 'gateway to the Sahara Desert'. It's rugged landscape and fascinating architecture has attracted many moviemakers over the years and you may find some of the sights familiar. You will have a chance to acclimatise yourself to the city before beginning your project tomorrow.**
3-6	**Avon Academy** Ouarzazate	**Avon Academy is a charity school founded in 2008 . It partners with associations and educational departments to identify high schools within the city to facilitate improvements. The main aims of Avon Academy are to improve local schools and students' knowledge of languages; mainly English, but also Arabic, French and Berber. The project also hopes to encourage cross-cultural understanding amongst youth groups worldwide.** **Project work involves construction/maintenance. You will be working alongside skilled local tradesmen. Examples of work include renovating classrooms, building pathways, constructing gardens with trees for shade, building benches, repainting dormitories and replacing windows.** **Whilst in Ouarzazate there are also opportunities for other activities such as a visit to the Atlas Film Studios. Cultural exchange workshops with local students and cooking classes may also be organised.**
7	Travel to **Anoumd**	**Today you will be transported 5-6 hours to Anoumd, the startpoint for your ascent of Jebel Toubkal. Standing at 4,167m and set in the High Atlas Range, it is a challenging, yet rewarding trek.** **Spend this evening preparing for your ascent and ensure you get an early night in!**
8-11	**Mount Toubkal Ascent Trek** Toubkal National Park	**Head for the summit of the highest peak in North Africa! Jebel Toubkal is the centre point of the stunning Toubkal National Park. Though not a technically difficult mountain, it's still a major challenge due to Toubkal's notoriously extreme climate and its long, steep slopes of brooding deep-brown, red and almost black volcanic scree.**
12	Travel to **Marrakech**	**Well done on completing your challenge! You'll have a chance to relax today as you return to Marrakesh (approx. 2 hours). This afternoon, you'll have an opportunity to explore a bit more of the city and have some well-earned rest!**
13	**Jajeer Mules** Oumnass	**Jajeer Mule Sanctuary in the foothills of the High Atlas Mountains are dedicated to the care of injured and malnourished working equine. You'll visit the centre to learn about the important work they're doing to ensure future generations of working animals are cared for throughout their lives.**
14	**Departure**	**Time to say farewell to Morocco!**

The above itinerary has been created by our Destination Managers using the information provided in your personal profiles, and insights gained at your Mapping Your Journey session. Due to the changing nature of the world, Outlook may be required to change aspects, or the order of this itinerary. Outlook will consult with the school if this is the case before publishing a final itinerary once all bookings have been confirmed before departure.

ADVENTURES & EXPERIENCES

At the Itinerary Development Session, with guidance from one of our destination experts, you and your team will shape your own expedition itinerary. You'll be given a selection of treks, global citizenship initiatives and activities to choose from that suit your expedition duration and desired challenge level.

Here are some examples of the adventures and experiences on offer in Morocco:

JEBEL TOUBKAL:

Travel to the Toubkal National Park to spend four days climbing Northern Africa's highest mountain, Jebel Toubkal at 4167m. The Atlas Mountains are one of Africa's greatest adventure playgrounds, with jagged peaks looming over barren Saharan landscapes. You'll be climbing ridges, crossing rivers and passing through mountain villages on your way to the summit. *Please note this trek is only available from June to August.*

AMIZMIZ TREK:

This cultural trek is a chance to experience the High Atlas Mountains alongside highly knowlegable Berbers. The route goes through pine woods, alongside riverside tracks, over mountain passes and through a small gorge. You'll also pass through many different villages.

ESSAOUIRA AND CAMEL RIDING:

Visit this colourful fishing town, home to beautiful beaches and colonial Portuguese architecture. Explore the streets and soak in the atmosphere before travelling 3.5km south to Diabat for a camel ride across stunning deserted beaches and forests.

MARRAKECH:

Spend time exploring the vibrant streets and souks with influences from across Africa and southern Europe. Wind your way through the unique and spellbinding Djemaa el Fna Square in the heart of the city. Practice your bartering while on the hunt for souvenirs, sample some of the local delicacies from one of the many food stalls and be on the lookout for snake charmers!

CASCADE D'OUZOUD:

Visit the stunning 110m three tiered waterfalls, explore the trails and spend the night camping and enjoying the amazing views after the tourists have gone home!

GLOBAL CITIZENSHIP

Here are some examples of initiatives we work with in Morocco.

GOULMIMA PROJECT:

Moroccan schools are notoriously underfunded and overcrowded. To help tackle this the Al Jisr Association for Educational Communication and Cooperation set up a project to work with schools around the village of Goulmima.

The project is managed by a local teacher who is passionate about education and improving the students' working conditions.

You will be helping with construction work to make improvements to the facilities in the local schools. This could include classroom maintenance, resurfacing sports pitches or renovating the gardens. There will also be plenty of opportunities to interact with the children and get a real sense of the lives of the local people.

AVON ACADEMY:

Avon Academy is a charity school founded in 2008 on the edge of the Sahara Desert. The main aims of the project are to improve local schools and students' knowledge of languages; mainly English but also Arabic, French and Berber.

The project also hopes to encourage cross cultural understanding amongst youth groups worldwide. Project work includes construction and maintenance focusing on improving the school facilities. This could include renovating classrooms, repainting dormitories and building new pathways.

Whilst at the project, there is also the opportunity for other activities such as a visit to the Atlas Film Studios.

A Global Citizen is aware of and understands the wider world - and their place in it. They take an active role in their community and work with others to make our planet more equal, fair and sustainable.

PAY
YOUR WAY

Every family's financial situation is different so self-funding is a great way to enable every young person to experience the adventure of a lifetime!

Not only is self-funding one of the most rewarding and valuable elements of participating in an Expedition or Explore trip, but universities and employers respect the commitment and entrepreneurship that a young person demonstrates in this phase. For these reasons we encourage our participants to self-fund the majority, or if not, the entirety of the amount.

It's about putting students in the driving seat so that they develop skills for life; managing money, record keeping, self-motivation, goal setting and target achievement.

PAYMENT OPTIONS

Your bespoke payment plan will be created based on the launch dates of your expedition. However. there are two options available for you to choose from, so that you can pay your way. Please find the example formats below — your actual payment plan will be provided to you separately based on the dates of your launch and expedition:

STANDING ORDER

Spread your payments evenly by setting up a monthly standing order, up to the final balance date

DEPOSIT	PAYMENTS
DATE	X PAYMENTS
£TBC	£TBC

INSTALMENTS

Instalments: Settle your balance across a number of instalments. Payments can be made through debit card, bank transfer or cheque

DEPOSIT	PAYMENTS 2	PAYMENTS 3	PAYMENTS 4
DATE	DATE	DATE	DATE
£TBC	£TBC	£TBC	£TBC

Payments can be made via Basecamp or by contacting our Customer Support Team. Please note that payment dates and amounts may change, should there be any delay in securing a minimum of 10 participants

WHAT'S INCLUDED:

UK LEADERSHIP DEVELIOPMENT

Fully guided programme including;

- Pay Your Way support
- Map Your Journey Session
- Leader Meeting
- Final Preparation Day
- 7 Habits of Highly Effective Teens (accredited online learning course)
- Regular communications and online resources to inform and inspire
- Team t-shirt

LEADER TEAM

- Up to 2 travelling teachers and a highly qualified and experienced Outlook Expeditions Leader

INSURANCE & 24-HOUR SUPPORT

- Comprehensive overseas medical insurance and 24-hour Operations Room to support teams in country

IN DESTINATION

- All food and accommodation
- All group equipment including tents, stoves, communication devices, and safety gear
- All group activities and entrance fees
- Contribution to support sustainable service-learning partners

FLIGHTS

» Return international flights

PRACTICAL LEADERSHIP WEEKEND

Training event to prepare you for life on expedition, and beyond, including;

» Putting the 7 Leadership Habits into action

» Food budget management and cooking safety

» First aid and equipment testing

» Orienteering, trekking and campcraft

EXCLUDED:

» Vaccinations and visas

» Personal belongings insurance & costs incurred by loss of passport

» Pre-departure cancellation insurance (should you need to cancel your place on the team)

» Personal equipment

» Spending money for souvenirs

» UK transport (to/from UK training venue, Final Preparation Day and airport collection)

» Food & accommodation while travelling to and from UK airports

OUTLOOK

Ready. For Life.

PHONE | 01248 672 760

EMAIL | customer.service @outlookexpeditions.com

ONLINE | www.outlookexpeditions.com

FACEBOOK | @outlookexpeditions

INSTAGRAM | @outlookexpeds

Adventure Activity Associates
British Standard 8848
Corporate Conformity
Independently Assessed
2014

6697 ATOL PROTECTED

Quality Badge awarded by
Council for Learning Outside the Classroom