

GOOD TO KNOW

BEFORE APPLYING



FROM JAN 25TH TO FEB 1ST, 2025



Greetings, Future Delegate!

Before applying, please take note of the following important details about Morocco and the upcoming symposium (SGA) :

THEME of the Symposium (SGA)

The expanded scope of veterinary Medicine.

Application Deadlines

Applications are open from October 6th to November 6th, 2024. The portal will be accessible starting at 10:00 local time (UTC+1) and will close at 23:59 (UTC+1) on the final day.



Application Response

Starting from November 13th, 2024, you will receive an email notifying you of your application status whether accepted, or placed on the waiting list.

Payment Deadline

If your application is accepted, the full payment must be completed by November 20th, 2024.

Waiting List Updates

If placed on the waiting list, you will be informed of your final status by November 23rd, 2024. If accepted, the payment deadline will be extended to November 24th, 2024.

Delegate Fee

The delegate fee is €370 + tax (8%).

Different rates apply for IVSA Officials and Reduced Fee Spots



Visa Information



Please consult this link to check if you require a visa for Morocco:

<https://www.consulat.ma/en/list-countries-whose-citizens-are-exempted-entry-visa-morocco>

For delegates needing a visa, an official invitation letter will be provided upon payment of the symposium fee (SGA). We strongly recommend applying for your visa as early as possible to avoid delays.

Please check with the Moroccan Embassy in your country for specific visa requirements and ensure you have all necessary documents from your government.

Arrivals & Departures

We recommend landing at Rabat for the easiest journey to the hotel as the event is happening in Rabat, where is located the veterinary institute. It is also possible to land at Casablanca airport or Marrakech airport for cheaper flight options and take the train to the city of Rabat. Royal Air Maroc offers flights to both airports, so does Ryanair and Transavia for cheaper options.

- **Rabat Airport:** A bus pick-up service will transport delegates directly to the hotel according to the arrival hours of all delegates from Rabat Airport.
- **Casablanca Airport:** Delegates arriving to Casablanca Airport will need to take two trains to reach Rabat City. Our team will greet you at Rabat-Ville train station and escort you to the hotel.

Train Booking Details if you land at Casablanca Airport :

1. From Casablanca Airport (Aéroport Mohammed V) to Casa Port
2. From Casa Port to Rabat Ville

You can book your tickets here : <https://www.oncf.ma/fr/>, and it should be around 10 euros.

P.S : the train stations are closed from 10pm to 5 am, including Casablanca Airport train station. If you arrive during this period of time, you'll need to spend the night at the airport until the trains are available again in the morning.



Rabat Airport



Casablanca Airport

Accommodation

Hotel Oscar is located 429 Avenue Hassan II, Rabat, 10000.



BASIC ITINERARY

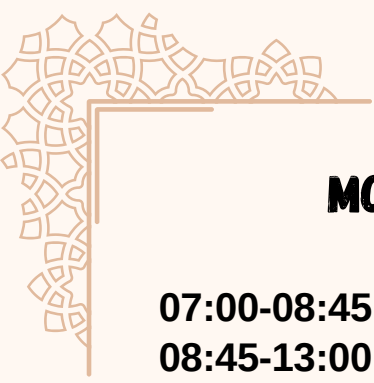
SATURDAY (25/01)



- 08:00-19:30: Arrivals and Admissions**
- 19:30-20:00: Transportation to University**
- 20:00-00:00: Welcome Dinner + Ice Breaker**

SUNDAY (26/01)

- 07:15-08:30: Breakfast**
- 08:30-09:00: Transportation**
- 09:00-10:00: Opening Ceremony**
- 10:00-13:00: GA 1**
- 13:00-14:30: Lunch**
- 14:30-18:45: GA 2**
- 19:00-20:00: Dinner**
- 20:00-00:00: Cultural evening**



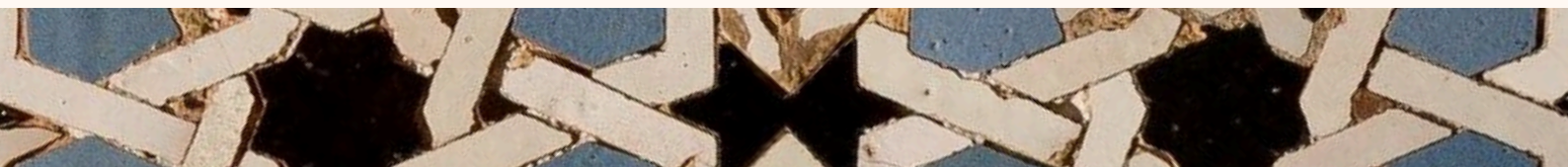
MONDAY (27/01)

- 07:00-08:45: Breakfast**
- 08:45-13:00: City Tour**
- 13:00-14:30: Lunch**
- 14:30-17:15: GA 3**
- 17:15-19:00: International stands**
- 19:00-20:30: Dinner**
- 20:30-00:00: Development Fund
Silent Auction**
- 00:00-00:30: Transportation**



TUESDAY (28/01)

- 07:15-08:00: Breakfast**
- 08:00-08:45: Transportation**
- 09:00-16:00: Streams**
- 16:00-18:45: GA 4**
- 19:00-20:00: Dinner**
- 20:00-20:30: Transportation**
- 20:30-00:00: Free evening**





WEDNESDAY (29/01)

- 07:15-08:00: Breakfast**
 - 08:00-08:45: Transportation**
 - 08:45-11:00: GA 5**
 - 11:00-11:15: Coffee Break**
 - 11:15-12:45: Lectures**
 - 13:00-14:00: Lunch**
 - 14:15-17:45: GA 6**
 - 18:00-19:00: Dinner**
 - 19:00-00:00: Development Fund Live Auction**
- 



THURSDAY (30/01)

- 07:15-08:30: Breakfast**
 - 08:30-12:00: Optional Activities**
 - 12:00-13:00: Lunch**
 - 13:15-14:00: GA 7**
 - 14:00-16:30: Lectures**
 - 16:30-18:30: EO Meeting**
 - 18:30-19:30: Free Time**
 - 19:30-00:00: Dinner at Venue**
 - 00:00-00:30: Transportation**
- 



FRIDAY (31/01)

07:45-09:30: Breakfast

09:30-10:00: Transportation

10:00-12:30: Workshops

12:45-13:30: Lunch

13:30-17:15: GA 8

17:15-19:00: Free Time

19:15-20:30: Dinner

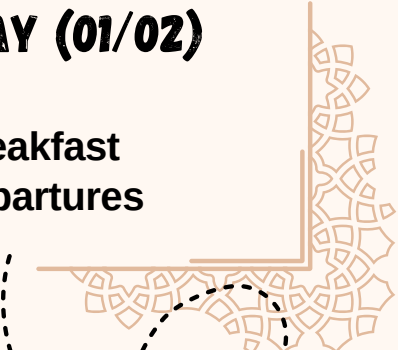
20:30-01:00: White T-Shirts Party



SATURDAY (01/02)

07:15-09:30: Breakfast

09:30- : Departures



THIS ITINERARY IS SUBJECT TO CHANGE.



Money

The official currency in Morocco is the Dirham (Dhs). Credit, debit, and prepaid cards are not accepted everywhere, so we recommend exchanging money before arrival and keeping some cash on hand at all times, especially if you arrive on a Saturday, many currency exchange office might be **closed**.



Weather



During January, Rabat's temperatures range between 8°C and 17°C. Mornings and evenings can be cool, while daytime temperatures are generally comfortable. Dressing in layers is recommended to adapt to varying conditions. We will provide more detailed weather updates when the event becomes closer.

Greetings and Etiquette:

Use common greetings like "Salam alaikum" or simply "Salam" when meeting locals or entering shops. This shows respect and acknowledgment of Moroccan customs.

Avoid public displays of affection, as some Moroccans may find this culturally inappropriate due to conservative values.



DID YOU KNOW THAT

being 'on time' is more of a suggestion than a rule? If a Moroccan says they'll be there in 5 minutes, don't be surprised if they show up in 30 it's all part of the charm!



Dress Code:

Morocco's dress code is influenced by its religious and cultural background. All individuals should avoid wearing revealing or tight clothing, such as short shorts, tank tops, and mini skirts, to respect local customs.

When visiting mosques or religious sites, modest attire is essential:

- For men: Wear long pants that cover the knees and shirts that cover the shoulders and upper arms.
- For women: Opt for loose-fitting, ankle-length skirts or pants, along with tops that cover the shoulders, upper arms, and chest. Wearing a scarf or head covering may be required depending on the mosque or local traditions.

It is customary to remove your shoes before entering a mosque, and clothing with offensive or disrespectful imagery should be avoided.



Safety and Security:

Prioritize personal safety by avoiding isolated areas at night and keeping your belongings secure, especially in crowded places like the medina, where pickpockets are more common. Always follow local laws and regulations, and carry your identification documents with you at all times.

DID YOU KNOW THAT

In Morocco, you'll hear the call to prayer five times a day. These are Fajr (dawn), Dhuhr (midday), Asr (afternoon), Maghrib (sunset), and Isha (night), marking key moments for spiritual reflection.



Cultural Sensitivity

Embrace Moroccan culture and traditions with respect and an open mind. Always ask for permission before taking someone's photograph, particularly in conservative or rural areas. Respect local customs, such as bargaining at markets and accepting tea as a gesture of hospitality.

Morocco's stance on LGBTQ+ rights is conservative, and topics related to LGBTQ+ issues can be sensitive. While we foster an inclusive and respectful environment at our event, we advise against openly discussing sexual orientation or LGBTQ+ matters in public, as this may cause discomfort or conflict.

Food

Moroccan cuisine is celebrated for its bold flavors, fragrant spices, and fresh ingredients, drawing inspiration from Berber, Arab, Andalusian, and Mediterranean traditions. If you're eager to explore, here are some recommendations to start your culinary journey :



Tajine



Rfissa



Couscous



Msemen



Mint tea



Pastilla



Briwat

Pork and its products are strictly prohibited by religion in Morocco. Out of respect for the local culture and religious sensitivities, we kindly request that attendees refrain from consuming or bringing pork or pork-derived products to the event.

We will provide all meals, including a variety of vegetarian and vegan options like zaalouk, taktouka, and more.

FUN FACT

In Morocco, you'll quickly learn that sharing your food with stray cats isn't a choice ;it's a way of life! These little furballs are everywhere and have mastered the art of the 'cute and hungry' look. We recommend not to feed them ,no matter what they promise to you



Alcohol and public laws

1- Alcohol issues : please note that alcohol **will not be served** at the event, and its consumption is **prohibited** on university premises. The 73rd IVSA symposium (SGA) in Morocco is **alcohol free**. That being said, you can easily get alcohol in pubs, bar and some stores. OC will provide guidance on this matter in further documents and during the event.

2- Cannabis : Moroccan cannabis (Hachich) is accessible, but consuming it in public places or being caught with it is illegal and penalised by the law !

3- Smoking: Smoking is commonly permitted in public spaces, bars, and many cafes. However, it's important to be mindful in religious sites and other areas where smoking may be restricted. We recommend checking for designated smoking signs or asking those around you before lighting up.



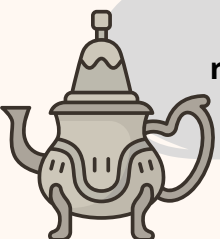
Language

Morocco's linguistic diversity reflects its rich cultural heritage :

- Darija: The Moroccan Arabic dialect, used in daily conversation.
- Amazigh: Also known as Berber, with regional dialects such as Tarifit, Tachelhit, and Tamazight.
- Standard Arabic: Used in formal settings and media.
- French is widely spoken in business and education
- English is becoming increasingly common, especially in tourist areas.

DID YOU KNOW THAT

Did you know that in Morocco, tea is basically the new water? It's served at every possible occasion whether you're celebrating, relaxing, or just dropped by for a quick chat, there's always time for a glass of mint tea!



Transportation

1. **Tramway** : Trams run every 8 to 12 minutes during peak hours.

Cost : A one-way ticket costs 6 MAD (Moroccan Dirhams), around 0.5 Euros.



2. **Buses** : Public Buses.

Cost : 5 MAD for a typical journey, around 0.4 Euros. We don't recommend using this type of transportation as it's usually very crowded and not secure.



3. **Taxis** : 1- Petit Taxi (Small taxi) : The starting fare is 1.40 MAD during the day and 2 MAD at night, and increases based on the distance traveled. Each city has a special colours for the taxis. In Rabat, they are blue.

2- Grand taxi (Big taxi).



4. **Trains** : Regular trains and Al Boraq - TGV (high speed train) : If you need to use any form of transport, ask someone in the OC to help you.

5. **Indriver** : InDriver is a ride-hailing app that lets passengers negotiate fares directly with drivers, offering more flexible pricing compared to traditional services.



Electricity Outlet

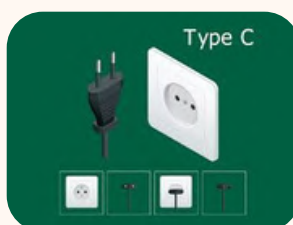
In Morocco, the standard electricity outlet is:

Type C and Type E sockets.

- Voltage: 220 volts
- Frequency: 50 Hz

Type C and E plugs:

- Type C: Two round pins.
- Type E: Two round pins with a grounding hole for a grounding pin.



Optional activities :



15 €

ARCHEOLOGICAL SITE OF CHELLAH



20 €

MOSQUE HASSAN 2 AT CASABLANCA



15 €

ZOOLOGICAL PARK OF RABAT



Free

FOREST VISIT/PICNIC



10 €

CULINARY WORKSHOP: TAGINE



10 €

CULINARY WORKSHOP: TEA

Mobile sim card information

In Morocco, the main mobile operators are Maroc Telecom (IAM), Orange Maroc, and Inwi. A SIM card from any of these providers typically costs between 20 to 30 MAD and often includes some initial credit. They all offer prepaid and postpaid deals with recharge options ranging from 5 to 200 MAD. For internet, the basic data package starts at 10 MAD for 1 GB (valid for 24 hours) and goes up to 100 MAD for 10 GB. The choice between operators depends on network coverage, customer service, and any ongoing promotions. SIM cards can be purchased at operator stores, kiosks, grocery shops, and airports.

We can arrange to buy SIM cards for the delegates if needed.



Insurance and Health requirement



Regarding the event, travel and medical insurance will be required. Delegates will need to provide proof of this on arrival.

Rabies and tetanus shots are highly recommended considering the epidemiological situation in Morocco.

Emergency numbers

Here are some important emergency numbers in Morocco:

- OC president - Moncef Benhadi : +212 650-789872
- OC Treasurer - Abdelmalk el bahraoui : ++212 661-330013
- Police (for emergencies): 19 (for urban areas)
- Gendarmerie (for rural areas): 177
- Ambulance / Medical Emergencies: 15
- Fire Brigade: 15
- Civil Protection: 20-20





If you have any inquiries, feel free to contact us at:

73symposiummorocco@gmail.com, or on Instagram at
[@73rd.ivsasymposium.morocco](https://www.instagram.com/73rd.ivsasymposium.morocco).

We look forward to hearing from you and meeting you soon !

