

Press Release | ALASTAIR SAWDAY'S SPECIAL PLACES TO STAY MOROCCO EDITION 2

Things we can do for you:

- Suggest ideas for features and compile them
- Reader offers and giveaways

Coming soon:

- British Bed & Breakfast Edition 10 **September**
- British Hotels, Inns & Other Places Edition 7 **October**
- French Holiday Homes Edition 3 **October**
- French Hotels, Châteaux & Other Places Edition 4 **November**
- Italy Edition 4 **February 2006**
- Greece Edition 1 **February 2006**



About Alastair Sawday Publishing

Our first guide, French Bed & Breakfast, was published in 1994 and celebrated homes owned and run by 'people' rather than corporations. We still simply look for places that we like – and we are fiercely subjective in our choices.

'Special' for us is not about the number of creature comforts, but about all those different elements that make a place 'work'. Our write-ups are cliché-free and honest so readers have learned to trust us.

Environmental concerns are a priority, too, and we are always looking for ways of improving our 'green' credentials.

Morocco has more colour, light, warmth and unparalleled beauty than we can imagine. You'll be welcomed and cosseted, inspired and moved by a trip to this amazing country. But you'll need somewhere to lay your head while you take it all in; a sumptuous private medina strewn with rose petals and a host of attentive staff, a simple country inn with traditional Berber cooking or an eco-hotel perched seductively below North Africa's highest peak – all fascinating, all sure to enchant, but only a tiny fraction of what to expect in our latest guide.

- Dine by lantern light beneath sublime pergolas on a roof terrace with the medina at your feet
- Borrow a willing Arab pony, trek into the magnificent Atlas Mountains and stop for mint tea in a remote Berber village
- Join a literary salon in Marrakech-Palmeraie and listen to the likes of William Dalrymple and Esther Freud discoursing under palms and arching colonnades
- Immerse yourself in local life; learn traditional cooking and crafts and get involved in conservation of the *palmeraie*

Feature ideas

Morocco for families

Places to stay and trek – on foot, by camel or even by 4x4

Activity holidays

Morocco to music – from Essaouira and the hypnotic sounds of the G'naoua festival to Fez and a chance to discover religious music from Sufi to Gospel

For more information or review copies, due late-September, call: Sarah Bolton on 01275 464891 or email: sarah@sawdays.co.uk

- Publication date: 24 November 2005
- 150 entries with colour photos
- Price: £10.99
- 2nd edition
- ISBN: 1-901970-65-5
- Pages: 256
- Maps: 6

Visit our web site to see a full range of books and places to stay.

There is also a press 'area' where journalists can request review copies or download pdfs of the latest press releases.

www.specialplacestostay.com

Marrakech-Medina



Ryad El Borj

63 Derb Maulay Abdelkader, Derb Dabachi, Marrakech-Medina

Ever since Pasha Glaoui built it as a lookout, the 'tower' (*borj*) has had the highest view of the medina, magic at any hour, sublime at sunset. Down below, the big leafy blue patio leads to the green first floor which leads to the red terrace – all properly dramatic. When renovating his riad, Daniel took care to preserve the original décor: it all wears the patina of time and feels like a real Moroccan house rather than a made-for-gringos riad. Coca the dog is an essential, if ageing, presence, too. Almost all the extremely comfortable rooms have decorated ceilings while the great glass-vaulted suite is remarkable value with its big bedroom, sitting room, excellent bathroom – and extra salon onto the patio via a superb moucharabieh screen. Colours are pale and sober, materials are noble cedar and finely-wrought ironwork, doors are antique, floors are strewn with carpets and leather cushions from the Saharaoui south giving the exotic sense of a *khzima*, a nomad tent; dinner is absolutely fabulous and the ever-smiling Khaddouj is a delight. Pool, drinks and meals are just as you would wish.



Guest house

rooms	5: 4 doubles, 1 suite.
price	€60-€80. Suite €105-€120. Sole occupancy €1,700-€2,700 per week (max 8).
meals	Lunch or dinner by arrangement.
closed	Never.
directions	From Place Jemaâ El Fna take Derb Dabachi (straight on past Café de France coming from Koutoubia side); pass mosque on right, first left; house 30m on right.

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