



## French Educator Program in Tunisia Program Overview and Itinerary Summer 2026

### Included Highlights:

- Collaborate with French teachers before, during, and after the trip to brainstorm shareable curriculum units and lessons.
- Interact 1-1 and in small groups with Tunisian students, professors, experts and families in various cities and villages.
- Visit UNESCO sites such as the Medina in Tunis, the archaeological site of Carthage, Amphitheatre El Jem, the Medina of Sousse.
- Explore the intersection of Islam, Judaism, and Christianity
- Meet with local artists and learn about the local art scene



### Sample Itinerary:

#### Day 1: Arrival in Tunisia

- Participants will arrive in Tunisia with included airport transfer to the hotel in Tunis
- Depending on arrival time, optional activities may be provided
- Discover the Roman ruins in Carthage
- Learn some introductory Arabic
- Enjoy dinner at the hotel

#### Day 2: Tunis - Sidi Bou Said - Tunis

- Visit Tunisia's gorgeous seaside village Sidi Bou Said, near Tunis
- Explore the northwest outskirts of Tunis at the gallery [Le Violon Bleu](#), on the hillside of the village
- Enjoy lunch at a waterside restaurant in Sidi Bou Said
- Visit a local school in the afternoon and interact with the professors and students
- Return to the hotel for dinner and a peaceful evening

#### Day 3: Tunis

- Begin the day with a visit to [The National Bardo Museum](#), one of the oldest and most important Tunisian exhibit spaces with an outstanding examples of Roman mosaics and more (closed on Mondays)
- Following our museum visit, meet up with some local artisans in Tunis
- Enjoy a lunch of traditional Tunisian food at a restaurant
- Venture together to the UNESCO protected 698 CE Médina in the Old Town, one of the first Arab-Muslim towns in the Maghreb, an amphitheater, old villas, and more
- Continue on to well-known streets such as Avenue Bourguiba and Avenue de Paris, as well as the local 4th century souks & bathhouses and the Catholic Cathedral
- Observe the beautiful Zitouna Mosque from 732 CE with its 5,000 square meters featuring 160 authentic columns taken from Roman Carthage
- Adventure on your own to local bookstores, markets and more for your personal enrichment and souvenirs for your classroom. Pause at a café such as El M'rabet
- Meet back at our hotel for dinner together

#### Day 4: Tunis - Kairouan - Tozeur

- After breakfast, head south to Kairouan, a World Heritage Site and the fourth holiest city of Islam
- Arrive mid-morning and visit one of the best examples of Islamic architecture, the great mosque, the Barbier Mausoleum and the Aghlabid Basins
- Visit the Medina of Kairouan and stroll through the narrow winding streets and explore the bustling marketplaces.
- Discover local crafts such, pottery, and traditional embroidery

- Take part in a carpet weaving workshop assisted by local women
- Pause for a typical Tunisian lunch at a local restaurant. Don't overlook the chance to taste the famous pastry of this holy city
- After lunch, head towards the desert with a stop in the verdant oasis town of Tozeur. It will take around 4 hours to get there, but we will have several stops to stretch your legs
- Arrive for dinner and spend the night in Tozeur

**Day 5:** Tozeur - Tamerza - Chebika - Ong Jemal - Tozeur

- Begin your day with a relaxing morning & free time
- Take part in a cooking class led by a celebrity chef of the region to prepare one of the Tunisian traditional dishes
- Learn about the production of dates while participating in a Tunisian date tasting to savor the "queen of all dates," highly prized worldwide
- Enjoy lunch at an oasis in Tozeur
- After lunch, jump in a 4WD safari to the oasis of the mountain Chebika & Tamerza and Ong Jemal
- Discover the landscapes at Chebika oasis with natural springs, visit the ruins of historic villages between mountains and oasis, enjoy a refreshing swim under the waterfalls of Tamerza
- Head back to our Tozeur lodging in time for dinner

**Day 6:** Tozeur - Chott El Jerid – Douz Desert

- After breakfast, make a splash in the pool and relax this morning
- Visit the Tozeur Medina, Souk Erbaa, the local market, and Berber café
- Pause for lunch before moving onward
- Drive to Douz via Chott El Jerid, a lake with the largest salt flat in the African Sahara
- Marvel at the salt pans and salt sculptures located here
- Arrive in Douz, the gateway to the Tunisian desert. For a small additional cost, you can choose to ride a camel or ATV ride in the desert of Douz (30/60 min)
- End the day at our hotel in Douz, near the desert
- If the weather allows, we will enjoy a traditional Tunisian dinner in the desert under nomadic tents and the stars
- Finally, spend the night at our Douz hotel for a good night's sleep

**Day 7:** Douz – Matmata - Ksar Hadada - Chenini Berber village

- After an early breakfast, depart to Matmata, the site of the fascinating underground dwellings of the Berbers
- Visit the Berber Village, where you will meet Berber families and connect with locals from the region
- Visit a troglodyte hotel, which served as Star Wars filming location
- Continue to Chenini Berber Village, a troglodyte village, overlooked by a Ksar citadel
- Move onward to explore Ksar Hadada, the filming location for Mos Espa's Slave Quarters in Star Wars: Episode I
- Deepen your connection to the Berbers here by sharing a lunch together
- After lunch, head north to Djerba Island, a World Heritage Site of stunning Mediterranean beaches with white sand and turquoise waters and multi-ethnic communities, located off the southeastern coast of Tunisia
- Arrive and check in at our Djerba hotel to spend the night

**Day 8:** Djerba Island (UNESCO World Heritage Site)

- Spend a relaxing morning on the largest island in North Africa, home to one of the world's longest-standing Jewish communities
- Visit Hara Sghira the small Jewish District and learn more about this crossroads of Judaism, Islam, and Christianity
- Continue to Djerbahood where artists from all over the world gathered to create 250 mural paintings
- Keep an eye out for the mosaics of French artist, Invader on the buildings
- Visit the 26 centuries old El Ghriba Synagogue, the oldest synagogue in Africa, and one of the most ancient in the world
- Pause for a typical Tunisian lunch at a local restaurant
- Stroll through Houmt Souk in the vibrant heart of Djerba
- Visit Guella, the famous for its pottery artisans
- Return to the hotel in the late afternoon for free time, dinner and an overnight stay

**Day 9:** Djerba - Gabes - Sousse

- Set off early to the village of Gabes
- Get ready for a biking tour in the Chenini Oasis to discover the inland beauty of Gabes

- Rest and enjoy lunch time in the oasis
- Continue north to the historical city of Sousse, the 3rd largest city in Tunisia. Check in a few hours before dinner
- Take your time to discover the downtown UNESCO World Heritage Sousse Medina. Explore other local spots before returning to the hotel
- Have dinner together this evening

**Day 10:** Sousse - El Jem - Hammamet

- Depart to El Jem amphitheatre (World Heritage Site) a rare Roman colosseum and one of the largest in the world
- Tour the monumental amphitheatre, built in the mid 3rd century AD (230-240 AD), the largest Roman monument left in Africa
- Depart to the seaside village of Hammamet, a.k.a the Tunisia Riviera
- Savor a typical Tuinsian lunch
- Visit the beautiful Medina of Hammamet and the 9th century kasbah, modified in the 1400s as the governor's lodgings
- In the late afternoon, enjoy some free time and meet up at café
- Check in at our hotel, have dinner, and stay overnight in Hammamet

**Day 11:** Hammamet

- Slow down and reflect on the trip with a rest day at our resort
- Consider how you will integrate your experiences in your classes upon your return
- Savor your final dinner and overnight in Hammamet

**Day 12:** Hammamet to airport

- Transfer to airport
- End of tour

**Guides, in-country transportation and entrance fees are included in the price of the trip.**

- **All participants** will be French teachers, instructors or professors. Visas are not required for entry for US and Canadian citizens and Western European nationals. Other nationalities are responsible for obtaining their own visa for entry if needed. All travelers must provide proof of purchase of travel insurance and medical evacuation for the duration of the trip including CFAR insurance (Cancel For Any Reason).
- **Collaboration and brainstorming** for lessons and curriculum by participants will be woven into our trip and activities. Travelers may collaborate before, during, and after the trip to design lessons and units to share with other French teachers.
- **College credit** is available for an additional fee for curriculum design projects and/or research.
- **The itinerary** provided is a representative sample of activities, and will be updated and adjusted as necessary according to the interests and needs of the participants, as well as local constraints.
- **Lodging** is typically double-occupancy rooms located in 3- and 4-star hotels with WIFI.
- **Meals:** Most meals and one non-alcoholic drink per meal will be included daily. Additional drinks may be purchased at an additional cost.
- **Weather:** Expect sunny days with typical temperatures of 80s-90s, with even hotter temperatures in the desert.
- **Health:** Check your vaccination needs as directed by your physician.

## Trip Includes:

- ✓ Breakfast, lunch, and most dinners + 1 non-alcoholic drink per meal (approximately 4-6 dinners will be on your own)
- ✓ Several pre-departure meetings via Zoom
- ✓ Airport transfer to/from Tunis airport to hotel
- ✓ All ground and water transportation (private air-conditioned bus, public ferry, private pirogues)
- ✓ Double-occupancy lodging with air-conditioning
- ✓ One-on-one and small group conversations with students, educators, and various experts in family, educational, and studio settings
- ✓ Opportunities for collaboration and design of teaching materials to be used and shared upon our return
- ✓ Multilingual guides and chaperones with tours conducted in French
- ✓ All cultural visits, entrance fees for sites mentioned in the itinerary, including several [UNESCO World Heritage sites](#)
- ✓ Conversational Arabic lessons and cultural orientation
- ✓ Any workshop fees

## Trip Does Not Include:

- ✗ Round-trip transportation to/from your home to destination
- ✗ Costs with obtaining a passport valid for 6 months past the trip dates nor any costs associated with acquiring visas if required
- ✗ Any lodging or other costs associated prior to arrival in country
- ✗ Additional baggage fees that may be imposed by airline
- ✗ Medical expenses such as [vaccinations](#)
- ✗ Required travel and medical evacuation insurance, including CFAR (Cancel for Any Reason) from a provider such as [AllianzInsurance](#), [AAA](#) or [WorldNomads](#). Proof will be required to participate
- ✗ Souvenirs and snacks must be purchased on your own

Last updated January 6, 2025