

SEAN RUSH

Magical Morocco

TO DECORATE THE 1920S MEDITERRANEAN HOMES OF HIS LOCAL CLIENTS, INTERIOR DESIGNER SEAN RUSH TRAVELS TO MOROCCO IN SEARCH OF MOORISH ELEMENTS LIKE TILES AND TEXTILES. THE CITIES OF FEZ AND RABAT CALL TO HIM ON A PROFESSIONAL AND PERSONAL LEVEL: AS A FINE ARTIST, HE FINDS CREATIVITY AROUND EVERY CORNER, WHETHER WALKING THROUGH THE MEDINA OR DISCOVERING COLORFUL HANDMADE OBJECTS FROM NATIVE VENDORS TO BRING BACK TO HIS ATELIER ON WEST PALM BEACH'S ANTIQUE ROW.

VIBE: Kind, gentle, exotic, romantic, visually stimulating and inspiring.

DAY FASHION: Think Robert Redford in *Out of Africa*.

BEST WAY TO START THE DAY:

Sitting on a terrace in the morning sun under an orange tree and chatting with your traveling companion as your fatima brings up your tray of coffee, fresh lemon juice, small bites and an egg. Perfection!

BEST BITE: Any Moroccan tagine, whether fish, chicken or lamb.

BEST TIME TO GO: At the end of May, during the Fez Festival of World Sacred Music. From Gregorian chants to Sarah McLachlan, international musicians and scholars perform within the ancient city walls. *(fesfestival.com)*

FAVORITE HOTELS: The Riad Fez, the Hotel la Tour Hassan and Hotel Majorelle. (*riadfes.* com, latourhassan.com, hotel-majorelle.com)

FAVORITE SHOP: Alchimies in Rabat.





HOMETOWN GOOD TO SAM-PLE AND STOCKPILE: Ceramics, leather goods, tablecloths and bedding from Fez. I recently purchased an entire stockpile of Berber blankets from Rabat.

BEST WAY TO SPEND A FREE MORNING: Sitting in a mosque or a museum courtyard drawing in the morning sun while watching feral cats weaving in and out of the columns of the loggias.

UNWRITTEN RULE THE LO-CALS LIVE BY: Be kind. Moroccans are some of the kindest people I have ever met.

SHOPPING TIP: As you walk through the Medina, scan through all the tiny shops. Haggle for as long as you wish, then tell the vendor no and walk out—I guarantee the shop owner will follow you out and offer you half the price.

SIGNATURE DRINK: Mint tea.

SOUNDTRACK: The call to prayer falling over the ancient city walls.

WHAT IS RUSH'S ADVICE FOR SOLO TRAVEL IN MOROCCO? FIND OUT AT PALMBEACH ILLUSTRATED.COM/MOROCCO