August 2026

Travel Thoughtfully...Experience Joy
The Getaway With Joy Insider

Every month brings a new reason to explore.
Let's see where joy is calling us now.

A Note From Your Experience Designer

Dear Fellow Travelers,

One of the greatest gifts of travel is the way it transforms us through connection. Whether we're exploring a new city, celebrating a milestone, or simply stepping away from the rhythm of everyday life, shared journeys have a remarkable way of deepening our relationships and reminding us what truly matters. They invite us to slow down, see the world through new eyes, and create memories that stay with us long after we return home.

I experienced that transformation firsthand during my recent journey to Morocco. I traveled there expecting to learn new ways to strengthen my travel business, but I returned with something much greater—a renewed perspective on the power of curiosity, community, and lifelong learning.

While in Morocco, I spent a day wandering the coastal beauty of Essaouira, purchased pure Argan oil from local artisans, experienced the restorative ritual of a traditional Hammam, explored the breathtaking Ourika Valley tucked within the Atlas Mountains, and even soared above the landscape during a sunrise hot air balloon ride. Each experience invited me to pause, connect, and embrace moments outside my comfort zone. And in those moments—surrounded by culture, nature, and fellow travel professionals from around the world—I realized that the most meaningful journeys don't simply change our surroundings; they change us.

That realization continues to shape the way I design every experience for my travelers. My goal isn't just to help you visit extraordinary destinations. It's to create journeys that inspire growth, deepen connections, and leave you seeing the world—and perhaps yourself—a little differently than before.

This month, that intention comes to life through our Juneteenth Heritage Journey in Chicago. Rooted in history, resilience, and the transformative power of storytelling, it reflects the same spirit of curiosity and connection that Morocco awakened in me. It's a reminder that meaningful travel isn't defined by distance—it's defined by depth.
Because the greatest souvenir we ever bring home isn't something we pack in our suitcase. It's the person we become because we said yes to the journey.

With Joy and Intention,

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FROM ESSAOURIA TO ATLAS: MOROCCO IN FULL COLOR

A CURATED IMMERSION INTO MOROCCO'S BEAUTY. RHYTHM AND RESTORATIVE TRADITIONS.

Morocco offered a vibrant tapestry of experiences that awakened both clarity and curiosity. In Essaouira, the ocean breeze carried a sense of calm as I wandered through coastal streets lined with artisans and local treasures.

A traditional Hammam provided a restorative pause—an invitation to slow down and reconnect with myself.

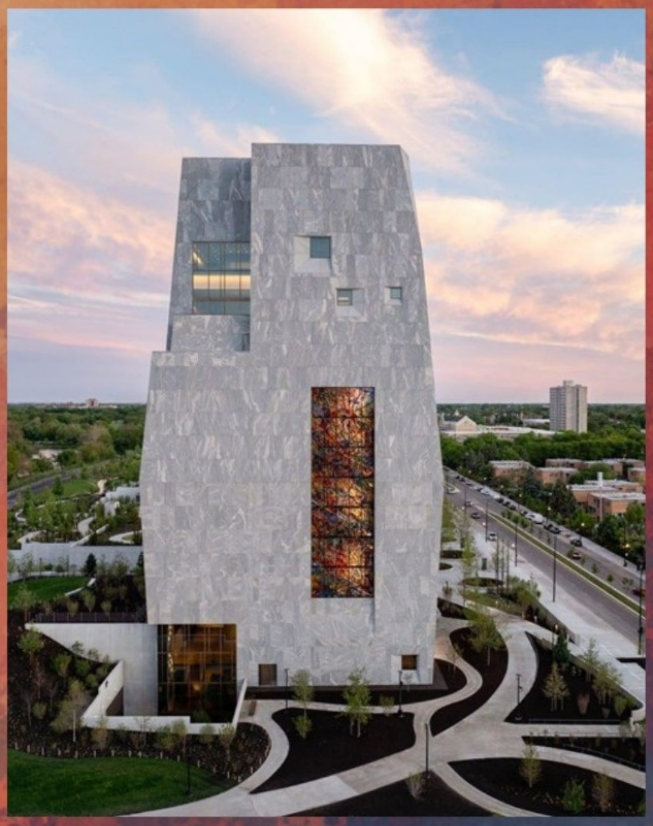
The Ourika Valley revealed the quiet majesty of the Atlas Mountains, where nature's beauty felt both grounding and expansive. And at sunrise, a hot air balloon lifted me above the landscape, offering a breathtaking perspective that mirrored the emotional elevation I felt throughout the journey.

Each moment—whether rooted in culture, wellness, nature, or adventure—reminded me why Morocco is a destination that transforms you from the inside out. It was a journey in full color, rich with rhythm, tradition, and the kind of beauty that stays with you long after you return home.

THE JUNETEENTH HERITAGE JOURNEY

CHICAGO & THE OBAMA PRESIDENTIAL CENTER

In 2027, we'll gather in Chicago for a journey that honors legacy, celebrates resilience, and brings history to life through powerful storytelling. Over five unforgettable days, travelers will explore the cultural heartbeat of the South Side — a place where Black history, innovation, and artistry continue to shape the city's identity.



Our experience begins with a visit to the Obama Presidential Center, a landmark dedicated to civic engagement, hope, and the belief that communities thrive when people come together. We'll continue our exploration at the DuSable Black History Museum, where exhibits illuminate centuries of Black achievement, creativity, and perseverance.

A highlight of the weekend will be the Chicago Black Heritage Tour, offering a guided look at historic neighborhoods, iconic landmarks, and the stories of leaders, artists, and changemakers who helped define the city's cultural landscape. We'll also savor the flavors of Chicago through visits to Black-owned restaurants, each offering its own blend of tradition, pride, and culinary artistry.

To round out the experience, we'll step aboard the Chicago Architecture River Cruise, where the city's skyline tells its own story — one of vision, reinvention, and the beauty of collective imagination.

This Juneteenth journey is more than an itinerary. It's an opportunity to honor history, celebrate community, and connect with the stories that continue to shape our world. Chicago invites us to listen, learn, and experience heritage in full color — and we can't wait to share it with you.

ON THE HORIZON: UPCOMING JOURNEYS

A Journey of Wonders (Egypt & The Nile) ~ December 27, 2026–January 5, 2027
Ring in the New Year surrounded by timeless wonders. From the majestic pyramids to sunset sailings along the Nile. This journey invites you to experience one of the world's greatest civilizations while welcoming a new chapter of your own.

Juneteenth Heritage Journey: Chicago, Hyde Park & the Obama Presidential Center ~ June 17–22, 2027
Experience a journey of legacy, resilience, and inspiration as we explore Chicago's rich cultural history, the significance of Juneteenth, and the enduring impact of leadership, community and service.

Serengeti Sunsets & Zanzibar Shores (Tanzania & Zanzibar) ~ July 1–14, 2027
Witness breathtaking wildlife migrations, golden African sunsets, and the tranquil beauty of Zanzibar's turquoise shores on a journey designed to awaken wonder and nourish the soul.

Jewels of the Adriatic (Croatia & Montenegro) ~ September 1–10, 2027
Discover medieval towns, hidden coves, luxurious yacht experiences and some of Europe's most stunning coastlines on an unforgettable Adriatic escape.

A MOMENT OF REFLECTION - BEFORE YOU GO...

What journey has been quietly calling your name?

We often wait for the perfect season of life before saying yes to meaningful experiences. More time. More money. More certainty.

But perhaps the moments that shape us most are the ones we choose before everything feels perfectly aligned. As you move through this month, I invite you to consider:

- What destination has been living quietly in your heart?
  And what has kept you from saying yes?

I would truly love to hear your answer.
Simply reply to this newsletter and share the destination that's been calling your name. As a small thank you for sharing your story, one reader will be selected to receive a $50 Travel Inspiration Gift Card this month.

Because sometimes the first step toward a meaningful journey is simply speaking the dream out loud. And perhaps that's where every great travel story begins.

CLOSING MESSAGE

Thank you for being part of the Getaway With Joy community. Each journey we create is rooted in connection, culture, and the belief that travel has the power to transform us — personally and collectively. I'm honored to design experiences that uplift, inspire, and help you see the world with fresh eyes.

Wherever your next adventure leads, I hope it brings you clarity, connection, and a little more JOY.

Until next month, keep choosing joy, connection and the journeys that become a part of your story.