

SEX AND THE CITY 2'S **EXOTIC ADVENTURE**

The stars of *Sex and the City 2* fell in love with Morocco's luxurious hotels, world-class wares and vibrant culture



The cast filmed scenes at the Amanjena resort, located 15 minutes outside Marrakech.



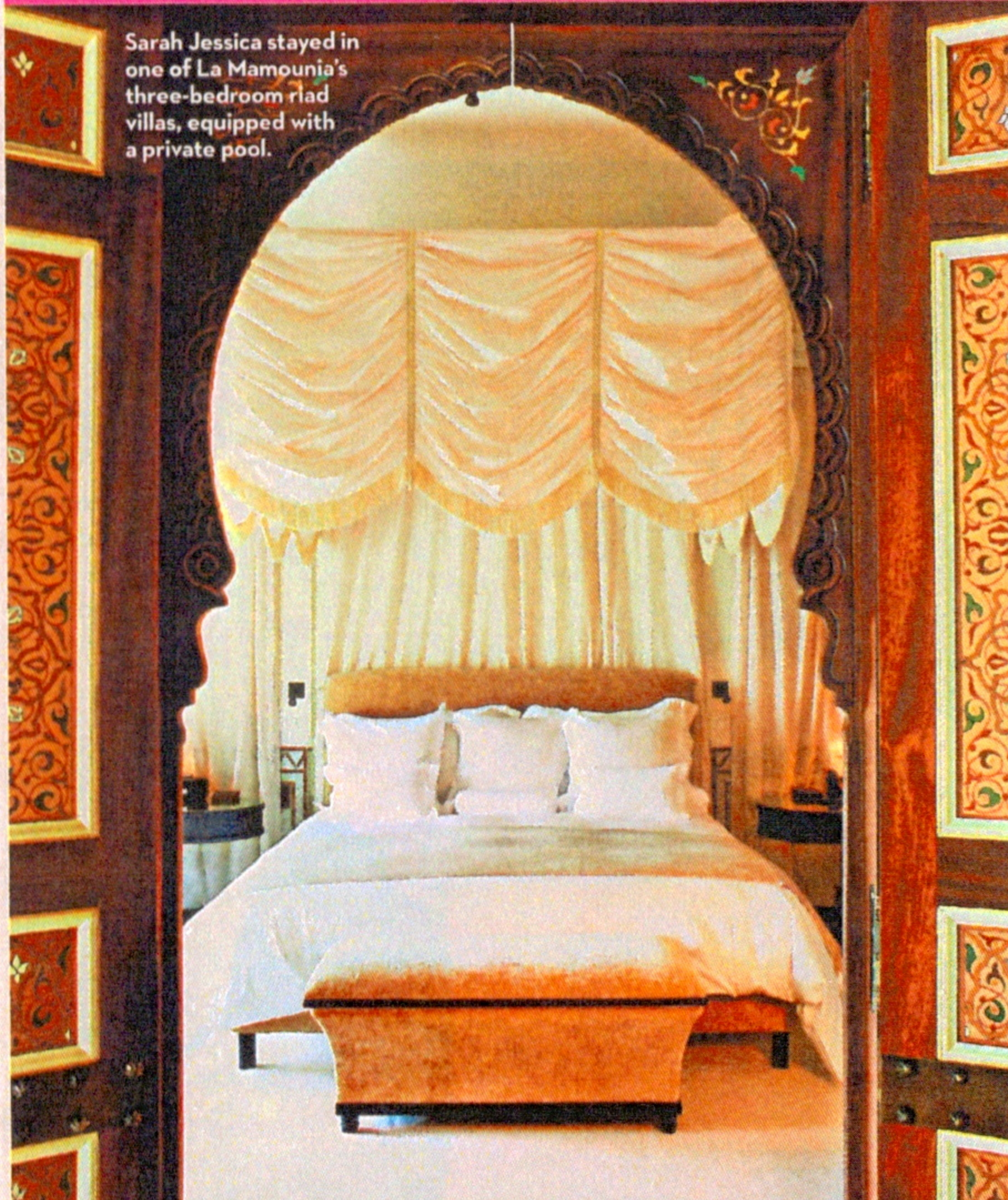
Cynthia Nixon, Sarah Jessica Parker, Kim Cattrall and Kristin Davis swap NYC for Marrakech.

The producers of *Sex and the City 2* chose Marrakech, Morocco, as a perfect stand-in filming location for Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates. The cast and crew spent almost two months in the bustling North African metropolis, filming everywhere from the crowded markets inside the ancient walls of the Medina to the desert wilderness of the Western Sahara.

Exploring Marrakech unrecognized by locals, the girls shopped for antiques, sampled local cuisine and relaxed at the city's finest hotels in between scenes. "It was so much fun," recalls Sarah Jessica Parker of her real-life African adventure. "It created some of the best memories we've ever had."

— Eloise Parker

WHERE THE GIRLS STAYED IN MARRAKECH



Sarah Jessica stayed in one of La Mamounia's three-bedroom riad villas, equipped with a private pool.

1 SARAH JESSICA LOVED LA MAMOUNIA

Carrie Bradshaw would approve of SJP's luxe home away from home, which reopened, after a three-year makeover, just in time for her stay. The chicest hotel in Marrakech since 1923, La Mamounia's 136 rooms, 71 suites and three private

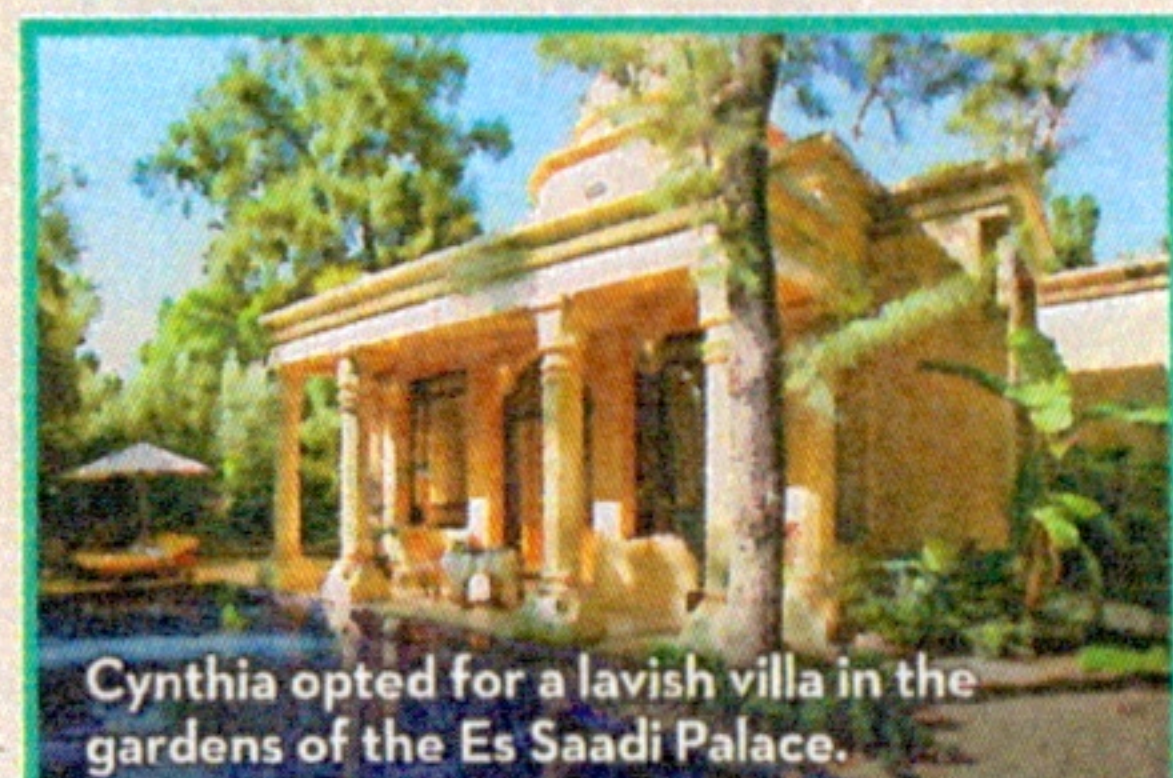
riads have attracted A-listers like Gwyneth Paltrow and Jennifer Aniston. Renowned for its historic Moorish design, new amenities include Le Marocain, a garden restaurant serving local treats, and an indulgent hammam scrub-down at the spa (mamounia.com).



After long days filming, Kim was seen dining alone at The Restaurant at Amanjena.

2 KIM AND KRISTIN CHOSE AMANJENA

Following in Brad and Angelina's footsteps, Kim Cattrall and Kristin Davis stayed in garden pavilions at the peaceful Amanjena resort. And after filming scenes in the lobby, SJP took over a two-story maison with son James, just before her return to the United States (amanjena.com).



Cynthia opted for a lavish villa in the gardens of the Es Saadi Palace.

3 CYNTHIA STAYED AT ES SAADI PALACE

Cynthia Nixon was joined by partner Christine Marinoni at Villa Amazir, one of 10 Orient-themed villas at Es Saadi Gardens & Resort. During filming, Cynthia dined on Moroccan fare at La Cour des Lions restaurant inside the antiques-filled Es Saadi Palace (essaadi.com).

THERE'S SO MUCH TO DO IN THE CITY

► SHOP THE MARKETS

Rugs and antiques are great buys in Marrakech. The Ethno Art Gallery in Souk Elkebir counts Mariah Carey as a fan (ethnoartgallery.com).

► DINE OUTSIDE

Sample traditional Moroccan fare in the picture-perfect garden at Dar Moha (darmoha.ma).



Cook with local spices at La Maison Arabe.

► HIT THE TOWN

SATC 2 filmed in the busy main square, Djemaa el Fna, which is filled with snake charmers and fortune-tellers.

► LEARN TO COOK

Take a half-day cooking class at La Maison Arabe (lamaisonarabe.com).
► GO GREEN Visit the Majorelle Garden, Yves Saint Laurent's favorite.

SEX AND THE CITY 2: COURTESY OF WARNER BROS.; COURTESY OF MARRAKECH TOURISM