



Tunisia 2 : Crossing Tunisia



Directed by Chantal BAUMANN

French version
English Version

©2005

A documentary of 52'

Digital Betacam 16/9

The principal town of Tunisia, Tunis, has been recognised as its capital since the decree of the Almohades on the 20th September 1159, and its status was confirmed by the Hafside dynasty in 1228.

Despite the European appearance of the Avenue Bourguiba, we quickly return to the authentic spirit of Tunis in the Medina, considered to be one of the most beautiful on the oriental side of the Mediterranean.

Glancing up, the eye is immediately met by the starry silhouette of the Minarets, or the whitewashed domes of the Zaouïa.

In Carthage visitors are caught up in the wake of Hannibal, swept along by the presence of 3000 years of history.

The area that was once the ancient Punic city, has become just another trendy suburb of Tunis. The Punic city was destroyed and then rebuilt by the Romans, who made it into the capital of the province of Proconsular Africa.

The town still contains a number of noteworthy archaeological sites, most of which are Roman. Tucked inside the walls of a temple, are some Corinthian columns, remnants of another era.

Sidi Bou Saïd, is a picturesque village perched on the edge of a waterfall, looking out over Carthage and the Gulf of Tunis.

It is well known for its street cafes, favourite resting spots for local Tunisians. One such cafe is the « cafe des nattes », which also hosts Malouf evenings, organised by the music lovers of the village.