



Temple Emanuel



## Jewish Roots Journey to Europe

Led by Rabbi Elizabeth Hersh & Rabbi Marc Rudolph

October 7 – 19, 2018

(As of August 6, 2017 - Subject to Change)

### Travel Unit I: Poland - The Jewish World That Was

#### Sunday October 7

- Departure from USA

#### Monday October 8

- Midday arrival at Warsaw's Chopin International Airport
- Head to Warsaw's **Polin Museum of the History of Polish Jews** for an overview of 1,000 years of Jewish history in Poland. *The 3.3 million Jews of Poland made up about 10% of the pre-World War II population.*
- Check-in at our hotel
- Opening Dinner

**Overnight:** Mercure Centrum Hotel, Warsaw

#### Tuesday October 9

- Breakfast at the hotel
- Pack bus and depart hotel
- At Warsaw's **Genscha Street Cemetery**, consider "The Life that Was". *Dating to 1799, it has over 200,000 graves. It also includes mass graves for thousands of Jewish victims of the Nazis in the Warsaw ghetto.*
- Explore what had been the area of **Warsaw Ghetto** including parts of the ghetto wall, Umshlagplatz, Rappaport Memorial, Mila 18
- *The 340,000 Jews of Warsaw made up about 1/3 of the city's population in 1939.*
- Lunch on your own in Warsaw and then depart to Krakow.
- Head to the **Nazi era Krakow Ghetto**. See a section of the **Ghetto Wall** and the **Schindler Factory Gates**
- Check-in at our hotel in **Krakow**.
- Tour the **Old Town Square of Krakow** and have dinner on your own



**Overnight:** Galaxy Hotel, Krakow

#### Wednesday October 10

- Breakfast at the hotel
- Walking **tour** of the **Kazmierz Old Jewish Quarter** of Krakow exploring "**The World That Was**". Sites include: Ramah Synagogue/Cemetery & Isaac and Temple Synagogues. *Prior to the Shoah the 60,000 Jews of Krakow comprised 25% of the city's population.*
- Head to the **Auschwitz-Birkenau** Polish State Museum & Memorial
- Packed Lunch
- Start at the **Auschwitz II Birkenau Death Camp** where over 1,000,000 Jews were murdered.
- Continue to the site of **Auschwitz I Concentration Camp**. Visit the barracks, museum exhibits and gas chamber.
- Return to Krakow. At the **Krakow JCC** we'll have dinner and meet a **member of the local Jewish community** and learn about Jewish life in Poland today.
- **Overnight:** Galaxy Hotel, Krakow



## Travel Unit II: Prague – Traces of the Past

### Thursday October 11

- Breakfast at the hotel
- Meet a “**Righteous Gentile**” who risked all to save Jews during the Shoah
- Pack bus and depart hotel to **Prague**
- In Moravia in the Czech Republic, we’ll stop at **Boskovice** once a major Jewish center. Stroll through the narrow lanes of the old Jewish Quarter and visit the restored 17<sup>th</sup> century synagogue.
- Packed Lunch
- Late afternoon/early evening arrival in Prague; check-in at our hotel
- Walking tour at the **Old Town Square of Prague** followed by a dinner cruise on the Vltava River
- **Overnight:** Grand Bohemia Hotel, *Prague*

### Friday October 12

- Breakfast at the hotel
- Walking tour of **Josefov**, the Old Jewish Quarter of Prague *including Europe’s oldest synagogue - **Alt Neu Shul** - seat of the famed 16<sup>th</sup> century Maharal (Rabbi Judah Lowy) and his mythical Golem.*
- Visit the synagogues, cemetery & Judaica of the **Prague Jewish Museum** as we trace the roots of contemporary Jewish identity.
- Packed Lunch
- Stand in solemn memory at **Terezin**, site of the Nazi “showcase” Ghetto to which many of the Jews of Prague were sent before being murdered at Auschwitz and elsewhere.
- Return to the hotel to prepare for Shabbat
- **Kabbalat Shabbat** services with Liberal congregation **Bejt Simcha**.
- Shabbat Dinner
- **Overnight:** Grand Bohemia Hotel, *Prague*



### Shabbat October 13

- Breakfast at the hotel
- Optional Shabbat morning services (Orthodox) at the opulent **Jubilee Synagogue** *built in 1906, and named in honor of the **Silver Jubilee of Emperor Franz Joseph I of Austria** or take time to explore Prague on your own*
- Lunch on your own
- Afternoon **walking tour** of Prague including **Wenceslas Square** and the **Charles Bridge**. *The Charles Bridge is lined with 30 statues. Most of the statues date to 1706 – 1714. Of special interest is the crucifixion sculpture with Hebrew inscription ... קדוש, קדוש, קדוש (Holy, holy, holy...)*
- Dinner on your own
- **Evening:** Head to a performance of Prague’s famous **Black Light Theater**
- **Overnight:** Grand Bohemia Hotel, *Prague*



### Sunday October 14

- Breakfast at the hotel
- Pack bus and depart hotel
- Explore the **Prague Castle** complex -a UNESCO World Heritage Site - *founded around 880 and thought to be the largest coherent castle complex in the world.*
- Lunch and shopping time on your own
- **Depart to Vienna**
- Check in at our hotel
- Evening and dinner on your own
- **Overnight:** Le Meridien Hotel, *Vienna*

## Travel Unit III: Vienna and Budapest - Past, Present and Future

### Monday October 15

- Breakfast at the hotel .
- We'll get a taste of the power of Imperial Vienna, seat of the Hapsburg Empire. Starting with a visit the **Schonbrunn Palace & Gardens** , former summer residence of the Hapsburgs
- Lunch and shopping time on your own
- Bus and walking tour of **Vienna's major sites** including: **Hofburg** former imperial residence, the famous **Ringstrasse**, **St. Stephen's Cathedral** and other landmarks.
- Dinner on your own
- Concert or other cultural event
- **Overnight:** Le Meridien Hotel, *Vienna*



### Tuesday October 16

- Breakfast at the hotel
- Pack bus and depart the hotel.
- Tour the sites of **Jewish Vienna** including the **Jewish Museum** and the **Stadtempel** Synagogue, the only synagogue to survive the war, the **Holocaust Memorial** and the **Judenplatz Museum**. *In the 1920s, the over 200,000 Jews of Vienna made up over 10% of the city's population. Today, there are about 10,000 Jews who make up less than 1% of the population.*
- Lunch and shopping time on your own
- Depart to Budapest
- Check-in at our hotel in **Budapest**; evening and dinner on your own
- **Overnight:** Continental Zara Hotel, *Budapest*

### Wednesday October 17

- Breakfast at the hotel
- *In the 1930s the over 200,000 Jews of Budapest made up over 20% of the population. Today there are thought to be about 40,000 Jews in Budapest.*
- Examine the development of contemporary Jewish religious ideologies and movements via the Jewish sites in the area of the **Dohany Synagogue**. We will visit the **Kazinczy Street Orthodox Synagogue**, **Dohany Street Synagogue**, **Jewish Museum** and **Holocaust Memorials**.
- Meet a local Jewish leader. *Learn about the challenges that Hungarian Jews face including assimilation and the reality of Hungarian anti-Semitism past and present.*
- Lunch on your own
- Take a dip at the famed **Gellert Baths hot spring pools** in the heart of Budapest
- Dinner and evening on your own
- **Overnight:** Continental Zara Hotel, *Budapest*



### Thursday October 18

- Breakfast at the hotel
- Head to the area of the International Ghetto where **Moshe Krausz** together with foreign diplomats **Carl Lutz**, **Raoul Wallenberg** and others set up safe houses in 1944, thereby saving the lives of over 100,000 Jews. *Examine the saving role of the "Righteous Gentile" during the Shoah.*

- Stand in solemn memory at the **Shoes on the Danube Promenade** which remembers the Jews who were murdered in late 1944 by the Hungarian fascist Arrow Cross militiamen in Budapest
- Cross the Danube to **Castle Hill** on the Buda side of the city for dramatic views of the city from the **Fisherman's Bastion**
- Continue to the **Great Market Hall and Vaci Utca** for lunch and shopping time on your own
- **Cruise on the Danube River**
- Summary Session and **Farewell Dinner**
- **Overnight:** Continental Zara Hotel, *Budapest*



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### Friday October 19

- Departure to USA

- Listed activities and speakers are subject to confirmation.
- All breakfasts plus underlined meals are included in the package price.
- This itinerary is proprietary to Keshet and is intended for the promotion of and to inform those considering joining this Keshet trip. It is not to be transmitted to any other party without prior authorization from Keshet



### Keshet Educational Journeys

PO Box 8540 Jerusalem 91084 Israel  
Phone: 972-2-671-3518 | Fax: 972-2-671-3624  
keshet@keshetisrael.co.il | www.keshetisrael.co.il