

19 Aviation Road, Albany, NY 12205

Cantor Jodi Sufrin Temple Beth Elohim Tour to Eastern Europe with "Ride for the Living" June 23 – July 2, 2019

(As of 7/30/18)



Together we'll explore Europe not through the lens of the Holocaust, but with an eye on the long history of Europe as the center of Jewish culture, filled with periods of incredible intellectual achievement and spiritual growth. We'll interact and share with members of the modern day Jewish communities, experiencing a re-birth in these regions. Members of our group will participate in Ride for the Living, biking from Auschwitz-Birkenau to Krakow, remembering those whose lives ended in this terrible place and honoring those who lived to tell the tale.

DAY 1: Sunday, June 23, 2019: DEPARTURE

• We depart from Boston on our overnight flight to Budapest.

DAY 2: Monday, June 24, 2019: WELCOME TO BUDAPEST!

- We arrive in **Budapest**, the capital of Hungary. Situated on the opposite banks of the Danube River, the former cities of Buda and Pest are linked by a series of graceful bridges.
- We enjoy a panoramic bus tour of Budapest, including **Parliament**, the **Royal Palace**, and the Castle Hill area, Fishermen's Bastion, Coronation Church, Hero's Square and Gellert Hill.
- We check into our hotel and refresh, followed by a **welcome dinner** together tonight.

Overnight in Budapest

DAY 3: Tuesday, June 25, 2019: JEWISH BUDAPEST

- Breakfast at our hotel.
- We begin our day at the **Raoul Wallenberg Memorial statue** erected in honor of the Swedish diplomat who saved many Jews from dying at the hands of the Nazis.
- Our next stop is at the adjacent **Dohany Synagogue**, the 2nd largest synagogue in Europe built between 1854 and 1859 in the Moorish Revival style.
- Within the synagogue complex, we tour the Jewish Cemetery and Museum built on the site where the birth home of Theodore Herzl once stood.
- Evening at leisure and dinner on own.

Overnight in Budapest



DAY 4: Wednesday, June 26, 2019: BUDAPEST TO KRAKOW

- Breakfast and check out of our hotel.
- We depart for **Krakow**, driving through the lovely countryside of Slovakia, past the Tatras and into the Great Plains of Poland.
- Upon our arrival, we check in to our hotel and enjoy **dinner** together.

Overnight in Krakow

DAY 5: Thursday, June 27, 2019: AUSCHWITZ-BIRKENAU

- Breakfast at our hotel.
- Full ride participants & all participants from Beth Elohim: We travel together to Auschwitz-Birkenau, the infamous Nazi concentration camps where many Jews and others perished in WWII. Here, we receive a private group tour.
- Full participants: This evening, we enjoy a welcome dinner together with other Ride For the Living participants.
- Beth Elohim participants: This evening, we enjoy dinner together with our Beth Elohim group.



Overnight in Krakow

DAY 6: Friday, June 28, 2019: RIDE FOR THE LIVING

- Breakfast at our hotel.
- **Full participants & ride only participants:** We travel by bus back to Auschwitz and begin our 55-mile bike ride to **JCC Krakow**.
- For Beth Elohim participants, we enjoy a **Jewish heritage tour** that includes the **Kazimierz**, the old Jewish district, where we see the **Old Synagogue**, a massive fortress-like building erected in the 15th to 16th centuries, the "**Temple**" and the **Ramuh Synagogue**. We continue to the **Little Museum at the Drug Store** inside the Jewish Ghetto, then pass by **Schindler's Factory** and the **Plaszow Concentration Camp**.
- This evening, everyone joins together for **Shabbat dinner** with over 500 cycling participants, including the local Jewish community and guests from around the world the biggest Shabbat dinner in Krakow since before WWII.

Overnight in Krakow



DAY 7: Saturday, June 29, 2019: DISCOVERING KRAKOW

- Breakfast at our hotel.
- For full ride participants: Choose either a tour of Old Town Krakow and Kazimierz, or a free day to explore the city and enjoy Krakow's Jewish Culture Festival, the largest such festival in the world.
- For Beth Elohim participants: Enjoy a a city tour, including visits to Wawel Castle, St. Mary's Church, the Renaissance Cloth Hall and other ancient landmarks.
- This evening, join 20,000 people for **Havdallah** and an open-air **music concert** featuring highlights from the Jewish Culture Festival.

• Dinner on own this evening.

Overnight in Krakow

DAY 8: Sunday, June 30, 2019: KRAKOW TO WARSAW

- Breakfast and check out of our hotel.
- This morning, **full participants** take part in the **Ride for the Living closing ceremony**.
- We all join together and board the train to Warsaw and check in to our hotel upon arrival.
- After lunch on own, we drive through the **Warsaw Zoo**, where we visit the **Zookeeper's house**, owned by the couple that saved around a hundred Jews from the Holocaust, now memorialized in the book "*The Zookeeper's Wife*".
- Later this afternoon, we enjoy a guided visit of the New Museum of the History of Polish Jews (POLIN).
- This evening, we meet with members of **Beit Warszawa**, the new progressive congregation in Warsaw. We enjoy **dinner and hospitality** as we learn more about Judaism alive in Poland today.

Overnight in Warsaw

DAY 9: Monday, July 1, 2019: EXPLORING WARSAW

- Breakfast at our hotel.
- Today, we enjoy a **city tour** of Warsaw, including **Chopin's Monument**, the **Royal Castle**, the **Jewish Historical Society**, and a walk through **Old Town Market Square** and **Lazienki Park**.
- This afternoon, we set out on a sightseeing tour encompassing Nozyk Synagogue (the only surviving synagogue in Warsaw, founded in 1900), the Warsaw Ghetto, the Jewish Resistance Bunker at Mila 18, Stawski Street buildings (where the SS had their headquarters) and the Gensa Cemetery (established in 1806, containing the graves of about 250,000 people and known as the largest cemetery in Poland).
- Tonight, we enjoy a special **farewell dinner**, recalling all that we have experienced together.

Overnight in Warsaw





DAY 10: Tuesday, July 2, 2019: DEPARTURE

- Breakfast and check out of our hotel.
- We transfer to the airport for our flight back to the United States, landing later today.

The Memories Last Forever!

*Itinerary subject to change

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