

Ayelet TOURS

THE MEMORIES LAST FOREVER!

Congregation Beth Emeth
Journey to

BERLIN

May 2024

Led by Rabbi Greg Weitzman



DAY 3

MONDAY, MAY 20, 2024
JUDAISM IN BERLIN

- Breakfast at our hotel.
- Today's tour begins at **Jüdenstraße** and **Jüdenhof** in the **old Jewish quarter**.
- We continue to **Nikolaiviertel**, Berlin's oldest residential quarter. Notice the narrow, medieval-looking streets and quaint houses.
- Along **Grosse Hamburger Strasse**, we retrace the history of Berlin's Jewish community. We see the **memorial plaque for Otto Weidt** at the **Museum Blindenwerkstatt**, the memorial in **Rosenstraße**, the **Oranienburger Strasse Synagogue** (New Synagogue - Centrum Judaicum), the **Missing House Memorial**, the **Stolpersteine** (memorial stumbling stone), the **Jewish Memorial, Moses Mendelssohn's grave** and other commemorative sites. We also visit the **Jewish Free School, Jüdisches Gymnasium Moses Mendelssohn**.
- Lunch in on own at **Hackesche Hofe Courtyard**, which hosts over 40 businesses, including a cinema, cafes, shops and apartments.
- Later this afternoon, we visit the **Jewish Museum Berlin** to learn about the Jewish past and present in Germany.
- **Optional:** Tonight, we enjoy an interactive and delicious evening food tour.

Overnight in Berlin

DAY 4

TUESDAY, MAY 21, 2024
WANNSEE & BEYOND

- Breakfast at our hotel.
- Today, we visit the **Bavarian quarter** in **Schöneberg**, focusing especially on the signs around **Bayerische Platz** that remind us of the oppressive legislation against the Jewish citizens who lived in this area during the Nazi regime.
- Next, we tour **Wannsee Villa**, site of the "Final Solution" decision, with its memorial museum across the **Glienicke Bridge**, an exchange point for Soviet spies during the Cold War.
- We continue to **Potsdam**, stopping for lunch on our own en route.
- Following lunch, we visit **Abraham Geiger College** at **Potsdam University**, the first liberal (Reform) rabbinical seminary in Continental Europe since the Shoah.
- On our return to Berlin, we stop at the **Grunewald Train Station**, site of the deportation of most of Berlin's Jews, and view **Gleis (Track) 17**, the memorial to the deported.
- This evening, we join together for **dinner** and reflect on our day.

Overnight in Berlin

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*Itinerary subject to change





DAY 5

WEDNESDAY, MAY 22, 2024
BERLIN TODAY

- Breakfast at our hotel.
- This morning, we meet with **Sonja Guenter**, Vice Chair of the **World Union for Progressive Judaism** and a prominent voice for liberal Judaism in Germany.
- We pass by **Checkpoint Charlie** on our way to the **Topography of Terror Museum**, built on the site of the former SS and Gestapo headquarters.
- Next, we visit the **East Side Gallery**, the largest open-air gallery in the world. Approximately 106 painting by artists from all over the world cover this 1.3km-long section of the Berlin Wall as a memorial for freedom.
- Buckle up for a guided tour of Berlin in vintage, **Soviet-era vehicles**.
- After dinner on our own, we have the option to attend an **evening concert** at the **Berlin Cathedral** (pending date/confirmation).

Overnight in Berlin

DAY 6

THURSDAY, MAY 23, 2024
MUSEUM ISLAND

- Breakfast at our hotel.
- We begin our day meeting with **members of "Habait"** to learn about Jewish life and culture in Germany today.
- On our final day in Berlin, we remember, as we visit the **Memorial to the Murdered Jews of Europe**, Berlin's Holocaust memorial.
- We also visit the **Burning Book Memorial** at **Bebelplatz**, where Nazis burned approximately 20,000 books in May 1933.

- We continue to **Museum Island**, home to world-famous museums, including the **Neues (New) Museum**.
- This afternoon, we enjoy free time to stroll along **Kurfürstendamm**, Berlin's most popular shopping boulevard, and shop at **KaDeW**, the best-known department store in Germany.
- Tonight, we join together for a **farewell dinner** and reminisce about all of our memories from our time together in Berlin.

Overnight in Berlin

DAY 7

FRIDAY, MAY 24, 2024 :
TSCHÜSS - DEPARTURE

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

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