

THE WORLD UNION FOR PROGRESSIVE JUDAISM (WUPJ) PRESENTS :

Jewish Musical Cruise on the Iberian Peninsula: PORTUGAL & SPAIN

Lisbon * Portimao * Gibraltar * Malaga * Valencia *
Palma De Mallorca * Mahon * Barcelona

Featuring the musical talents of
**Rabbi Joe Black, Sarah Aroeste
& Rabbi Daniel Frelander!**
May 2019

(As of 1/30/19)



Rabbi Daniel Frelander

Rabbi Joe Black

Sarah Aroeste

*Join us aboard the “right-size” luxury cruise ship Azamara Journey. We’ll depart from **Lisbon, Portugal** and make our way along the Iberian coastline to **Barcelona, Spain**. Through it all, we’ll share in Jewish fellowship and music, from Sephardic to Ladino and beyond. We’ll celebrate with concerts and prayer services, as well as meetings with locals, including the Progressive Reform community in Barcelona. Don’t miss this totally unique travel opportunity!*

PRE-CRUISE TOUR:

“LISBON PLUS”

Day 1: Monday, April 29, 2019: ARRIVAL

- Arrivals on own throughout the day for our amazing pre-tour.
- Ayelet’s welcome desk will be open in the hotel lobby this afternoon – stop by to pick up your credentials!
- This evening, we enjoy a group **welcome program** at our hotel where we will be introduced to our fellow travelers. Meet our tour and musical leaders and be welcomed by a representative of the Lisbon Jewish Community. Immediately following, we enjoy festive **welcome dinner**.

Overnight in Lisbon



Day 2: Tuesday, April 30, 2019: TOMAR

Please note that today's tour will involve walking levels that are easy-moderate with some cobblestone and mild inclines.

- Breakfast at our hotel.
- This morning, we head north to **Tomar**, about 2 hours north of Lisbon for a walking tour of this medieval city.
- Along the way, our guide will give a brief history of the Inquisition in Portugal and touch upon relevant, dramatic literary descriptions of those terrible times.
- Upon arrival in Tomar, tour the **Abraao Zacuto Museum**, which served as a synagogue in the 15th Century and today, is a significant reminder of one of the greatest Sephardic Jewish communities.
- We continue to **Convento De Cristo** that once served as the headquarters of the Order.
- Return to Lisbon for a free evening and dinner on own.



Overnight in Lisbon

Day 3: Wednesday, May 1, 2019: SINTRA, BELEM

Please note that this morning's tour will involve mostly downhill and stairs with some upstairs and inclines. No elevators available. Some cobblestones and unpaved paths on tour route. Must be able to walk for 1-hour without resting.

This afternoon's tour will be an easy-moderate level with some cobblestone and mild inclines.

- Breakfast at our hotel – note today is the Portuguese Labor Day.
- We drive a half hour outside Lisbon to the UNESCO World Heritage site, **Sintra**. (Note there will be walking with inclines here!)
- Upon our arrival, we walk through the **Jewish Quarter**, where Jews lived before the forced conversions of 1497. There is a street sign denoting the location of the former Sintra Jewish Quarter.
- We continue with a visit to the breathtaking **Pena Palace**, a notable example of Portuguese architecture in the Romantic Period. The palace is surrounded by a forest featuring over 500 different tree species gathered from the four corners of the earth.
- Return to Lisbon
- We'll stop for lunch and to try the world-famous custard tarts at the **Pasteis de Belem** coffee house, whose walls are covered with the famous blue and white tiles of Portugal (cost on own).
- We continue to the waterfront area of **Belem**, where we tour the inside of the **Monastery of Geronimo**, the largest cloisters in this part of the world. We will see the fortified **Tower of Belém** an old ship's security post that also served as a prison.
- At the **Church of Santa Maria de Belém**, we see **the tomb of Vasco da Gamma**, and the **tomb of Manuel I**, the king who forcibly converted the Jews of Portugal. This was where Vasco da Gamma set sail for India and where Columbus first returned after discovering the New World.
- Dinner on own this evening.

Note: Smaller buses may be used today to access our featured sites. We have planned our itinerary to minimize interruption due to the Portuguese Labor Day Holiday.

Overnight in Lisbon



Day 4: Thursday, May 2, 2019: JEWISH LISBON

Please note that this tour is approximately 1 ¼ miles total of walking with mostly down hills and stairs. A few upstairs and inclines. Uneven cobblestones on tour route. This tour is not appropriate for those with walking challenges, canes or unable to walk for 1-hour without resting.



- This morning, we embark on a walking tour of some of the Jewish sites of interest in Lisbon. Chief among them is **Rossio Square**. The **National Theatre** stands upon the site of the Palace of Estaus, where during the Inquisition many Jews were tortured and killed as ‘heretics’. The adjacent Square of Sao Domingo is the site of the Massacre of 1506, when more than 500 New Christians (Jews who were forced to convert) were tortured and killed. This massacre happened 9 years after the forced conversions, which took place behind the nearby Palácio dos Estaus.
- We walk with our local guide through the **Judaria Grande**, (Large Jewish Quarter), established in the 13th Century under King Dinis. During the Moorish rule, Jews co-existed with Muslims in the neighboring Alfama quarter, the oldest quarter of Lisbon. The Judaria Grande was bustling with the activity from successful merchants positioned near the harbor. Despite devastation, which later came in the forced conversion of 1497, and the natural disasters of 1755, this area still contains clues to its Jewish past, and you will discover Jewish customs still present in the community and architecture
- We view the famed elevator **Elevador de Santa Justa**, A Neo-Gothic tower of merchant transport.
- We stop in the **Chiado and Rua Garrett** a merchant district with historic retail shops.
- Other sites of interest this morning include: Upscale residential district of **Príncipe Real** with boutiques garden, and cafes, **Carmo Ruins**: The roofless church of the great earthquake, and the most important Judaic artifacts of Portugal and **Bairro Alto**: Home to great Jewish sages.
- This afternoon we offer the option of being dropped off at **Bon Jardim** (The Good Garden) for lunch on your own or going back to the hotel for an afternoon at leisure.
- The remainder of the day is at leisure on own. Choose to visit the **Gulbenkian Museum** or the **Museo de Ajulejos** (Museum of Tiles), or the **Castle of St. George** with beautiful views of the city.
- We return to our hotel for time to refresh before **dinner** at a local restaurant accompanied by traditional Lisbon Fado music (Senhor Vinho or similar)!

Overnight in Lisbon

Day 5: Friday, May 3, 2019: ALL ABOARD!

- Breakfast at our hotel.
- 11:30 am – check out and load luggage on our bus.
- 12:00 pm – Group transfer to **Lisbon’s cruise dock** to board the luxury Azamara Journey and begin our musical cruise! (Lunch is served on board).



WUPJ IBERIA MUSICAL CRUISE

About the Azamara Journey: *“Experience the world’s wonders from your boutique hotel at sea. So much more than just a way to get from port to port, we’ve crafted an onboard experience akin to a stay in the world’s most exclusive hotels. Journey has been completely redesigned to exude modern elegance and inspiration from the world onboard. Comfortable and never crowded, you’ll love the feeling of community emphasized by our attentive and friendly staff.”*



Our Luxury Cruise INCLUDES:

- All meals on board (specialty dining options available at a supplement)
- Select spirits, international beers and wines plus bottled water, soft drinks and specialty coffees
- On Board Gratuities
- Self-service laundry
- Complimentary AzAmazing Evening® event (Valencia)
- Shuttle service to and from port communities, where available
- Concierge services for personal guidance and reservations

Day 1: Friday, May 3, 2019: ALL ABOARD!

Ayelet Tours **HIGHLY** recommends arriving at least 1 day prior to cruise departure. Option to join full pre-tour OR arrive Thursday and join for dinner.

One of the oldest cities in the world, **Lisbon** is rich in architecture and crisscrossed by monument-studded grand boulevards. Must-sees (for those not on our “Lisbon Plus” Pre-Tour) include the church of **Igreja de Sao Vicente de Fora**, which dates back to the 12th century, **Musee Calouste Gulbenkian**, one of Europe’s leading fine arts museums, or walk the **Ave. Liberdade Promenade** with its highstreet shops, and visit the **Miradouro de Graca**, (scenic overlook of Graca).

If arriving on own, plan to board by 1 pm. **Lunch** is served on board. Our ship sets sail at 5pm.

- **WUPJ EXCLUSIVE PROGRAM:** This evening we gather for a **Welcome Program** with introductions of our tour and musical staff, and an ice breaker as we get to know our fellow travelers.
- **WUPJ EXCLUSIVE PROGRAM:** We join together for a joyful and music filled **Kabbalat Shabbat service led by Rabbi Joe Black**, welcoming Shabbat and ending with Kiddush and Motzi, as we celebrate the official start of our time together.

Overnight on the Azamara Journey

Day 2: Saturday, May 4, 2019: PORTIMAO, PORTUGAL

- Breakfast aboard our ship.
- Learn the area’s history at an award-winning museum, sip local wines, or take a stroll on a dazzling stretch of golden beach called **Praia da Rocha** (Optional excursions offered through Azamara).
- **WUPJ EXCLUSIVE PROGRAM:** Evening **WUPJ musical program** before dinner: *“Ladino Music, from Yesterday to Today”* with Sarah Aroeste.

Overnight on the Azamara Journey



Day 3: Sunday, May 5, 2019: GIBRALTAR, UK

- Breakfast aboard our ship.
- The towering **Rock of Gibraltar** is a sight to behold. Overlooking the mouth of the Mediterranean from a height of 1,400 feet, it's a natural fortress. It's also home to huge caves and troupes of Barbary macaques that have taken up residence on The Rock's upper reaches. On the streets below, you can explore dozens of British stores and pubs, and marvel that you're a stone's throw away from Spain.
- **WUPJ EXCLUSIVE TOUR:** We embark on a full-day tour of **Gibraltar**. We see the **Shaar Hashamayim Synagogue**, with its marble pillars, central pulpit and graceful carved pews, and silver lanterns.
- We visit the Moorish style **Nefusot Yehuda Synagogue**, the largest on Gibraltar with 300 seats.
- We take the cable car to the top of the **Rock**, where we enjoy a truly breathtaking view.
- Visit the **Great Siege Tunnels**, perhaps the most impressive defense system devised by man.
- We see the **Barbary Macaques**, synonymous with 'The Rock' and undoubtedly Gibraltar's most popular attraction. The over 200 macaques in Gibraltar are descendants of various importations from North Africa by British troops, the last one during the 1940s. Today the Gibraltar population represents the only free-living monkeys in Europe.
- We conclude at the **Jewish Cemetery** before returning to our ship or enjoying free time in town.



Overnight on the Azamara Journey

Day 4: Monday, May 6, 2019: MALAGA, SPAIN

- Breakfast aboard our ship.
- **Málaga** is like a beautiful work of art, and it's no wonder, considering it was the birthplace of Picasso. You'll find a museum memorializing his birth here, a must-visit destination for art fans. Elsewhere, be sure to spend some time in the city's **Alcazaba**, an 11th-century citadel that is home to palaces, beautiful gardens, and opulent fountains. (Optional excursions offered through Azamara).
- **WUPJ EXCLUSIVE PROGRAM:** Late this afternoon, we meet with **Rabbi Haim Casas**, who is helping develop reform Jewish communities in southern Spain. Rabbi Casas will share his vision of the future for Progressive Judaism in the region.
- **WUPJ EXCLUSIVE PROGRAM:** This evening, we join together for an inspiring musical program!

Overnight on the Azamara Journey

Day 5: Tuesday, May 7, 2019: AT SEA/ EVENING IN VALENCIA, SPAIN

- Breakfast aboard our ship.
- **WUPJ EXCLUSIVE PROGRAM:** Several learning sessions will be led throughout the day by one of our on-board scholars. Programs will include an exploration of Progressive Jewish life worldwide with Rabbi Daniel Frelander, Ladino 101 with Sara Aroeste and a look at the history of Sephardic Jewry with Rabbi Joe Black.
- Tonight we are treated to the "**AzAmazing Evening**" program in Valencia, included as part of our cruise.

Overnight on the Azamara Journey



Day 6: Wednesday, May 8, 2019: VALENCIA, SPAIN

- Breakfast aboard our ship.
- Marvel at the stunning mix of innovative architecture and gothic beauty when you visit **Valencia**. This Spanish city is home to many avant-garde buildings, including the breathtaking **City of Arts and Sciences cultural complex**. Palaces and mansions constructed in the 15th century dot the cityscape, while the **Silk Exchange** resembles a medieval fortress housing many mysterious carvings.
- **WUPJ EXCLUSIVE PROGRAM: Jewish music program in Valencia** today (subject to final confirmation), in coordination with members of **B'nai Sefarad**, the small Progressive community of Valencia
- **WUPJ EXCLUSIVE TOUR:** Today, we set out on a guided visit through the **Old Jewish Quarter of Valencia**, once home to a thriving community. We follow the stories of three great famous Jews who lived in Valencia in the 15th century:
 - **Juan Luis Vives**, from a prominent Jewish family, he ended up at Oxford University in England, while his family perished at the hands of the inquisitor.
 - **Luis Alcanys**, a respected doctor who was executed by the inquisition along with his family.
 - **Luis de Santángel**, a wealthy businessman whose family had converted from Judaism – he funded part of the Columbus expedition and was the recipient of the first letter Columbus sent from the New World.



Overnight on the Azamara Journey

Day 7: Thursday, May 9, 2019: PALMA DE MALLORCA, SPAIN

- Breakfast aboard our ship.
- A modern city with an ancient past, **Palma's** rich history is yours to explore. Architecture admirers must visit the **Cathedral of Santa Maria of Palma**, an iconic Gothic Roman Catholic cathedral that has stood for nearly 800 years. For nature lovers, don't miss the **Caves of Drach**, where light and shadow dances across the rock formations, creating incomparable visuals you won't see anywhere else. (Optional excursions offered through Azamara).
- **WUPJ EXCLUSIVE TOUR:** Our Jewish local guide leads us on a journey into the **Jewish history of Mallorca**, including a visit to the Jewish Cemetery and the small Jewish museum, as well as the Orthodox Sephardic synagogue still in use today.
- **WUPJ EXCLUSIVE PROGRAM:** Before dinner, we join for an **incredible musical program!**

Overnight on the Azamara Journey

Day 8: Friday, May 10, 2019: MAHON, MENORCA, SPAIN

- Breakfast aboard our ship.
- From the moment **Mahon** comes into view from our ship, you know you're in a special place. Perched high atop a cliff, shops, cafes, and restaurants line Mahon's vibrant streets and are yours to discover. While visiting, be sure to explore the **Church of Santa Maria**. Here, you'll find an unbelievable organ—complete with four keyboards and over 3,000 individual pipes—and a lovely municipal market. (Optional excursions offered through Azamara).



- **WUPJ EXCLUSIVE PROGRAM:** As the sun begins to set over the Mediterranean, we join together for a moving **Kabbalat Shabbat service**, led by **Rabbi Joe Black** and our other amazing group leaders, followed by **Shabbat dinner** together in the dining room on this, our last night sailing together.

Overnight on the Azamara Journey

Day 9: Saturday, May 11, 2019: BARCELONA, SPAIN

- Breakfast aboard our ship.
- **Barcelona** is a cosmopolitan masterpiece. With a history rich in art and architecture, medieval, Gothic, and modern influences can be seen all over the city. Start at the waterfront and stroll up the shady, tree-lined **Las Ramblas boulevard** and discover some of the city's best shopping and bustling cafes.
- We disembark and start thinking about our next unforgettable journey together!

BARCELONA POST-TOUR

Day 9: Saturday May 11, 2019: BARCELONA, SPAIN

- We disembark and meet our local guide in Barcelona. We begin today with a panoramic drive by **Montjuich** (Jews' Hill), stopping at the location where the Medieval Jewish cemetery was.
- We arrive at the **Progressive Congregation Bet Shalom** for a short morning Shabbat Service with other members of the local Jewish community, officiated by our very own Rabbi Freedlander. Immediately following, we'll enjoy a **light kiddush and discussion** with Jai Anguita, President of Bet Shalom, about Barcelona's and Spain's Jewish communities.
- After lunch, we'll visit the awe inspiring **Sagrada Familia Church** designed by **Gaudi** and still in a perpetual state of construction. We also see Gaudi's **Guell Park**.
- Optional: Tonight, "follow the leader", as we visit the **Mercat de la Boqueria**, a bustling marketplace filled with the freshest food and products around. Enjoy dinner (on own) and drinks made from the market ingredients.



Overnight in Barcelona

Day 10: Sunday, May 12, 2019: JEWISH BARCELONA

- Breakfast at our hotel.
- This morning, we enjoy a private **Jewish heritage tour** of the city, including a visit to the Old city, Ancient Jewish district and Medieval Synagogue.
- We continue the musical theme from our cruise with a visit to **Palau de la Musica Catalana** (**Palace of Catalan Music**), a UNESCO World Heritage Site due its striking architectural features and the hub for symphonic and choral music. We see the intricate mosaic pillars and busts of famous musicians such as Bach and Beethoven. Inside, we tour the palace to see the sculptures, stained glass windows and beautiful motifs of flowers throughout.



- We are dropped off in the **Las Ramblas** area for lunch on our own and afternoon at leisure.
- Tonight, we enjoy a **farewell dinner and flamenco show** for a festive end to our journey.

Overnight in Barcelona

Day 11: Monday, May 13, 2019: BARCELONA AT LEISURE AND DEPARTURE HOME

- Breakfast and check out of our hotel.
- Spend your final day in Barcelona at leisure. Suggestions: Take the **cable car** to the top of Montjuich for a magnificent view of the city, see the stadium that was remodeled for the **1992 Olympics**, discover the beautiful **parks and gardens**, visit the **Picasso Museum** or do some last-minute shopping.
- Transfer to the airport on own for your flight back to the United States.

THE MEMORIES LAST FOREVER!!!

**Itinerary subject to change.*

U:\ITINERARY\WUPJ Iberia Cruise May 2019 ITINv2.docx

