

Join our Scholar-in-Residence, Professor **Stephen Berk** and the **Ayelet Tours Traveling University** on a

JEWISH HERITAGE TOUR to

EASTERN EUROPE

June 18–30, 2017

with Russia extension

June 30–July 7, 2017



Ayelet Tours, Ltd.

Making the journey yours.

www.ayelet.com

800-237-1517

Register On-line: www.ayelet.com/BerkJune2017.aspx



Dr. Stephen M. Berk is a Professor of History at Union College in Schenectady, New York. He has been named the Henry and Sally Schaeffer Chair of Holocaust and Jewish Studies at Union College. Dr. Berk is considered a superb lecturer and teacher. He is the author of *Year of Crisis, Year of Hope: Russian Jewry and the Pogroms of 1881-1882* and is presently writing a book entitled, *Our People Are Your People: American Jewry and the Struggle for Civil Rights 1854-1965*. Dr. Berk is also the author of many articles on Eastern Europe, Russian Jewish History, anti-Semitism and American policy in the Middle East. He has lectured in numerous cities for UJA and Israel Bonds as well as at many colleges and universities throughout the United States. Dr. Berk has led numerous trips to Russia, Spain, Europe, Israel and Eastern Europe. It is a privilege to have him with us!



DAY 1 Sunday, June 18 - DEPARTURE

We depart on our overnight flight to Prague.
(Contact Ayelet Tours for Flight Assistance)

DAY 2 Monday, June 19

Arrival in **Prague**, the Czech capital, also known as "the City of One Thousand Spires" with its Baroque churches, promenades, parks and ancient city walls. Check in to hotel. Afternoon tour of Golden Prague, including the 1,000-year-old **Hradcany Castle** and **St. Vitus' Cathedral**, the **Charles Bridge**, and the **Astronomical Clock**. Tonight we enjoy an orientation lecture and welcome dinner with Professor Stephen Berk.
Overnight in Prague.

DAY 3 Tuesday, June 20

Breakfast. Morning lecture with Professor Berk. We enjoy a sightseeing tour of Jewish interest sites, with a visit to the Old City to view the **Josefov**, Prague's Jewish Town with its Old Town Hall, the Alt-Neu Synagogue, the Pinkas Synagogue, the Maisel Synagogue, the Spanish Synagogue, the Jewish Cemetery and the State Jewish Museum.
Overnight Prague.

DAY 4 Wednesday, June 21

Breakfast. Morning lecture with Professor Berk. Today we travel to **Terezin**, the former "model" Nazi concentration camp. We visit the Fortress, Jewish Cemetery, Museum, the hidden synagogue, the Memorial Monument and the town itself.
Overnight in Prague.

DAY 5 Thursday, June 22

Breakfast. Transfer to the airport for our short flight to **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**.
Overnight in Budapest.

DAY 6 Friday, June 23

Breakfast. Morning lecture with Professor Berk. We begin our day at the **Raul Wallenberg Memorial Statue**, and then visit the **Dohany Synagogue**, the 2nd largest synagogue in Europe, and continue on to the Jewish Cemetery and Museum. In the evening, we enjoy Shabbat services at the Dohany Synagogue, followed by Shabbat dinner together.
Overnight in Budapest.

DAY 7 Saturday, June 24

Breakfast. Shabbat Shalom! In the morning, we invite you to join us for optional Shabbat services. Afternoon at leisure.
Overnight in Budapest.

DAY 8 Sunday, June 25

Breakfast. This morning we depart for Krakow, driving through the lovely hills and countryside of **Slovakia**, past the Tatras and into the Great Plains of Poland. Professor Berk lectures on the bus. Dinner together tonight.
Overnight in Krakow.



DAY 9 Monday, June 26

Breakfast. This morning we travel to **Auschwitz-Birkenau**, the infamous Nazi Concentration Camps where many Jews and others perished in WWII. Here we see the museum and pay tribute to the victims. We return to Krakow and have the remainder of the afternoon to reflect or to enjoy some of the exhibits and/or performances at the Jewish Culture Festival (on own). Enjoy dinner together this evening at a local restaurant.
Overnight in Krakow.

DAY 10 Tuesday, June 27

Breakfast. Morning lecture with Professor Berk. Our morning city tour includes **Wawel Castle**, **St. Mary's Church**, the **Renaissance Cloth Hall** and other ancient landmarks. This afternoon we enjoy a Jewish Heritage Tour that includes the Old Jewish District, **Kazimierz**, where we see the Old Synagogue (a massive fortress-like building erected in the 15th and 16th centuries), the "Temple," and the Ramuh Synagogue. We continue to the **Little Museum** at the **Drug Store** inside the Jewish Ghetto, **Schindler's Factory**, and the **Plashow Concentration Camp**.
Overnight Krakow.

DAY 11 Wednesday, June 28

Breakfast. This morning we travel by train to **Warsaw** and check into our hotel. This afternoon we have plenty of time to enjoy a guided visit of the new **Museum of the History of Polish Jews**. Tonight we meet with members of **Beit Warszawa**, the progressive congregation in Warsaw. We enjoy dinner and hospitality as we learn more about the Judaism alive in today's Poland.
Overnight in Warsaw.

DAY 12 Thursday, June 29

Breakfast. Morning lecture with Professor Berk. Today we enjoy a city tour of Warsaw including **Chopin's Monument**, the **Royal Castle**, the **Jewish Historical Society**, and walk to Old Town Market Square and Lazienki Park. This afternoon we have a sightseeing tour encompassing **Nozyk Synagogue** (the only surviving synagogue in Warsaw, founded in 1900), **Chopin's Monument**, 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 together and a wonderful gala event!
Overnight in Warsaw.

DAY 13 Friday, June 30

Breakfast. We transfer to the airport for our flight home.
Overnight in Warsaw.
(Booked Separately)

EASTERN EUROPE HIGHLIGHTS:

- Lectures by Prof. Berk throughout
- Jewish Heritage tour of Prague including:
 - Terezin
 - The Josefov & the Jewish Cemetery
- Jewish Heritage tour of Budapest including:
 - Dohany Synagogue
 - The Jewish Cemetery
 - The Holocaust Memorial
 - Royal Palace & the Castle Hill area
- Jewish Heritage tour of Krakow including:
 - Kazimierz & Plashow Concentration Camp
 - Visit to Auschwitz-Birkenau
 - Jewish Culture Festival
 - Wawal Castle & St Mary's
- Jewish Heritage tour of Warsaw:
 - The New Polin Museum
 - The Warsaw Ghetto
 - Mila 18
 - The Gensa Cemetery
- SO MUCH MORE!

THE MEMORIES LAST FOREVER!

THIS DELUXE EASTERN EUROPE TOUR INCLUDES:

- 3 nights at the Kings Court in Prague
- 3 nights at the Kempinski in Budapest
- 3 nights at the Sheraton Hotel in Krakow
- 2 nights at the Bristol in Warsaw
- First class train from Krakow to Warsaw
- All breakfasts *6 dinners

DAY 1 Thursday, June 29 - DEPARTURE

Depart the US on our morning flight to **St. Petersburg, Russia.**

DAY 2 Friday, June 30

Upon arrival we enjoy an orientation tour of **St. Petersburg**, one of the most beautiful cities in the world. The stately architecture of the city's buildings harmonizes with the precise layout of its streets and spacious squares, gardens, rivers and canals, beautiful embankments, bridges and monuments. A relatively "new" city, it was founded in 1708 by Peter the Great, who engaged the finest scholars, architects and sculptors in constructing this pre-revolutionary home of the Tsars. We drive past the **Smolny Institute** and the famous Bronze Horseman statue, continue down the broad **Nevsky Prospect** shopping street, passing the **Admiralty** and many important historical sights. Tonight we come together for an early welcome dinner at a local restaurant, followed by **Kabbalat Shabbat** at Sha'arei Shalom with members of the congregation. *Overnight St. Petersburg.*

DAY 3 Saturday, July 1

Breakfast. Those who wish are able to attend Shabbat services. This afternoon we tour the **Hermitage Museum** with its incomparable collections of art treasures. Originally the Winter Palace of the Tsars, the Hermitage was not opened to the public until 1852. Catherine the Great was the first ruler to collect art on a large scale and the museum contains many objects of Russian culture and Oriental art in addition to its huge collection of Western masters. The Hermitage possesses one of the world's richest collections of impressionist paintings, thanks largely to the private collections of Stroganov and Yusupov families and others who commissioned such artists as Bonnet, Cezanne, Picasso and Matisse. *Overnight St. Petersburg.*

DAY 4 Sunday, July 2

Breakfast. Morning lecture with Professor Berk. This morning we visit **Petrodvorets**, the former summer residence of the Tsars, which was built by Peter the Great as the Russian answer to Versailles. A system of multiple fountains and waterfalls with an abundance of gold sculptures below the Grand Palace is still being restored following the destruction of World War II, a remarkable testimony to the skill of the restorers. From the terrace we view the cascade of the 129 fountains. This afternoon we have a guided tour of the **Peter and Paul Fortress** with the tombs of Peter the Great and the Romanov Dynasty. *Overnight St. Petersburg.*

DAY 5 Monday, July 3

Breakfast. Morning lecture with Professor Berk. We visit the **Choral Synagogue**. Next is an excursion to the town of **Tsarskoye Selo**, the

THE DELUXE RUSSIA EXTENSION INCLUDES: (June 29 – July 7, 2017)

- 4 nights at the Solo Sokos Palace Bridge in St. Petersburg
- 3 nights at the Marriott Grand Hotel in Moscow
- First class train from St. Petersburg to Moscow
- All breakfasts *3 dinners
- SO MUCH MORE!

home of the Imperial family from the days of Peter the Great up to the time of the last Tsar. We visit the 18th century **palace of Catherine the Great**, a baroque masterpiece with a facade almost 304 meters long. The building is still being restored after extensive damages from World War II. Next to the parks and palaces stands the town itself, developed mainly in the 19th century as a summer resort for the aristocracy and well-to-do of St. Petersburg. The town was the home of the great poet Alexander Pushkin, whose statue was used for target practice by German soldiers during World War II. On the way back to St. Petersburg we stop at the "**Formula of Sorrow**", a memorial to the victims of the holocaust. We return to St. Petersburg. The last stop today is the magnificent **St. Isaac's Cathedral**. This architectural monument of stupendous size has an abundance of sculptured decorations of great beauty, relief's, gilt work and marble. Tonight we enjoy dinner together at a local restaurant, followed by a very late night **optional boat ride** on the canals of St. Petersburg (additional cost). *Overnight St. Petersburg.*

DAY 6 Tuesday, July 4

Breakfast. Early morning transfer to **Moscow**. Upon arrival in Moscow we transfer to our hotel. Morning lecture with Professor Berk. We enjoy a guided tour of Moscow, including **Red Square**, the **Kremlin**, **Lenin's Tomb**, **G.U.M. Department Store**, **St. Basil's Cathedral**, and the **Arbat shopping district**. *Overnight Moscow.*

DAY 7 Wednesday, July 5

Breakfast. Morning lecture with Professor Berk. We embark upon a tour of Jewish Moscow, featuring the **Great Synagogue**, the former **Jewish State Theater** building, the apartment building where the artist Mark Chagall worked, the wooden **Marina Roschcha Synagogue**, the **Choral Synagogue**, and **Nikolskaya Street**. This afternoon, we tour the Jewish museum and Tolerance Center. *Overnight Moscow.*

DAY 8 Thursday, July 6

Breakfast. Day at leisure with optional visits to the **Tretiakov Museum** and or the **Pushkin Museum** or shopping. Tonight we enjoy a farewell dinner together. *Overnight Moscow.*

DAY 9 Friday, July 7

Following breakfast we transfer to the airport for our flight back to the United States.



JEWISH HERITAGE TOUR to EASTERN EUROPE

June 18–30, 2017
with Russia extension
June 30–July 7, 2017

Tour does not include: Airfare (available 11 months prior), departure taxes & fuel surcharges. Internal flights. Any border taxes or visas, tips (\$15.00 per person, per day collected in advance), travel insurance (highly recommended) or any items of a personal nature. Price is based on double occupancy. Single supplement is \$1,549 for the Main tour and \$799 for the Russia extension. CANCELLATION PENALTIES: \$100 per person charged if cancelled more than 60 days before departure. \$250 per person charged if cancelled 60-31 days before departure. 100% penalty will apply if cancelled 30 days or less before departure. Please note, tour pricing and operation is based on a minimum group size. A small group supplement may be applicable.

Disclaimer: Ayelet Tours and Prof. Berk act only as agents for the tour members in making arrangements for hotels, transportation, touring, restaurants or any other services in connection with the itinerary. We will exercise reasonable care in making such arrangements. However, we do not assume any liability whatsoever for any injury, damage, loss, accident, delay or irregularity to person and property because of an act of default of any hotel, airline carrier, restaurant, company, or person rendering any of the services included in the tour. The right is reserved to cancel or change itineraries, speakers or scholars or operations staff or to substitute comparable service without notice. The right is reserved to decline to accept or retain any tour passengers should such person's health or general deportment impede the operation of the tour to the detriment of the other tour passengers.

Yes! I want to join Professor Berk & the Traveling University on this tour to Eastern Europe in June 2017!

I am sending this form with a \$500 per person deposit, payable to Ayelet Tours.

* Please enclose a copy of your passport with this form. One form per person please.

* Passport must be valid for 6 months past travel dates. All prices below are based on double occupancy.

* Please contact Ayelet Tours for Airfare information.

- Eastern Europe Tour** with Prof. Berk - \$4,499 (June 18 – 30, 2017)
- Yes, I would like to stay for the **extension in Russia!** \$3,099 (June 29 – July 7, 2017)
- Russia ONLY** Tour with Prof. Berk - \$3,299 (June 29 – July 7, 2017)
- Contact Me For Flight Booking Assistance

Sharing a room with: _____

Name as it appears on Passport: _____

Address: _____ City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Daytime Phone: _____ Email: _____

Passport #: _____ Expiration: _____ Date of Birth: _____

Departure City (if taking air): _____

Pay by credit card:

__ MC __ Visa __ Disc __ AmEx # _____ Exp: _____ Security Code: _____

Mail to: Ayelet Tours, Ltd. • 19 Aviation Rd. • Albany, NY 12205

* itinerary subject to change

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