

# POLAND & ISRAEL:

## A Journey from Darkness to Light

APRIL 22 – MAY 2, 2017

### ITINERARY

All Details are Subject to Change

---

#### DAY 1: Evening Departure from Newark to Warsaw, Poland

Saturday, April 22, 2017

#### DAY 2: Arrive in Poland

Sunday, April 23, 2017

Arrive in Warsaw at approximately 12:40 PM. After airport procedures in **Warsaw** meet your **Israeli guide** as an escort (Doron Harel) and your **Polish guide and driver**. We will then drive to the **Jewish Cemetery** where you will have a tour and an opportunity to become involved through presentations, readings, etc. Before the war, Warsaw with its 350,000 Jews was the largest and by far the largest and most important Jewish community in Europe. Polish Jewry was characterized by an unyielding Jewish identity within a diversity of ideological, political and cultural orientations. Begin your tour here to learn about the rich heritage of Polish Jewry.



Next we will take a tour of the former **Ghetto area**. Since the area was destroyed this is going to be a tour in virtual reality. Each of the participants will get a map and some photos from the Ghetto to be compared with what can be seen today. Our tour will take us to the few places where some traces of the original ghetto can be identified with the help of old photos.

Conclude the day with a visit to the **Nożyk Synagogue**, the only surviving prewar Jewish house of prayer in Warsaw. It was built in 1898-1902 and was restored after World War II. It is still operational and currently houses the Warsaw Jewish Commune, as well as other Jewish organizations.

Check into your hotel. **Dinner** will be at a local restaurant (Kosher or Vegetarian/Dairy) – pending.

**Overnight: Mercure Centrum Hotel, Warsaw**

## DAY 3: Tikochin and the Concentration Camp of Treblinka

Monday, April 24, 2017

After breakfast start the day in the city of **Tikochin**. Before the Holocaust, Tikochin was a thriving Jewish shtetl. Visit the **old synagogue** of Tikochin where the Jews of Tikochin once prayed before they were taken to the **Forest of Lopachova**. In the forest, the Nazis murdered the entire Jewish population of Tikochin.

**Packed Lunch** (Vegetarian) en route.

Drive to the area that was the concentration camp of **Treblinka** for a tour of the site. Dinner at the JCC of Warsaw.

**Overnight: Mercure Centrum Hotel, Warsaw**



## DAY 4: Majdanek / Krakow

Tuesday, April 25, 2017

After breakfast, **check out** of your hotel and visit the Yeshivat Chochmei.

From there, drive to **Majdanek**, a Nazi concentration and extermination camp established on the outskirts of the city of **Lublin** during the German occupation of Poland. Although initially purposed for forced labor rather than extermination, the camp was used to kill people on an industrial scale during **Operation Reinhard**. Operation Reinhard was the German plan to murder all Jews within their General Government territory of Poland. The camp, which operated from October 1, 1941, until July 22, 1944, was captured nearly intact.

Because of the rapid advance of the Soviet Red Army during Operation Bagration, the SS was prevented from destroying most of its infrastructure. Additionally, Anton Thernes failed in his task of removing incriminating evidence of war crimes. Majdanek, also known to the SS as Konzentrationslager Lublin, remains the best preserved Nazi concentration camp of the Holocaust.



**Packed Lunch** (Vegetarian) en route

**Dinner** will be at the JCC of Krakow. Check into your hotel.

**Overnight: Qubus Hotel, Krakow**

## DAY 5: Auschwitz and Birkenhau

Wednesday, April 26, 2017

After breakfast head to the **Auschwitz concentration camp**, now a museum, followed by a partial march, to **Birkenau- the death camp**, also known as Auschwitz II. At the end of the visit, there will be a memorial ceremony by the participants. Also, visit the Oswieczim Jewish Center with the renovated synagogue.

Continue to **Kazimierz**, which for many centuries, was a place of coexistence and interpenetration of Christian and Jewish cultures. Its north-eastern part of the district was Jewish, and they were forcibly relocated in 1941 by the German occupying forces into the Krakow ghetto just across the river in Podgorze. . Today, Kazimierz is one of the major tourist attractions of Krakow and an important center of the cultural life of the city. As we visit **Kazimierz, the old Jewish quarter**, we will delve deeper into the history and culture of this important Jewish center. Our tour will take us through various synagogues such as the **Altschul** which serves today as a museum of Judaica, the **RAMU Synagogue** with the ancient cemetery around it from the 16<sup>th</sup> century, the **Isaac Synagogue** and the **Temple Synagogue** from the 19<sup>th</sup> century.



**Packed Lunch** (vegetarian) en route.

Now it is time to meet the Righteous of the Nations at the **Galicia Jewish Museum**, located in the historic Jewish district of **Kazimierz** in Kraków, Poland. We will see a photo exhibition documenting the remnants of Jewish culture and life in Polish Galicia, which used to be very vibrant in this area.

On the way back to the Hotel see the Ghetto wall, the Pharmacy, and Schindler factory. Free evening in the Historic center of Krakow. Dinner on own. We will suggest local restaurants.

**Overnight: Qubus Hotel, Krakow**

## **DAY 6: Day in Warsaw and Evening Departure to Israel** **Thursday, April 27, 2017**

After breakfast, check out of the hotel and drive to Warsaw. Arrive at Umschlagplatz – the compound at the northern tip of the ghetto where 300,000 Jews were rounded up, mounted onto trains and sent to Treblinka. The memorial that stands here will shield us from the noisy street as we recount testimonies of the doomed deportees. From there, visit the Warsaw Jewish Museum.

**Packed Lunch** (Vegetarian) en route.

If time permits we will walk to **Mila 18**, the memorial over the bunker where Mordechai Anilewicz and many of the fighters held their last stand against the Nazis in the ghetto uprising. Finally, walk a short distance to the **Rappaport Memorial**, also known as Memorial to the Warsaw Ghetto Uprising. Nathan Rappaport created the memorial right after the war, and it was placed here in 1947. A copy stands at Yad Vashem in Jerusalem.



**Dinner** will be in a local restaurant (Kosher or Vegetarian/Dairy). After dinner drive to Warsaw Chopin International Airport.

Check in for your evening **flight to Tel Aviv**.

## DAY 7: Welcome to Israel

Friday, April 28, 2017

Early arrival in Israel. A member of our staff will meet you upon arrival at Passport Control at Ben Gurion Airport. You will be assisted with arrival procedures. You will then meet your awaiting **driver** and touring vehicle and accompanied by your guide drive to the **Old City of Jerusalem** where you will recite the special ***Shehecheyanu*** blessing at the Wall. From there we will check in to the hotel and enjoy breakfast.



Drive to the **Machane Yehuda** the open air market of Jerusalem to see how the locals do their shopping in preparation for the Shabbat. Take in the sites, smells and noises of the market. And don't forget to pick up some chocolate rugelach!

Check into to your hotel to freshen up and prepare for optional Kabbalat Shabbat Services and enjoy Shabbat dinner.

**Shabbat Dinner** is included for you in a **private room** at your hotel.

**Overnight:** David Citadel, Jerusalem

## DAY 8: Shabbat in Jerusalem

Saturday, April 29, 2017

### Shabbat Activities – Choose from Four Options

*(1 bus and 2 guides for option 1 and 2)*

#### OPTION 1:

Drive over to the Old City to take a stroll through the narrow, busy streets, and colorful **Bazaars** filled with small shops. On to **Mount Zion** flanked on one side by the wall of the Old City. This site is traditionally viewed as the **Tomb of King David**, the second king of Israel. Also, visit the room of the Last Supper where it is said Jesus had his last meal with his disciples. **Lunch** is included at the **David Citadel Hotel**, Jerusalem.



#### OPTION 2:

Tour the completely renewed **Israel Museum**, which is acknowledged as one of the best and most comprehensive encyclopedic museums in the world. The museum houses treasures in archeology, Jewish world culture, and all of the fine arts, while preserving the landmark **Shrine of the Book** that houses the **Dead Sea Scrolls**, the oldest Biblical manuscripts in existence. You will also be able to visit the model of ancient Jerusalem. Continue to the neighborhood of **Yemin Moshe**, built in the mid-1800's by Moses Montefiore, an English philanthropist and early Zionist. In this neighborhood, where the first Jewish houses outside the walls of the Old City, were built, Montefiore funded the construction of his famous windmill. The windmill served as an observation point for Jewish fighters during the siege of Jerusalem during the War of Independence. **Lunch** is included at the **David Citadel Hotel**, Jerusalem.

#### OPTION 3:

*(A guide and touring bus is included for this option)*

Depart Jerusalem and drive east through the Judean Desert, arriving at the mountain-top fortress of **Masada** for an in-depth tour of the site. Ascend the cliff top fortress by cable car. From the top of Masada, the outlines of the Roman encampments are still visible below.

Continue to a hotel/spa on the shore of the **Dead Sea** for an afternoon of **R & R**. Enjoy the buffet **lunch** (included). You also have use of the hotel's private Dead Sea beach and private outdoor pool. You may wish to reserve treatments at the spa (not included, should be reserved in advance).

#### OPTION 4:

Shabbat services at one of the many Synagogues within walking distance of the hotel. Spend the rest of the day relaxing at the hotel.

(All four options)

In the evening, you might stroll down **Ben Yehuda Street**. On Saturday nights, this area is one of the favorites gathering places for young Jerusalemites. There are many restaurants and sidewalk cafes to dine in (own account). You could also go to the **Mamilla Shopping Complex** to dine or shop at boutique stores situated along the walkway.



#### OPTION 5:

Meet with a culinary expert who will take you on a special food tour in the Christian and Muslim Quarters of the Old City. Enjoy culinary treats and speak with some of the shopkeepers to hear their stories and sample their delicacies. (At additional cost)

While you may be very full, lunch is included at the **David Citadel Hotel!**

**Overnight: David Citadel, Jerusalem**

### DAY 9: Zachor – Remember (Erev Memorial Day)

Sunday, April 30, 2017



This morning drive to **Mount Herzl**, Israel's "Arlington Cemetery," for a special Memorial Service. Proceed to **Givat-Hatahmoshet** (*Ammunition Hill*), which until June 1967 was the main Jordanian outpost on the Jerusalem front. On this site, a difficult battle between Israeli Paratroopers and Jordanians took place. Against all odds, and at the price of many lives, the Israeli soldiers fought and conquered this strategic fortification. In these trenches now stands a memorial to those young heroes. Next, accompanied by **Avi Melamed** (or similar) an expert on Arab affairs and has

impressive background on counter-terrorism, drive along the "controversial" security fence between the Israeli and the Palestinian towns. See the Hi-tech security fence facilities, and learn from Avi how they can track the activity along and around the fence area.

This evening join in a **Memorial service** for the fallen in the Wars of Israel (location pending).

At 8:00 p.m. **stand silently** during the **siren** and **pay your respects to the fallen soldiers**. (In respect to the solemnity of the day, restaurants, coffee shops and recreational centers will close early this evening).

**Dinner** is included this evening.

**Overnight: David Citadel, Jerusalem**

## DAY 10: The Old City of Jerusalem

Memorial Day for the Fallen IDF Soldiers / Eve of Israel's Independence Day

Monday, May 1, 2017

After a leisurely breakfast, head over to the Old City. See the Old City's surrounding areas as you enjoy a **walk on the walls** of Jerusalem, starting from the **Jaffa Gate**. From this unique viewpoint, you will see the different gates that adorn the circumventing walls, each with its own fascinating story and history. Then take an in-depth tour of the **Jewish Quarter** including the **Cardo**.



At 11:00 a.m., **stand silently** during the **siren** and **pay your respects to the fallen soldiers**. Visit the **Hurva Synagogue**, which stands on the west side of Hurva Square in the Jewish Quarter. It has been rebuilt in the same Neo-Byzantine style as the original, with a central plan and a large dome over the main hall. Stop for lunch in the Jewish Quarter (own account). Then return to your hotel. This evening celebrate **Yom Ha'atzmaut** together with the people of Israel, see the fireworks and join in the "Simcha", in the streets.

Overnight: David Citadel, Jerusalem.

## DAY 11: Yom Ha'atzmaut (Independence Day)

Tuesday, May 2, 2017



Drive to the **Latrun Fortress**, which was a major battlefield during the War of Liberation in 1948 and was liberated from Jordanian rule in 1967. Visit the Memorial Wall tour the outdoor Armored Brigade Museum housing an impressive exhibit of armored vehicles and tanks. On to a traditional **Israeli Barbeque Lunch** (location pending).

Return to Jerusalem to the David Citadel Hotel.

A **Farewell Dinner** will be held. After dinner **transfer** to Ben Gurion Airport for your departure flight. A member of our staff will **assist** you with departure procedures.

**Evening Departure flights Tel Aviv to USA**

*Bash'na Haba'a B'Yeryushalaim*  
Next Year in Jerusalem

# QUOTATION PORTION

## PLEASE NOTE:

The above-suggested program includes many elements that have not yet been booked. They are pending final booking and confirmation. As such, there may be slight changes in the final program. The above cost is subject to change at any time as per notice from hotels and other suppliers of services. If the number of participants and/or rooming arrangements and/or flights schedules are changed, the price will be revised.

## **POLAND PORTION:**

### HOTELS IN POLAND:

Accommodation at hotels includes breakfast daily (buffet breakfast in hotel main dining room) and hotel service charge. The price has been based on the following hotels:

April 23 – 25 (2 nights)

Mercure Centrum Hotel, Warsaw (regular rooms)

April 25 – 27 (2 nights)

Qubus Hotel, Krakaw (regular rooms)

MEALS IN POLAND *(Where possible, dinners will be at a kosher restaurant. If a kosher restaurant is not available, we will dine in a dairy or vegetarian restaurant).*

In addition to continental breakfast served daily in hotel dining room, we have included the following meals

Sunday, April 23: Dinner at local restaurant

Monday, April 24: Lunch en route

Monday, April 24: Dinner at the JCC of Warsaw.

Tuesday, April 25: Lunch en route

Tuesday, April 25: Dinner at JCC of Krakow

Wednesday, April 26: Lunch en route.

Thursday, April 27: Lunch en route.

Thursday, April 27: Dinner at local restaurant.

### ENTRANCE FEES IN POLAND:

Entrance fees to the various parks and sites have been included, as per the itinerary.

### TOURING SERVICES IN POLAND INCLUDES THE FOLLOWING:

- Assistance upon arrival at Warsaw Airport
- Assistance upon departure from Warsaw Airport to Tel Aviv
- Five days of touring with a professional English speaking tour guide
- Five days services of a driver in a deluxe touring vehicle licensed/insured for tourism.
- Scholar-in-Residence
- Israeli guide as escort throughout
- Bottled mineral water on touring vehicle throughout
- Portege at hotel and airport
- Flight from Warsaw to Ben Gurion Airport, Tel Aviv
- Gratuities

**ISRAEL PORTION:****HOTEL IN ISRAEL:**

Accommodation at hotels includes full Israeli breakfast daily and hotel service charge. The price has been based on the following hotel:

April 28 – May 2

David Citadel, Jerusalem (superior rooms, new city view)

**MEALS IN ISRAEL (All meals are Kosher):**

In addition to the complete Israeli breakfast served daily, we have included the following meals

Friday, April 28: Shabbat Dinner in a private room at David Citadel Hotel, Jerusalem

Saturday, April 29: "Lunch and Swim" at a Dead Sea Hotel, Spa (option 3)  
OR David Citadel Hotel (option 1,2 and 4)

Sunday, April 30: Dinner at David Citadel Hotel, Jerusalem.

Tuesday, May 2: BBQ lunch

Tuesday, May 2: Dairy Farewell Dinner in Jerusalem.

**ENTRANCE FEES IN ISRAEL:**

Entrance fees to the various parks and sites have been included, as per the itinerary.

**TOURING SERVICES IN ISRAEL INCLUDES THE FOLLOWING:**

- One group VIP meeting/assistance upon arrival before Passport Control.
- Entrance fees to the various parks and sites as per the itinerary.
- 4 nights deluxe accommodations (includes breakfast daily and hotel service charge)
- Shabbat dinner at hotel
- Shabbat lunch at hotel or Dead Sea
- Dinner at hotel on Yom Hazikaron
- BBQ lunch with lone soldiers on Yom Ha'atzmaut
- Farewell dinner
- Entrance fees to the various parks and sites, as per itinerary
- Bottle mineral water on touring vehicle throughout
- Arrival transfers from Ben Gurion Airport to Jerusalem
- Portege at hotel and airport
- Five days of touring with a Scholar-in-Residence
- Five days services of a driver in a vehicle licensed/insured for tourism
- One group VIP departure transfer from Jerusalem to Ben Gurion Airport
- Gratuities

**WHAT'S NOT INCLUDED IN POLAND AND ISRAEL:**

- Cost of round trip airfare from Newark Airport to Warsaw with a return from Ben Gurion Airport, Israel to Newark Airport
- Any expenses of a personal nature
- Meals other than those indicated
- Spa treatments at Dead Sea
- Alcoholic beverages at meals
- Personal health insurance, insurance for baggage, travel insurance, personal items, trip cancellation or interruption
- Any guests at meals other than the participants of the party

**PRICING:**

*\$3999.00 per person based on double occupancy\*\*\**

*\$4999.00 per person based on single occupancy \*\*\**

Prices include one way flight Warsaw to Tel Aviv:

\*\*\* Price is based on a minimum of 40-45 travelers and the exchange rate of one Euro = \$1.2 US dollar. If the exchange rate or number of travelers change, the cost per person will be revised.

**Extra Nights in Warsaw:**

*\$325 double room for extra 2 nights (April 21 & April 22) - includes hotel, breakfast, and transfer from airport to hotel. LIMITED SPACE AVAILABLE.*

*\$290 single room for extra 2 nights (April 21 & April 22) -includes hotel, breakfast, and transfer from airport to hotel. LIMITED SPACE AVAILABLE.*

**David Citadel Upgrade:**

*Deluxe Pool/Old City view room: Single or double occupancy, additional \$450*

*Alcove Deluxe Old City View room: Single or double occupancy, additional \$565*

*Alcove Superior (quad room): Single or double occupancy, additional \$500*

*Junior suite Old City View with terrace, executive lounge access: Single or double occupancy, additional \$3,800*

*Lounge access at David Citadel Hotel, Jerusalem: additional \$70 per day per room*

**HOTEL POLICY:**

The hotel rates above are the "Best Available Rate" as of today. Once rooms are reserved and confirmed the rates may fluctuate slightly, based on the correct price on the day of booking. We will always do our best to minimize cost increases.

**PASSPORT / VISA INFORMATION:**

All passports need to be valid for at least six months from the date of departure from the USA. Note that upon entering Israel, your passports are no longer stamped. Instead you will receive a formal stamped form with a visa valid for 3 months. Please keep this form as you will need it for hotel check in, departure at airport, car rental, bank affairs, entry to the Knesset, etc.

**TERMS OF PAYMENT FOR THE LAND PORTION:**

1. A deposit of \$500 per person is required to assure reservations. \$50 per person is non-refundable.
2. December 15, 2016 a \$300 per person payment is due.
3. January 15, 2017 payment of \$1,066.33 per person double occupancy or \$1,399.66 per person single occupancy is due.
4. February 15, 2017 payment of \$1,066.33 per person double occupancy or \$1,399.66 per person single occupancy is due.
5. March 15, 2017 payment of \$1,066.33 per person double occupancy or \$1,399.66 per person single occupancy is due.
6. Payment may be made via cash, check or credit card.

**CANCELLATION POLICY:**

Cancellation must be received in writing. Email: [jccpolandisrael2017@gmail.com](mailto:jccpolandisrael2017@gmail.com)

If cancellation is received:

1. Up to and including January 2, 2017-\$750 will be refunded
2. Between January 3, 2017 and February 3, 2017-\$800 per person will be charged
3. Between February 4, 2017 and March 1, 2017-\$1800 per person will be charged
4. After March 1, 2017-full payment will be charged

**NEW VAT TAX REGULATIONS**

Please be aware that according to the new Israeli tax laws being strictly enforced by all hotels, all guests holding Israeli citizenship, even those with dual citizenship/passports both for individual travelers and guests, part of a group or invited local guests will be charged VAT tax. Therefore we need to receive this information in advance in order to finalize the bill. Should we not receive this information in advance and hotels charge us VAT tax, be aware that we will charge you with this extra amount retroactively. Should the Israeli government change the VAT tax law for tourists holding foreign citizenship, a VAT tax will apply to all touring services.

**INSURANCE:**

Insurance for baggage, personal items, health coverage and trip cancellation and interruption is not included, but is highly recommended. We suggest obtaining coverage through your local provider.

**RESPONSIBILITY:**

Mabat Platinum Ltd., (hereinafter called the Tour Operator), acts only as an agent for the various companies, owners or contractors providing the means of transportation, accommodation and other services. All exchange orders, coupons and tickets are offered subject to the Terms and Conditions under which such services are offered or provided. The issuance and acceptance of such tickets shall be deemed to be consent to the further conditions that the Tour Operator shall not be in any way liable for injury, damage, loss, accident, delay or irregularity in any vehicle, or through the acts or defaults of any company or person engaged in conveying the passenger/s or of any hotel proprietor, personnel or servant otherwise in connection therewith.

The airline and transportation companies concerned are not to be held responsible for any act; omission or event during the time passengers are not on board their planes or conveyances. The right is reserved to withdraw any tour announced in this program and to make such alterations to the itineraries as may be found desirable for the proper carrying out of the tours. In the event it becomes necessary or advisable in the Tour Operator's discretion to alter the arrangements or itineraries for the passenger/s comfort or welfare or for any reason whatsoever, such alterations may be made without penalty to the Operator. The Tour Operator reserves the right to change any hotel/s listed with one of a similar category if circumstances necessitate. Additional expenses, if any, shall be borne by the passenger/s. The right is reserved to decline to accept or retain any person as a member of any group at any time.