



**Beth Emeth Bais Yehuda Synagogue
Spain, Gibraltar, Portugal
October 27 - November 10, 2019**

Ramah Israel Institute

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Ramah Israel is a division of the National Ramah Commission, Inc., which operates under the educational and religious supervision of The Jewish Theological Seminary.

Tentative Itinerary - (Exact schedule during days TBD)

Sunday October 27th, 2019: Depart Toronto for Barcelona.

Day 1: Monday, October 28th – Barcelona *Schedule of the day depending on arrival time – Estimated mid-morning arrival

- Meet Ramah staff and local tour guide
- City tour of Barcelona: Tour **Montjuic** hill, the **Plaza España** Barcelona, and the **Gran Vía shopping area**. See the **Paseo Gracia, Pedrera Casa Mila & Casa Batllo, Ramblas Avenue, Bokería Market** – stroll through the famous alleys
- See the architect Antonio Gaudi's "Temple in Barcelona", the famous **Sagrada Familia**, one of the symbols of the city
- Visit the **Plaza Cataluña** and the **Columbus column**
- **Ramah-led:** orientation and expectations for this experience

O/N: Hotel Hesperia Presidente or similar, Barcelona

Day 2: Tuesday, October 29th – Girona and Besalu

- Visit the famous kabbalistic **city of Girona** – city of the **Ramban** - Nachmanides
- Tour the **Jewish museum** with ancient Jewish tombstones
- Explore the beautiful **Arab Baths**
- See the city of **Besalu**, including the **Jewish Quarter** with the well-known **mikveh** and ruins of the **ancient synagogue. Bring them back to life with Mincha**
- Return to Barcelona

O/N: Hotel Hesperia Presidente or similar, Barcelona

Day 3: Wednesday, October 30th – Barcelona – Granada

- Flight from **Barcelona to Granada**
- Check-in to Hotel, Lunch
- See the famous **Alhambra Palace**, where the expulsion order of Spanish Jewry was signed, and it was from here that Columbus was sent to discover the New World
- See the **Ambassadors' Hall, Lions' courtyard** and the **Hadasim courtyard**, and the **Nazarie Palace**
- Walk in the beautiful **Generalife gardens**
- See the **Gypsy Flamenco Zambra** dance show at **Sacromonte Caves**

O/N: Hotel Corona de Granada or similar, Granada

Day 4: Thursday, October 31st – Cordoba

- Drive to **Cordoba** - the city of the **Rambam** and **Yehuda Halevi**
 - Cross the **Guadalquivir**, walk on the Roman bridge and enter the **Old City** and **Jewish quarter** with the Jewish-themed squares and streets
 - See the **statue of the Rambam** and pray in the synagogue named after him
 - See the **Mezquita**, once the **great mosque of Cordoba** that is now a cathedral
- O/N: Hotel Conquistador or similar, Cordoba*

Day 5: Friday, November 1st – Gibraltar

- Travel to **Gibraltar**, the British enclave known as "**The Rock**"
 - Stop on the way EITHER at **Malaga** OR at **Cadiz**
 - Tour the Rock: See the **Monkey Colony**
 - Tour the stunning **St Michaels Cave**
 - **Prepare for Shabbat** at Gibraltar's welcoming Jewish community – numbering in the hundreds and with almost seven centuries of history there
 - **Oneg Shabbat – Rabbi/Ramah led**
- O/N: Elliott Hotel or similar, Gibraltar*

Day 6: Shabbat, November 2nd – Shabbat in Gibraltar

- Shabbat services in one of **Gibraltar's five active synagogues** and lunch
 - Walking tour of **the Jewish areas of Gibraltar** – see the synagogues, schools, and Jewish community past and present
 - **Ramah-led:** Using Shabbat to reflect – Halfway through the experience
 - Havdallah together
- O/N: Elliott Hotel or similar, Gibraltar*

Day 7: Sunday, November 3rd – Seville

- Leave for **Ronda**, city tour
 - Stop at the famous **Ronda Bullfighting Arena**
 - Travel to Seville, start with panoramic outlook
 - Visit the **Fort of Alcazar**, a stunning former royal palace
 - If time - see the magnificent **Cathedral of Seville**, one of the largest in the world, where Cristopher Columbus is buried
 - Walk through the **Plaza España Square** and the beautiful **Parque de Maria Luisa**
 - Take a **walking tour of the Jewish Quarter** – also known as the **Santa Cruz District** – and stroll through the ancient lanes
- O/N: Hotel Sevilla or similar, Seville*

Day 8: Monday, November 4th – Badajoz - Evora

- Drive to **Badajoz** for a city tour and lunch. **Badajoz was an important Jewish community in the fifteenth century**
 - Cross the border into **Portugal**
 - Arrive at **Evora**
- O/N: Hotel Vila Gale or similar, Evora*

Day 9: Tuesday, November 5th – Evora - Belmonte

- City tour of **Evora**, the former capital of Portugal
 - See the small town of **Castello de Vida** and the **Jewish Quarter**, with the **oldest synagogue in Portugal**, and learn about the ancient community there
 - Drive up to **Marvao**, the city of the hilltop citadel, and gaze down on the land
 - Arrive at **Belmonte**
- O/N: Hotel Belmonte or similar, Belmonte*

Day 10: Wednesday, November 6th – Belmonte – Guarda –Troncoso

- See the **Jewish Museum**, and local synagogue **Bet Eliahu** to learn about the **Morranos** and their story in Belmonte
 - Drive to **Guarda** to see the **Jewish Quarter** there
 - Visit the **synagogue** and **Jewish Museum** in **Troncoso**
- O/N: Hotel Turismo or similar, Troncoso*

Day 11: Thursday, November 7th – Coimbra - Tomar

- See the **Coimbra University**, the oldest in Portugal, including the **library of King Joao** and the **Fountains of Love and Tears**
 - Travel to the beautiful cliff-top city of **Coimbra** for a city tour
 - Drive to **Tomar**, see the **ancient synagogue**; bring it back to life Ramah style
 - Arrive at Lisbon, check in to Hotel
- O/N: Hotel NH Parque or similar, Lisbon*

Day 12: Friday, November 8th – Sintra, Cascais, Estoril, Cabo Roca, Lisbon

- Visit the pink town of **Sintra** with its gardens and palaces
 - Go to **Cascais**, the beautiful resort town in Portugal, and see the "**Devil's throat**."
 - Stop at **Estoril**, a town with a casino, hotels and luxurious villas inhabited by some of the world's the richest people as well as some exiled kings
 - Stop at **Cabo da Roca**, the westernmost extent of continental Europe, and see the Mediterranean
 - Arrive at Lisbon and **prepare for Shabbat** with the Jewish community
 - **Oneg Shabbat – Rabbi/Ramah led**
- O/N: Hotel NH Parque or similar, Lisbon*

Day 13: Shabbat, November 9th – Shabbat in Lisbon

- Shabbat services and lunch
 - Walking tour of **Lisbon** sites close to hotel in the **Juderia – Jewish Quarter**
 - The **Alfama district, Avenue Liberdade** and **Rossio square**
 - See the beautiful **Jeronimos monastery**
 - Havdalla together
 - **Ramah-led** sum-up of the journey
- O/N: Hotel NH Parque or similar, Lisbon*

Day 14: Sunday, November 10th – departure **Schedule of the day depending on departure time*

- Possible tour of other sites in Lisbon, depending on departure time.
- Flight from Lisbon to Toronto