

KJ/RAMAZ MISSION TO VIENNA/BUDAPEST

Tour Date	Sunday 05 – Sunday 12, August 2018
Tour Guide	Dr. David I. Bernstein, Pardes Institute, Jerusalem

DAY 1: MONDAY AIRPORT TRANSFER, GUIDED TOUR OF VIENNA CITY

Lunch at dairy restaurant with fish option.

Guided Tour of Vienna Ringstrasse & Main Square sites. "It is my will..." - with these words, Emperor Franz Joseph ordered the building of the 5.3km Ringstrasse in 1857. Nobles and rich citizens hurried to build pompous palaces along this magnificent boulevard. Many of these former private homes can still be admired today. The style in which the buildings were built went down in history as the "Ringstrasse style." We will view one of the most beautiful boulevards in the world, home to many of Vienna's best-known sights such as the Imperial Palace, the Kunsthistorisches Museum and the Natural History Museum, the Vienna State Opera and Parliament. Guided tour of the Schonbrunn Palace. Magnificent palaces, extensive parks and important monuments also line this "display window" of the former Danube monarchy. Dinner at meat restaurant followed by concert option.



DAY 2: TUESDAY GUIDED TOUR OF JEWISH VIENNA



The history of Vienna's Jews is inextricably linked with that of the city. Museums and memorial sites provide reminders of this. Until 1938, Vienna had a flourishing Jewish community with dozens of synagogues and prayer houses. The prevalent anti-Semitism of the time provided fertile grounds for the racism and terror of the Nazis, which started immediately after the occupation of Austria by the German Wehrmacht in March of 1938.

Any Jews who owned anything of substance was robbed: Through "Aryanization" his property came into the possession of the state or of private persons who could "buy" at low prices. From the most famous - Sigmund Freud – to the most modest homemaker, 140,000 Austrians had to flee their country for "racial reasons." 65,000 who could not escape were murdered. Coming to terms with the largest crimes in the history of Vienna and Austria is a process that has lasted decades and is still not finished. Since the 1980s, the City of Vienna has made increased efforts to showcase Jewish history and heritage in all its complexity. We will visit The Museum Judenplatz with the subterranean remains of a medieval synagogue, the Holocaust Memorial at Judenplatz, The Vienna Jewish Museum, and conclude our tour with a visit to The Stadttempel, the only synagogue in the city to survive World War II, as the Nazis destroyed all of the other 93 synagogues in Vienna. Free time for shopping / leisure. Dinner at meat restaurant followed by concert options.

DAY 3: WEDNESDAY GUIDED TOUR OF EISENSTADT, BRATISLAVA AND BUDAPEST

The Jewish community of Eisenstadt was one of the oldest in Hungary. In 1388, Emperor Sigismund granted the bishop of Eisenstadt a privilege to settle Jews on his estates. Between 1547 and 1571, a Jewish quarter with a synagogue, Mikve, and cemetery was established. Among its rabbis were Shimshon Wertheimer 1717–1724; Me'ir ben Yitshak Eisenstadt (Panim Me'iroth, 1717–1744); Mosheh Perles (1817– 1840); and Esriel Hildesheimer (1851–1869). We will visit the existing private synagogue established in Eisenstadt in the late seventeenth century by Shimshon Wertheimer, a prominent court Jew. Today, the synagogue is part of the Austrian Jewish Museum.



Continue our drive to Bratislava and visit the Grasalkovitch Palace, the Jewish Community headquarters and the grave of the Chatam Sófer (1762-1869) who was the pride of Bratislava's Jewish community. His burial vault has been preserved and nowadays it is part of a monumental memorial. Chatam Sófer educated hundreds of rabbis who spread his teachings throughout Europe. He was a highly respected authority who advised many personalities of the European Jewish community. He wrote and published several learned books including a collection of religious songs. We then continue our drive to Budapest and enjoy dinner in town.

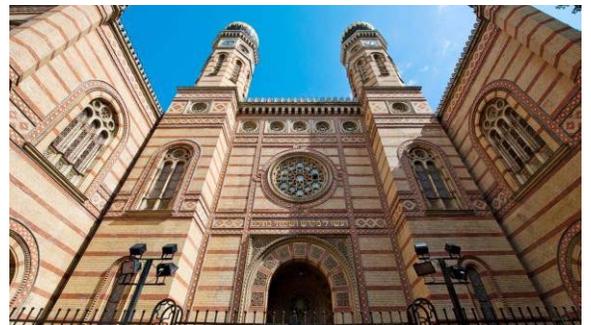
DAY 4: THURSDAY GUIDED TOUR OF BUDAPEST



Hungary's capital is bisected by the River Danube. Its 19th-century Chain Bridge connects the hilly Buda district with flat Pest. A funicular runs up Castle Hill to Buda's Old Town, where the Budapest History Museum traces city life from Roman times onward. Trinity Square is home to 13th-century Matthias Church and the turrets of the Fishermen's Bastion, which offer sweeping views of the Danube and the city. On our walking tour we will stop and see the Royal Palace and National Gallery, and conclude the afternoon with free time for shopping/leisure on Vaci Street, or optional visits to The Gellert Spa, Museum of Fine Art, and/or Central Market Hall. Dinner at a cozy restaurant.

DAY 5: FRIDAY GUIDED TOUR OF JEWISH BUDAPEST

Budapest's stunning Great Synagogue is the largest Jewish house of worship in the world outside New York City. Built in 1859, the synagogue has both Romantic and Moorish architectural elements. We will also visit the Hungarian Jewish Museum and learn about Theodore Herzl's house and birthplace, which is essentially the locus of the birthplace of Modern Zionism. On the synagogue's north side, we will visit the Martyrs Graves, Holocaust Tree of Life Memorial & The Ghetto Liberation Monument. We continue with visits to the Kazinczy Utca Synagogue and The Holocaust Museum in the grounds of the Pava Synagogue, followed by a visit to The House of Terror Museum. Prepare for Shabbat, Kabbalat Shabbat followed by Shabbat dinner at restaurant.



DAY 6: SHABBAT

Tefilla followed by lunch at restaurant and Shabbat rest.

Late afternoon walking tour of The Jewish Quarter, Carl Luz Memorial, Liberty Square, The Glass House, Shoa Shoes monument on Danube followed by Seuda Shlishit/Dinner with Community leaders and Havdala at restaurant.

DAY 7: SUNDAY BREAKFAST FOLLOWED BY HOTEL CHECK-OUT

Visit Parliament house followed by a stop at The Raoul Wallenberg Monument. Farewell and transfer to Budapest Airport for flight home.

Travel Insurance: Premium travel insurance, encompassing both cancellation and medical insurance, is very important.

We recommend <https://www.travelinsured.com/info/plan-comparison-chart?agency=35851>