



Past · Present · Future Beit David Highland Lakes Journey to Poland & Prague



March 2020
Draft Itinerary

"Jews were commanded to become the people who never forget. And they never did."
Rabbi Jonathan Sacks

This itinerary is subject to change

— I T I N E R A R Y —

Monday 24 February

Arrival in Warsaw

Okopowa Street Jewish Cemetery

Visit the life of the Jewish people pre-war through the Jewish Cemetery of Warsaw. The cemetery allows us to understand the richness and diversity of life pre-war.

Warsaw

A walking tour of Warsaw will include the former ghetto, the Umschlagplatz monument, Ghetto Uprising monument and Miła 18, the ŻOB (Jewish Combat Organization) memorial site.

Treblinka

The site of the infamous Nazi death camp in which close to 900,000 Jews were murdered.

Overnight: Warsaw

Tuesday 25 February

Łódź

Jewish people made up about one third of the city's population and owned one third of all the factories. The Radegast Train Station was situated in Łódź ghetto, which served as the departure point to the death camps in Chełmno and Auschwitz.

Dabie

A small village near Chelmno where we will reveal the hidden clues to the Jews who once called Dabie their home.

Chelmno

Chelmno was the first death camp of the Nazi's Final Solution which was operational in Autumn 1941 before the famous Wannsee Conference. Gassings took place in experimental gas vans claiming the lives of over 200,000 Jews.

Overnight: Warsaw

Wednesday 26 February

Majdanek

The Majdanek concentration camp was located three kilometres from the centre of Lublin and was in operation from October 1941 until July 1944. Between 95,000 and 130,000 died or were killed in the Majdanek system; between 80,000 and 92,000 of whom were Jews.

Lublin

Before the war, Yeshivat Chachmei Lublin was the most important Yeshiva in Poland, if not the world. It was led by the dynamic Rabbi and member of the Polish Parliament – Rabbi Meir Shapiro.

Leżajsk

The grave of R' Elimelech of Leżajsk attracts pilgrims from around the world making the surviving cemetery one of the largest sites of Jewish pilgrimage in Poland and still an important Chassidic center.

Overnight: Rzeszow

Thursday 27 February

Łańcut

The former synagogue from 1761 has been stunningly restored with wall decorations from 18th and 19th centuries.

Markowa

A small town close to Łańcut in which we can tell the remarkable story of those who put their lives at risk to save the lives of Jews during the Holocaust.

Tarnów

Before the war, about 25,000 Jews lived in Tarnów, comprising about half of the town's population. By the end of the war the overwhelming majority of Tarnów Jews had been murdered by the Germans.

Zbylitowska Góra

A site of mass murder of the Jews from Tarnów.

Overnight: Kraków

Friday 28 February

Auschwitz I and Auschwitz II-Birkenau

The largest of Nazi Germany's concentration camps and extermination camps operational during World War II, the camp took its German name from the name of the Polish town of Oświęcim in which it is located. Most victims were killed in Auschwitz II's gas chambers using Zyklon B; other deaths were caused by systematic starvation, forced labour, lack of disease control, individual executions and purported "medical experiments".

Shabbat in Kraków

Candle lighting to begin Shabbat.

Group activity

Kabbalat Shabbat in one of Kraków's old Synagogues
Shabbat Dinner

Overnight: Kraków

Shabbat 29 February

Shabbat Service & Kiddush

Kazimierz

The former Jewish quarter in Kraków comprises the most intact and significant collection of Jewish buildings in Central Europe today, including seven remaining synagogues.

Shabbat Lunch

Testimony from one of the Righteous Among the Nations

Shabbat ends

Kraków Ghetto and Schindler's Factory

Over the bridge from Kazimierz is the former WWII ghetto situated in the Podgórze area of the city where traces of the ghetto wall can still be found as well as Schindler's 'Emalia' enamel factory.

Płaszów

The Płaszów Labour Camp was built on top of the old Jewish cemetery where Sarah Schenirer was buried. Commandant Amon Goeth's house is also located next to the camp.

Overnight: Kraków

Sunday 1 March

Drive to Prague

Prague: The City of a Hundred Spires

Overview of the City of a Hundred Spires, a walk from there down via the Castle along the Golden Lane through the Lesser Town.

Overnight: Prague

Monday 2 March

Prague: The Jewish Story

Tour of the Old City of Prague and the Jewish Quarter including the Jewish Cemetery, the Pincus Synagogue,

Klausen Synagogue, Altneu Synagogue, Maisel Synagogue and Spanish Synagogue.

Charles Bridge and Kampa Island

Meeting with community representatives

Visit to the Old Town Square

Overnight: Prague

Tuesday 3 March

Depart Prague Airport