

Heritage & Hope A Journey to POLAND & VIENNA

JUNE 19–26, 2025



Mission Chair: Marilyn Swedarsky

HOTEL INFORMATION

POLAND: 5 nights
VIENNA, AUSTRIA: 2 nights

TOUR GUIDE

Tzvi Sperber

Meet the local Jewish communities of Warsaw and Vienna on a life-changing mission of reflection and foster a deeper connection to your Jewish heritage. Engage and reflect on the resilience of the Jewish people, the impact of the Holocaust and the ongoing revival of Jewish life in Europe.

THURSDAY JUNE 19, 2025 | WARSAW

DAY 1

Arrive in Warsaw

Recommended Arrival Flight via British Airways:

Pittsburgh to Warsaw: Wed. June 18 BA0170 (21:40 Pittsburgh to London) > BA0850 (13:40 London to Warsaw)

Arrive in Warsaw on Thurs. June 19 at 17:10

Overnight: Warsaw

FRIDAY, JUNE 20, 2025 | WARSAW

DAY 2

POLIN Museum of the History of Polish Jews: The Museum's Core Exhibition immerses visitors in the world of Polish Jews, from their arrival in Poland as traveling merchants in medieval times until today. Each of the eight galleries presents a different chapter of the story of Polish Jews, enabling visitors to come into intimate contact with those who lived that story through images, artifacts, first-person accounts and interactive multimedia.

Warsaw Ghetto: A walking tour of the area of the Warsaw Ghetto, the Umschlagplatz monument, Ghetto Uprising monument and Miła 18.

Warsaw Jewish Cemetery: A visit to the cemetery allows us to understand the richness and diversity of pre-war community life.

Shabbat in Warsaw: We will enjoy the special Shabbat atmosphere together with today's Jewish community in Warsaw

Nozyk Synagogue: The Nozyk Synagogue is the only functioning pre-war synagogue in Warsaw and is home to the current Jewish community.

Overnight: Warsaw

SATURDAY, JUNE 21, 2025 | WARSAW

DAY 3

Optional Shabbat Service

Warsaw Old Town

Shabbat Lunch

Meeting with Ukrainian War Refugees

Shabbat Ends and Havdalla

Overnight: Warsaw

*Please note that the itinerary is subject to change.

SUNDAY JUNE 22, 2025 | ŁAŃCUT AND KRAKOW**DAY 4**

Łańcut Synagogue: The town of Łańcut was central to the development of Chassidut in Poland. The 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.

Zbylitowska Góra: The final resting place of the many Jews from Tarnów.

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.

Leżajsk (Lizensk): 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.

Kazimierz Quarter: The Jewish quarter in Krakow, known as Kazimierz, comprises the most intact and significant collection of Jewish buildings in Central Europe today, including seven remaining synagogues. It was home to Krakow's Jews for hundreds of years and was one of the most important Jewish communities in Europe.

Overnight: Krakow

MONDAY JUNE 23, 2025 | KRAKOW**DAY 5**

Auschwitz-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 "medical experiments".

Jewish Community Center of Krakow: JCC Krakow serves as a visitor center for the thousands of tourists, many of them Jewish, who pass through Krakow expecting to find traces of Jewish life.

Overnight: Krakow

TUESDAY JUNE 24, 2025 | VIENNA**DAY 6****Drive to Vienna**

Stadttempel: The Stadttempel is the main synagogue in Vienna. It was built between 1823 and 1826.

Belvedere Palaces: Visit the remarkable Belvedere Palaces which sat at the heart of the imperial capital and were home to the Habsburg Dynasty.

Overnight: Vienna

WEDNESDAY JUNE 25, 2025 | VIENNA**DAY 7**

Judenplatz: Judenplatz (German, 'Jewish Square') is a town square in Vienna's Innere Stadt that was the center of Jewish life in the Viennese Jewish Community in the Middle Ages.

Schönbrunn: Schönbrunn Palace is one of Europe's most beautiful Baroque complexes and has been in the possession of the Habsburgs since 1569.

JAfi Vienna: Discover the important work done by the Jewish Agency for Israel in Vienna.

Naschmarkt: Visit this flea market under the roofs of the small stalls that have been in place for over a 100 years. We will not leave the street empty-handed, even if we go there just for a look!

Overnight: Vienna

THURSDAY JUNE 26, 2025 | VIENNA**DAY 8****Depart Vienna****Recommended Departure Flight via British Airways:**

Vienna in Pittsburgh: Thurs. June 26 BA0701 (11:25 Vienna to London) > BA0171 (16:40 London to Pittsburgh)

Arrive in Pittsburgh on Thurs. June 26 at 19:45

*Please note that the itinerary is subject to change.