

MISSION TO POLAND + Israel

JUNE 18-23 2024



Mission Chairs: Jimmy & Rochelle Wagner
Mission Co-Chairs: Robert & Marilyn Swedarsky

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HOTEL INFORMATION

KRAKOW: 3 nights
WARSAW: 2 nights

TOUR GUIDE

Tzvi Sperber

Join Jewish Pittsburgh on a mission to Poland to understand Jewish memory through the tragedy of the Holocaust. Meet the passionate people who are connected to Pittsburgh and Karmiel/Misgav through Partnership2Gether. See how they are revitalizing Polish Jewry.

TUESDAY, JUNE 18, 2024 | ARRIVAL TO KRAKOW AIRPORT

DAY 1

Kazimierz

The Jewish quarter in Kraków, 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.

Dinner at the Krakow JCC

Hear about the work of the Krakow JCC serving the Jewish community ages 0-101.

Overnight: Krakow

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 19, 2024

DAY 2

Opening of Program over Breakfast

Lancut 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.

Lezajsk (Lizensk)

The grave of R' Elimelech of Lezajsk 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.

Markowa

A small town close to Lancut 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.

Tarnow

Jews are first mentioned in Tarnow from the middle of the 17th century. Before the outbreak of World War II there were over 25,000 Jews in Tarnow. The German army entered on Sept. 8, 1939, and terrorization of the Jewish population began. Many were sent to the death camp of Belzec.

Zbylitowska Gora

A site of mass murder of the Jews from Tarnow. Some of the Jews were sent to this small village outside of Tarnow.

Kraków Ghetto

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.

Overnight: Krakow

THURSDAY, JUNE 20, 2024

DAY 3

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 purported "medical experiments".

Overnight: Krakow

FRIDAY, JUNE 21, 2024

DAY 4

Early train from Krakow to Warsaw

Warsaw Today

Visit Lauder – Morasha School, Warsaw's Jewish Day School, Hillel Warsaw, and the Warsaw JCC

Kabbalat Shabbat with the community in Warsaw

Shabbat Dinner with members of the Warsaw Jewish community

Overnight: Warsaw

SHABBAT, SATURDAY, JUNE 22, 2024

DAY 5

Optional Shabbat Service

Kiddush

Shabbat Lunch

Warsaw Ghetto

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.

Tour of the Old Town with representatives of the Warsaw Jewish Community

Warsaw Hillel

A meeting with student activists from the Warsaw Hillel community to explore the ways that Judaism is seen, practiced, and perceived within the city and on campus.

Havdalah

Overnight: Warsaw

SUNDAY, JUNE 23, 2024

DAY 6

Polin – The Museum of the History of Polish Jews

The Museum's Core Exhibition immerses visitors in the world of Polish Jews, from their arrival in Polin as traveling merchants in medieval times until today. The exhibition was developed by an international team of more than 120 scholars. 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.

Depart Warsaw Airport

*Please note that the itinerary is subject to change based on timing, weather and security considerations.