



Past · Present · Future

JFS Journey to Poland

Buses 1 & 2

29 November – 4 December 2022

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

— M A P O F P O L A N D —



— I T I N E R A R Y —

Tuesday 29 November

Arrival in Warsaw

Tykocin

A small town with a Jewish presence since the early 16th Century. We will see the Jewish life that existed, and will follow in the footsteps of the Jewish population's tragic end.

Overnight: Białystok

Wednesday 30 November

Treblinka

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

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.

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.

Overnight: Lublin

Thursday 1 December

Majdanek

The Majdanek concentration camp was located three kilometres from the centre of Lublin and was in operation from October 1941 until July 1944.

Izbice

A vibrant town that was over 95% Jewish before the war, home to the Izbice Rebbe disciple of Reb Simcha Bunim of Pshischa. The Jews of Izbice were transported to Sobibor and a transit ghetto was set up in the town for Jews from across the country.

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.

Łańcut

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.

Overnight: Tarnów

Friday 2 December

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.

Shabbat in Kraków

Candle lighting to begin Shabbat.

Group activity

Kabbalat Shabbat in one of Kraków's old Synagogues

Shabbat Dinner

Overnight: Kraków

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 area of Płaszów was home to two of Kraków's Jewish cemeteries before the war. It is the burial place of the founder of the Beis Yaacov Girls' School network, Sarah Schenirer. The cemeteries were destroyed to make way for the Płaszów Labour camp under the command of the infamous Amon Goeth.

Overnight: Kraków

Shabbat 3 December

Optional Shabbat Service

Kiddush

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 Kraków's Jews for hundreds of years and was one of the most important Jewish communities in Europe.

Shabbat Lunch

Sunday 4 December

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".

Drive to Katowice Airport