





# Ansche Chesed Congregation The History and Revival of Jewish Life and Culture in Warsaw and Krakow Jewish Heritage Tour to Poland

June 25 – July 2, 2017

# \*SUGGESTED PROGRAM

\*Itinerary subject to change

Day 0 Sunday, June 25 OVERNIGHT FLIGHT

Day 1 Monday, June 26 WARSAW

### Introduction to Warsaw: Past and Present

Arrival and Check-in (Marriott hotel)

Time to refresh and rest or enjoy a walk in the area

OPTIONAL:

Visit to the Palace of Science and Culture

Orientation and Welcome Session

Taube Center for the Renewal of Jewish Life in Poland/ Taube Jewish Heritage Tours

Light kosher lunch to be served

Guided tour of Jewish Warsaw, *Past and Present*, including Plac Grzybowski, and visit to the Nozyk Synagogue, an iconic symbol of the continuity of Warsaw Jewry to the Umschlagplatz, following the Route of Memory and Martyrdom, Mila 18, and the Museum Plaza

Coffee Break

POLIN Museum of the History of Polish Jews in the Great Hall Guided tour through the Museum's Core Exhibition

Post-Tour Private session with Senior staff members, the POLIN Museum

Kosher Dinner with JCC staff and Jewish community leaders

# Closing the day session

Overnight in Warsaw

Day 2 Tuesday, June 27 **WARSAW** 

## The Lost World of Jewish Varshe/Warsaw, Part I

Kosher breakfast

### Framing the day session

Visit to Okopowa Cemetery

Visit to the Jewish Historical Institute:

- I. Group session at the Jewish Genealogy & Family Heritage Center with Director
- II. Special viewing of the Ringelblum Archive selections
- III. Viewing a new art exhibition

Kosher Lunch with Warsaw Jewish Community leaders

Free Time

Kosher Dinner with a Special Guest

Closing the day session

Day 3 Wednesday, June 28 **WARSAW** 

Early kosher breakfast and check-out

# Framing the day session on the bus

### Visit to Chmielnik:

Chmielnik is a small town with a population of almost four thousand, is located 40 kilometres away from Kielce. The glass bimah, unique on a worldwide scale, is the highlight of the synagogue's interior. The synagogue is also the headquarters of the "Swietokrzyski Sztetl" Centre, which offers a multimedia library and educational workshops for school students.

### OPTIONALLY:

Visits to:

- Szydlow: Late-Renaissance synagogue (16th century), which now houses a Jewish Culture Museum.
- **Pinczow:** it is believed that Jews appeared in Pińczów in the 14th century. The first documented reference to Jews in Pińczów comes from 1576. Two brick synagogues, one wooden as well as several cheders existed here in 1748. The town had 155 (44.4%) Jewish houses in 1769; in 1789 it was inhabited by 1,879 Jews, which constituted 61.1% of the total population.

Kosher LUNCH en route

Check-in (hotel TBC)

Welcome and session JCC Krakow Executive Director

Kosher Dinner on Kazimierz, Jewish quarter

Overnight in Krakow

Day 4 Thursday, June 29 **KRAKOW** 

The Crown Jewel of Poland - Krakow's Old Town and Kazimierz

Kosher breakfast

Framing the day session

Walking tour through Krakow's Old Town, listed on UNESCO's World Heritage Sites along with Kazimierz, including the Main Market Square and Cloth Hall, and Collegium Maius

Kosher Lunch

The tour continues through Kazimierz, Krakow's Jewish district, with its seven remaining synagogues, now the hub of Krakow's Jewish revival.

Free time

Dinner on own

Arrival at the Tempel Synagogue

Evening 27 Jewish Culture Festival Concert at the Tempel

Synagogue

Overnight in Krakow

Day 5 Friday, June 30 **KRAKOW** 

Kosher breakfast

# Framing the day session

# The Heart of Darkness - Visit to the Former German Nazi Concentration and Extermination Camp

Departure for Auschwitz-Birkenau

Guided tour of Birkenau and Auschwitz State Museum

Visit to the Auschwitz Jewish Center en route back to Krakow

Shabbat Services—choice of shuls or with group—Kosher Dinner at JCC, organized by the JCC Krakow

Overnight in Krakow

Day 6 Shabbat, July 1 **KRAKOW** 

Kosher breakfast

Framing the day session

Free morning to attend Sabbath services, explore Cracow, enjoy the Festival program, or to participate in one or both of the following optional tours:

Tour of Podgorze, a district of the city on the other side of the Vistula River, site of the former Krakow ghetto, and Schindler's Factory Museum

Farewell Dinner and the finale concert.

The 27 Jewish Culture Festival Finale Open-Air Concert

Overnight in Krakow

Day 7 Sunday, July 2

KRAKOW Departures

### **Taube Center Staff Contact Information:**

Helise Lieberman, Director, Taube Center for the Renewal of Jewish Life in Poland

Email: helieberman@centrumtaubego.org.pl

Cell: +48 517 940 692

Jakub Lysiak, General Tour Manager, Taube Jewish Heritage Tours

Cell: +48 513 109 070

E-mail: <u>ilvsiak@taubejewishheritagetours.com</u>

Jessica Rosenberg, Program Manager, Taube Jewish Heritage Tours

Email: jrosenberg@taubejewishheritagetours.com

Cell: +48 664 393 565

**Aleksandra Makuch,** Assistant Director, Taube Center for the Renewal of Jewish Life in Poland

Tel. +48 22208 58 78

E-mail: travel@tjht.pl

Email: amakuch@centrumtaubego.org.pl

Cell: +48 503 33 07 53

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