



## Past · Present · Future Pardes VIP Journey to Poland

12-18 September 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 —

### Monday 12 Sept

*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.

#### **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.

#### **Nożyk Synagogue**

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

#### **Dinner and meeting with Magda Dorosz, Director of Hillel Warsaw or Helise Leiberman of Taube Foundation**

*Overnight: Warsaw*

### Tuesday 13 September

#### **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.

#### **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.

#### **Treblinka**

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

#### **Dinner with Monika Krawczyk or Helise Leiberman and processing**

*Overnight: Warsaw*

### Wednesday 14 September

#### **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.

#### **The "Grodzka Gate – NN Theatre" Centre**

Founded by local enthusiasts in 1990 the Grodzka Gate NN Theatre Centre runs a range of activities and programmes drawing on the symbolic and historical significance of its residence, the Grodzka Gate, also known as the Jewish Gate. The Gate used to be a passage from the Christian to the Jewish part of the city, a meeting place of various cultures, traditions and religions.

#### **Majdanek**

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

#### **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: Rzeszów*

## Thursday 15 September

### 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.

### 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.

### Bais Yaakov Teachers' Seminary in Krakow: Modernity to Protect Tradition

*Overnight: Kraków*

## Friday 16 September

### Remah Synagogue and Cemetery in Kazimierz

### 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.

Meeting with Jonathan Orenstein, Director of the Krakow JCC and Rabbi Avi Baumol

Candle lighting to begin Shabbat  
Kabbalat Shabbat with the community  
Shabbat Dinner with the JCC

*Overnight: Kraków*

## Shabbat 17 September

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

Shabbat Lunch  
Optional Walking Tour of Wawel Castle, home of Polish Kings  
Shabbat ends

### Optional Walking Tour of Old Town Square

First night Selichot in one of Krakow's old shuls

*Overnight: Kraków*

## Sunday 18 September

### 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".

### Auschwitz Jewish Center

The Chevra Lomdei Mishnayot synagogue is the only surviving Jewish house of prayer in Oświęcim of almost 30 that existed before the war. Built circa 1913, the Nazis devastated its interior and used the building as a munitions warehouse. After World War II, Jewish survivors in Oświęcim once again used it as a synagogue. It is now home to the Auschwitz Jewish Center.

*Drive to Krakow Airport*

Cost \$3,400 per person (excluding airfare)  
Deposit of \$500 due at time of registration  
Registration online at [www.jroots.org/trips](http://www.jroots.org/trips)