



USY Poland Seminar for Adults 2017

TENTATIVE ITINERARY

Tuesday, July 4

Please plan your arrival in Warsaw no later than 11AM on Tuesday July 4. We will meet at Chopin Airport

Our week in Poland begins with a tour of Warsaw's Jewish Cemetery which is one of the largest in Europe. It provides an excellent introduction to the rich and varied history of Polish Jewry. This will be followed by a visit to the Nozyk Synagogue, the only synagogue in Warsaw which was still standing at the end of WWII

After a brief break for lunch we will visit a remnant of the Warsaw ghetto wall, and begin our discussion about life in the ghetto.

In the afternoon we will check in to our hotel allowing time to freshen up. We will hold a brief orientation session followed by dinner.

(Overnight Warsaw)

Wednesday, July 5

Our day begins with visits to additional sites connected to the Warsaw Ghetto, including the Umslagplatz, Mila 18, the site of the ghetto fighters' command bunker, and the Ghetto Fighters' Monument. This will be followed by a visit to the new Museum of the History of Polish Jews.

Next we head to Lublin which was once a major center of Jewish life. Our first stop in Lublin will be the site of the Majdanek Concentration Camp. We will visit what remains of the camp and hold a memorial service. This will be followed by a visit to the building which once housed the Yeshiva of the Sages of Lublin, an important center of Jewish learning prior to WWII.

We will check in to our hotel and have time after dinner to discuss the day's experiences.

(Overnight Lublin)



Thursday, July 6

Today we head to Krakow with a brief stop in the town of Kraznik to see the synagogue. We will tour Krakow's Jewish quarter in the afternoon, including several synagogues, some of which were built in the 15th and 16th centuries. After some leisure time in Krakow's Market square we will check in to our hotel and have time after dinner to discuss the day's experiences.

(Overnight Krakow)

Friday, July 7

Most of our day will be spent at the massive Auschwitz/Birkenau Concentration Camp complex. We will return to Krakow in time to prepare for Shabbat. We will attend Shabbat evening services followed by a festive Shabbat dinner.

(Overnight Krakow)

Shabbat, July 8

We will attend Shabbat morning services with the local Jewish community. After services we will join together for Shabbat lunch at the Krakow JCC where we will hear about Jewish life in Krakow today. After lunch we will have some leisure time, providing you with the opportunity to explore Krakow on your own, and enjoy some much needed Shabbat rest.

We will gather together again at our hotel for the final Shabbat meal and will conclude Shabbat with Havdalah.

(Overnight Krakow)

Sunday, July 9

We head back to Warsaw, stopping in Lodz which was the second largest city in Poland and a major center of Jewish life before WWII. We will tour the Jewish Cemetery (the largest in Europe) and other Jewish sites, arriving in Warsaw in time for dinner and time at leisure.

(Overnight Warsaw)

Monday, July 10

On our last full day in Poland, we head up north to visit Tykocin, a small town with a beautifully restored synagogue. We will also stop in Lupochova Forest where the Nazis murdered the Jews of Tykocin during the Shoah. From there we head back down to the site of the Treblinka death camp where over 800,000 Jews were killed by the Nazis.



Afterwards we return to Warsaw for summary discussions and dinner, with the rest of the evening at leisure.
(Overnight Warsaw)

Tuesday, July 11

In the morning we will meet with representatives of the Jewish community in Poland to hear about Jewish life in Poland today.