

YAD Leaders of Change VASHEM Program and Itinerary for Europe and Poland

THURSDAY, JULY 4, 2019

What was Jewish life like in Europe before the Holocaust? We will tour the Scheunenviertel neighborhood (Barn Quarter). In 1672, the hay barns – a fire hazard – were moved out of the city limits, becoming a refuge for Jews fleeing Russia and Eastern Europe. We will also visit the grave of Moses Mendelssohn, the site of the first Jewish Home for the Aged in Berlin, a Jewish school dating back to 1738, and the "The Missing House."

- Berlin Dieser Synagogue
- Cemetery of the Jewish Community Berlin (Moses Mendelssohn's Grave)
- Otto Weidt's Workshop for the Blind
- Rosenstrasse Protest Women

FRIDAY, JULY 5, 2019

Dr. Matthias Haas will join us as we explore the rise of Fascism, the beginning of mass murder, and the inception of the Final Solution. Participants will visit Gleis 17, Wannsee Haus, Memorial to The Murdered Jews of Europe, the Brandenburg Gate and Tiergarten Memorials, and the Topography of Terror. We will begin our exploration of how the Holocaust is remembered and memorialized throughout Europe.

- Tiergatenstrasse 4 Memorial for the Victims of the National Socialist « Euthanasia » Killings
- Memorial to the Murdered Jews of Europe
- Memorial to the Homosexuals Persecuted Under the National Socialist Regime
- Memorial to the Sinti and Roma Murdered Under the National Socialist Regime
- Brandenburg Gate
- House of the Wannsee Conference
- Grunewald Station
- Berlin Wall and Checkpoint Charlie
- Topography of Terror (Site of the Reich Security Main Office of the SS)

Dr. Matthias Hass is a political scientist and expert in the historical foundations of politics. He is a native of Germany and a graduate of the Free University of Berlin. From 2005 to 2009, he was the director of the U.S. program Action Reconciliation Service for Peace in Philadelphia, has been Amizade's Site Director in Poland since 2010. He is the author of The Politics of Memory in Germany, Israel and the United States of America.

SATURDAY, JULY 6, 2019

Today our journey will parallel the victims of the Holocaust, as we travel east to Warsaw. On the way, we will stop at Lodz, a very important centre of pre-war Jewish life.

- Litzmannstadt Ghetto Memorial in Lodz
- Radegast Station Deportations and Memorial

SUNDAY, JULY 7, 2019

Today, we tour Warsaw. We will be introduced to the Nazi practice of forcing Jews into ghettos and how the residents of these ghettos coped during the Holocaust. We will tour the Genesia Cemetery, Remnants of Ghetto Wall, Heroes' Walk - Umschlagplatz, Mila 18, Rapoport Monument. We will also visit the Poulin Museum and the Warsaw Zoo.

- Ghetto Uprising
- Ghetto Wall
- Jewish Cemetery Symbolic Graves of Holocaust Victims
- Memorial of the Ghetto Uprising
- Rapoport Monument to the Ghetto Heroes
- Polin Museum 1000 Years of History of the Polish Jews
- Warsaw Zoo Jan and Antonio Zabinska Righteous Among the Nations
- Main Judaica Library Warsaw Ghetto Underground Archive (Oneyg Shabbat Dr Emanuel Ringelblum Archives)
- Warsaw Old Town Square
- Memorial to the Warsaw Uprising Krasinki Square

MONDAY, JULY 8, 2019

The Shtetl was a predominantly rural and insular way of life for many European Jews. We will tour a small shtetl in Northeastern Poland, where the Jewish population comprised over half of the population. We will visit Treblinka, now a memorial, but once the site of death camp that operated from 1942-1943. This is where the majority of Warsaw Jews were murdered.

- Treblinka
- Tykocin Shtetl Great Synagogue
- Lopuchowa Forest

TUESDAY, JULY 9, 2019

Belzec is one of the six 'extermination' camps in Poland, known as the Reinhard Death Camps. Belzec was originally established in 1940 as a camp for Jewish forced labor. By the time the

camp ceased operations in January 1943, more than 600,000 persons had been murdered there. There were only 2 survivors. Together we will explore the questions: **How do we connect to the unimaginable? How can we use our sensory experience to empathize and subsequently teach?** This evening, participants will enjoy Zamosc, one of the most beautiful towns in Eastern Europe. Designed in the Italian Renaissance style, the Old Town Square is a UNESCO Heritage site.

- Belzec Death Camp
- Belzec Memorial
- Zamość Synagogue

WEDNESDAY, JULY 10, 2019

On the outskirts of Lublin, we visit Majdanek, one of the largest concentration and extermination camps. On our guided tour, we will see original architectural remains, including barracks, gas chambers and the crematoria. Later, we will walk through Old Lublin, once the third largest Jewish population in Poland. Lublin was a very important center of Jewish life, culture and learning in Europe.

- Majdanek
- Lublin

THURSDAY, JULY 11, 2019

Spend the day exploring Krakow, beginning with a guided walking tour of the Kazimierz district, the old Jewish quarter of Krakow. Kazimierz, with its town center, and several synagogues, serves as a testament to the vibrant spiritual and cultural life of Polish Jews from the 15th century until WWII. We will also visit Padgorze, area of the former ghetto. We will have the rare opportunity of hearing the first-hand story of a Righteous Among the Nations. Other sites will include the infamous Plaszow labour camp, memorialized in "Schindler's List." We will also have a short visit to the Wojtek Soldier Bear Memorial.

- Kazimierz The Old Synagogue Remuh Synagogue and Tempel Synagogue
- Galicia Jewish Museum Righteous Among the Nations
- Schindler's Factory
- Plaszow Concentration Camp

FRIDAY, JULY 12, 2019

Our trip will culminate with our visit to Auschwitz-Birkenau, the largest and most notorious complex of Nazi extermination camps. The sign over the entrance to Auschwitz I – "Arbeit Macht Frei" (Work Makes You Free) is arguably the best known symbol of the Holocaust.

Approximately 1.5 million people, 90% of whom were Jews from all over Europe were murdered here.

- Auschwitz 1
- Auschwitz 2 Birkenau

SATURDAY, JULY 13, 2019

Participants will be led in a group debrief and discussion, giving them an opportunity to reflect, emote, and process this experience. Afterward enjoy some free time in Krakow. A Farewell dinner, will allow participants to further reflect and share their learnings, exchange contact information, and say farewells.

Krakow

SUNDAY, JULY 14, 2019 – CHECK OUT AND DEPART