



TORAH in MOTION
travel

GERMANY

WITH DR. MARC SHAPIRO · JULY 19 - 27, 2017
ITINERARY *(subject to change)*

WEDNESDAY: BERLIN

Our tour begins at 1pm with a walking tour focused on Jewish Berlin. We will visit the most important pre-war sites, some of which are today memorialized and some of which survived the war. Among the sites we will see are the Adass Jisroel synagogue, the center of R. Azriel Hildesheimer's community, the old Jewish cemetery, the "Missing House", a very striking monument, and Otto Weidt's workshop for the blind, where Jews were protected during the war. We will also see how Judaism is being revived in Berlin when we visit the modern Adass Jisroel community.

ACCOMMODATIONS: **Crowne Plaza Berlin City Centre**

THURSDAY: BERLIN

We begin by visiting the the famous Berlin Victory Column, built to commemorate a great Prussian victory. We will also see the "Government and Parliament district," followed by stops at the Brandenburg Gate, the striking new Holocaust Memorial, Hitler's bunker, and the memorial to the book burnings. Following lunch we will visit what remains of the Berlin Wall, the famous Checkpoint Charlie, and the former SS headquarters.

ACCOMMODATIONS: **Crowne Plaza Berlin City Centre**

FRIDAY: BERLIN

This morning is devoted to a guided tour of the magnificent Jewish Museum of Berlin. Designed by Daniel Libeskind in a fascinating zigzag construction, the museum focuses on German Jewish history. Following lunch there is free time to explore the city on one's own and get ready for Shabbat. Shabbat services will be at the Central Orthodox Synagogue in Berlin.

ACCOMMODATIONS: **Crowne Plaza Berlin City Centre**

SATURDAY: BERLIN

In the morning we will attend services at the Central Orthodox Synagogue. Following lunch there will be time to relax and Dr. Shapiro will also present a Torah class focusing on R. David Zvi Hoffmann of Berlin, one of the greatest German halakhic authorities in modern times. There will be a walking tour in the afternoon, where among other things we will walk on the Kurfurstendamm, one of the most important avenues in Berlin.

ACCOMMODATIONS: **Crowne Plaza Berlin City Centre**

SUNDAY: BERLIN, BUCHENWALD, ERFURT

We depart Berlin, arriving in the Weimar area in time for lunch. Following lunch we will tour the Buchenwald concentration camp, which opened in 1937 and caused so much pain for our people.

ACCOMMODATIONS: **Arcadia Grand Hotel am Dom Erfurt**

MONDAY: ERFURT, FRIEDBURG, FRANKFURT

The morning is spent touring the city of Erfurt, which in previous centuries was a center of Jewish life. We will visit the medieval synagogue (the oldest surviving synagogue in Europe) and other sites of Jewish interest. After this we head to Friedberg, where we will see a wonderfully preserved medieval mikveh. We then drive to Frankfurt, a center of Jewish life in Germany from medieval times until today.

ACCOMMODATIONS: **Grand Hotel Hessischer Hof**

TUESDAY: FRANKFURT, MAINZ, WORMS, MICHELSTADT

Our first stop is Mainz, one of the most important medieval Jewish towns. While in Mainz we will visit the Gutenberg Museum, a wonderful exhibition of one of history's most important inventions: printing. From there we head to Worms, another important Jewish town, where we will see the grave of the famed R. Meir of Rothenburg—who died in prison rather than allow the Jewish community to redeem him—and the so-called Rashi Synagogue. We will then drive to the beautiful medieval town of Michelstadt where we will visit the synagogue and Jewish museum and learn about the great Baal Shem of Michelstadt, whose grave continues to be a pilgrimage spot for Jews.

ACCOMMODATIONS: **Grand Hotel Hessischer Hof**

WEDNESDAY: FRANKFURT

Today is devoted to Frankfurt, where we will visit sites of Jewish and more general interest. We begin with a tour of the city center, seeing Roemer Square and City Hall. Later we will walk to where the ghetto once stood and see where the important institutions of both the general Jewish community and the separatist Hirschian community were located. We will also visit the graves of some outstanding Jewish sages who lived in Frankfurt.

ACCOMMODATIONS: **Grand Hotel Hessischer Hof**

THURSDAY: FRANKFURT

Breakfast. Transfer to airport for your flight back home.