

DAY 1 DEPARTURE FROM NEWARK

Enjoy full meal service on your scheduled wide-bodied flight to Krakow or Warsaw.

DAY 2 ARRIVAL IN KRAKOW (3 NIGHTS)

Upon arrival in Krakow we will be greeted by our English speaking Tour Director. We will then board our private coach at the airport and transfer to our hotel. **Krakow** is a beautiful city and the second largest in Poland. Cobble-stone streets, architectural monuments, gardens, museums, and the historic center of Krakow make it a wonderful and enchanting place to visit. The city of Krakow will be our base for the next three evenings. Breakfast will be included daily at the hotel.

This afternoon we will enjoy some introductory sightseeing. We will begin with a **Walking Tour of the Jewish Quarter**, known as the *Kazimierz*, which contributed greatly to the economy of the city since the thirteenth century when the Jewish community was granted freedom of trade, worship, and travel. The area is filled with many beautiful historic synagogues, cemeteries, and so forth that we will enjoy viewing during our tour.

Dinner this evening is by the group's own arrangements.

Note: Pending final flight schedule confirmation, we may arrive in Warsaw and travel by train to Krakow.

DAY 3 DAY TRIP BY TRAIN TO AUSCHWITZ & BIRKENAU

This morning after breakfast we will depart Krakow on a private coach for a day trip to **Auschwitz and Birkenau**. Our visit includes a guided tour of **Auschwitz and Birkenau**, the largest and most efficient of the Nazi death camps. Our tour will include the **Museum**, the **Documentary Film**, followed by a short shuttle to Birkenau, where we will view the remains of the death camp and the moving **Memorial** to all those who died in the Auschwitz system. Afterwards we will walk to the Buna and view the remains of the **Monowitz** death camp. This camp was one of the three main camps in the Auschwitz concentration camp systems. The camp was liberated in 1945 and very few of the original structures remain in present day.

Later this evening we will return to Krakow where dinner is by the group's own arrangement.

DAY 4 KRAKOW

This morning after breakfast we will tour the **Podgorze Ghetto**. Highlights of our walking tour will include remnants of the *Ghetto Wall*, the main Ghetto square and *Memorial*, and the small *Pharmacy under the Eagle* museum. We will then visit **Oskar Schindler's Factory**, where Schindler himself began his first efforts to rescue the Polish Jews.

Our afternoon will be free to reflect or explore on our own. Those that choose may return to Auschwitz (at own cost), or do some sightseeing, perhaps with a visit to Wawel Castle, an interesting example of Renaissance architecture, housing one of the largest collections of tapestries in Europe.

This evening dinner is by the group's own arrangement.

DAY 5 KRAKOW - TRAIN TO WARSAW (5 NIGHTS)

This morning we will board our train and transfer to the historic and capital city of Warsaw. Upon arrival we will check into our hotel. Warsaw will be our base for the next five evenings, and breakfast will be included daily at the hotel. Our first visit will be to the controversial **Palace of Culture**, built between 1952 and 1955 as Joseph Stalin's "gift" to Warsaw, though it came to symbolize Soviet domination. Today it is the tallest structure in the city, as well as in Poland, and serves as an exhibition hall and office complex, as well as an FM and television broadcasting center and cinema, theatre, museum, bookshop, and conference hall.

Next we will visit the **Warsaw Uprising Museum** which was opened in 2004 commemorating the 60th anniversary of the Uprising. The museum has wonderful exhibits explaining the history of the Uprising and the history of the Polish Underground State. The museum houses hundreds of artifacts ranging from weapons used by the insurgents to letters to their loved ones. The main goal of the museum is to archive all these important historical artifacts and information for future generations.

Our last visit today will be to the **National Museum** which is the national institution of culture and one of the largest museums in Poland. This museum has a rich collection of ancient art including Egyptian, Greek, and Roman and numbers at over 11,000 pieces. The museum also has an extensive collection of Polish paintings, foreign paintings (Italian, French, Dutch, etc), medieval art, and Chinese art.

This evening we are free to explore the area of Old Town and enjoy dinner by our own arrangements.

DAY 6 WARSAW

Today we will focus on the Warsaw Jewish Ghetto, established by the Nazi's on November 16, 1940. We begin with a visit to the **Nozyk Synagogue**, the only active synagogue in Warsaw. In addition to its magnificent interior, we will also visit the historic overgrown **Cemetery** and the ***Museum of the Jewish Historical Institute (costs not included)***.

We continue to **Pawiak Prison**, which became notorious during the Nazi occupation when it was used to imprison Poles and Jews arrested by the Germans. Now in ruins, Pawiak serves as a **Museum**, and is highlighted by the **Long-Dead-Tree**, covered with obituary notices for prisoners who died there.

Next we will view the **Umschlagplatz Monument**, unveiled in 1988, which marks the site of a former railway siding on Ulica Dzika. It was from here that some 300,000 Jews from the Warsaw Ghetto and elsewhere were loaded onto cattle trucks and dispatched to almost certain death in the extermination camps. The monument, by Hanna Szmalenberg and Wladyslaw Klamerus, is made of blocks of black and white marble bearing the names of hundreds of Warsaw's Jews.

Our day continues with a walk along the **Path of Jewish Remembrance**, which runs between the Umschlagplatz Monument, to the **Monument to the Heroes of the Ghetto**. Sixteen blocks of granite bearing inscriptions in Polish, Hebrew and Yiddish and bearing

the date 1940-1943 mark the route. Each block is dedicated to the memory of the 450,000 Jews murdered in the Ghetto, the heroes of the uprising and many individuals that fought to liberate the Ghetto and end the murder.

Our last visit today will be to visit the site of the **Janusz Korczak orphanage**. Korczak was a well known Polish-Jewish pediatrician who served during WWI, but was denied during WWII due to age. He opened an orphanage in Warsaw and took care of orphans after WWI through the early 1940s. However in 1942, the Nazis came to round up the 192 orphans and take them to Treblinka. Despite being offered amnesty, he insisted he would stay with the children. Unfortunately none of the children survived the war and even Korczak himself died in Treblinka in 1942.

Later we will participate in an instructional session to discuss what we learned and saw today.

This evening the group is free to find dinner on their own.

DAY 7 WARSAW

Visit the **Museum of the History of Polish Jews** which is located on the site of the former Warsaw Ghetto. The museum features a multimedia narrative exhibition about the thriving Jewish community that flourished in Poland for over a thousand years.

This afternoon students will be given assignments to be completed at various points throughout the area of the previous Warsaw Ghetto.

Later we will have another instructional session to discuss what we have learned.

Dinner this evening is by the group's own arrangements.

DAY 8 DAY TRIP TO TREBLINKA

This morning we will board our private coach for a day trip to Treblinka. Along the way we will stop at a nearby village and enjoy an early lunch by our own arrangements. Today we will visit the extermination camp of **Treblinka** that operated between July 1942 and October 1943 and was responsible for the murder of over 850,000 men, women, and children. Beautiful and solemn stone monuments are located throughout the former site of the camp in memory of all those who suffered and died at Treblinka.

We will also have an instructional session while at Treblinka and discuss what we have learned and seen.

Later we will return to Warsaw where the group is free to enjoy dinner by their own arrangements.

DAY 9 DAY TRIP TO LODZ

This morning we will take a short train ride to the city of **Lodz**. The third largest city in Poland, Lodz was also occupied by the Nazis during WWII and the Lodz Ghetto was established shortly after. More than 200,000 Jews inhabited the ghetto before being deported to several death camps and concentrations that arose in the city's vicinity. Only around 900 people survived from the **Lodz Ghetto**.

We will take a Walking Tour of the Ghetto as we take in some of the major and historical sites.

We will then participate in another instructional session to discuss what we have learned and seen.

Later we will return to Warsaw where the group is free to enjoy dinner by their own arrangements.

DAY 10 DEPARTURE FROM WARSAW

Our enjoyable and rewarding tour will come to an end as we are escorted to the airport by our guide for the flight home