Presents...

Spain, Gibraltar & Portugal
Jewish Heritage Tour

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<td>Tour Start Date</td>
<td>June 9, 2014</td>
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<td>Tour End Date</td>
<td>June 23, 2014</td>
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<tr>
<td>Price with flights From Tel Aviv</td>
<td>€3,355</td>
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<tr>
<td>Price for land only</td>
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Spain is considered the world's leading country in foreign tourism (about 60 million foreign tourists annually) – blessed with people who come to visit its famous sites or relax on the golden beaches of the Costa Brava or the Costa del Sol. To us, Spain is important for other reasons: the rich Jewish history of Catalonia, Andalusia and the city of Toledo is firmly planted in our national psyche – mainly because of the Spanish Inquisition in the late 15th century. We will visit the main sites connected to the Jewish history of Spain, as well as some of the primary sites that attract tourists from all over the world.

Portugal stands somewhat alone in Europe separated from everyone by its border with Spain. It's a small country, but it offers so much: a spectacular Atlantic coastline, dotted with classic and historic fishing villages such as Nazare; majestic mountain ranges and dense forests; and vineyards as far as the eye can see alongside quaint, picturesque hamlets in the Doro Valley. History, monumental architecture, religious and secular art, all finds expression in churches and monasteries both ancient and modern. Combine all this with an entire population that is discovering its Jewish roots, and renewing Jewish life in this beautiful land. Then add warm hospitality, fine wine and great food – and you'll discover a Portugal you never knew existed.
DAY 1: MONDAY – BARCELONA
Arrival to Barcelona. We’ll enjoy a guided tour of the city. We’ll be amazed at the city’s magnificent architecture, tour the old Jewish quarter, walk along the main promenades and wonder at Gaudi’s magnificent “Holy Family.” After the tour we’ll have some time to complete our visit to the city.

DAY 2: TUESDAY, BARCELONA – BASALO - GERONA – BARCELONA
After breakfast we’ll drive to Basalo – a city dating back to the middle Ages, beautifully preserved. We’ll tour the city and visit what used to be the Jewish quarter. Here there remains the mikveh, which was built in 1264. We’ll continue to Gerona – the city of the Ramban - Nachmanides. Gerona is one of the centers of Jewish creativity in the Middle Ages and one of the wellsprings of the Kabalah. We’ll wander through the old city’s alleyways to the Jewish quarter, where only street names remain to tell of its glorious past. We’ll visit the museum that displays ancient Jewish tombstones. At the end of the day we’ll head back to Barcelona.

DAY 3: WEDNESDAY, BARCELONA – GRANADA
Today we will fly to Granada and visit the magnificent Alhambra Palace and gardens. We’ll see the Ambassador’s hall where the declaration banishing the Jews from Spain was signed by the Catholic Royal couple, Ferdinand and Isabella. It was from here that Columbus was sent to discover the "New World".

DAY 4: THURSDAY, GRANADA – CORDOBA
In the morning we'll head south to Cordoba, the city of Maimonides. We'll tour the old city, testament to the vibrant Jewish presence that once existed here. We'll visit the squares and the streets that still bear witness to the Land of Israel, places such as Tiberias Square and Yehuda Halevi Square. We'll visit the statue of Maimonides, placed by the city elders as a memorial to "The Great Eagle." We'll visit the synagogue of Maimonides and stroll along the flower-decorated and picturesque alleys, until we arrive to the "Mezquita" - the former Great Mosque of Cordoba that now serves as the local cathedral.

DAY 5: FRIDAY, CORDOBA – GIBRALTAR
Drive to Gibraltar, the British enclave known as "the Rock." Gibraltar is a shortened version of Gabel el Tarik - named for the berber warlord who conquered this area and thereby pushed into Spain at the beginning of the Muslim rule here. We’ll visit the stalactite cave named for St. Michael and see the monkey colony alongside it. We’ll stroll along the city’s streets and soak up some "British" air. We’ll continue to our hotel to prepare for Shabbat.

DAY 6: SHABBAT, GIBRALTAR
The Jewish presence in Gibraltar is strong; it has five synagogues, three schools, a cemetery, stores and kosher restaurants, various minyanim, a kollel and a rabbi. We'll spend Shabbat with the community and after Shabbat lunch we'll go out for a walking tour of the area.
DAY 7: SUNDAY, GIBRALTAR – SEVILLE
We leave Gibraltar and travel through Seville’s tree-lined streets on a sightseeing tour with your local guide. Visit Seville Cathedral and see the Giralda Tower, a former minaret converted to a bell tower. Visit the tomb of Christopher Columbus in the Cathedral. Visit the pools and fountains in Maria Luisa Park as well as the imposing Plaza de España. Your guided tour finishes with a walk through the Jewish quarter.

DAY 8: MONDAY, SEVILLE – EVORA, PORTUGAL
After breakfast we’ll travel eastward to Avora, capital of the region of Alentejo. This historic city, which is a UNESCO World Heritage Site, traces its origins back to Roman times. Here we will see ruins dating back to that period including the oldest Roman Temple in Portugal. A university was built here in the 16th century, which drew many students and scholars to the city. We’ll wander through the narrow streets and alleyways and marvel at the architecture. We’ll continue to the fortress at Avora-Monte which overlooks the city. This 16th century fortress was built in Italian Renaissance style.

DAY 9: TUESDAY, EVORA – CASTELO DE VIDE – TRANCOSO
This morning we visit Castelo de Vide place of refuge and busy commerce town in the 14 and 15th centuries and wander through narrow alleys and the town’s synagogue and Jewish quarter. In the afternoon we will travel to the walled town of Trancoso – where Jewish merchants first settled here in the 12th century. We will see the Medieval home “Casa Do Gato Negro” (the house of the Black Cat) in Largo Luís de Albuquerque. The facade of the house is decorated with emblems that have been interpreted as representations of the Lion of Judah and the Gates of Jerusalem. The house itself used to belong to the former Rabbi of this community and it was probably also used as the local Synagogue.

DAY 10: WEDNESDAY, TRANCOSO
Today we will proceed to Belmonte, a beautiful town built around the 13th Century. The town has preserved its Jewish past and it is a community of some hundreds of “Bnei Anusim” Marranos who have decided to make their way back to their Jewish Roots. Our morning tour will include the Medieval Castle, the Jewish Quarter which was situated outside the castle walls. We will see the houses with crosses engraved in the stone close to the doors which were inhabited by “New Christians”, who were forcibly baptized and publicly followed Catholic rituals but in the privacy of their own homes maintained their Jewish religion. We will visit the Jewish Museum and Synagogue.
DAY 11: THURSDAY, TRANCOSO – COIMBRA – TOMAR
This morning we will visit Coimbra, see ancient streets and squares and visit the Old University featuring an ornate Baroque library. From there we will continue to the ancient village of Tomar. Here we’ll visit the ancient synagogue, built in 1430 and named for the astronomer and mathematician Abraham Zacut. We’ll stroll through the streets and make our way up to the 12th century templar fortress that overlooks the town.

DAY 12: FRIDAY, OVIDOS, LISBON
This morning we'll head to Ovidos, a walled village where we'll be able to stroll about and enjoy the beauty of the place. We'll continue to Nazare, a beautiful fishing village that sits atop a rocky outcrop that overlooks the sea. After the tour we will depart to Lisbon, Portugal’s capital city which sits astride the Tejo river estuary on the Atlantic coast. Lisbon, like Rome, is built over seven hills. The most famous hill is the Afalma upon which the old city is built, as is Lisbon’s ancient Jewish quarter. We'll make our way to our hotel to prepare for Shabbat.

DAY 13: SHABBAT, LISBON
After Shabbat services and lunch we will take a walking tour of the area near our hotel.

DAY 14: SUNDAY, LISBON
See Lisbon’s landmarks, including the Monument to the Discoveries, the suspension bridge spanning the River Tagus, the Belém Tower and the quaint Alfama district. Visit the UNESCO World Heritage site of the Hieronymite Monastery during your sightseeing tour with a Local Guide.

We leave Lisbon for the slopes of the Sierra de Sintra, an area studded with palaces. After visiting an impressive palace, we see the fashionable resort of Estoril before returning to Lisbon by way of the quaint fishing village of Cascais. We’ll make our way to the airport for our flight back home. We’ve had an unforgettable experience, seen a beautiful and fascinating part of the world, and developed an appetite for more.
Price Includes:
- First class hotel
- Entrance fees as per the itinerary
- Comfortable air conditioned touring coach
- Kosher half board & lunch packs daily
- Professional experienced English-speaking guide

Price does not include:
- International flights and taxes
- Travel & Health Insurance
- Personal expenses
- Tips for local service providers €150
- Tip for our Tour Guide (Recommended: $3 per person per day)

Important to Know:
- There may be changes to the order of places visited. We will make every effort to visit every place mentioned in the itinerary.
- The tour organizers have no control over airline services such as seating, special meal requests, changes in departure times or delays. These remain the sole responsibility of the airline company.

Kashrut on Tours  Kosher food is provided to our travelers on all our tours. We work with the local Rabbinate to provide Hashgacha for all local ingredients and fresh meat and poultry. In some cases, we fly in kosher food from Israel and other sources, depending on the destination of the tour. We do not guarantee Pat Israel and Chalav Israel for all destinations. In many destinations we have our own crockery and cutlery. Where we don't, we provide disposables at the meals. When we cook in Hotel kitchens, we ensure proper Kashering and we use our own kitchenware on kashered and covered surfaces. All this is done under the strict supervision of our trained staff/guides who function as our Mashgichim. Our travelers enjoy gourmet meals prepared by our team including fresh local fish, fruit, and vegetables. This is an integral part of Jewish travel. We make great efforts to assure that our travelers will experience local foods first-hand, while maintaining stringent observance of Kashrut laws on all occasions.
Rabbi Yisrael Meir Levinger – Head of Kashrut on all Land Tours

Graduate of Yeshivat Kfar Haroeh and Yeshivat Beer Yakov. He served as Chief Rabbi for 22 years in Basle, Switzerland and for 20 years was on the council of Vaad Hakashrut of Europe. He has authored books on Shechita, and many Kashrut topics and is now working on the Encyclopedia of Kashrut. Rav Levinger is the Company Rav and oversees and is responsible for all our operations and logistical methodology to ensure the highest standards of Kashrut on each tour and each destination worldwide.

Travel Insurance

Travel insurance encompassing both cancellation and medical insurance is very important and we cannot stress that enough. We strongly recommend that our clients are adequately insured when travelling. It is crucial to purchase the travel insurance within 14 days from the 1st payment that you make for this trip (flights/cruise/tour etc). Your payment is made directly to the insurance company. We highly recommend the 'cancel for any reason' upgrade option. Our preferred policies are Travel Safe (USA & Canadian residents), Travel Select (USA residents) and Global Trip Protection Elite (All other Nationalities).

For an obligation free quote and further details email Yonah insurance@eddiestravel.com

Bookings: Due to the limited number of spaces on this tour, we urge you to please complete the attached booking form and return it to us by fax as soon as possible.

Deposit, Cancellation Fees & Policy:

A $500 USD Deposit per person must be received at the time of booking in order to confirm your reservation. Payment in full is due 60 days before departure. A minimum number of participants are required to operate tour dates. If a minimum number has not been reached prior to tour departure and the tour is cancelled you will receive a FULL refund.

- 90 days before departure bookings are refundable less a $100 administration fee
- 60-90 days prior to departure: $300 + $100 per passenger
- 60-30 days prior to departure: $500 + $100 per passenger
- 30-14 days prior to departure: $1,000 + $100 per passenger
- Less than 30 working days prior to departure: 100% of total - no refund

- We strongly recommend purchasing Travel Insurance.