

Makom Los Angeles

Jewish Tradition in Andalusia and Catalonia

May 15 - 27, 2019

Please Note: Hotels may be upgraded and will remain in the Spanish Traditional Style

Wednesday, May 15, 2019

DEPARTURE

- Depart the United States.

Overnight: Flight

Thursday, May 16, 2019

ARRIVAL IN SPAIN

- Arrive at Madrid International Airport.
- Group transfer to the hotel.
- Chance to rest and get settled; meet in the hotel lobby at 4pm.
- Gentle stroll around Madrid, a chance to get your bearings.
- Festive **Welcome Dinner** and **Trip Orientation**.

Overnight: Hotel Catalonia Atocha, Madrid

Friday, May 17, 2019

THE GLORY OF MADRID

- Breakfast at the hotel.
- Visit the **Prado** to explore the masterpieces of artists such as Velazquez, Goya, Bosch, Rubens, Titian, and other great European painters, and the **Green Wall**, right across from the Prado.
- Group Lunch at one of the many restaurants near the Plaza Mayor.
- Visit the 17th-century **Plaza Mayor**, the center of historic Madrid and sight of festivals and bullfights, and also the place where Jewish history marks the great trauma of the many auto-da-fes (ritual of public penance, followed by burning at the stake).
- Walk through Madrid, visiting:
 - **Plaza de España**, with an inspiring monument to Poet, Novelist, and Playwright Miguel de Cervantes Saavedra.
 - **Royal Palace**, a short walk from the Plaza and the official residence of the King of Spain.
- Time to prepare for Shabbat.



- Kabbalat Shabbat with the **Reform Jewish Community of Madrid**, followed by Shabbat dinner with them. (In case they are not meeting this week, arrangements would be made with **Beth Yaacov** or **Bet El** for Kabbalat Shabbat and dinner.)

Overnight: Hotel Catalonia Atocha, Madrid

Shabbat (Saturday), May 18, 2019

SHABBAT IN MADRID

- Breakfast at the hotel.
- Optional visit to one of Madrid's synagogues.
- Explore Madrid by foot.
- Stroll the main streets of **Madrid's oldest quarter**, the original site of Madrid, called "**Austrias**," with its small plazas and narrow streets.
- Visit the **Plaza de la Villa**, home to City Hall and the 15th-century **Tower of Los Lujanes**, the site of the original **Arab shuk** of Madrid.
- Shabbat Lunch
- Late Afternoon Discussion: *The Meaning of 1492 and the Relationship Between Christianity, Islam, and Judaism*, with Tour Educator.
- Free time to rest, followed by Havdallah and a free evening.

Overnight: Hotel Catalonia Atocha, Madrid

Sunday, May 19, 2019

TOLEDO

- Breakfast at the hotel.
- Drive to **Toledo**.
- Guided visit of the **Old City of Toledo** and capture a sense of the glory that was built on a convergence of Christianity, Islam, and Judaism, taking in the **Jewish Quarter**, the **Shmuel Halevi statue** and **El Transito**, the Shmuel Halevi Abulafia synagogue, which was turned into a church, known as Nuestra Senora del Transito, the **Sephardic Museum**, and the **Santa Maria La Blanca Church**, formerly the **Grand Synagogue**.
- Group lunch at a local restaurant.
- Visit the **El Greco Museum**, dedicated to the famous painter, who influenced 17th-century Toledo.
- Visit the grand **Toledo Cathedral**.
- Group dinner together at a restaurant in Toledo, followed by a free evening.

Overnight: Hotel Cigarral del Alba, Toledo



Monday, May 20, 2019

SEVILLE'S JEWISH PAST

- Breakfast at the hotel.
- Drive to Seville, with a group lunch at one of Seville's restaurants upon arrival.
- Visit the **Santa Cruz neighborhood**, formerly **Seville's Jewish Quarter**, once known as La Juderia, with its winding alleyways and remnants of Jewish life found within the contemporary city, including a **Jewish Heritage Walking Tour** with Moises Hassan.
- Lunch on own
- Tour the beautiful **Alcázar Palace**, followed by visits to the **Seville Cathedral**, the burial place of **Christopher Columbus**, and **La Giralda**, a 12th-century **bell tower** that became a symbol of the city. Your Tour Educator will share some thoughts about the role of Jews in the development of navigation cartography and astronomy.
- Dinner on your own and free evening in Seville, with a possible opportunity to check out the views from **Las Setas** (*time permitting*).
- Evening stroll on the **Triana Bridge**.

Overnight: Hotel Las Casas de La Judería, Seville

Tuesday, May 21, 2019

CORDOBA: RAMBAM'S HOME TOWN

- Breakfast at the hotel.
- Drive to **Cordoba**, home town of Moses Maimonides (Rambam) and the capital of the Moorish Kingdom of **al-Andalus**.
- Group Lunch at a local restaurant.
- Explore the **Jewish Quarter**, inhabited by Jews since the year 840, including the **Yehuda Halevi Square** and **Plaza Tiberiades**, where the statue of Maimonides sits, with a peak at the nearby Moorish-styled building known as the **Maimonides Synagogue**.
- Special Program at **Casa de Sefarad**, dedicated to the history of the Sephardic Jews in Cordoba and Spain prior to the Inquisition and the Expulsion of 1492, and meet with the people responsible for the creation of this private historical project in the Jewish Quarter, with a special workshop focused on **Ladino** music.
- Meet **Rabbi Haim Casas**, the first native-born Spanish rabbi since 1492, sharing his vision for the Jews of Spain, and join him for dinner at **Casa Mazal**, with traditional Andalusian Jewish food and music.

Overnight: Hotel NH Córdoba Guadalquivir, Cordoba

Wednesday, May 22, 2019

CORDOBA THROUGH THE AGES

- Breakfast at the hotel.
- Visit Cordoba's famous **Mosque-Cathedral (Mezquita)**, dating from 785, with its 1,000 colored columns.



- Lunch on your own at a local restaurant.
- Stroll through the restored **heart of Cordoba**, one of the largest medieval quarters in Europe.
- Free afternoon to rest or explore Cordoba on your own, especially Cordoba's famous **craft scene**—pottery, jewelry, leather goods, and embroidery works—or some of **Cordoba's patios/courtyards**, secret treasures tucked away that beckon the curious.
- Masterclass in Andalusian Music
- Group Dinner at a local restaurant and free evening.

Overnight: Hotel NH Córdoba Guadalquivir, Cordoba

Thursday, May 23, 2019

LEGENDS AND DANCERS

- Breakfast at the hotel.
- Depart Cordoba and drive to **Granada**, the last stronghold of the Moors before it fell to Isabella and Ferdinand in 1492.
- Visit the **Alhambra Palace** and **Generalife Gardens**.
- Lunch on your own, en route.
- Explore **Albaicín**, the old Moorish neighborhood which has no remains of the Jewish community but a host of legends, with its narrow streets and beautiful white houses, now a **UNESCO World Heritage Site**, for a guided visit of the **Barrio Realejo**, the former Jewish Quarter and the site of the original town bearing the name **Garnata al-Yahud**, continuing to the statue of **Samuel ben Judah ibn Tibbon**, translator of the *Kuzari* and the *Guide for the Perplexed*.
- Check in to the hotel.
- Attend a **Flamenco performance**, followed by a **Flamenco** workshop with the musicians and dancers.
- **Dinner** at a local restaurant.

Overnight: Hotel NH Collection Granada Victoria, Granada

Friday, May 24, 2019

BARCELONA

- Breakfast at the hotel.
- Transfer to the airport for the flight to **Barcelona** (except for those stepping off of the trip).
- Arrive in Barcelona and start with a panoramic bus tour of the city beginning at **Montjuic** (The Mountain of the Jews), including a view over the whole city.
- Meander through the city's streets and avenues to **Sagrada Familia** for a guided visit of Gaudi's unfinished masterpiece, considered one of the world's awe-inspiring, unique places of worship.
- Continue to other Barcelona landmarks, such as the **Plaça de Catalunya**, the plaza which marks the beginning of the **Passeig de Gracia**, the most stylish street in Barcelona, where one can see Antoni Gaudi's extraordinary buildings, **Casa Batlló** and **Casa Milà**, a UNESCO World Heritage Site.
- Lunch on own
- Visit **Park Güell**, located on Carmel Hill (*time permitting*).



- Continue to the **Old Port** of Barcelona for a **Sailing Experience** aboard a Turkish Wooden Gulet for a unique voyage with sights along the Barcelona coastline.
- Check in to the hotel.
- Musical Kabbalat Shabbat and Shabbat Dinner with **Rabbi Stephen Berkowitz**, of the Liberal community in Barcelona, and members of the Jewish community.

Overnight: Hotel El Avenida Palace, Barcelona

Shabbat (Saturday), May 25, 2019

SHABBAT IN BARCELONA

- Breakfast at the hotel.
- Begin the day with a walk along **La Rambla**, Barcelona's historic promenade.
- Just off La Rambla, encounter **La Boqueria**, the world-famous market of Barcelona.
- Continue with a guided walk through the **Gothic Quarter** and then the ancient **Jewish Quarter**, with a synagogue that may date to the third century.
- *Picasso in Barcelona*, visit the **Picasso Museum**, followed by a visit to some of Picasso's favorite haunts.
- Free time in Barcelona, with lunch on own.
- In the late afternoon, optional visit to the **Barceloneta Beach**, including a possible **Bike Ride**.
- Havdallah together and dinner on own.

Overnight: Hotel El Avenida Palace, Barcelona

Sunday, May 26, 2019

GIRONA AND BESALÚ

- Breakfast at the hotel.
- Drive for a full-day tour to **Girona** and **Besalú**.
- Walk through the restored **Call**, what was once Girona's old Jewish neighborhood, and continue to the **Bonastruc ca Porta**, a center of Jewish life and culture, for a special program on the synthesis of Jewish mystical traditions and the Jewish music of Spain.
- Drive to the medieval city of **Besalú** and visit the **Medieval Mikveh**, ritual bath, which has become one of Spain's most significant sites of Jewish heritage.
- Return to Barcelona; lunch en route or in Barcelona.
- Free time for last-minute shopping and personal exploration.
- **Processing Discussion** and festive **Concluding Dinner**.

Overnight: Hotel El Avenida Palace, Barcelona

Monday, May 27, 2019

- Transfer to Barcelona Airport for the return to the U.S.

