

Association of Descendants of Jewish Central Poland – ADJCP

Memorial Trip - May 13-19, 2023

Information for participants

Trip organizers: Marysia Galbraith, Roberta Books, Ken Drabinsky, Leon Zamosc

The participants in this Memorial Trip will have an opportunity to visit their ancestral shtetls and commemorate the 80th anniversary of the liquidation of the ghettos and the murder of the Jews in our area of Central Poland.

The planning for the Memorial Trip involved several meetings of the ADJCP board and repeated consultations with potential participants. In September 2022, two of the organizers visited Central Poland to coordinate the trip's logistics with our local partners (Jewish institutions, municipal Polish authorities, and local Polish civil organizations).

The program will include memorial ceremonies, a variety of tours and cultural activities, and guided visits to our towns in Central Poland and the site of the extermination camp at Chelmno.

After the main program, participants will have the option to stay a couple of additional days for a Warsaw visit that will include a Kabbalat Shabbat hosted by the Jewish Community of Warsaw, a visit to the Polin Museum of the History of Polish Jews, and a full-day guided tour of Jewish Warsaw.

We include here the updated information that you need in order to confirm your participation and register. If you wish to register or need additional information, please write to lzamosc@ucsd.edu

Practical information

Trip costs:

The participants will pay for their own flights, hotel stay, most meals, and any desired trip insurance and/or health insurance.

For all the other costs the participants will pay a flat fee of \$950 per person (includes all transportation, some meals, translation services, museum tickets, guides and lecturers's fees, cultural evenings' music and presentations, incidental expenses related to town visits and ceremonies, trip guidebook, and trip organization fees).

Air tickets:

The participants will be responsible for the purchase of their own air tickets.

The group will meet at a designated place in Warsaw Chopin International Airport on Saturday May 13, at 19:00 in the evening (after Shabbat). If you plan to arrive on that same day, please make sure that your time of arrival allows you to be at the meeting point on time. If you do not travel on Shabbat, you

should plan to arrive on Friday May 12 and spend a night in Warsaw (one of the trip organizers will be there to accompany and assist you).

For your return flight, keep in mind that the trip program will conclude on Friday, May 19 and that the coach will drop you off at the Warsaw airport late in the morning. If you plan to fly back home on that same day, make sure that your flight leaves in the afternoon or evening.

If you wish to stay a couple of additional days to visit Warsaw with us (see more info below), then you should plan your return flight for Monday May 22.

Lodging:

Our base for the entire week will be the hotel Palac Bursztynowy in Wloclawek, checking in on Saturday May 13 in the evening, and checking out on Friday, May 19.

The hotel’s daily room rates (breakfast included) are as follows: \$68 single, \$93 double, \$115 triple . After you register for the trip, we will give you the instructions for making your own hotel reservations.

Kosher food:

Can be arranged through a guaranteed service that delivers to your hotel anywhere in Poland, but it is expensive. Vegetarian food is very easy to arrange.

Transportation:

Most of the time, the entire group will travel together in a large tourist coach. The exceptions will be Days 3 and 5, when we will split into subgroups to visit the smaller towns using minivans.

Language and translations:

All activities will be conducted in English. There will be simultaneous translation from Polish to English. On the days in which the entire group will be together, we will use a wireless translation system (every person will get a headset/receiver and hear what the translator is saying into the microphone).

On the days in which subgroups will visit the smaller towns, each group will be accompanied by a translator.

TRIP SCHEDULE						
Day 1 Saturday 13-May	Day 2 Sunday 14-May	Day 3 Monday 15-May Subgroups	Day 4 Tuesday 16-May	Day 5 Wednesday 17-May Subgroups	Day 6 Thursday 18-May	Day 7 Friday 19-May
Meet Warsaw airport, bus to hotel Wloclawek	Wloclawek	Zychlin Krosniewice Dabrowice Kowal Lubien Kujawski Chodecz Izbica Kujawska	Kutno	Gombin Gostynin Przedecz Klodawa Brzesc Kujawski Lubraniec	Kolo Chelmno	Bus to Warsaw. Bus will first go to airport for those who leave that day. Then to center for those who stay in Warsaw.

Town visits and program:

In all town visits, we will be accompanied by our local partners (municipal officials and members of civil organizations focused on local history). All town visits will include memorial ceremonies.

Days 2 and 4 will be devoted to the “capitals” of our region, Wloclawek and Kutno, where in addition to the Town Hall and Jewish sites (streets, ghetto area, synagogue, cemetery) we will visit Jewish-relevant

museums, archives, etc. Two special activities will take place on the evenings of these days: a social-cultural event with our Polish partners (the organizations that help us organize the trip), and a cultural evening on contemporary Jewish life in Poland with representatives from existing Jewish communities like Warsaw and Lodz. These evening activities will be enlivened by live klezmer music and a recital of Jewish poems and stories.

On Days 3 and 5 we will split into subgroups for half-day visits to the smaller towns which will typically include the Town Hall and Jewish sites (streets, ghetto area, synagogue, cemetery). Depending on the arrangements, we may also pay a brief visit to some local museum or school.

On Day 6, the entire group will visit the town of Kolo in the morning and Chelmno Extermination Camp in the afternoon. The Chelmno guided visit will include the site and museum at Chelmno and the mass graves, field crematorium and monuments in the Rzuchow forest. Back in the hotel, after dinner, we will have an evening farewell gathering to exchange impressions about the trip.

Optional Warsaw visit (May 19-21):

After the main program, participants can choose to stay a couple of additional days for a Warsaw visit. On the evening of Friday May 19, we will join a Kabbalat Shabbat hosted by the Jewish Community of Warsaw. Saturday May 20 will be devoted to visiting the Polin Museum of the History of Polish Jews, and Sunday May 21 to a full-day guided tour of Jewish Warsaw. Participants will pay for all their expenses. If you are interested in this option, please make sure to check the corresponding box in your Registration Form.