

Ayelet TOURS

THE MEMORIES LAST FOREVER!

From SHUM to Statehood: A Jewish Journey Through **EUROPE'S RIVERWAYS**

Düsseldorf • Cologne • SHUM • Strasbourg • Basel



Featuring **Professor Stephen Berk**
June 15-22, 2026

Pre-tours to
Hamburg and/or Berlin
Post-tour to
Basel, Colmar & Paris
See more information below.



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as of 7/31/25

Led by esteemed scholar **Professor Stephen Berk** and guided by expert local voices, our itinerary is rich with insight and meaning. From medieval synagogues and cemeteries to contemporary Jewish communities and vibrant cityscapes, we engage deeply with the legacy and future of Jewish Europe. Aboard our luxurious river cruise, we enjoy panoramic views, elegant comfort and immersive excursions — all infused with Jewish context and community. From vibrant Düsseldorf to the roots of Zionism in Basel, this once-in-a-lifetime journey traces the flow of Jewish history, memory, and resilience through the heart of Europe. Along the banks of the Rhine River, in the historic ShUM cities of Mainz, Worms, and Speyer, and in modern centers Cologne and Strasbourg, we uncover the stories of Jewish life that shaped — and were shaped by — the course of European civilization. Enhance your experience with a pre-tour to Hamburg and/or Berlin, and a post tour from Basel through Colmar to Paris, France!

DAY 1

SUNDAY, JUNE 14, 2026
DEPART FOR DÜSSELDORF

- We depart North America on our overnight flight to Düsseldorf. *(Suggestion: Take the time to adjust to the time change by flying June 12th for arrival on June 13th. Hotel nights and airport transfer bookings available via Ayelet Tours).*

DAY 2

MONDAY, JUNE 15, 2026
WILKOMMEN IN DÜSSELDORF

- Welcome to Germany. Upon landing at **Düsseldorf International Airport**, we are met by an Ayelet representative. (Transfers to our luxurious river vessel are included for those arriving today).
- We meet at 12pm and set out for **lunch** at a local restaurant.
- This afternoon, we explore the charming **Altstadt (Old Town)**, home to winding streets and vibrant squares filled with local life.
- We visit the **Jewish Memorial at Kasernenstrasse** and the striking **New Synagogue and Jewish Community Center**, symbols of Düsseldorf's post-war revival and ongoing Jewish life.
- A stroll along the **Königsallee ("Kö")**, lined with boutiques and historic facades, introduces us to the city's refined charm.
- We **board our ship at 4pm** and have a chance to refresh and settle into our cabins.
- Tonight, we gather for a **welcome dinner and orientation** with opening remarks by **Professor Stephen Berk** on board as we launch our journey through time along the waters of the Rhine.

Overnight aboard our ship (L, D)



DAY 3

TUESDAY, JUNE 16, 2026
COLOGNE - GOTHIC GRANDEUR
& CULTURAL FLAVOR

- Breakfast at our hotel.
- **SPECIAL HIGHLIGHT:** After breakfast, we enjoy a thought-provoking **morning lecture by Professor Berk** framing Cologne's Jewish legacy.
- We set out to explore **Cologne's Old Town**, filled with vibrant plazas and echoes of medieval Jewish life.
- At the majestic **Kölner Dom (Cologne Cathedral)** and nearby **Hohenzollern Bridge**, we admire Gothic architecture and reflect on wartime scars and post-war resilience.
- Following **lunch on board**, the afternoon offers optional activities:
 - Indulge your sweet tooth at the **Lindt Chocolate Museum** (pre-registration required)
 - Enjoy a local **Kölsch beer tasting experience** (pre-registration required)
 - Explore **Cologne on your own**
- We return for a relaxing **dinner** on board, with the Rhine's shimmering lights as our backdrop.

Overnight aboard our ship (B, L, D)

The SHUM cities—Speyer, Worms, and Mainz—are named using the Hebrew initials of their medieval names (Shpira, Warmaisa, and Magenza) and are considered the cradle of Ashkenazi Jewish life, renowned for their early Jewish communities, centers of Torah scholarship, and enduring cultural legacy. Visiting them offers us a profound connection to the roots of Central European Jewry and the foundation of Ashkenazi tradition.

DAY 4

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 17, 2026
MAINZ - CHAGALL'S LIGHT &
JEWISH FOOTPRINTS

- Breakfast on board our ship.
- **SPECIAL HIGHLIGHT:** Today's **morning lecture by Professor Berk** sets the stage for our visit to **Mainz**, one of the oldest Jewish communities in Germany.
- We begin our tour with a visit to the breathtaking **New Synagogue**, an architectural gem of post-war Jewish renewal.
- At **St. Stephan's Church**, we marvel at the **Chagall stained-glass windows**, ethereal testaments to Jewish-Christian reconciliation.
- Later, we follow traces of Jewish history in the **Mainz Altstadt** and **former Jewish Ghetto**.
- After **lunch on board**, enjoy a choice of afternoon activities (included):
 - Discover the legacy of the printing revolution at the **Gutenberg Museum** (pre-registration required)
 - Join an optional tour of **Jewish museums tour in Frankfurt**, delving deeper into German-Jewish intellectual history (pre-registration required)
 - Enjoy free time to explore Mainz independently
- We return to the ship for a festive **dinner** and a relaxed evening on board, where the melodies of **live Klezmer music** fill the air, blending joyful rhythms with soulful tradition, inviting us to celebrate the enduring spirit of Jewish life along the Rhine.

Overnight aboard our ship (B, L, D)



DAY 5

THURSDAY, JUNE 18, 2026
WORMS - IN THE
FOOTSTEPS OF RASHI

- Breakfast aboard our ship.
- This morning, we arrive in **Worms**, a cornerstone of Ashkenazi Jewish history and home to the famed commentator Rashi.
- We walk through the medieval **Judengasse**, and visit the historic **Rashi Synagogue** and **Rashi Chapel**.
- At the **Jewish Museum at Rashi House**, we trace the evolution of Jewish learning and life across the centuries.
- The **Heiliger Sand Cemetery**, our final site for today, holds some of the oldest Jewish tombstones in Europe, dating as far back as 1049.
- After a **late lunch on board**, enjoy an afternoon **lecture by Professor Berk** and leisure time before dinner on the ship.
- This evening, we gather aboard our ship for a **regional culinary experience**, inspired by the traditional flavors of the Rhineland-Palatinate region. Our menu features local specialties such as hearty stews, seasonal vegetables and rustic breads, along with a **curated selection of wines** from the nearby Rheinhessen wine region. As we dine, we'll hear brief explanations of each course, uncovering the cultural influences—Jewish and regional—that have shaped the area's cuisine for centuries.
- **OPTIONAL:** Enjoy an evening cultural outing; we may attend a local opera or musical performance (subject to availability, pre-registration required).

Overnight aboard our ship (B, L, D)

DAY 6

FRIDAY, JUNE 19, 2026
HEIDELBERG - CONNECTION
& DISCOVERY

- Breakfast aboard our ship.
- **SPECIAL HIGHLIGHT:** Today's **morning lecture by Professor Berk** leads into our visit to **Heidelberg**, home to Germany's oldest university and a thriving Jewish student community.
- We begin by paying tribute at the **Heidelberg Synagogue Memorial** and view poignant **Stolpersteine (stumbling stones)** honoring lives lost during the Holocaust.
- Next, we tour the beautiful Baroque **Altstadt** and see the buildings of the famous **Heidelberg University**.
- **SPECIAL HIGHLIGHT:** We **meet with students of Jewish Studies at Heidelberg University**, gaining insight into Jewish life in Germany today.
- After **lunch on board**, enjoy optional afternoon activities (included):
 - Visit the romantic ruins of **Heidelberg Castle** (pre-registration required)
 - Trace the footsteps of **Mark Twain**, who was enchanted by this city (pre-registration required)
 - Explore the charming **Altstadt (Old Town)** at your leisure
- As day turns to night, we join together for **Kabbalat Shabbat** surrounded by the joy of tradition at **Heidelberg New Synagogue**, followed by a festive **Shabbat dinner** on board.

Overnight aboard our ship (B, L, D)



DAY 7

SATURDAY, JUNE 20, 2026
SPEYER - SHABBAT ON
THE RHINE

- Breakfast aboard our ship, followed by **optional Shacharit**. Enjoy a free day to relax and enjoy a peaceful Shabbat aboard our ship, **OR** choose to take an optional included excursion into Speyer.
- **OPTIONAL:** This morning, we explore **Speyer**, one of the three great ShUM cities, cradles of Ashkenazi tradition. Highlights include the remains of the **Speyer Synagogue**, a beautifully preserved **mikveh** and the **Old Jewish Cemetery**, among the oldest in Europe.
- At the **SchPIRA Museum**, we dive deeper into the rhythms of medieval Jewish life and learning.
- We return to the ship for a tranquil **Shabbat lunch**, followed by an afternoon of rest or an optional visit to explore the fascinating **Speyer Technical Museum**.
- **SPECIAL HIGHLIGHT:** In the late afternoon, join us for a **learning session with Dr. David Mendelsohn**, followed by a soulful **Havdalah service** on the ship's rooftop deck.
- Tonight, we celebrate with a special **Captain's dinner**.

Overnight aboard our ship (B, L, D)

DAY 8

SUNDAY, JUNE 21, 2026
STRASBOURG -
CROSSROADS OF CULTURE

- Breakfast aboard our ship.
- This morning, we travel by coach into **Strasbourg**, a city of dual identities nestled at the French-German border.
- We explore the medieval **Rue des Juifs ("Jew Street")**, the quaint canals of **La Petite France** and the stunning **Cathedral of Notre-Dame**, a masterpiece of Gothic art.
- We also explore the **Neustadt (German Quarter)** and pay tribute at the **Synagogue de la Paix**, Strasbourg's central Jewish house of worship.
- Lunch and free time are on your own to savor Alsatian cuisine or shop Strasbourg's markets.
- In the afternoon, we return to the ship and prepare for our final evening together with a festive **farewell dinner** on board, toasting to the beauty and depth of our shared journey.

Overnight aboard our ship (B, D)



DAY 9

MONDAY, JUNE 22, 2026
BASEL - ZIONIST DREAMS

- Breakfast aboard our ship.
- This morning, we **disembark in Basel, Switzerland**, birthplace of modern Zionism.
- Our tour includes the **Basel Synagogue**, the **Jewish Museum of Switzerland** and the **site of the First Zionist Congress**, where Theodore Herzl ignited a movement that changed the world.
- We also visit the **Old Jewish Cemetery**, filled with stories of exile and hope.
- This afternoon, those departing will transfer to Basel Airport for their return flights home, landing later today. *(Transfers included for flights departing after 3:00pm).*
Optional hotel night and transfer available for guests who wish to depart on June 23rd and are not participating in the post-tour.

(B)

**JOIN US ON OUR
PRE-CRUISE TOURS
OF HAMBURG
AND/OR BERLIN.**

**DON'T MISS OUR
POST-CRUISE
ADVENTURE TO
BASEL, COLMAR AND
PARIS!**

Scroll down for more details.



Hamburg Overture: A Prelude to Our Rhine Cruise

HAMBURG DAY 1

SATURDAY, JUNE 6, 2026
DEPARTURE TO HAMBURG

- We depart North America on our overnight flight to Hamburg.
(Option to book early arrival hotel and transfer).

HAMBURG DAY 2

SUNDAY, JUNE 7, 2026
WILKOMMEN IN HAMBURG

- **Willkommen! Welcome to Hamburg**, a vibrant port city filled with rich Jewish heritage, maritime history and dynamic culture. We are greeted by an Ayelet representative and begin our journey.
(Airport transfers are included for all who arrive today).
- We begin with a short orientation tour of the city. Our first stop is the majestic **Hamburg Rathaus (City Hall)**, a grand neo-Renaissance building and seat of local government.
- Next, we stop by the **Alter Steinweg** in the Neustadt district where Hamburg's first synagogue stood in the 17th century. Today, a memorial plaque marks the location, reminding visitors of the early Sephardic community and its contributions.
- We continue to the **Museum of Hamburg History** dedicated to view the permanent exhibition on the history of Hamburg's Jewish community, including ritual objects, photographs, and personal stories.
- We stretch our legs on a scenic walk along the **Alster Lake promenade**, surrounded by tree-lined boulevards and historic architecture and begin to learn the history of this great city.
- Later, we proceed to our hotel to check in and refresh.
- This evening, we gather for a **welcome dinner** at a local restaurant, featuring regional German cuisine and a chance to get to know your fellow travelers.

Overnight in Hamburg (D)

About Dr. Mendelsohn:



Dr. David Mendelsohn joins us on our journey through Europe. Dr. Mendelsohn is a distinguished historian and educator specializing in German and European Jewish history, with a particular focus on the social, cultural and political dynamics of 19th and 20th-century Europe. His scholarship explores themes of Jewish identity, memory and resistance during pivotal moments in German history, including the rise of nationalism, the Holocaust and the post-war period. Dr. Mendelsohn has taught at leading universities in the United States and Europe and has led numerous educational tours across Germany, Austria and Central Europe. He is widely regarded for his ability to connect historical insight with contemporary issues, making the lessons of the past both accessible and relevant to modern audiences.





HAMBURG DAY 3

MONDAY, JUNE 8, 2026
MEMORY & RESILIENCE

- Breakfast at our hotel.
- We begin our first full day with a **lecture** by seasoned scholar and educator, **Dr. David Mendelsohn**, who lives part time in Hamburg.
- After our orientation lecture, we set out to explore the Jewish history and sites of Hamburg. We begin at the **Jewish Community Center of Hamburg**, the heart of today's Jewish life in the city. Here, we see the striking **Bornplatz Synagogue Memorial**, a symbolic reconstruction of the synagogue destroyed on Kristallnacht, with a powerful message of remembrance.
- We walk through surrounding streets to view **Stolpersteine**, brass plaques embedded in the pavement in front of homes, commemorating Jewish victims of the Holocaust.
- We continue to the **Ohlsdorf Jewish Cemetery**, one of the largest in Europe, and pay respects at the graves of community leaders from centuries past.
- After lunch on own, the remainder of the afternoon is free for personal exploration or relaxing at our hotel.
- This evening, we enjoy a very special **dinner at Professor Mendelsohn's family farm** outside Hamburg, where he will host us in a meaningful and personal setting, offering a unique connection to the legacy of Jewish life in the region.

HAMBURG DAY 4

TUESDAY, JUNE 9, 2026
ARCHITECTURE &
PORT STORIES

- Breakfast at our hotel.
- Today, we tour the historic **Speicherstadt and Kontorhaus District**, the largest warehouse district in the world and a UNESCO World Heritage site, emblematic of Hamburg's role in global trade.
- Next, we visit the Baroque **St. Michael's Church**, one of Hamburg's most iconic landmarks, with its striking clock tower and sweeping views from the top.
- Our afternoon is at leisure with time for optional visits, including:
 - **BallinStadt Port of Dreams Emigration Museum:** Trace the journeys of millions who departed Europe through Hamburg.
 - **The International Maritime Museum:** Discover the home to extensive naval artifacts and model ships.
 - **Harbor Cruise:** Set sail through one of Europe's busiest ports, offering a different perspective on the city's geography and history.
- Evening and dinner are on your own. Consider exploring the **Schanzenviertel** or **Hafencity** districts for dining and nightlife.
- ***Those joining the Berlin pre-tour depart the North America tonight.***

Overnight in Hamburg (B)

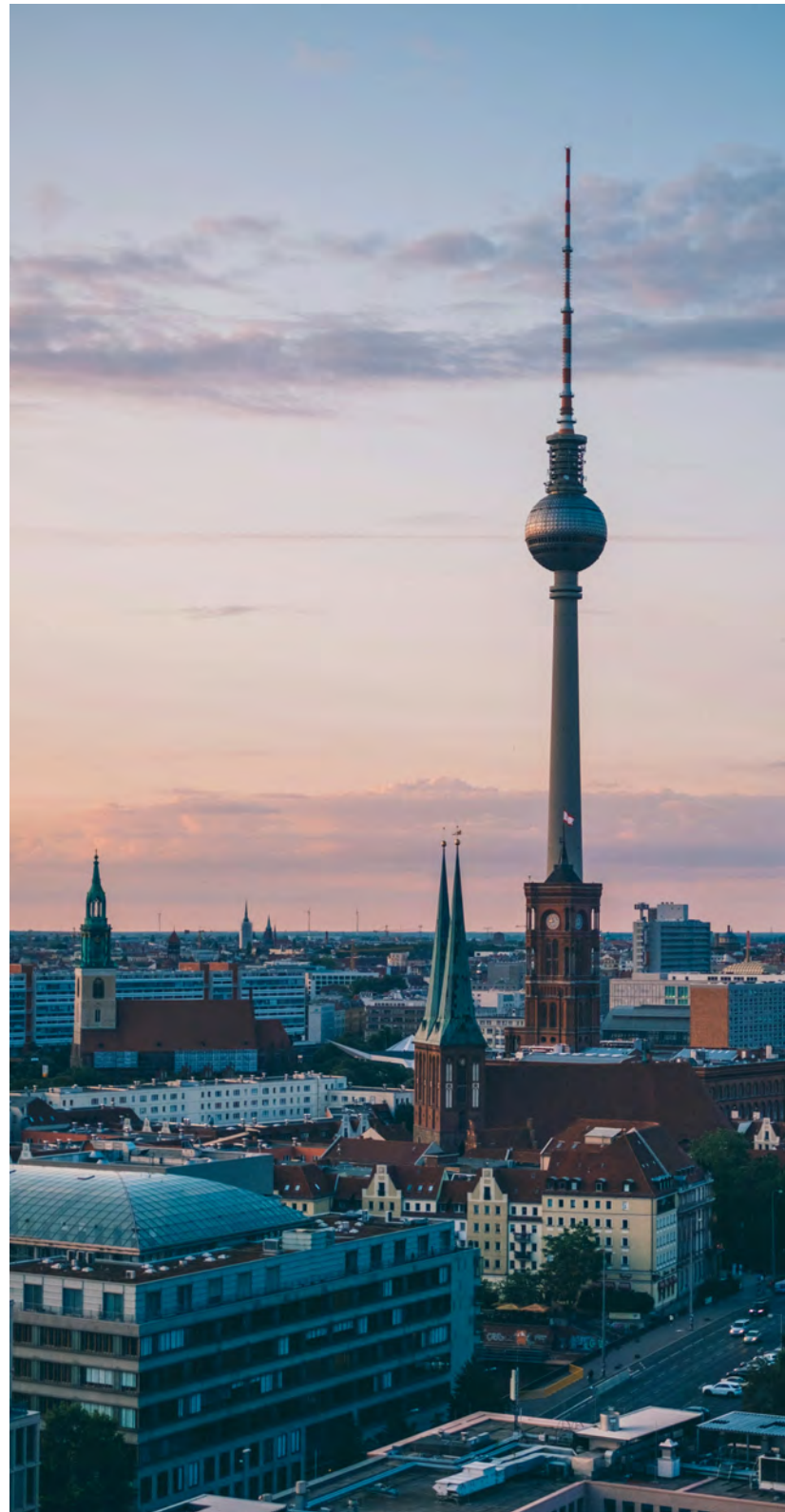
Overnight in Hamburg (B, D)



HAMBURG
DAY 5

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 10, 2026
HAMBURG TO BERLIN:
TRACING HISTORY

- Breakfast and check out of our hotel.
- This morning, we board our bus for a scenic drive through the heart of northern Germany, passing lush countrysides and charming towns.
- We arrive in **Berlin**, the capital of Germany with a complex and turbulent past and a vibrant present.
- We proceed to our hotel to check in and meet our new travel friends who have just arrived from North America.
- After a chance to refresh, we set out to explore and enjoy dinner on own.



Berlin: Jewish Heritage & Cultural Discovery

BERLIN DAY 1

TUESDAY, JUNE 9, 2026
DEPARTURE FOR BERLIN

- We depart North America on our overnight flight to Berlin.
(Option to book early arrival hotel and transfer).

BERLIN DAY 2

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 10, 2026
WILKOMMEN IN BERLIN

- We arrive in **Berlin** and are welcomed by an Ayelet representative. We unite with our fellow travelers from Hamburg and begin our exploration in the heart of the city where Jewish life once flourished.
- We begin with a scenic drive through the **Tiergarten**, Berlin's vast central park and former royal hunting grounds, today a green oasis that symbolizes renewal at the heart of the city.
- Rising from the treetops, we admire the **Siegestsäule (Victory Column)**, an emblem of Prussian triumph that was later re-purposed by the Nazis as a propaganda tool. Today, it stands as a complex symbol of unity and resilience.
- At the world-famous **Brandenburg Gate**, we pause where history unfolded from Napoleon's triumphal march to Cold War division, and ultimately, to joyful reunification. Once inaccessible behind the Berlin Wall, it is now a proud symbol of Germany's past and present history.
- This evening, we gather for a **welcome dinner** at the iconic **Reichstag Building** (pending confirmation), where **Dr. David Mendelsohn** will provide opening remarks and set intentions for the journey ahead, while we mark our arrival with delicious cuisine and camaraderie.

Overnight in Berlin (D)

BERLIN DAY 3

THURSDAY, JUNE 11, 2026
BERLIN'S LIVING HISTORY

- Breakfast at our hotel.
- We awake in the German capital and begin our exploration of unified Berlin. We drive from the **Berlin Palace** along **Unter den Linden Blvd.** to the **German Historical Museum**, dedicated to preserving and presenting German history.
- Next, we visit the **Frank Meissler monument to the Berlin Wall**, located next to **Checkpoint Charlie**, the legendary Cold War border crossing between East and West Berlin. Here, we reflect on the stories of espionage, escape and endurance that played out during decades of division.
- We also see **Potsdamer Platz**, one of the busiest intersections in Europe and a major traffic, business and entertainment hub, which was split by the Berlin Wall, turning it into a "no man's land." After the fall of the wall, it became a symbol of the new, reunified city.
- Our journey continues along the **East Side Gallery**, the longest remaining stretch of the Berlin Wall, now transformed into an open-air gallery covered in colorful murals and messages of hope from around the globe. Each image speaks volumes about the human desire for liberty and peace.
- We complete our day at the **Jewish Museum Berlin**, one of the most powerful explorations of Jewish life, loss, and legacy in Europe. It is not only Germany's largest Jewish museum—it is a living space of remembrance, dialogue and redefinition.
- Dinner is on your own, a perfect opportunity to enjoy Berlin's dynamic culinary offerings, whether you prefer cozy cafes, international cuisine or classic Berlin fare.

Overnight in Berlin (B)



BERLIN DAY 4

FRIDAY, JUNE 12, 2026
POTSDAM & WANNSEE

- Breakfast at our hotel.
- We begin our day with a **lecture by Dr. David Mendelsohn**.
- Today, we travel just outside Berlin to **Potsdam**. We begin with a visit to **Sanssouci Palace**, summer residence of Frederick the Great, King of Prussia. After a tour of the magnificent interior, we e outside into the gardens. Spanning over 700 acres of manicured terraces, lush woodland paths, classical temples and ornamental fountains, **Park Sanssouci** is one of Europe's most enchanting royal parks.
- We drive a short distance to **Wannsee Villa**, site of the infamous Final Solution decision. We view the permanent exhibit and see the **Gliencke Bridge**, an exchange point for Soviet spies during the Cold War.
- On our return to Berlin, we stop at the **Grunewald Train Station**, site of the deportation of most of Berlin's Jews, and view **Gleis (Track) 17**, the memorial to the deported.
- This evening, we welcome **Shabbat at Pestalozzistrasse Synagogue**, a liberal synagogue with a unique tradition of incorporating music by German-Jewish composers like Lewandowski
- **Shabbat dinner** follows at our hotel, offering an opportunity to come together as a community.

Overnight in Berlin (B, D)

BERLIN DAY 5

SATURDAY, JUNE 13, 2026
POTSDAM & WANNSEE

- Breakfast at our hotel.
- Option to attend **Shabbat morning services** or relax at our hotel.
- This afternoon, we set out on a relaxed and reflective walking tour exploring Berlin's historic **Jewish Quarter**, located in the **Scheunenviertel and Spandauer Vorstadt neighborhoods** rich with pre-war Jewish life, cultural vibrancy and sites of resilience. Our tour include visits to:

- **Neue Synagoge (New Synagogue):** A 19th-century synagogue, once the largest in Germany with a striking Moorish façade and golden dome
- **Heckmann Höfe:** A peaceful courtyard complex tucked behind bustling Oranienburger Strasse. Once home to small workshops and Jewish businesses, it's now filled with art galleries and cafes
- **Missing House Memorial:** A stark and powerful urban art installation that marks the absence of former residents deported during the Nazi era, using the façade of a building that no longer stands
- **Stolpersteine (stumbling stones):** Brass cobblestones placed in front of former Jewish homes with names and fates of those who lived there

- After time for rest and reflection, we join together for **Havdalah**, marking the end of Shabbat and the beginning of a new week.
- Dinner and further exploration are on own this evening.

Overnight in Berlin (B)

BERLIN DAY 6

SUNDAY, JUNE 14, 2026
TO DÜSSELDORF

- Breakfast and a morning at leisure to stroll along **Unter den Linden** or visit **Museum Island** on own.
- We check out of our hotel and transfer to the airport for our short flight to **Düsseldorf**, a dynamic city where tradition and innovation live side by side.
- Upon arrival, we check into our hotel and enjoy time to refresh and unwind.
- Explore the city and enjoy dinner on own tonight.

Overnight in Düsseldorf (B)



Post-Cruise Land Tour: Basel, Colmar & Paris

POST DAY 1

MONDAY, JUNE 22, 2026
SWISS SPLENDOR

- After a meaningful morning, we say farewell to our friends returning home and proceed to our hotel to check in and enjoy time for lunch on own.
- After a chance to refresh, we head out on a guided afternoon tour of Basel's highlights. We begin in Basel's beautifully preserved **Old Town**, where cobblestone lanes wind past medieval guild houses, Renaissance fountains and charming courtyards. As we stroll through **Marktplatz**, the heart of civic life, we admire the striking **Basel Town Hall (Rathaus)**, with its vivid red façade and symbolic frescoes.
- Our walk continues to the **Basel Minster**, the city's iconic cathedral. Built in red sandstone with twin towers rising above the skyline, this Romanesque-Gothic masterpiece was originally a Catholic church before becoming reformed during the Reformation. Inside, we'll discover elegant cloisters and a vantage point offering panoramic views over the Rhine River.
- We conclude along the **Rheinpromenade**, Basel's scenic riverwalk, where locals gather for relaxed afternoons, riverside dining or a traditional float downstream. Along the way, we'll take in the contrasting views of modern architecture and historic spires while gaining insights into Basel's rich cultural and intellectual legacy.
- Dinner is on your own, with a variety of riverside and Old Town options available.

Overnight in Basel (B)

POST DAY 2

TUESDAY, JUNE 23, 2026
COLMAR - ALSATIAN CHARM
& JEWISH ROOTS

- Breakfast at our hotel.
- Today, we journey into the heart of Alsace to the picturesque town of **Colmar**, where colorful half-timbered houses and flower-lined canals create an almost storybook atmosphere.
- We visit the **Synagogue of Colmar**, one of the few in the region to survive World War II intact, and pay our respects at the **Jewish Cemetery**, a testament to the centuries-old Jewish presence in Alsace.
- Lunch is on your own in Colmar's charming **Old Town**, filled with cafés and patisseries. Don't miss the opportunity to taste Alsatian specialties or explore the quaint streets of **La Petite Venise (Little Venice)**.
- We return to Basel in the late afternoon, where you'll have the evening free to relax or dine at one of the city's many delightful restaurants.

Overnight in Basel (B)



POST DAY 3

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 24, 2026
PARIS - THE JEWISH HEART
OF THE CITY OF LIGHT

- Breakfast and check out of our hotel.
- This morning, we board our short **flight to Paris**, arriving in the City of Lights later this morning.
- Upon arrival, we drive straight into the vibrant **Jewish Quarter of Le Marais**, affectionately known as the **Pletzl**.
- Strolling along **Rue des Rosiers**, we sample the atmosphere of this thriving center of Jewish life, with kosher bakeries, falafel stands and cafes perfect for lunch on your own.
- We continue with visits to the **Synagogue de la Rue Pavée**, designed by Art Nouveau master Hector Guimard, and the powerful **Memorial de la Shoah**, France's national Holocaust memorial and education center.
- After checking into our hotel, enjoy free time to shop or stroll along the iconic **Champs-Élysées** and view the **Arc de Triomphe**.
- **SPECIAL HIGHLIGHT:** This evening, we hear from a special **guest speaker** at the historic **Grand Synagogue of Paris**, where we reflect on the legacy and future of Jewish life in France.
- Dinner is on own this evening.

Overnight in Paris (B)



POST DAY 4

THURSDAY, JUNE 25, 2026
GRANDEUR, GARDENS &
THE IRON LADY

- Breakfast at our hotel.
- We begin our final day with an exterior view of the famed **Notre-Dame Cathedral**, still undergoing restoration but no less majestic in its presence.
- From there, we enjoy a **scenic walk along the Seine**, soaking in views of booksellers, bridges and historic façades as we make our way to the **Louvre Courtyard**, home to the iconic glass pyramid and the regal **Napoleon Courtyard**.
- We delve into one of the world's greatest cultural treasures: the **Musée du Louvre**, a former royal palace turned global museum. Our curated journey through the Louvre will highlight iconic masterpieces while drawing attention to Jewish themes, connections and influences. We will discover how the very foundations of the Louvre's Jewish collection were shaped during the French Revolution and Napoleonic campaigns, when art, religious objects and artifacts were confiscated from churches, synagogues and private collections, and learn how 19th-century Jewish patrons and scholars contributed to the museum's growth and the establishment of France's public heritage institutions.
- We pass the **Palais Royal** before wandering through the elegant **Tuilleries Garden**, a favorite promenade of Parisians since the 17th century.
- At **Place de la Concorde**, we reflect on French history and the city's dramatic past.
- After a restful afternoon, we gather one last time for a festive **farewell dinner**, celebrating the friendships and memories we've made.
- The evening ends with a magical **nighttime visit to the Eiffel Tower**, where the lights of Paris shimmer beneath the stars.

Overnight in Paris (B, D)

POST DAY 5

FRIDAY, JUNE 26, 2026
AU REVOIR PARIS

- Breakfast and check out of our hotel.
- This morning, we bid farewell to Europe, carrying with us the stories, insights and connections we've gathered along the way.
- We transfer to **Charles de Gaulle Airport** for our return flights home, or stay for the weekend on own (contact Ayelet for booking assistance). *Airport transfers are included for those departing today.*

THE MEMORIES LAST FOREVER!!

**itineraries subject to change*

