



PROFESSOR STEPHEN BERK

OUR SCHOLARS:

When will Prof. Stephen Berk and other speakers be presenting?

Prof. Stephen Berk will lecture on most days, typically in the morning before the day's touring begins. However, this schedule may shift slightly depending on the touring itinerary. Dr. David Mendelsohn will also join the program and offer learning opportunities throughout the journey.

Can I be on Prof. Stephen Berk's bus?

Prof. Berk will not be traveling with the touring buses. He will deliver his lectures daily, while each bus will be led by a professional, expert guide.

Who will be guiding us during the touring days?

Touring will be conducted by expert local guides with years of experience and in-depth knowledge of Jewish history. (Prof. Berk is not a tour guide).

Will the lectures be recorded or available afterward?

These lectures are exclusively for in-person trip participants! No recording will be made.

Which scholar will accompany the pre- or post-tour programs?

Noted Scholar and tour leader Dr. David Mendelsohn will accompany and enrich the pre- and post-tours.



DR. DAVID MENDELSON



ONBOARD THE SHIP

Does the boat have a gym?

Yes, a newly updated gym is available on board.

Does the boat have a Spa?

Yes, a modern, recently renovated (2025) sauna and massage room are available on board.

Are there handicap-accessible rooms?

While there are no specifically designated handicap-accessible cabins, an elevator is available to access the main and upper decks.

Are there bathtubs on the boat?

No cabins feature bathtubs.

When does the ship travel between cities?

The ship will cruise between cities during the night while passengers are sleeping.

What meals are included?

Nearly all meals are included. The only exception is lunch in Strasbourg.

Is there an elevator onboard?

Yes, the ship has an elevator for access to the main and upper decks.

Is there Wi-Fi on board?

Limited Wi-Fi is available. Please note that it is suitable for basic usage but not for high-speed streaming.

TOURING

How many participants will be on tour? How many per bus?

Each bus will carry between 20–30 passengers.

How is security handled throughout the trip?

Ayelet Tours continuously monitors the security situation and is in contact with local, Israeli, and U.S. authorities. We comply with all governmental guidelines and advisories.

How will buses be assigned? Can I request bus-mates?

Approximately six weeks prior to departure, Ayelet will send out a survey to assess participants' walking levels and double check on any requests regarding traveling with other participants. Buses will be organized accordingly. Please note: **it is important that you remain with your assigned bus throughout. This assists our team in learning who you are, and in ensuring that no one is left behind. In addition, various entrances are confirmed with exact participant counts or in some cases name-specific tickets.**

Will we have headsets while touring?

Yes, Whisper headsets will be used. Ayelet provides standard earpieces, but we recommend bringing your own earpiece (with a standard 3.5mm AUX plug) if you have a personal preference.

Will water be provided while touring?

Yes, bottled water will be provided during the touring day (up to a reasonable quantity).

Q&A



SPECIAL REQUESTS

How do I submit special food requests or allergies?

Please send all dietary requirements to ayelet@ayelet.com prior to departure. We will do our best to accommodate all requests.

Are vegetarian or vegan meals available?

Yes.

Does the tour accommodate Shomer Shabbat participants?

While the boat will sail on Friday night, Shabbat-observant travelers will be accommodated as best as possible. All meals are provided, so no food purchases are needed on Shabbat. Buses will be available for those unable to walk to the tour's starting point.

Should I bring snacks?

Snacks are always a good idea! There may be times you have lunch or dinner later than you would in your day to day life.

Can I bring my own wine or beer onto the boat?

All alcohol consumed on board must be provided by or approved by the ship (Outside alcohol may be subject to a corkage fee). Onboard beer and wine are included in your cruise cost.

MOBILITY & ACCESSIBILITY

Are there handicap-accessible cabins on the boat?

While there are no specifically designated handicap-accessible cabins, an elevator is available to access the main and upper decks.

Can the tour accommodate wheelchairs or scooters?

Many of the destinations on this itinerary feature uneven cobblestone streets, which can be challenging for guests with limited mobility. Please note that wheelchairs and walkers are not permitted on board the ship. Guests who rely on these aids during shore excursions will be required to store them upon boarding; however, the use of walking sticks is allowed while on board.

I walk slowly or use a cane/walker. Will the tour work for me?

Some locations may be challenging due to uneven terrain. In particular, **Worms, Speyer, and Heidelberg** involve more extensive walking. In such cases, you will be able to either remain on the ship for the day, or wait nearby while the tour proceeds.

Q&A



REGISTRATION & PAYMENTS

When are payments due?

PAYMENT TERMS

Upon registration: \$1,000 per person non-refundable (\$2,000 per person for the junior suites)

150 days prior to departure: 25% of total cost

100 days prior to departure: 75% of total cost

90 days prior to departure: 100% of total cost

What are the cancellation penalties?

CANCELLATION TERMS

151+ days before departure: \$1,000 per person non-refundable (\$2,000 for the junior suites) + any applicable airline penalties. No future credit is possible due to our agreement with the cruise line.

150–100 days before departure: 25% of land/cruise cost + airline penalties. No future credit.

99–46 days before departure: 75% of land/cruise cost + airline penalties. No future credit.

45 days or fewer before departure: 100% of land/cruise cost + airline penalties. No future credit.

Is travel insurance available?

Yes, a group travel insurance policy is available.

Travellex 360 Group Choice Travel Insurance can be selected during the registration process (or added until final payment at 90 days out). More details can be found here: [Travellex Flyer PDF](#)

When should I arrive in Germany?

We recommend arriving the day before the cruise (or pre-tour) begins to adjust to the time zone and for a lower stress arrival.

What time does the tour end and when should I book my return flight?

For Cruise Only, flights should be booked **no earlier than 3:00 PM on June 22nd**. For those on the **extension to Paris**, any time on **June 26** should work.

When do I register for optional tours?

Optional tour registration will open after final payment has been received.

Can I book extra nights at a group hotel if I arrive early or stay late?

Yes, you will be able to add pre-nights (or post-nights for those on the Paris extension) during the registration process.

Can I register if my passport is being renewed?

Yes. Just send us your updated passport details once available.

What arrival and departure transfers are included?

Group transfers are included for those arriving on the first day of touring and departing on the last day of touring.

Q&A

