THE HOLOCAUST AND THE NAZI DEATH CAMPS EXPERIENCE

POLAND · OCTOBER 2027

Join us on this specially curated travel experience through Poland's Holocaust history. Visiting sites of the ghettos in Warsaw, Lublin, Krakow and visiting Auschwitz and Treblinka Concentration Camps among others, with expert guides and hosting throughout.



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OVERVIEW

We begin this tour with a two-day visit to Berlin to see the sights of this historic city. We then head to Poland and begin our eight-day tour fully hosted by expert historians where we visit the sites of the former ghettos in Warsaw, Lublin and Krakow alongside two purpose-built death camps (Treblinka, Belzec) and two multi-functional camps that were both Concentration Camps and Death Camps (Majdanek, Auschwitz).

We look at the struggle of both the Jews and non-Jewish Poles against their oppressors, visiting the scenes of the Ghetto Uprising in 1943 and the memorial to the Warsaw Rising in 1944. You will see the shift from complete physical destruction of the ghetto and camp to the actual remnants due to the rapid advance of the Soviets.

However the tour is not limited to the serious and emotive history of the Holocaust, with its clear message for future generations. We also enjoy expertly guided tours of the historic cities of Warsaw and Krakow. We sample much of the local culture and visit the 700-year-old world famous salt mine at Wieliczka. Each evening we will dine in a local restaurant to enjoy the wealth of diverse cuisine and share our experiences with our expert guides.

We end our tour with 2 nights in the stunning city of Prague to unwind before we head home.

Background

When Poland was led by a communist government, it was traditional to refer to "six million poles murdered during World War II" - a figure that referred to three million non-Jewish Poles and three million Polish Jews. Those Polish Jews were murdered in ghettos, forests in the east of the country, or purpose-built death camps set up after the German occupation of Poland. By far the largest of these was Auschwitz-Birkenau, which was the site of over one million deaths, mainly Jews bought here from all over Europe. The smaller, purpose-built "killing" camp of Treblinka, where Warsaw's Jews were taken, was said by its commandant SS-Obersturmfuhrer Franz Stangl to be able to murder 1,000 people per hour at its peak. With the positioning of the Majdanek camp on the outskirts of Lublin, the Germans made no effort to disguise the killing, with the slave labour, brutality, shootings and crematorium being plainly visible to passersby. The overarching narrative of the tour is about the shift from Polish Jews to European Jews and the evolution of policy from concentration camps to death camps.

