



WOODBURY JEWISH CENTER JEWISH JOURNEY TO THE BALKANS

LED BY RABBI JASON FRUITHANDLER

Jun 15, 2025 - Jun 26, 2025



DESTINATION
BALKANS



WHO'S GOING
OUR COMMUNITY



TRIP TYPE
CONGREGATIONAL



DURATION
12 DAYS



GROUP SIZE
25+



PRICE
FROM \$7,360

PASSIONATE **JEWISH JOURNEYS**


EDUCATIONAL & EXPERIENTIAL JOURNEYS CREATED WITH YOU IN MIND.

NYC | TLV | PRG | JHB | J2ADVENTURES.COM










REGISTRATION DATES

FEB 23, 2024 - FEB 14, 2025

 Program is tentative and subject to change. Connect with our Customer Care Team by calling: (888) 230-6008 Mon.-Thur. from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. EST.

YOUR JOURNEY

J² crafts journeys of inspiration, education, and Jewish connections to Israel and worldwide. We are guided by a simple but powerful concept: No two trips are the same; each experience should be personal, meaningful, and backed by superb service. Travel is not just about the places you visit, but the connections you make along the way.

-  Art & Culture
-  Active
-  Heritage
-  Food & Wine
-  Local Specialists
-  Nature Walks
-  UNESCO Heritage Sites

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PROGRAM ITINERARY

DAY 1

DEPARTURE

Sun. Jun 15, 2025

- Depart the USA.

 Overnight: Flight

DAY 2

THE START OF A SPECIAL JOURNEY

Mon. Jun 16, 2025

- Arrive at Zagreb International Airport.
- Check into the hotel.
- Get a feel for Zagreb with a walking tour. Discover the historic Upper Town and see some of the best-preserved buildings in Europe.
- Welcome dinner and orientation with your J² Expert Educator.

 Overnight: Zagreb  Meals: Dinner

DAY 3

PLITVICE: ONE OF CROATIA'S NATURAL WONDERS

Tue. Jun 17, 2025

- Check out of the hotel.
- Depart Zagreb and drive to Plitvice Lakes National Park, the largest national park in Croatia.
- Explore the park, known for its chain of 16 terraced lakes, joined by waterfalls, that extend into a limestone canyon.
- Enjoy a boxed lunch at Plitvice.
- Continue to Split.
- Check into the hotel.

 Overnight: Split  Meals: Breakfast, Lunch

DAY 4

SPLIT & ITS JEWISH HERITAGE

Wed. Jun 18, 2025

- Visit Diocletian's Palace, a Roman palace located in the heart of Split and recognized as a UNESCO World Heritage Site.
- Explore the old Jewish quarter, which occupies the northwestern part of the former palace and is still known as the ghetto.

- Visit the synagogue, housed in a residential building in the northwestern corner of the former palace. In 1942 Italian fascists ravaged the tiny sanctuary, throwing most of the ritual objects, archives, Torah scrolls, and books onto a bonfire in the main town square.
- Visit the Old Jewish Cemetery, founded in 1573.
- Remainder of the afternoon at leisure to explore the city on your own.
- Enjoy an evening at a local wine bar: tapas dinner and taste the best of local wines.

🌙 Overnight: Split 🍴 Meals: Breakfast, Dinner

DAY 5

THE MAGIC OF HVAR

Thu. Jun 19, 2025

- 7:30 am departure from Split.
- Pick-up by boat from the Split pier.
- Enjoy a walking tour of Hvar Town, with stops to see Agave Lace, Spanish Fortress and artisan coffee in the old town alleyways.
- Leave Hvar Town.
- Lunch at a scenic location.
- Arrive in Stari Grad, with stops to see the Villa of Petar Hektorovic, Stari Grad Museum and a peak into the Dominican Monastery to see the Tintoretto.
- Wander the back streets and get coffee at Melting Spot or some gifts from Za Pod Zub.
- Leave Stari Grad.
- Heritage wine tasting at Bilo Idro, a unique wine cellar located under sea level. It is located in port of Sveta Nedjelja village, where you can try wines from Zlatan otok winery.
- Time to relax and swim in the crystal blue waters of Hvar.
- Depart the island and return to Split.

🌙 Overnight: Split 🍴 Meals: Breakfast, Lunch

DAY 6

JEWISH HERITAGE IN DUBROVNIK

Fri. Jun 20, 2025

- Check out of the hotel.
- Drive to Dubrovnik, an intact walled city on the Adriatic Sea coast of the extreme south of Croatia.
- Visit Dubrovnik's Jewish cemetery.
- Visit Dubrovnik synagogue, which is believed to be the second oldest synagogue (after Prague) still in use in Europe.
- Visit the Museum of Dubrovnik Jewish community.
- Check into the hotel and have free time to prepare for Shabbat.
- Kabbalat Shabbat services at the hotel followed by Shabbat Dinner.

🌙 Overnight: Dubrovnik 🍴 Meals: Breakfast, Dinner

DAY 7

EXPLORING DUBROVNIK

Sat. Jun 21, 2025

- Walking tour to explore the city's old historical center and view its main landmarks, including Stradun, Rector's Palace, Blaise's Church, Cathedral, three large monasteries, Custom's Office, and the City Hall.
- Lunch at a restaurant.
- Walk along the city ramparts, considered to be one of the most grandiose fortification monuments in Europe and an example of how fort architecture developed.
- Remainder of the afternoon at leisure to explore the city on your own.

🌙 Overnight: Dubrovnik 🍴 Meals: Breakfast, Lunch

DAY 8

FROM DUBROVNIK TO SARAJEVO

Sun. Jun 22, 2025

- Check out of the hotel.
- Depart Dubrovnik and drive toward Bosnia & Hercegovina.
- Drive to Mostar, which is famous for the Balkans' most celebrated bridge. The Old Bridge (Stari Most), built during the time of Suleiman the Magnificent in 1557, is one of Bosnia and Herzegovina's most recognizable landmarks and is considered one of the most exemplary pieces of Islamic architecture in the Balkans.
- Explore the cobblestoned and picturesque Old Town.
- View the former synagogue, built in 1902 and burned down in 1944. The synagogue was reconstructed and is in use as a puppet theater.
- Continue the drive to Sarajevo, often referred to as the „Jerusalem of Europe” because of its traditional religious diversity - with adherents of Islam, Orthodoxy, Catholicism, and Judaism, all these religions coexisting there for centuries.
- Check into the hotel.

🌙 Overnight: Sarajevo 🍴 Meals: Breakfast

DAY 9

EXPLORING SARAJEVO & ITS JEWISH HERITAGE

Mon. Jun 23, 2025

- Visit Latin Bridge, famous as the site of the assassination of Franz Ferdinand, which became the justification for the beginning of World War I.
- Explore Bašcaršija, the old bazaar and the historical and cultural center of the city.
- Visit the Museum of the Jews of Bosnia and Herzegovina, housed in the old Sephardic Synagogue.
- View of the Bosnian Cultural Center, housed in what was once the Great Sephardi Synagogue.

- Visit the Ashkenazi Synagogue, built in the pseudo-Moorish style. Meet with a leader of the community for a better understanding of the Jewish community today.
- Pass by the former City Hall, designed in 1891 by a Czech architect, and at the time the largest and most representative building of the Austro-Hungarian period in Sarajevo.
- Visit the Zemaljski Muzej (County Museum) for insight into the Sarajevo Haggadah, an illuminated manuscript from the 14th century.
- Visit the Sarajevo Tunnel, also known as the Tunnel of Hope. The tunnel was constructed in 1993 and allowed the transfer of food, war supplies, and humanitarian aid into the city under siege.
- Return to the hotel.

 Overnight: Sarajevo  Meals: Breakfast

DAY 10

MEMORY & CONTINUITY

Tue. Jun 24, 2025

- Check out of the hotel.
- Visit Jasenovac Memorial Site, on the site of the Jasenovac camp, often referred to as "the Auschwitz of the Balkans."
- Meet with Bishop Jovan Culibrk, of the Slavonian Serbian Orthodox Community, and visit the remnants of the former concentration camp's hospital where many Jewish doctors worked.
- Continue the drive back to Zagreb, and check into the hotel.

 Overnight: Zagreb  Meals: Breakfast

DAY 11

EXPLORING ZAGREB

Wed. Jun 25, 2025

- Visit Mirogoj Cemetery, one of the most beautiful cemeteries in Europe with arcades and cupolas designed by architect Herman Bolle. Since the 19th century, Mirogoj has served as a central cemetery where members of all faiths (Catholic, Christian Orthodox, Protestant, and Jewish) are buried. In the Jewish section, view the statue of Moses with 10 commandments, dedicated to the victims of the Holocaust. The statue is made by notable Croatian sculptor, Antun Augustincic whose Peace monument stands in front of the United Nations building in New York City. The cemetery also functions as a park and art gallery.
- Visit the former site of the Zagreb Synagogue, which was completely destroyed in 1942, and today features a plaque memorializing the synagogue.
- Visit the Jewish Community Center building and meet with leaders of the local Jewish community.
- Visit Lauba House, a privately owned contemporary art gallery featuring works by modern and post-modern Croatian artists.
- Farewell dinner and group reflection at a restaurant.

 Overnight: Zagreb  Meals: Breakfast, Dinner

DAY 12

UNTIL WE MEET AGAIN

Thu. Jun 26, 2025

- Check out of the hotel.
- Transfer to Zagreb Airport for your return flight to the USA.

 Meals: Breakfast





RATES & LODGING

PARTICIPANTS	COST P/P IN DOUBLE ROOM	COST P/P IN SINGLE ROOM
25+	\$7,360	\$9,850

REGISTRATION OPEN

Reduced cost of \$6,750 for 35 or more participants.

ZAGREB: ESPLANADE

🌙 Nights: 1

🔗 [Hotel Website](#)

SPLIT: HOTEL PARK

🌙 Nights: 3

🔗 [Hotel Website](#)

DUBROVNIK: HOTEL EXCELSIOR

🌙 Nights: 2

🔗 [Hotel Website](#)

SARAJEVO: HOTEL EUROPE

🌙 Nights: 2

🔗 [Hotel Website](#)

ZAGREB: ESPLANADE

🌙 Nights: 2

🔗 [Hotel Website](#)



WHAT TO EXPECT

🌟 Included

- 10 nights' accommodations.
 - 10 days of touring with a J² Expert Educator, local guides and a local tour escort. 8 days of touring in a luxury, air-conditioned bus.
 - 1 Group arrival transfer & assistance at the airport.
 - 1 Group departure transfer & assistance at the airport.
 - Boat-trip to Hvar Island.
 - Daily breakfast, 3 lunches & 4 dinners.
 - The J² adventures App available on the App Store & on Google Play (active 7 days before your departure and throughout your trip).
 - Water on the bus.
 - Porterage at the hotels.
 - All site entrance fees & program fees as per your final program.
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⚙️ Excluded

- Credit card fees.
 - Transatlantic flights.
 - Individual arrival and departure airport transfers.
 - COVID related expenses, including tests.
 - Gratuities are excluded. For groups of 20 and more participants traveling to the Balkans: We recommend the following guidelines for tipping (amounts are in US dollars): Jewish Tour Educator: \$12 | Local Guide: \$10 | Driver: \$5 | Tour escort: \$5. Amounts are per day per person.
 - Evening transportation when dinner is not included.
 - Amendments to the program: In the event that any sites, programs or meals etc. are added to the program, an additional fee may be required.
 - Personal extras: Items of personal nature such as laundry, wines, mineral water, beverages, coffee, tea, food other than the table d'hotel menu, passport and visa fees, insurance, and foreign port taxes, unless otherwise specified.
 - US and foreign airport taxes, Q fuel surcharge and border taxes when applicable.
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📄 The small print

- Please review our terms & conditions (T&C's) or request that we send you our full T&C's. Until you do that, here is the small print, and other stuff you may want to know:
- Validity | All prices quoted are based on exchange rates as of the proposal date and are subject to change without notice. Rates are per person and are based on shared twin room occupancy.
- How to Make a Reservation | The quickest way to make a reservation is to register online or contact us by email. We accept VISA, MasterCard, and American Express credit cards. A \$1,000 non-refundable deposit is required in order to complete the registration process.
- For any assistance with this registration process or other trip-related queries, please email Customer Care: customercare@j2adventures.com.
- Payments | The balance of your payment is due 120 days before your trip begins, or as specified in your invoice. You will receive an email reminder 2 weeks before this date. Various payment options are available as follows:
- Credit card | We accept Visa, Mastercard and American Express. Please check with your credit card provider regarding international processing fees. We are unable to process payments of over \$1,000 over the phone. Please submit payment online via a credit card or by wiring funds via your bank.



- Domestic bank wire transfer | Payment should be wired in the same currency that is listed on your invoice. Please add the name of your group or invoice number as a reference and forward a copy of the transfer receipt by email. The bank transfer should clearly state the beneficiary's name on the wire transfer.
- J² Adventures reserves the right to automatically cancel your reservation on that date and it may be subject to reconfirmation should the final payment not be received.
- Cancellation Policy | All cancellations need to be made in writing. The cancellation fee depends on the date when we receive written notification of your request to cancel your booking. Please note that the deposit is non-refundable.
- Cancellation fees | Cancellations made 120 or more days prior to departure incur the loss of the deposit. Cancellations made 119 to 46 days prior to departure incur the loss of 50% of the full trip cost. Cancellations made 45 days or less prior to the departure incur the loss of 100% of the full trip cost.
- Cancellation fees may also include: Hotel or supplier cancellation fees. J² Adventures reserves the right to adjust its terms of payment, including cancellation policies and initial deposits.

Terms

Please click here to view our full terms (T&C's). These T&C's apply to all reservations created within J² Adventures.

DISCOVER NEW WORLDS.

JEWISH JOURNEYS.

A family vacation to Israel. An adventure of a lifetime traveling with friends to Morocco. A trip to Poland or Portugal with your community. What do these trips have in common? No matter where you go, you will come back with a fresh perspective and appreciation of the place you visited as well as a heightened awareness of your identity as part of the global Jewish community.



START EXPLORING

Just like you we're concerned for the future. And like you, J² stands for equality, tolerance, pluralism, and true democracy.

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