



# TEMPLE BETH AM JEWISH JOURNEY TO PORTUGAL

LED BY RABBI JAIME AKLEPI

Apr 20, 2025 - Apr 28, 2025



DESTINATION  
**PORTUGAL**



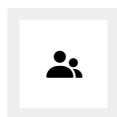
WHO'S GOING  
**OUR  
COMMUNITY**



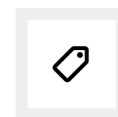
TRIP TYPE  
**CONGREGATIONAL**



DURATION  
**9 DAYS**



GROUP SIZE  
**10+**



PRICE  
**FROM \$5,834**

PASSIONATE **JEWISH JOURNEYS**

EDUCATIONAL & EXPERIENTIAL JOURNEYS CREATED WITH YOU IN MIND.

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## REGISTRATION DATES

**AUG 6, 2024 - FEB 17, 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 12:00 p.m. Eastern Time (ET).

# YOUR JOURNEY

J<sup>2</sup> 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.

 Active    Art & Culture    Food & Wine    Heritage

 UNESCO Heritage Sites

# PROGRAM ITINERARY

## DAY 1

### ON OUR WAY

Sun. Apr 20, 2025

- Depart the US.

 Overnight: Flight

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## DAY 2

### WELCOME TO PORTO

Mon. Apr 21, 2025

- Arrive at Porto International Airport.
- Meet your J<sup>2</sup> Expert Educator and your local guide who will accompany you on this journey and transfer to the city centre.
- Start with a visit of the Kadoorie Mekor Haim Synagogue, the largest synagogue in the Iberian Peninsula.
- Free time to enjoy lunch at a local upscale market.
- Romanesque to Romanticism: View the main sites of the city, including: Avenida dos Aliados, Clérigos Tower, which is known as the symbol of the city, São Bento railway station, decorated with 20,000 tiles depicting the history of Portugal, and the Ribeira neighborhood near the riverfront, which has been declared a UNESCO World Heritage Site.
- Tour of the Porto Old Jewish Quarters: we'll learn about the Jewish heritage in Sepharad Portugal, the Jews of the Middle Ages and the

terrible times of the Inquisition, the new Christians of the modern era, and the 20th-century Jewish Renaissance.

- Check into the hotel.
- Welcome dinner at a local restaurant with the leaders of HaMakom, Porto's budding Reform Jewish community.

 Overnight: Porto, Portugal     Meals: Dinner

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## DAY 3

### THE CRADLE OF PORTUGAL

Tue. Apr 22, 2025

- Drive to Guimaraes, the birthplace of Portugal.
- For a panoramic view, ride the Teleférico de Guimarães cable car. Soar above rooftops, church spires, and terracotta tiles. As you descend, the town unfolds—a mosaic of past and present.
- Wander through Largo da Oliveira, a charming plaza adorned with traditional houses. The centerpiece? A majestic olive tree, symbolizing endurance and resilience.
- Free time for lunch on own.
- Ascend to the Guimaraes Castle, perched atop a hill. Its brooding silhouette tells tales of knights, battles, and medieval intrigue. From the ramparts, gaze across the landscape—the same view that once inspired Portugal's founder-king, Afonso Henriques.
- Return to Porto.
- End the day with a traditional Fado Concert.

 Overnight: Porto, Portugal     Meals: Breakfast

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## DAY 4

### THE ENCHANTED VALLEY

Wed. Apr 23, 2025

- Check out of the hotel.
- Depart Porto for the Douro Valley, known primarily for port, a sweet wine that has been produced here for two thousand years. The Douro Alto was made a UNESCO World Heritage Site in 2001.
- Visit to a vineyard followed by lunch with wine tasting.
- Take a river cruise on a private traditional rabelo boat, encircled by terraced hillsides that produce some of the world's best port such as Cockburns, Taylors, and Sandeman. Navigate upstream toward the mouth of the Tua River, surrounded by plenty of vineyards, terraces, villages and towns, and 18th- and 19th-century estates of the wine industry.
- Continue to the picturesque town of Lamego for a short visit.
- Drive to Belmonte.
- Check into the hotel, followed by dinner.

 Overnight: Belmonte, Portugal

 Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

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## DAY 5

### JEWISH HISTORY IN BELMONTE - YOM HASHOAH

Thu. Apr 24, 2025

- Check out of the hotel.
- Explore the Castle of Belmonte, where you can learn about the town's broader history, including its Jewish heritage. The castle offers

panoramic views of the surrounding area.

- Walk through the historic Jewish Quarter. Observe the narrow streets and traditional houses, and see the sites where Jews lived and practiced their faith in secret.
- Spend time at the Jewish Museum, which showcases the history of the Belmonte Jewish community since the Middle Ages.
- Come together for a memorial ceremony for Yom HaShoah.
- Discover the synagogue in Belmonte, still active to this day.
- Lunch at a local restaurant.
- Depart Belmonte and drive to Lisbon.
- Arrive in Lisbon and check into the hotel.

 Overnight: Lisbon, Portugal     Meals: Breakfast, Lunch

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## DAY 6

### CITY OF DISCOVERIES

Fri. Apr 25, 2025

- Explore the Belem district of Lisbon, located on the River Tagus, from where many of the great Portuguese explorers embarked on their momentous voyages.
- Stop at the Monument to the Discoveries to explore the Portuguese Age of Discovery in the 15th and 16th centuries.
- Pass by the impressive Jerónimos Monastery and learn about the story behind its impressive walls.
- Taste Lisbon's most famed pastry, Pastéis de Belem, whose exact recipe remains a secret to this day.
- Free time to enjoy lunch at the Time Out Market.

- Enjoy a tour of the center of Lisbon, including Rossio Square, Baixa (the downtown area), and Praça do Comércio.
- Take a journey through the Alfama Quarter including the site of the Lisbon massacre of 1506. Explore the steep winding alleys, hidden landmark churches, and breathtaking views of the Tagus River – all while hearing about the tension between tradition and modernity.
- Return to the hotel to freshen up for Shabbat.
- Shabbat service at the Shaaré Tikva Synagogue. This was the first synagogue to be built in Portugal since the late fifteenth century.
- Shabbat dinner at a local restaurant.

 Overnight: Lisbon, Portugal     Meals: Breakfast, Dinner

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## DAY 7

### ROMAN EVORA

Sat. Apr 26, 2025

- Depart Lisbon for a day trip outside the city.
- Experience the unique and eerie Chapel of Bones, adorned with the bones of 5,000 corpses as a reminder of death.
- Enjoy the central square, surrounded by charming cafés and historic buildings, perfect for people-watching and relaxation.
- Free time for lunch on own.
- Tour the impressive Évora Cathedral, one of the oldest and most significant Gothic structures in Portugal.
- View the well-preserved Roman Temple of Évora, a symbol of the city's historical significance.
- Take a leisurely walk along the Água de Prata Aqueduct, an ancient structure that once brought water to the city and now integrates

beautifully with modern buildings.

- Return to Lisbon.

 Overnight: Lisbon, Portugal  Meals: Breakfast

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## DAY 8

### THE MAGIC OF SINTRA

Sun. Apr 27, 2025

- Depart the hotel for a visit to the Pena Palace grounds and its surrounding Pena Park.
- Excursion to the city of Sintra, the resort town of Portugal kings, perched high in the mountains. The town's picturesque romantic monuments and mountainous vistas serve as the backdrop for unparalleled architectural and natural beauty.
- Depart Sintra and stop at Cabo da Roca. Overlooking the deep blue of the Atlantic Ocean, stand at the western-most extent of mainland Portugal and continental Europe.
- Late lunch on own and free time in the charming coastal town of Cascais.
- Return to Lisbon.
- Enjoy a farewell dinner at a restaurant.

 Overnight: Lisbon, Portugal  Meals: Breakfast, Dinner

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## DAY 9

### UNTIL WE MEET AGAIN

Mon. Apr 28, 2025

- Check out of the hotel.



- Return flight to the US.

 Meals: Breakfast

## THE EXPERT



### YISHAY SHAVIT

Yishay was born on a kibbutz in Northern Israel. In 2000, he moved to Jerusalem, fell in love with the city, and hasn't looked back. Yishay, a history and hiking lover, was first introduced to the world of guiding at the age of 15, in his youth movement. After serving in the IDF, he started guiding in various museums, the Knesset (Israel's parliament), and the Supreme Court. In 2007 he received a formal guiding education. The areas of his expertise are history, politics, and theology connected to Jerusalem. Yishay holds a bachelor's degree in History and a master's degree in Jewish History from Hebrew University, focusing on Indian Jewry and contemporary Jewry. Yishay speaks fluent Hebrew and English and a little bit of Hindi. When not guiding, he enjoys spending time with his wife Noa and their two sons – Yotam and Assaf.



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# RATES & LODGING

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PARTICIPANTS	COST P/P IN DOUBLE ROOM	COST P/P IN SINGLE ROOM
<b>10+</b>	<b>\$5,834</b>	<b>\$6,644</b>

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## PORTO: INTERCONTINENTAL - PALACIO DAS CARDOSAS

🌙 Nights: 2

🛏 Room Category: Standard room

## BELMONTE: CONVENTO DE BELMONTE

🌙 Nights: 1

🛏 Room Category: Standard room

## LISBON: IBEROSTAR SELECTION LISBOA

🌙 Nights: 4

🛏 Room Category: Standard room

# WHAT TO EXPECT

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## ◆ Included

- 7 nights' accommodations.
  - 7 days of touring with a J<sup>2</sup> Expert Educator and a local guide, in a luxury, air-conditioned bus.
  - Daily breakfast, 2 lunches & 4 dinners.
  - The J<sup>2</sup> 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.
- Flights to & from Portugal.
- Airport transfers.
- Gratuities are excluded. For groups of 10-19 participants traveling to Portugal: We recommend the following guidelines for tipping (amounts are in US dollars): J<sup>2</sup> Expert Educator: \$14 | Local Guide: \$10 | Driver: \$4. Amounts are per day per person.
- COVID related expenses, including tests.
- 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 non-refundable deposit of \$1,000 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](mailto: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.
- J<sup>2</sup> 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. J<sup>2</sup> Adventures reserves the right to adjust its terms of payment, including cancellation policies and initial deposits.

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## Terms

- Protect yourself from fraud by being cautious and vigilant when it comes to online theft. It is crucial to note that J<sup>2</sup> adventures will never send an email requesting you to transfer funds to a new account or to redirect a payment. We will never alter our account number or issue additional payment requests without first personally speaking to you and properly identifying ourselves. If you feel uncertain about any communication (scammers often impersonate legitimate companies via e-mail or by calling), halt and contact us directly through our toll-free number listed on our website to discuss any necessary payments. Refrain from responding to suspicious emails or clicking on links or attachments unless you are completely certain of their legitimacy. By following these guidelines and staying vigilant, you can significantly reduce your risk of becoming a victim of fraud.
- Please click [here](#) to view our full terms (T&C's). These T&C's apply to all reservations created within J<sup>2</sup> Adventures.