

DISCOVER THE JEWISH HERITAGE OF BUDAPEST AND EASTERN HUNGARY

Synagogues in Budapest, Synagogues in Debrecen and Mád, tombs of Wonder Maker Rabbies in Eastern Hungary, gastro adventures & many more

Follow us on an adventure in Budapest & the Eastern part of Hungary to get to know our unique Jewish heritage
11-15 March 2023 (4 days/4 nights)

11 March 2023 – own arrivals, meet and great



Arrival to Budapest with own arrangements, check-in at the most beautiful hotel of the Jewish district: **Continental Hotel Budapest**. Get together in the hotel lobby with a welcome drink at 6 pm.

12 March 2023 - Jewish heritage tour in Budapest, Zwack Visitor's Centre B, D



Budapest city tour between 9 am and 5 pm combined with Jewish heritage tour and visit in 3 different Synagogues. You will hear about the important role that the Jewish culture plays in contemporary Hungarian society and lot of interesting stories. Learn all about Hungary's **Jewish history, heritage, and culture** as we have the largest Jewish community in Central Europe. Enjoy a pleasant walk in Budapest and **discover the hidden treasures**, old kosher butchers and for sure visit the second largest Synagogue of the world! See the Kazinczy Street Synagogue, Raul Wallenberg Holocaust Memorial Park, Rumbach Sebestyén Street with its Synagogue, Gozsdu Courtyard and Király Street. Have **free time for a light lunch** in the Jewish quarter and possibility for **shopping** Jewish religious art pieces to take home as a memory of your journey. As the highlight of the tour, you will have an **exclusive inside visit of the Dohány Street Synagogue** which is Europe's largest one!



After the tour visit at the **Zwack Unicum Heritage Visitors' Centre**. The Museum follows the story of Hungary's most popular drink: „Unicum” and the World famous Zwack family through six generations hand in hand with the history of Hungary. It covers the time of the Austro-Hungarian Monarchy, followed by World War One and the carefree boom years between the wars. Then came the devastating bombardments over Budapest when the factory was destroyed, the **Jewish persecutions** and Communist take-over of all private property. The Museum follows the Zwack family into emigration and later their return to Hungary. A visit to the Museum begins with a twenty-minute film in English and ends with a **tasting of Unicum** and other Zwack products in the turn of the century tasting room. After the visit return transfer to the hotel for a short break. 7 pm Transfer to a charming **Restaurant-boat** anchored opposite to the Castle area. **3 course dinner** with drinks and beautiful panorama of the illuminated city. 9.30 pm Transfer back to the Hotel.

13 March 2023 – Synagogues of Tokaj and Mád

B,L,D



9 am transfer to **Mád**, the journey takes about 3 hours by bus including a refreshment break. Upon arrival **lunch** in Mád in Castle-like building with a traditional Hungarian menu and local wines. Later we visit the **Synagogue in Mád**. According to some data, there was a Jewish temple in the village **as early as 1771**, but the beautiful **baroque-style synagogue**, which served the Jews of Mád for more than 150 years, was only built in 1795. Its construction was financed by two wealthy families, the **Brener and Teitelbaum** brothers, who settled in Mád as wine merchants. The chroniclers noted that according to the old Jewish laws, women, children, and men **carried the stones** from the surrounding mountains and mines for construction, so that **no foreign hands would touch them**. The intimate atmosphere interior is characterized by a harmonious blend of baroque and coiffure architectural styles and make it **one of the most beautiful** Jewish temples in Hungary. After the Second World War, the synagogue lost its original function, as 90% of the Jewish population of Mád **were destroyed**. Apartments were created in the rabbi's house, while the synagogue building was abandoned. The Mád synagogue was permanently closed in the early 1950s. The restoration was made possible by the Jewish Heritage Grant program of the **World Monuments Fund in New York**, which initiated the excavation of the synagogue. The building's exterior restoration work began in 2000 and the professional restoration of the synagogue was awarded with a **Europa Nostra Award** in 2005.

We continue in the afternoon to **Tokaj**, a World-famous wine district. Its **fortress** built at the confluence of the rivers is reduced to ruins. Visit the Cellar Museum and Wine-press-shed Museum with collections of wine culture.

Dinner in a local winery with the World famous Tokaji Aszú in our dinner menu and wineglasses. Check-in for overnight in the newly built 4-star **Mercure Hotel Tokaj**.

14 March 2023 – Discover the Jewish heritage of Debrecen

B, L, D



9 am transfer to **Debrecen**. The Jewish Community of Debrecen is the **largest rural Jewish community in Hungary**, with nearly 1,000 members. The first Jewish family settled in the town **around 1840**, later the number of the community continued to grow, the religious community developed, and several synagogues, Jewish schools, gymnasiums, hospitals, and social institutions were built along with it. Most of the pre-World War II community of 12,000 people became victims of the Holocaust. As a result of the war and the previous regime, many people immigrated to Israel and America, but **two of the synagogues** of the community have survived. The synagogue of the Orthodox community was **built in 1894** in Pásti Street, in the immediate vicinity of the historic city center. Inside visit to this eclectic building, using elements of **Romanesque architecture**. In 2000, the roof and exterior facade were renovated, but the interior is still awaiting its reconstruction.

Lunch in **Hamsza**, a cozy **local kosher restaurant**.

Afternoon visit the **Kápolnási utca synagogue**, that was handed over in 1910. The temple, which can accommodate 600 people, has a **modern exterior** and reflects Byzantine influences in its structure. It was used by the Jewish High School in Debrecen until 1944. In 2000, the National Office for the Protection of Monuments declared both synagogues monuments.

The Jewish Community of Debrecen is **a living religious community** that is still active today, placing great emphasis on maintaining religious life, and having the necessary institutions for this: **mikveh, kosher kitchen, Bét Din**.

After visiting this magnificent city we return for dinner and overnight in **Mercure Hotel Tokaj**.

15 March 2023 – in the footsteps of Wonder Maker Rabbies

B



9 am check out from the hotel and departure to discover two **Wonder Maker Rabbies** tombs. First, we visit **Bodrogkeresztúr**. Even today, many people make pilgrim tours to the grave of the famous wonder maker rabbi, **Reb Steiner Saje**. From 1726, the Jewish families continuously arriving from Galicia took over the distribution of wine from the Greek merchants in

Bodrogkeresztúr and played a major role in the modernization of viticulture and wine production, and in the distribution of the **kosher wines** they produced.

The famous miracle rabbi of the Hasidic Jewish community was Reb Steiner Saje (1851–1925). We visit the **Reb Steiner Saje Memorial House**, built in the former residence of the miracle rabbi. It has become a popular place of pilgrimage, as has his grave located in the Jewish cemetery, over which his admirers built an ohel (tent-like grave). His amazing deeds are preserved in legends, just as the **armchair** from which Reb Saje almost never got up - became legendary. It is said that he only went to bed on Friday evenings, at other times he was at the disposal of his followers and guests or prayed.

Then we continue to **Sátoraljaújhely** to visit the tomb of **Teitelbaum Móse**. For more than a century and a half, many pilgrims have been visiting the grave of the founder of Hasidism in Hungary, Rabbi Móse Teitelbaum, which is hidden in an ohel dressed in a modern architectural robe. Inside the building are three graves: that of the famous rebbe and his wife, and that of the rabbi of Alexander in Komárom. There are beautifully carved and **painted tombstones** at the head of the graves. Next to the cemetery, there is a modern ritual bath and a pilgrim's rest area. Departure to **Budapest** to arrive at the early afternoon. **Drop-off at the Marriott Hotel**, the official hotel and main event venue of the River Cruise Expo.

Registration and joining of the official congress program.

Program fees:

Early Bird rates

(Available until 7th of December 2022)

Program in double room per pax
for 4 nights: **EUR 590**

Single supplement for 4 nights: EUR 160

Normal rates

(Available from 8th of December 2022)

Program in double room per pax
for 4 nights: **EUR 640**

Single supplement for 4 nights: EUR 160

The above price is valid in case of minimum of 20 paying guests. The maximum capacity of the program is 40 paying guests.

OUR PROGRAM INCLUDES

- » Accommodation for 2*2 nights with breakfast in 4-star hotels in Budapest and Tokaj
- » Coach service and English-speaking guide on 12-13-14-15 as above program
- » Catering: 11 March /welcome drink, 12 March / breakfast, Zwack tasting and dinner, 13 March/ breakfast, lunch, and dinner, 14 March/ breakfast, lunch, and dinner, 15 March/ breakfast
- » Programs and entrance fees: Budapest Jewish Heritage tour with 3 entrances & entry with tasting to Zwack, Entry to Synagogue in Mád and wine related museums in Tokaj, Debrecen sightseeing with Synagogue entries, ticket to Reb Steiner Saje Memorial House and tomb of Teitelbaum Móse.

We hope that we have piqued your interest and we can great you on our tour.

Registration contact mail: patricia.szente@toureasttour.hu