



**UCC Europe Study Trip 2018
Berlin and Poland
March 11-22, 2018
Draft Program—Subject to change**

SUMMARY

DAY	DATE	PROGRAM	OVERNIGHT
	Sun March 11	Departure from Toronto	airplane
Day 1	Mon March 12	Arrive Berlin mid-day. ½ day Berlin sites	Berlin
Day 2	Tues March 13	Berlin full day	Berlin
Day 3	Wed March 14	Berlin → Lodz by coach	Lodz
Day 4	Thurs March 15	Lodz → Tychochin → Warsaw	Warsaw
Day 5	Fri March 16	Warsaw	Warsaw
Day 6	Sat March 17	Majdanek / Old Lublin → Zamosc.	Zamosc
Day 7	Sun March 18	Zamosc → Visit Belzec → Krakow	Krakow
Day 8	Mon March 19	Kazimierz & Krakow	Krakow
Day 9	Tues March 20	Auschwitz-Birkenau	Krakow
Day 10	Wed March 21	Debrief, Adventure & Exploration	Krakow
Day 11	Thurs March 22	Return to Toronto	

PRE-TRIP SUNDAY MARCH 11 OUTBOUND FLIGHTS FROM TORONTO — to be confirmed

LH 471 11MAR YYZ/FRA 0715P 0745A (+1)
LH 176 12MAR FRA/TXL 0845A 0955A

DAY 1 MONDAY MARCH 12 — MORNING ARRIVAL IN BERLIN

Scheunenviertel Neighbourhood, including:

Grosse Hamburger Strasse – a pre-war Jewish neighborhood, once the center of Berlin Jewry, where we find the grave of Moses Mendelssohn, the site of the first Jewish Home for the Aged in Berlin, and a Jewish school dating back to 1738. The Missing House, an artistic expression of the void that is part of so many central and Eastern cities and towns following WWII, offers an exploration of the narratives that make up the larger story of war-time Berlin.

Stolpersteine — Stumbling blocks have been installed in the sidewalks of cities and towns throughout Germany and other European countries. The bronze, cobblestone-sized memorials are engraved with the names, last known place of residence, and fate of individual victims of the Nazis.

Otto Weidt Workshop for the Blind, a place of protection and safety for vulnerable people under the Nazi regime.

Rosenstrasse 2/4 — pays tribute to the 1943 protests of non-Jewish women over the capture of their Jewish husbands. The protests escalated until the men were released in what became a significant example of opposition to the Nazis.

Neue Wache ("New Guard House") National Memorial to the Victims of War and Tyranny — features sculptor Käthe Kollwitz's *Mother with her Dead Son*. This sculpture is directly under the oculus, where it is exposed to rain, snow and cold, symbolizing the suffering of civilians during World War II.

Bebelplatz — This square in front of Humboldt University was the site of the infamous book burning staged by the Nazis on May 10, 1933.

Tiergarten Memorials:

Memorial to the Homosexuals Persecuted under the National Socialist Regime

Memorial to the Sinti and Roma of Europe Murdered under the National Socialist Regime

Brandenburg Gate — Berlin's most famous landmark, it was commissioned by Friedrich Wilhelm II 1789. A symbol of division after World War II, the gate was incorporated into the Berlin Wall during the years of the Communist regime. When the Berlin Wall still stood, the Gate stood alone and isolated. Today it is once again a symbol of national unity, integrated into the recently designed Pariser Platz.

Reichstag — Seat of the German Parliament and one of Berlin's most significant landmarks.

DINNER Welcome dinner at hotel

OVERNIGHT Berlin

DAY 2 TUESDAY MARCH 13 — ALL DAY WITH LOCAL SCHOLAR

T4 Memorial at Tiergartenstrasse 4, site of the headquarters for the Nazi euthanasia program, where the murders of mentally and physically handicapped persons were planned

Bayerische Platz — a decentralized memorial in the Bavarian Quarter, inaugurated in 1993, features 80 brightly printed on lampposts, depicting colorful images on the one side and condensed versions of anti-Jewish Nazi rules and regulations passed between 1933 and 1945 in black and white on the reverse side. Together, the words and images force passers-by to remember the almost-forgotten history of this neighborhood, where Albert Einstein and Hannah Arendt once lived. Dispersed throughout the area the memorial becomes a metaphor of the daily deprivation of rights and humiliation of Jews during the Nazi era.

Gleis 17 / Track 17: Memorial at Grunewald Train Station marks the site from which Berlin Jews were deported to ghettos and extermination camps in the east.

Wannsee Haus — located in a suburb of Berlin. In January 1942, Nazi party and German leaders held a meeting at this villa for the purpose of discussing the “final solution to the Jewish question in Europe”.

Topography of Terror — The SS offices with their own prison, and the Reich Security Main Office were located in central Berlin on the present-day grounds of the “Topography of Terror”. The exhibits document the history of the site and the central institutions of the SS and police during the Third Reich, revealing the European dimensions of the Nazi reign of terror.

Topography of Terror

Memorial to the Murdered Jews of Europe *and Museum*

DINNER Berlin restaurant (TBC)

OVERNIGHT Berlin

DAY 3 WEDNESDAY MARCH 14

Morning sites: Visit Mauer Park and exhibit about the Berlin Wall or Olympic Stadium Bell Tower, with a commanding view of the Stadium and all of Berlin TBD

Depart by bus for Poland

Drive to Lodz

DINNER Lodz hotel

OVERNIGHT Lodz

DAY 4 THURSDAY MARCH 15

Lodz sites:

The second largest city in Poland, one third of Lodz's population was Jewish before WWII.

Area of the Litzmannstadt Ghetto, second largest Jewish ghetto in Poland (after Warsaw). Many of the Jewish houses and buildings still stand.

Radegast Railroad Station, where Jews were sent by cattle car to Chelmno and Auschwitz. Visit the Radegast Station Memorial and museum.

Children’s Memorial at the Przemystowa Street Camp for Polish Children

Depart for Tykocin

Visit Tykocin, a small shtetl in Bialystok region, northeastern Poland. In 1522, 10 Jewish families from Grodno were invited by the noble family to settle there. By 1897 the Jewish population comprised 59% of the population. Visit the beautifully restored Baroque synagogue that now houses a Jewish and local history museum.

Lopuchowa Forest—a somber and moving memorial site

Drive to Warsaw

DINNER Warsaw hotel

OVERNIGHT Warsaw

DAY 5 FRIDAY MARCH 16

Warsaw sites:

Gensia (Okapowa St.) Cemetery — Warsaw's largest Jewish cemetery with 250,000 people buried in 200,000 graves. Special gravestones exist for the Kohanim (priests). Mass graves for 300 victims of the Nazis can be found, as well as gravestones for those who perished in the Warsaw ghetto and Jewish officers and enlisted men in the Polish army who lost their lives defending Warsaw in 1939. Some of the more famous gravestones include, I.L. Peretz (writer), Meir Balaban (historian), Esther Kaminska (actress) and Dr. Zaminhoff (the creator of Esperanto). There is also a statue commemorating Janusz Korczak. Adam Czerniakow, the head of the Warsaw Judenrat who killed himself during the war to protest the killing of Jewish children, was given special dispensation for burial in the cemetery.

Warsaw Ghetto sites – Established in November 1940, the ghetto, surrounded by a wall, confined nearly 500,000 Jews. Almost 45,000 Jews died there in 1941 alone, due to overcrowding, forced labor, lack of sanitation, starvation, and disease. From April 19 to May 16, 1943, a revolt took place in the ghetto when the Germans, commanded by General Jürgen Stroop, attempted to raze the ghetto and deport the remaining inhabitants to Treblinka. The uprising, led by Mordechai Anielewicz, was the first instance in occupied Europe of an uprising by an urban population.

- Warsaw Ghetto Memorial Track – Visit sites related to Jewish persecution and resistance including: Mila 18, the headquarters "bunker" of Mordechai Anielewicz, the leader of the Warsaw Ghetto Uprising; Umschlagplatz, the staging area from which 300,000 Jews were deported; Rappaport Monument to the heroes of the Warsaw Ghetto uprising
- Nozyk Synagogue – built in 1899, it is the only surviving pre-war synagogue in Warsaw. Remnant of Warsaw Ghetto wall
- Museum of the History of Polish Jews – Warsaw's newest museum sits on the site of the former Warsaw Ghetto. The cornerstone was laid in 2007, the museum first opened on April 19, 2013. It currently functions as a cultural and educational center with a rich cultural program. The core exhibit immerses visitors in the world of Polish Jews from their arrival in "Po-lin" as traveling merchants in medieval times until today.
- Pawiak Prison and Gestapo Headquarters

Visit to Warsaw Zoo exhibit about the extraordinary rescue efforts of Zoo director Jan Zabinski and his wife Antonina, formally recognized as "Righteous Among the Nations"

DINNER Shabbat dinner

OVERNIGHT Warsaw

DAY 6 SATURDAY MARCH 17

Depart for Lublin

Guided visit to Majdanek – Located on the outskirts of Lublin, it was the largest concentration and extermination camp outside the German Reich. A small number of barracks still stands, some of which house an important and moving exhibit.

Guided walk through Old Lublin – Once the third largest Jewish population in Poland, Lublin was arguably the most important center of Jewish life, culture and learning in Europe. Walk through "Grodzka Gate" opposite Lublin Castle to Old Lublin.

Drive to Zamosc, one of the most beautiful towns in Eastern Europe. Designed in the Italian Renaissance style, the Old Town Square is a UNESCO Heritage site.

DINNER In Zamosc
OVERNIGHT Zamosc

DAY 7 SUNDAY MARCH 18

Drive to Belzec

One of the six 'extermination' camps in Poland. Originally established in 1940 as a camp for Jewish forced labor, the Germans began its construction on November 1, 1941, as part of *Aktion Reinhard*. By the time the camp ceased operations in January 1943, more than 600,000 persons had been murdered there. Today, one of the most powerful memorials in Poland comprises the entire area of the camp, from which there were only 2 survivors.

Drive to Krakow

DINNER In Krakow
OVERNIGHT Krakow

DAY 8 MONDAY MARCH 19

Kazimierz

Old Synagogue (open on Saturdays)
Galerie Galicia

Podgorze, the area of the former ghetto, including "Under the Eagle Pharmacy". Half of this establishment was in the Ghetto, while its front faced outside the Ghetto. It became a meeting place for the ghetto's intelligentsia, and a hub of underground activity, serving as a secret passage and hideaway for Ghetto residents, with the permission and assistance of the apothecary's Polish owner, Tadeusz Pankiewicz, who was recognized as a Righteous Among the Nations by Yad Vashem In 1983. Today the pharmacy building serves as a museum chronicling the ghetto.

Plaszow – the site of the infamous labor camp made famous by the movie "Schindler's List" now consists of sparsely wooded hills and fields with one large memorial to all the victims and two smaller monuments at one perimeter of where the camp once stood.

DINNER In Krakow
OVERNIGHT Krakow

DAY 9 TUESDAY MARCH 20

Visit Auschwitz I Former Concentration and Death Camp Full day guided tour of Auschwitz I and Auschwitz II/ Birkenau – The largest and most notorious complex of Nazi extermination camps. The sign over the entrance to Auschwitz I – *Arbeit Macht Frei* ('Works Makes You Free') – is arguably the best-known symbol of the Holocaust. Approximately 1.5 million people, most of the Jews from all over Europe, were murdered at Auschwitz II/Birkenau.

Auschwitz I Concentration and Death Camp – the original camp and administrative center for the entire massive network of sub-camps. Auschwitz I houses 16 one-story buildings and contains the infamous gates with the words “*Arbeit Mach Frei*”.

Auschwitz II or Birkenau, site of the main extermination center for over 1 million victims, mostly Jews.

DINNER In Krakow

OVERNIGHT Krakow

DAY 10 WEDNESDAY MARCH 21

Debrief, Adventure & Exploration: TBD – a day of reflection and a fun activity. TBD

Options include: hiking in Ojcow National Park, visiting world famous Wieliczka Salt Mines and more.

DINNER Closing dinner in Rynek Glowny (Market Square) in the Old Town. Built after the Tatars obliterated the city that stood there in 1241, the square is one of the largest in Europe and was not damaged during WWII.

OVERNIGHT Krakow

DAY 11 THURSDAY MARCH 22

RETURN TO CANADA.

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