

# TOVA GILEAD - TOURS TO ISRAEL

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## BAR/BAT MITZVAH AND FAMILY TOURS BUDAPEST - VIENNA - PRAGUE

### Day 1 BUDAPEST

Arrive in Budapest, often called the “Paris of the East,” and transfer with your guide, to the Four Seasons Gresham Palace Hotel. Budapest is divided by the Danube into Buda and Pest, linked by eight beautiful bridges. This lively, charming city, has retained its special Hungarian and Magyar flavor. Your guide will take you on an orientation walking tour. In the evening, on your own, stroll through the cobbled streets and through the pedestrian mall.

*Overnight in Budapest*

### Day 2 BUDAPEST CITY TOUR

Drive along the tree-lined Andrassy Avenue to see the Millennium Monument at Heros’ Square with its statues of Hungarian leaders through the ages. Visit the impressive Hungarian Parliament Building and stop at the Shoes Memorial along the Danube. Continue to the Buda side to visit the medieval Castle district, Fishermen’s Bastion Promenade, and Matthias Church. Stop at Gellert Hill with its magnificent views of the city. Walk through the bustling Central Market Hall. In the evening attend Kabbalat Shabbat service in a local Synagogue. After services, you will join the congregation for a Kiddush.

*Overnight in Budapest*

### Day 3 BAR MITZVAH CELEBRATION - MAZEL TOV!

Bar Mitzvah service at a local Synagogue, followed by a *Kiddush* with the local Hungarian Jewish community. After the service, drive to the pier and take a private boat along the Danube to Szentendre, a charming medieval town on the Danube Bend. Walk through the quaint, winding streets lined with many shops. Visit the Margit Kovacs Ceramic Museum and see the artisans and their crafts. Stop at the world’s smallest synagogue and see the marzipan museum. Return to Budapest by boat and walk with the guide from the pier to the hotel.

*Overnight in Budapest*

### Day 4 BUDAPEST JEWISH TOUR

Tour the historic old Jewish neighborhood. Visit the Dohany Synagogue, the largest in Europe, the Jewish Museum, the Weeping Willow Memorial dedicated to the Jews who perished in Holocaust, the Raoul Wallenberg Memorial, and the Kazinczy Synagogue. Afternoon at leisure to explore the city on your own.

*Overnight in Budapest*

Day 5

### BUDAPEST - VIENNA

Transfer from Budapest to Vienna with driver only (about 3.5 hours). Arrive in Vienna and meet your guide for a walking tour. Explore the Old Town and stroll on Graben Strasse and Kärntner Strasse to see the many historical buildings. Visit St. Stephen's Cathedral, one of the most important Gothic structures in Austria and the symbol of Vienna. Visit the catacombs in the Cathedral.

*Overnight in Vienna*

Day 6

### VIENNA

Panoramic sightseeing tour of the major historical sights along the Ringstrasse, which includes the Parliament building, City Hall, the prestigious State Opera House and the majestic Hofburg Imperial Palace. Visit the magnificent Schoenbrunn Palace, with its opulent interior and the Hall of Mirrors where Mozart, at age six, gave a command performance. Walk through the maze in the palace garden and join a professional pastry chef who demonstrates how to prepare a Viennese apple strudel at the Palace's Café. Return to the hotel.

*Overnight in Vienna*

Day 7

### VIENNA - JEWISH HERITAGE TOUR

Walking tour to the Albertinaplatz to see the Holocaust Memorial and the Memorial against War and Fascism. Continue to the Judenplatz Square and visit the Judenplatz Museum. Walk through the Seitenstettengasse in the heart of Vienna's Old Town, passing "Stadttempel" Synagogue (no inside visit). On your own visit Vienna's famous Prater Amusement Park and take a ride on the Giant Ferris Wheel, one of Vienna's landmarks. There are over 200 booths and attractions, including merry-go-rounds, speedy go carts, a House of Mirrors and an ultra modern roller coaster. Austrians love to have fun!

*Overnight in Vienna*

Day 8

### VIENNA / PRAGUE

Transfer to Vienna's train station for a train to Prague. Arrive in Prague and transfer to the hotel. Prague rests on the sloping banks of the Vltava River. Its cobblestone streets, connected by ancient stone bridges, blend with the cosmopolitan atmosphere of the modern city.

*Overnight in Prague*

Day 9

### PRAGUE - OLD TOWN

Walking tour of Jewish Quarter and Old Town. The Jewish Quarter in Prague is the largest preserved complex of synagogues in Europe. Walk through the former Ghetto area, the old Jewish cemetery and the Jewish State Museum, which is a vast network of buildings and synagogues. Visit the Alt-Neu Schul, the oldest functioning synagogue in Europe, the Spanish Synagogue, the Maisel Synagogue, the Pinkus Synagogue, and the Jewish Town Hall with its famous Hebrew clock dating back to the 15<sup>th</sup> century. Leaving the Jewish Quarter behind, you will enter the Old Town with the most beautiful square in Prague. Walk through the Old Town Square where you can admire the Astronomical Clock. After lunch on your own continue to visit Terezin memorial. During World War II, Terezin was a concentration camp. Return to Prague.

*Overnight in Prague*

Day 10

## PRAGUE - CITY TOUR

Tour of Prague Castle, Lesser Town, Kampa Island, John Lennon Wall and Charles Bridge. Drive to Strahov Hill for a beautiful view of the city. Visit Prague Castle, a UNESCO World Heritage site, the Old Royal Palace, St. Vitus Cathedral and Vladislav Hall. On to quaint and picturesque Golden Lane where you will find Franz Kafka's house. Continue through Nerudova Street down the hill to see the Lesser Quarter Square with its dominant St. Nicholas Church. On the way to Charles Bridge spend some time on Kampa Island and see the "John Lennon Peace Wall". The children can leave their fingerprints on the Wall.

*Overnight in Prague*

Day 11

## DEPARTURE

Transfer to Prague Airport for your flight back home.

