



The Ukrainian Jewish Literary Tour

Saints AND Sinners

EXCLUSIVELY FOR YIVO · MAY 21 – MAY 31, 2019

YIVO is inaugurating its first Jewish Literary Tour of Ukraine. Take a walk in the intellectual footsteps of Hasidic masters and Maskilic intellectuals. Experience the rich cultural environment that influenced writers such as Sholem Aleichem, Isaac Babel, Osip Mandelstam, and Mendele Moykher Sforim, among others. Embark on a literary journey in Ukraine examining the high and the low in history, literature and in the lives lived by everyday Jews. Renowned for its legendary Jewish gangsters, Odessa provided both the real thing and literary models. The Hasidism and its Tsadikim of Ukraine are still revered, possibly even more than when they lived. Noted historian Dr. Samuel Kassow and Dr. Eddy Portnoy, Senior Researcher and Director of Exhibitions at YIVO, will guide you on a unique journey of literary and historical discovery.

The tour will be chaired by Irene Pletka, Vice-Chair of the YIVO Board of Directors.

To learn more, please contact Elina Bloch:
(917) 606-8287 / ebloch@yivo.cjh.org

\$5,500 per person, double occupancy
\$960 single supplement



ITINERARY HIGHLIGHTS

DAY 01 TUESDAY MAY 21 ARRIVAL IN KIEV

- Transfers from the airport
- Short program pending arrival times of participants
- Dinner at a local restaurant
- Premier Palace Hotel

DAY 02 WEDNESDAY MAY 22 KIEV

- Breakfast at the hotel
- Full day touring Kiev—home to writers such as Sholem Aleichem, Isaac Babel, Osip Mandelstam as well as to the Kiev group of Soviet writers: Dovid Hofshsteyn, Peretz Markish, Der nister, among others. Tour will include a visit to the Vernadsky Library, which houses the most important collection of Judaica in Ukraine.
- Lunch at a local restaurant during the tour
- Dinner at a local restaurant
- Premier Palace Hotel

DAY 03 THURSDAY MAY 23 KIEV

- Full day excursion to Pereyaslav and Voronko, birthplace and childhood home of Sholem Aleichem
- Lunch at a local restaurant
- Return to Kiev in the late afternoon
- Remainder of the day at leisure
- Premier Palace Hotel

DAY 04 FRIDAY MAY 24 KIEV – ZHYTOMIR – BERDICHEV – VINNITSA

- Breakfast at the hotel
- Transfer to Zhytomir
- Tour Zhytomir, including the former Jewish quarter and its synagogue. Zhytomir had a rich Jewish life and was home to a number of important maskilic figures, among them Hayim Zelig Slonimski and Avrom Ber Gotlober, as well as an important Jewish printing industry.
- Continue to Berdichev, which was both a Hasidic and a maskilic center and the residence of Mendele Moykher Sforim from 1858 to 1869
- Lunch at a local restaurant
- Tour of the former Jewish Quarter and the cemetery, which houses the grave of famed Hasidic Rebbe Levi Yitzchak, known as the Tzadik of Berdichev
- Arrive in Vinnitsa in the late afternoon
- Shabbat Dinner
- France Hotel

DAY 05 SATURDAY MAY 25 VINNITSA – MEDZIBOZH – VINNITSA

- Breakfast at the hotel
- Lectures in the morning
- Lunch
- Optional excursion to Medzibozh and the grave of Israel Ben Eliezer, known as Baal Shem Tov (Besht), the founder of the Hasidism
- Return to Vinnitsa in the late afternoon
- Remainder of the day at leisure
- France Hotel

DAY 06 SUNDAY MAY 26 VINNITSA – BRATSLAV – UMAN – ODESSA

- Breakfast at the hotel
- Depart Vinnitsa
- Stop in Bratslav, the hometown of Reb Nachman of Bratslav (Breslov)
- Continue to Uman for a visit to the grave of Reb Nachman
- Lunch served at a local restaurant
- Continue to Odessa
- Dinner at a local restaurant
- Bristol Hotel

DAY 07 MONDAY MAY 27 ODESSA

- Breakfast at the hotel
- Introduction tour of Odessa
- Lunch at a local restaurant
- Afternoon lectures on Jewish writers and poets of Odessa
- Remainder of the day at leisure
- Bristol Hotel

DAY 08 TUESDAY MAY 28 ODESSA

- Breakfast at the hotel
- Odessa seen from writers' perspectives – Isaac Babel and others
- Lunch at a local restaurant
- Tour continues in the afternoon, including visits to the local JCC and the Jewish orphanage
- Bristol Hotel

DAY 09 WEDNESDAY MAY 29 ODESSA

- Breakfast at the hotel
- Visit to the Odessa Catacombs
- Time at leisure to explore Odessa on your own
- Bristol Hotel

DAY 10 THURSDAY MAY 30 ODESSA – NIKOLAYEV – ODESSA

- Breakfast at the hotel
- Excursion to Nikolayev, birthplace of Menachem Mendel Schneerson
- Lunch at a local restaurant
- Return to Odessa in the afternoon
- Dinner at a local restaurant
- Bristol Hotel

DAY 11 FRIDAY MAY 31 ODESSA – HOME FLIGHTS

- Breakfast at the hotel
- Transfers to the airport
- Check-in for home flights

** Itinerary subject to change.*

*** Dietary restrictions will be accommodated if possible.*

***** Please see visa information on p. 5.**

RATES

\$5,500 per person, double occupancy – includes a \$1,500 per person tax-deductible gift to YIVO*
\$960 single supplement

THE PRICE IS BASED UPON THE FOLLOWING INCLUDED SERVICES:

- All private services throughout the tour
- All transfers on arrival and departure day (May 21 & May 31)
- Full time Tour Director (Dariusz Kuzniar)
- Full time Ukrainian Guide
- Deluxe hotel accommodation in Kiev and Odessa
- First Class Hotel accommodation in Vinnitsa
- Full Breakfast Buffet daily at the hotels
- 7 lunches including special picnic lunches with wine
- 5 Dinners. All dinners will include cover charge, water and coffee/tea. Alcoholic beverages are not included.
- Entrance fees
- All taxes and fees
- Tips (except to drivers, guides, and Tour Director)

NOT INCLUDED SERVICES:

- Flights
- Transfers on other days than the announced arrival and departure dates
- Pre- or post-tour hotels or other arrangements
- Meals not mentioned
- Services not mentioned
- Tips to Guides and Drivers
- Travel insurance
- All expenses of personal nature
- Visa for Ukraine if traveling with non-US passport (for some countries)

DEPOSIT

A deposit of \$600 per traveler is required at the time of signing up for the tour.

PAYMENT

To sign up for the tour, each traveler must complete a reservation form and include the \$600 per person deposit. Upon receipt of the reservation, YIVO will issue an invoice. The deposit is fully refundable until January 15th. The balance is payable in equal installments; the first installment is due no later than February 1st, and the second and final installment no later than February 15th.

** Upon receipt of the final payment, YIVO will provide a letter indicating your tax-deductible contribution.*

CANCELLATION AND REFUND

Cancellation after January 1st will result in forfeiture of your deposit. Cancellation after February 21st will result in the forfeiture of the full trip price.

CHANGES

Participants requiring individual travel arrangements in conjunction with this tour must announce this as early as possible. Individual arrangements can be made pre or post the tour. For any change made 90 days or less prior to the tour, a service fee of \$100 per person will be charged by the travel agency. All expenses involved with individual travel arrangements will be carried by the individual traveler.

MEALS

Breakfasts are served buffet-style at the hotels. Other meals are served at restaurants or at the hotels, and are based upon set menus according to local traditions. However, options are provided for travelers requiring special meals such as a vegetarian or fish option. Lunches will be based upon single course or as lunch boxes. Dinners will include a cover charge for bread, water, a soft drink, coffee or tea is included. Alcoholic beverages are not included.



TRAVEL

AIRPORT TRANSFERS

Momentum Tours & Travel offers complimentary transfers on the listed arrival and departure dates. These are May 21 and May 31. For pre-tour arrivals or post-tour departures, individual transfers can be arranged and must be paid by the individual travelers.

TRAVEL PROTECTION PLAN

Most travel insurance providers waive pre-existing conditions when a plan is purchased within 14 days of deposit being paid.

We strongly recommend that each traveler buy a Travel Protection Plan. Momentum Tours & Travel sells travel insurance on behalf of Travel Guard. However, participants may buy any Travel insurance, or choose no insurance at all. Please note that travel insurance providers have different rules regarding coverage and how pre-existing conditions can be waived. It is up to the individual traveler to obtain the rules for all policies.

PASSPORT AND VISA

A visa to Ukraine might be required for this departure. Traveler's from the USA, Canada and Israel do not require a visa. However, travelers from other nations may require a visa – such as Australia. Please ask if in doubt. In addition, each traveler must possess a valid passport. The passport must be valid for at least 6 months after the tour has been completed. For travelers not carrying a US, Canada or Israel passport, we recommend they check if a visa is required for travel to Ukraine.

DISCLAIMER

Momentum Tours & Travel, Inc. (hereinafter "Tour Operator") and/or its representatives shall act only as independent contractors for various and independent suppliers of services in connection with its tours in making arrangements for accommodation, transport, meals, or any other service, and does not assume any liability whatsoever for any injury, inconvenience, expense, damage or loss of property, death, cancellation, change in itinerary, accident, irregularity or delay due to an act of negligence of, or default of, any hotel, carrier, motor coach company, restaurant, company or person rendering any of the services included in the tour, or by an act of God. Further, the Tour Operator is not responsible for any damage or delay due to sickness, pilferage, labor disputes, machinery breakdown, quarantine, government restraints, weather or any other causes. No responsibility shall be incurred for any additional expense, omissions, delays, re-routing or other acts of any government or other authority. The airline, steamship and railroad companies concerned are not responsible for any act, omission, or event, during the time passengers are not on board their planes or conveyances. The passenger contract issued by the airlines, steamship and railroad companies, when issued, shall constitute the sole contract between such companies, and the purchaser of these tours and/or passengers. All baggage is at the owner's risk throughout the tours, and the Tour Operator is not responsible for loss, theft or damage to baggage. The right is reserved to withdraw any tour listed herein, and/or to make such changes in the tour as may be found desirable for the convenience, comfort and/or welfare of the parties and the proper carrying out of the tour, without any penalty to the Tour Operator. Additional expenses, if any, will be borne by the passenger. In certain circumstances, it may be necessary to revise the routing of the itinerary. If due to such circumstances a change becomes necessary in the sole opinion of the Tour Operator, hotels substituted shall be of the same quality as those listed in the itinerary. The Tour Operator assumes no financial liability for any resulting losses, expenses, or inconvenience. No refunds will be made for portions of transport, tours, rooms, or meals, and no credit can be allowed for unused accommodation. The tour cost will be refunded, however, if the entire tour is cancelled by the Tour Operator prior to the published departure date. Unless otherwise noted, all prices are per person, based on two persons sharing a cabin or hotel room. Prices are based on rates in effect (including foreign exchange rates) at the time of printing and are thus subject to increase or decrease without notice. The Tour Operator is not responsible for any typographical errors and/or other inadvertently written errors.
