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## Private Jewish Tour in Portugal with Rabbi Elyse Goldstein

October 20 – 27, 2025

Price per person:

\$5250 CAD + HST

in double occupancy

(Singles available, add'l \$)

Prices are **without** int'l flights

Itinerary subject to change due to local conditions



MOMENTUM Tours & Travel

In collaboration with [Far And Wide by Amy: The World Your Way](#)  
(Amy Basseches, City Shul Member, Travel Advisor)

## **DAY 1 MONDAY OCTOBER 20, ARRIVAL IN PORTO**

- If flying into Porto (OPO), there will be one private group transfer to the hotel. Luggage can be stored there if room check in is not immediately available. NOTE: If you'd like to fly into Lisbon (LIS) the day before (arriving Sunday October 19), we can arrange (at added cost) one private group transfer from Lisbon airport to Porto, and an extra night at the Porto hotel.
- Touring in Porto in the afternoon:
  - Walking tour in the old quarter or Baixa, declared a World Heritage Site by UNESCO in 1996.
  - Descend to the Ribeira area, with its beautifully restored stone quays.
  - Porto was well known among the Jewish traders during the Middle Ages, and its Jewish Quarter remains today: "Rua Monte Judeus" and "Escadas da Esnoga" ("Street of the Jewish Hill" and "Stairway to the Synagogue").
  - Panoramic view of Dona Maria Bridge (designed by Gustave Eiffel).
- Meals: Breakfast on your own. Lunch on your own. Group Welcome Dinner (included).
- [Portobay Teatro Hotel](#) (4 Star).

## **DAY 2 TUESDAY OCTOBER 21, PORTO**

- Touring in Porto:
  - Visit the Makor Haim Synagogue ("Source of Life"). With help from abroad in the early 20th Century, this was the first synagogue built for native Portuguese Jews in over 400 years. Captain Barros Bastos, also known as "Ben Rosh," pushed the construction to assist Crypto-Jews returning to the open practice of Judaism.
  - Bolhão market, which has been recently restored, offers a glimpse of the local life and selected shops.
  - Santa Catarina pedestrian street, Clérigo tower, the Stock Exchange Palace, São Bento Station with beautiful tiles, and the iconic Lello bookshop.
- Enjoy a guided visit at Sandeman Port wine lodge, followed by a Port wine tasting (included).
- Meals: Breakfast at hotel (included). Lunch on your own. Dinner on your own.
- Portobay Teatro Hotel (4 Star).

## **DAY 3 WEDNESDAY OCTOBER 22, PORTO - DOURO VALLEY - TRANCOSO - BELMONTE**

- Private transfer to Douro Valley winery for wine pairing and lunch (at [Quinta do Panascal](#)).
  - This wine Estate is nestled in a dramatic valley, and it has been considered as the best terroir to produce Port wines.
- Private transfer to Trancoso.

- Touring in Trancoso:
  - Trancoso is a well-preserved sample of a Portuguese walled town. Its prosperous Jewish presence dates to the 1100s.
  - Jewish and “New Christian” legacy still lives in written documents, local traditions, and buildings such as the Gato Preto House, or Poço do Mestre (Master’s Well).
  - Trancoso has honored its heritage with the establishment of the Isaac Cardoso Centre for Jewish Interpretation, along with a new synagogue called Beit Mayim Hayim – “House of Living Waters.” A mezuzah has been affixed – the first in centuries!
- Private transfer to Belmonte.
- Meals: Breakfast at hotel (included). Lunch at winery (included). Dinner on your own.
- [Pousada Belmonte](#) (4 Star).

#### **DAY 4 THURSDAY OCTOBER 23, BELMONTE – LISBON**

- Touring in Belmonte.
  - Belmonte stands out for the beauty of its landscapes and its strategic position. Belmonte also welcomed other cultures, and its Jewish community has survived over centuries, preserving rites, prayers, and continuing to marry only among themselves.
  - In 1989, the community was officially recognized, and, in 1996, inaugurated the synagogue “Beit Eliahu” (Elijah’s House).
  - The Jewish Cemetery was restored in 2001, and, in 2005, the Jewish Museum opened, highlighting the Sephardic presence in Portugal, including a memorial of the Inquisition.
  - Throughout the old Jewish Quarter, we can observe small houses with engraved crosses – a protective pretense by Jewish people to escape persecution.
- Private transfer to Lisbon, and visit Shaare Tikvah Synagogue.
- Meals: Breakfast at hotel (included). Lunch on your own. Dinner on your own.
- [Lisboa Plaza Hotel](#) (4 Star).

#### **DAY 5 FRIDAY OCTOBER 24, LISBON – SINTRA – CASCAIS - ESTORIL – LISBON**

- Private excursion to Sintra, Cascais, Estoril:
  - Sintra, a World Heritage Site used as a retreat by the Romans, the Moors, and Portuguese Kings, all reveling in its location, beauty, ravines, and springs.
  - The former Jewish Quarter, where Jews lived and mixed at the Court before the forced conversions of 1497, is still visible.
  - Visit the impressive National Royal Palace.
  - Later, continue to the Cascais, a beach resort area beloved by Lisbon’s Jewish community.
  - See the town of Estoril which, during the Holocaust, sheltered Jewish refugees.
- Meals: Breakfast at hotel (included). Lunch on your own. Group Shabbat

- Dinner (included).
- 7 pm Shabbat services at [Ohel Jacob Synagogue](#) (Reform).
- Lisboa Plaza Hotel (4 Star).

## **DAY 6 SATURDAY OCTOBER 25, LISBON**

- Touring in Lisbon:
  - The Era of the Discoveries will be the theme in the area known as Belém. Here you find the most significant monuments of Manueline art in Portugal: The Jerónimos Monastery and the Torre de Belém – two early 16th Century monuments classified as UNESCO World Heritage Sites.
  - View the Padrão dos Descobrimentos, celebrating the adventurers who took part in the Golden Age of Discovery.
  - Head to St. Jorge Castle where you can admire the magnificent city view, the Tagus River, and the places where the “Judaria Grande” and “Judaria Pequena” formed in the 13th century near what is today Praça do Comércio. This entire area was totally destroyed by the 1775 earthquake.
  - Continue downhill to Porta do Sol, descending through Alfama, Lisbon’s oldest area, to the “Rua da Judiaria,” the old Jewish Quarter, with its narrow, cobbled streets.
  - Stand in the Rossio, where the dreaded “Autos De-Fés” occurred and which is now the place of a Memorial.
- Meals: Breakfast at hotel (included). Group Shabbat Lunch (included). Dinner on your own.
- Lisboa Plaza Hotel (4 Star)

## **DAY 7 SUNDAY OCTOBER 26, LISBON – EVORA – LISBON**

- Private excursion to Evora:
  - Journey to Alentejo, a large territory which includes Evora, just to the south of Lisbon. Enjoy a unique day across the most fascinating, well-preserved region of Portugal, with a heritage enriched by a variety of cultures and landscapes.
  - Évora itself, an ancient city of narrow streets, unforgettable monuments and white, sun-washed houses, has been a UNESCO World Heritage site since 1986. This city prospered in the late Middle Ages.
  - It was here that one of the largest Jewish communities existed up to the 15th century, and several houses still bear traces of the old Mezuzah.
  - The Judiaria had two synagogues, a hospital, a Midrash, baths, and lively commerce.
- Private transfer to Lisbon for Fado Show at “Embaixada.”
  - Enjoy a Fado concert in a neo-Arab palace in Príncipe Rea; the concert is in the central atrium of a mansion that combines Fado tradition with the trendy life of this neighborhood (included).
- Meals: Breakfast at hotel (included). Lunch on your own. Group Farewell Dinner (included).
- Lisboa Plaza Hotel (4 Star)

## DAY 8 MONDAY OCTOBER 27, LISBON – HOME

- Breakfast at the hotel.
- Departure: One private group transfer to the Lisbon airport.

NOTE: For those wanting trip extensions to see other parts of Portugal, these are areas that also have Jewish history and sites, mostly in the Eastern side of the country, closer to Spain. (<https://maps.app.goo.gl/5E5meG6puLCzpFf7>)

- Vilar Formoso
- Sabugal
- Covilhã
- Castelo de Vide
- Marvão
- Additionally, Tomar and Coimbra have Jewish history and sites, and are not too far from other places we will be touring, but we will not visit. Not enough time for everything!

Here are more great locations in Portugal to consider visiting as an extension to this trip:

- The Algarve in the South
- Obidos
- Aveiro
- Braga
- The island of Madeira
- The Azorean archipelago (9 islands)

If you are excited to join Rabbi Goldstein in Portugal,  
contact [amy@farandwidebyamy.com](mailto:amy@farandwidebyamy.com) to sign up!  
\$500 CAD pp deposit required, refundable until April 20, 2025.