



Frequently Asked Questions

Young Professionals Trip – March of the Living – April 16/17 - April 23, 2023

1. What is the March of the Living program and who participates in this experience?

The March of the Living is part of the single largest Jewish educational program for teens, young professionals, and adults in the world. MOTL typically brings together individuals from 52 countries and regions around the world including Israel, Morocco, India, Australia, Argentina, Brazil, Panama, Mexico, the United States, Japan, South Korea, South Africa, France, Belgium, the United Kingdom, and Hungary. Thousands of people from all over the world travel to Poland for the week surrounding Yom HaShoah, Holocaust Memorial Day. The trip allows participants to learn about the Jewish community that once thrived in Poland, to honor the millions of Jews who were murdered, and to witness the resurgence of Jewish culture and life that is taking place in Poland today.

2. What are the dates for the 2023 Sinai Temple Young Professionals trip to Poland?

The program will officially begin in Krakow, Poland on Monday morning, April 17, 2023. Please note the price includes accommodation only for the nights of April 15th and April 16th at the hotel in Krakow prior to the official start of the program. On Sunday morning, April 16th there will be an optional walking tour of Krakow and gathering at the JCC in Krakow. The program will conclude in Warsaw, Poland and participants should plan to depart on the morning Sunday, April 23, 2023. The actual March of the Living walk from Auschwitz to Birkenau will take place Tuesday, April 18th.

3. What is the cost of the trip?

The cost of the trip is \$3000 based on double occupancy. The hotels in Poland charge a single supplement. This price will include all hotels, museum and site entrance fees, guides, ground transportation in Poland and some meals. This does not include flights.

4. Do I have to be a member of Sinai Temple to apply for the trip?

No, you do not have to be a member to apply for the trip. You must be a Jewish young professional age 21-39.

5. What COVID-19 precautions and requirements are in place for the 2022 March of the Living?

The International March of the Living will comply with any governmental regulations determined by Poland. They are working with appropriate individuals in the health field to ensure that we will maintain the highest level of precaution and adjust whenever necessary.

6. What flights should we take? Will you be coordinating flights for all participants?

There will be no coordination for flights. **Our itinerary officially begins in Krakow, Poland on Monday, April 17, 2023, at 8 AM.** The price will include accommodation only on Saturday, April 15th and Sunday, April 16th prior to the official start of the program. We will be offering an optional walking tour of Krakow and meeting at the JCC in Krakow on Sunday, April 16th.

Our itinerary officially ends on Sunday morning, April 23, 2023. **Participants should arrange return flights for Sunday, April 23, 2023 from Warsaw.**

FYI: Please check LOT Airlines- the official airlines of Poland as they have direct flights between Los Angeles and Warsaw.

7. Are meals included in the price? Will you be organizing all meals?

Breakfast is included every day of the trip beginning Monday, April 17th at no additional cost to participants. Participants will have the option of preparing a to-go lunch for yourself with appropriate food options that will be available at a special table that will be set up during breakfast. Dinner will be included for 3 nights. There will be flexibility and free time for dinner for the rest of the nights.

8. Will the meals that are included in the trip be Kosher and does the program allow for Shabbat observance?

Provided meals will be Kosher, vegetarian, or pescatarian. The International March of the Living follows the highest level of religious observance. There is no driving from Friday evening until Sunday morning allowing for those individuals who would like to attend synagogue and observe Shabbat to do so in a very comfortable and accepting environment.

9. Can I pick my roommate for the trip?

Rooms will be double occupancy and we will do our best to accommodate your request.

10. How will we be getting around Poland?

We have chartered a private bus for our group for the duration of our trip.

11. Are there additional costs that are not included in the price?

Should you decide to arrive in Poland earlier than April 15th, you will be responsible for all costs incurred (e.g. food, accommodations). Accommodations only are included for April 15th and 16th with the option to participate in a walking tour of Krakow and a meeting at the JCC in Krakow on Sunday, April 16th. From Monday morning, April 17th, all breakfasts will be included. Three dinners will be included, but participants will be responsible for their own meals the other nights. Participants will have the option to make their own lunch with food options set up at a special table during breakfast or they can purchase their own lunch at a local market the night before our activities. There is an additional cost for single supplement imposed by the hotels in Poland.

12. Should we be concerned about security?

Security and safety are a top priority for the March of the Living. All delegations travel with at least one-armed security guard per bus, and all site visits are checked and 'cleared' by security in the mornings and before groups arrive. March of the Living works with the highest levels of law enforcement in Poland to ensure the safety of all visiting participants.

13. Most importantly, where do I sign up!

Visit <https://member.sinaitemple.org/motlyp>. Please be sure to follow ALL instructions noted on the form. Your application will not be considered complete until the initial payment of \$1500 has been paid.

14. Who is subsidizing Sinai Temple's Young Professionals Delegation?

A quick note about our generous benefactors. Our Young Professionals trip is being subsidized by the SUZANNA COHEN Z" L MARCH OF THE LIVING FUND. The fund is named for Suzanna Cohen, a teenager left Poland with her mother at the beginning of World War II and embarked on a 6,000-mile journey to Iran, where she married, raised her children, and immersed herself in Persian culture before immigrating to the United States.

15. Should I purchase trip protection/cancellation insurance?

The International March of the Living does not provide this type of insurance; however, **it is strongly recommended** that you purchase a travel insurance policy that includes both medical and emergency evacuation coverage. A list of travel insurance companies that previous participants have utilized will be shared with all registered participants so that each individual can find the best policy for their needs and travel arrangements. The March of the Living strongly encourages adding on Cancel for Any Reason policy, although it is not mandatory. Please note if you do purchase Cancel for Any Reason Insurance, you must do so within 21 days of first payment for any aspect of the program.

16. Does the March of the Living provide Health Insurance?

March of the Living **does not** provide health insurance. All participants must have health insurance in place to cover both emergency and/or routine medical services overseas. If your health insurance does not cover routine and emergency medical services that happen abroad, you must purchase a short-term supplemental travel health insurance policy that will cover the entire duration of the trip.

17. Is the cost of participating in the March of the Living considered tax deductible?

March of the Living is not a tax-deductible item because the trip is involved in an exchange of goods and services.

18. Do you need a visa to enter Poland?

U.S. citizens do not need a visa to enter Poland. If you are a citizen of another country, please check with your local Polish consulate to see if a visa is required for entrance.

19. If I have additional questions or concerns, whom should I contact?

For specific questions about Sinai Temple's Young Professionals trip to Poland, please contact:

David Ravanshenas at davidravanshenas@gmail.com

Parisa Roshan at parisa.roshan@gmail.com

General information can be found on the International March of the Living site <https://motl.org/>.