

## **Summary of our travel itinerary**

### **Capetown Virtual Tour – March 6th**

Craig is originally from Johannesburg, but after meeting his now wife at Limmud in the UK in 2011, he followed her to Cape Town, where he's been living for 8 years. The Cape Town Jewish community has been thriving since 1841, when the community was formed on Erev Yom Kippur. Jews have always been part of the activist community in South Africa. From the beginning of Communism in the early 20th century to being major players in the struggle against apartheid, and being social entrepreneurs for social justice for all peoples in South Africa. See you in February!

### **Iran Virtual Tour – March 13th (Just before Purim!)**

Tabby is a Los Angeles-based writer and Jewish community leader. She was born in Tehran, the capital of Iran, in the 1980s, several years after the Iranian Revolution, which radically changed the country from a secular, western state with a population of 100,000 Jews, into an oppressive, Islamic theocracy that is now the world's leading state-sponsor of terrorism. Today, the Jews of Iran (which are estimated to be between 5,000 – 8,000) people, while permitted to practice Jewish rituals and attend their synagogues, face tremendous oppression and scrutiny, particularly when they are accused of being Zionists (a crime punishable by death in post-revolutionary Iran). And yet, their vibrant history, inspiring love for Judaism, and famous liveliness (not to mention their fantastic tradition of beating one another with green onions during Passover) renders them one of the most beloved and ancient Jewish communities in the world.

### **Mexico City Virtual Tour – March 20th**

Monica found her passion in the streets of historic Mexico City, where Jewish immigrants arrived and lived around a century ago. She has dedicated nearly half of her life to walk around those streets, narrating the testimonies and the stories of Jewish immigrants in the form of guided tours. She has also studied and published about the synagogues in Mexico, and participated in the revitalization of an abandoned synagogue which today she runs as a cultural center, named Nidje Israel, and now known as the Historic Synagogue opened in 2010, and since then it has served as an open space for all sorts of Jewish cultural activities and all kinds of people.

### **Buenos Aires Virtual Tour – March 27th**

Argentina is the largest Jewish community in Latin America! The Jewish presence in Buenos Aires is massive and vibrant, hosting social clubs, day schools, and synagogues, and fostering a deep commitment to Zionism. Jessica was born in this city and is a professional Jewish tour guide specialized in all aspects of the past and present Jewish life in Argentina. In May of 2020 she started producing Zoom sessions to continue communicating the many different stories about Jewish Argentina. In our session we will start from the beginning and learn about life in the city but also how our community settled in the Jewish agricultural colonies and how our Jewish farmers became the Jewish Gauchos. We invite you to explore Argentina's Jewish stories together, about the Jewish life and history from this southern part of the world!

### **Prague Virtual Tour – April 3rd**

Lucie has followed her passion and since 1997 has been working as a guide and as a tour agent with her family business named Lucytours. She is a licensed guide in the Czech Republic as well as in the Prague Jewish Museum. Although Prague Jewish Quarter was modernized in the beginning of the twentieth century, it is unique in Europe and it belongs to the main highlights of the city. We will learn about the history and the present life of Czech Jewish Community. Our tour will begin at the Spanish Synagogue a beautiful temple built in the Moorish style and we will finish at the famous Prague Astronomical Clock.

### **Recife Brasil Virtual Tour – April 10th**

Born and raised in Recife, Brazil, Marcos is from an Ashkenazi family. He is a Jewish educator in the youth movement Habonim Dror. Marcos is also a Jewish studies teacher in his community's elementary school. He organizes cultural events for Jewish youth and the wider local society for an organization called Zehut and also, he works as the coordinator of Judaic Tourism in Recife spreading the enormous heritage that has his city. He cannot wait to take you on a virtual tour of this historic Brazilian city!

### **Morocco Virtual Tour – May 1st**

Morocco is home to one of the oldest Jewish communities in the Diaspora. This 2,000-year-old Judeo-Moroccan heritage is the result of an intersection between various civilizations and traditions including: Amazigh (commonly known as Berber), Andalusian, and Arab influences. Born and raised in Morocco, Yona is currently based in Israel. He is a joint PhD student at Ben Gurion University of the Negev in the Middle East Studies Department (Israel), and Sciences Po Bordeaux at Centre Émile Durkheim for Political Science and Comparative Sociology (France). As a documentary filmmaker, Yona's films explore Moroccan and Sephardic Jewry and highlight the dynamics of Muslim-Jewish relations.

### **Shanghai Virtual Tour – May 15th**

Yael is originally from Israel and has been living in Shanghai since 2010. We have 5 different Jewish communities in Shanghai, an obvious for a population of about 1500 Jews in total in a 25 million person city. The active synagogues are not formally recognized as Judaism isn't a recognized religion in China. That being said, the community in its variety of forms has existed for about 20 years now. Shanghai has a long local historical connection though China has an even longer Jewish history spanning all the way back to the 10th century. Can't wait to share the past, present and future of China's Jewish history with all of you!

### **Krakow Virtual Tour – May 22nd**

Anna Maria is a licensed tour guide in Kraków with over 7 years of experience in providing meaningful tours for international visitors to Poland. In her work as a tour guide, she specializes in the Jewish history of Poland and Polish - Jewish relations. During her virtual tour, Anna Maria will take you on a journey through the best-preserved Jewish Quarter in Europe with its old Jewish cemetery and pre-war synagogues. Kazimierz (the Jewish District) was the centre of Jewish life in Krakow for over 500 years until World War II. Rediscovered in the 1990s thanks to Steven Spielberg's Schindler's List and Jewish Culture Festival Kazimierz has become a popular tourist destination for visitors from Poland and abroad. Nowadays Kazimierz is a home to the growing Jewish community, local artists and students and everyone who decides to visit this amazing place.

### **Barcelona Virtual Tour – May 29th**

Discover the story of Jews in Barcelona through the most important chapters from the IX century to today! We'll not only walk through the fascinating history of this important Medieval Jewish community, important figures and Jewish life at the time, but discover the return of Jews to Sepharad, glimpse the Spanish Civil war and Jewish involvement, and get insight into the development of Barcelona's modern Jewish communities. This tour will be lead by Victor and Eva - two members of the Jewish cultural platform, Mozaika, based in Barcelona.