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2023: Past, Present, & Future

October 16 – November 1, 2023

JEWISH LIFE IN VENETO AND FRIULI-VENEZIA-GIULIA

Monday October 16 – Monday October 23, 2023

Led by **Professor Shalom Sabar**, The Hebrew University of Jerusalem

Jewish life in Italy was concentrated in the southern part of the Italian Peninsula and in Sicily until late in the Middle Ages. North of Rome Jewish life was practically non-existent until the 14th century. A major factor for the settlement of the Jews in northern Italy, including the Veneto area, was the Jews' ability to provide credit to the general population. A later factor was the deterioration of the conditions in the south.

The beginnings of the Jewish communities in the Veneto area were due to the *condotte* granted to rich Jews to settle there on condition they provided credit to the population. The new conditions attracted Jews of different backgrounds: Italian, Apulian, German, French, Spanish, Portuguese and Levantine. This variety of backgrounds is reflected in the unique communal system that developed whereby side by side there existed different congregations that were independent, with their distinct traditions and rituals.

In the communities in the Veneto area there developed a very rich Jewish culture with rabbinic scholarship that reached a very high level of expertise and sophistication and at the same time an exciting and fascinating involvement in the Renaissance cultural efflorescence. The result was a unique type of Jewish culture that enriched immensely the Jewish cultural legacy.

In order to meet your transfer at the Maro Polo Airport to Abano, may we suggest booking Air Canada Flight #816 leaving Toronto October 15, 2023 at 7:30 p.m. arriving October 16, 2023 in Venice at 10.00 a.m. This is the only non-stop flight from Toronto to Venice.

DAY 1 – VENICE – ABANO (D)

MONDAY, OCTOBER 16

- Arrival, welcome by our local representative in Venice and transfer from the Marco Polo airport to the Grand Hotel Abano, a town very close to Padua.
- Check-in at your hotel.
- Rest of the day at leisure.
- **6:30 p.m. Orientation** in the hotel
- Dinner as a group at the hotel
- Overnight: Grand Hotel Abano

Day 2 – ABANO (B)

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 17

- Breakfast at the Hotel
- **8:30 a.m. Lecture**
- Tour Padua, a city with a wealth of art and treasures with many piazzas and arcaded streets and famous for one of Italy's oldest universities.
- Visit the ghetto, near Piazza delle Erbe, which has preserved much of its original appearance. Proceed to the Italian-rite synagogue and the remains of the Sephardi synagogue. There were seven cemeteries in Padua. We will visit one that was established in 1862 and another if time permits. Visit the Cappella Scrovegni in Padua, a masterpiece in the history of painting in Italy containing the most complete series of extraordinary frescoes made by Giotto.
- Return to Abano and your hotel.
- Rest of the day and evening at leisure.
- Overnight: Grand Hotel Abano

DAY 3 – ABANO - (B)

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 18

- Breakfast at the hotel
- **8:30 a.m. Lecture**
- Travel to **Bassano** to visit the Jewish Ghetto. Continue to **Conegliano** to visit the site of the synagogue and the Jewish cemetery. Travel to **Vittorio Veneto** to visit the ghetto from the first half of the 18th century.
- Return to Abano and your hotel.
- Rest of the day and evening at leisure.
- Overnight: Grand Hotel Abano

DAY 4 – ABANO – VENICE (B)

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 19

- Breakfast at hotel
- Today we depart towards Venice
- Arrival in Venice and board a water taxi to your hotel (8 pax/taxi)
- Luggage will be carried separately to the hotel
- Check-in at your hotel
- Venice is renowned for the beauty of its setting, its architecture and its artworks among 150 canals and 409 bridges.

- Afternoon, visit the ghetto, sit the ghetto, the first in Italy, to be followed in all cities. It consists of three different ones: the first was the Ghetto Novo where the Italian and the Ashkenazi Jews had to settle; then in 1541 the Ghetto Vecchio was allocated to the Levantine Jews; the last was Ghetto Nuovissimo where wealthy Sephardi Jews lived. Our visit of the Jewish Museum will be followed by visits of some of the synagogues in the ghetto: The Tedescan (Ashkenazi) synagogue founded in 1528, the Canton synagogue (1531), the Spanish (1550), the Italian (1575), the Levantine synagogue (late 16th century).
- Rest of the day and evening at leisure.
- Overnight: Hotel Palazzo Giovanelli

DAY 5 - VENICE (B)(D)

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 20

- Breakfast at the hotel
- **8:30 am: Lecture**
- Today, after breakfast, visit the Lido cemetery which dates back to 1386. The oldest gravestone is from 1389. In the cemetery there are many crests of rich families. It has been overhauled several times over the centuries, mainly due to expropriation, during which many tombstones were lost.
- Rest of the day at leisure.
- Services in the synagogue followed by a kosher shabbat dinner
- Overnight: Hotel Palazzo Giovanelli

DAY 6 – VENICE (B) (L)

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 21

- Breakfast at the hotel.
- Optional Services in the synagogue.
- Short panoramic walking tour of Venice.
- This tour is balanced to offer a full view of Venice: apart from St Mark's square and the Ducal palace, it includes areas of the city where every day's life takes place, far from the hustle and bustle.
- Venice was for centuries the center of a mighty republic, shaped by the power of its rulers, the Dogi, and by its ties with Far and Middle East. St Mark's was the center and the symbol of all this, as, around the square, were concentrated the main buildings of the city, like the Procuratie, St Mark's Basilica and the bell tower.
- Walk to the restaurant for Shabbath Lunch at a Kosher Restaurant.

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- Evening at leisure.
- Overnight: Hotel Palazzo Giovanelli.

DAY 7 – VENICE (B)

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 22

- Breakfast at the hotel.
- Today, depart towards Ravenna to discover its Jewish history.
- Cividale del Friuli, one of the most picturesque towns in the region with its small medieval center. Tour the Giudaica, the Jewish quarter where Jews began to settle in the 13th century. In Porta San Pietro we find a Hebrew inscription from 1465. Visit the Museo Archeologico Nazionale set in a beautiful palace which gives great insight to the Lombard civilization.
- Return to Venice and your hotel. Evening at leisure.
- Overnight: Hotel Palazzo Giovanelli.

DAY 8 – VENICE – TEL AVIV (B)(D)

MONDAY, OCTOBER 23

- Breakfast at the hotel.
- Transfer by water taxi to the airport.
- Luggage will be carried separately to the airport.
- Assistance throughout.
- Check-in for your flight to TEL AVIV (not included).
- **Flight to book: El Al Airlines, Flight #290 departing Venice at 9:55 a.m., arriving in Tel Aviv at 2:20 p.m.**
- Arrival in Tel Aviv – Ben Gurion Airport
- Welcome by our local representative and transfer to your hotel in Galilee.
- Rest of day at leisure.
- Dinner at hotel.
- Overnight: Kfar Giladi

For those who have not travelled with us before, please be assured that the Israel portion of this trip, although the program is not finalized, will be interesting, varied and geared to a moderate pace.

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For all information regarding Canadian Friends of the Hebrew University please contact:

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IMPORTANT Israeli passport holders will be required for additional vat charge (17%) – in accordance with the law.

THE CUSTOMER WAS ADVISED TO CONSIDER THE AVAILABILITY OF TRIP CANCELLATION INSURANCE AND OUT OF PROVINCE/OUT OF COUNTRY EMERGENCY HOSPITAL/MEDICAL INSURANCE.

Link for the latest Israel Travel Rules and Guidelines:

WWW.TOURISTISRAEL.COM/WHEN-WILL-TRAVEL-TO-ISRAEL-RESUME/31963/

The Italy package **includes**:

- Transfers Airport – Hotel – Airport
- Water taxis (8 persons per taxi) in Venice to reach the hotel or the airport
- Separate transportation of luggage in Venice
- Hotel Porterage
- Hotel taxes and service charges
- English speaking assistance at the airport and during touring (as per itinerary)
- Hotel accommodation as specified above
- Breakfast daily at the hotels
- Dinner at the hotel in Abano (the first night)
- Shabbat Dinner & Lunch in Venice
- Bottle of water aboard the buses while touring
- Whispers while touring.

The Italy package **excludes** the following:

- International airfare to Italy and from Israel
- Early check in or late check out at the hotels
- Additional excursions and meals other than those indicated
- Drinks during meals
- Telephone call, laundry, and other items of a personal nature
- Any travel insurance

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Documentation:

Canadian passport holders are required to present a valid passport with an expiry date of **6 MONTHS OR MORE FROM YOUR RETURN DATE**. Nationals of other countries should contact Uniworld Travel & Tours Inc. for their documentation requirements. All permanent residents – landed immigrants to Canada must have the new wallet sized permanent resident card in order to re-enter Canada.

It is the passenger(s)' responsibility to obtain, at the passenger(s)' own expense, all documentation required for his/her travel. In the event the passenger does not possess the documentation required by the chosen destination, be aware that the carrier(s) reserve(s) the right to refuse the passenger(s) and no refund for unused portion(s) of the arrangements will be allowed.