

# JDC on Wheels

## Cycling Mission to Hungary & Romania

June 30 – July 5, 2019

*As of March 1, 2019 – Subject to change*



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***JDC is the world's leading Jewish humanitarian organization, assisting and empowering Jewish communities around the globe. Traveling with JDC offers a rare window into corners of global Jewish life that often go unseen. Our Ambassadors missions bring together a diverse mix of supporters and philanthropists from across North America to experience JDC's extraordinary work, and be a part of the future of global Jewish life.***

*Join us this June for a VIP cycling tour of Eastern Europe's dynamic and resilient Jewish communities. This trip will take its participants on picturesque countryside routes to witness the miracle of Jewish renewal across Hungary and Romania, where JDC works with local partners to provide social services to the neediest, and build vibrant Jewish community.*

*Our tour has options for relaxed days and additional challenging rides. The trip will accommodate veteran and novice cyclists alike, with SAG vehicle support at all times. On the road, participants will be joined by local Hungarian and Romanian cycling staff, guides and facilitators.*

*Along the way, guests will enjoy the unique culture and cuisine of the region. Our team of professionals will provide a cycling and Jewish travel experience including meetings with local leaders and sharing in the rich Jewish life of their communities. Working with [Kenes Tours](#), an Israel-based travel company, we have created a unique opportunity to explore Hungary and Romania by bicycle. Kenes Tours is experienced in worldwide cycling trips and events including the Hazon-Arava Institute's Israel Ride, Italy's 2018 Giro d'Italia and other VIP rides around Europe.*

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*Please note: The annual Ride for the Living in Krakow, Poland will take place immediately before this mission, on June 27-30, 2019. Ride for the Living is a meaningful opportunity to immerse yourself in Krakow's Jewish past, present, and future, including the annual Jewish Culture Festival, and exploring Krakow's beautiful medieval architecture. The Ride includes a private guided tour of Auschwitz, tours of Krakow, and participation in Shabbat dinner at JCC Krakow.*

*You are welcome to take part in the Krakow ride and then continue on to Budapest to meet JDC on Wheels. JDC will not be handling arrangements for the Ride of the Living. For more information, please visit: <https://ridefortheliving.org>*





### Sunday June 30, 2019

Arrive at your convenience – if arriving from Krakow, we recommend traveling to Budapest Sunday morning, as there is no direct flight on Saturday afternoon/evening.

*\*Suggested flights appear on the last page of the itinerary*

- Bike Set Up
- Optional Bike Tour to Szentendre (14 miles)
- Lunch will be provided to all participants
- Welcome Dinner and Opening at JCC Budapest Bálint Ház  
*The JDC-supported JCC Budapest is at the forefront of rebuilding Hungarian Jewish life. A dynamic venue for people of all ages, the JCC emphasizes pluralism and diversity, fosters resilience and cultivates the next generation of Jewish leaders.*

Overnight at [Ritz Carlton, Budapest](#)

### Monday July 1, 2019

### Budapest

Get to know the city of Budapest! Today will be devoted to sightseeing and exploring the vibrant Jewish community of Budapest.

- Optional early bird cycling tour (10 miles)
- Budapest city tour, including:

*The Dohány Street Synagogue: The largest synagogue in Europe, the Dohány was built in 1859, seats 3,000 and is the active home of one of Budapest's Neolog (a non-Orthodox stream of Judaism unique to Hungary) congregations.*

*The Jewish Museum: Housed on the site of Theodor Herzl's family home, the museum offers a unique collection of Jewish artifacts, art and memorabilia, shedding light on Hungary's rich Jewish life and important Jewish community.*



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*The Community Holocaust Memorial: this impressive monument commemorates over 500,000 Hungarian Jews who perished in the Holocaust.*

*Shoes on the Danube: A memorial created by Gyula Pauer and Can Togay on the east bank of the Danube to honor the Jews killed by the fascist Arrow Cross militants during World War II. The memorial honors the hundreds of victims ordered to remove their shoes on the side of the river before facing their death.*

- Visit JCC Budapest Bálint Ház: Get a close-up look at the revival of Jewish life in Budapest and community building activities at the JCC.
- Visit The Mozaik HUB: A JDC-supported platform, the Hub is nurturing grass-roots community innovation that provides infrastructure, co-working space, customized professional support, learning opportunities and financial support for Jewish community NGOs and initiatives in Hungary.
- Visit Café Europa, a JDC program for Holocaust survivors, where you will have the unique opportunity to hear their stories firsthand, while sharing a cup of coffee.

Lunch and Dinner in Budapest

Overnight at [Ritz Carlton, Budapest](#)

## **Tuesday July 2, 2019**

## **Camp Szarvas**

- Depart in the morning by van
- Cycle the last leg to Camp Szarvas (15 miles)
- Arrive at the JDC-Lauder International Jewish Camp at Szarvas  
*Founded in 1990, this summer camp draws some 1,600 campers each year from over 25 countries across Eastern and Central Europe and the FSU, as well as from North America and Israel. Thanks to their experience at Szarvas, many camp alumni who once either did not know they were Jewish or had minimal connection to Judaism, are today leaders of their Jewish communities.*
- Spend the afternoon with campers and staff at Camp Szarvas.  
Prediction - by the end of lunch, you will be singing and dancing too!!

Lunch and dinner will be provided along the route, as a group

Overnight at [Liget Hotel, Szarvas](#)



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**Wednesday July 3, 2019**

**Szarvas - Szentes - Szeged**

- Continue south, with a shuttle to Szentes
- Pedal along quiet, pastoral roads from Szentes towards Szeged
- Visit the Synagogue in Szeged
- Challenge yourself with some afternoon cycling (approx. 2-4 hours, 20-30 miles)

Lunch and dinner will be provided along the route, as a group

Overnight at [Szeged Novotel, Szeged](#)

**Thursday July 4, 2019**

**Timisoara, Romania**

- Drive and cycle from Szeged to Timisoara, Romania

*Romania's Jewish community was decimated under Nazi persecution and Communist oppression. After this destruction, it took decades to rebuild the country's Jewish communities. Today, Romania's Jews are reclaiming their past and, with JDC's help, are setting the stage to sustain Jewish life in the future.*

*The Romanian community is the first to become a partner community with JDC, as they recently announced a significant gift to benefit other Jewish communities in Europe. This groundbreaking support attests to the success of JDC's strategy to reclaim Jewish life and the sustainability of today's Jewish communities.*

- Home visits to elderly clients of the Jewish Welfare Society in Timisoara
- Meet with young leaders from the Jewish community
- Festive Closing Dinner with members of the community
- Cycling segment: 2-4 hours, approx. 20 - 30 miles

Lunch and dinner will be provided along the route, as a group

Overnight at [Trésor Le Palais, Timisoara](#)



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**Friday July 5, 2019**

**Bucharest Post Mission – Non Cycling Segment**

- Departures from Timisoara Airport
- Optional add-on to spend Shabbat in Bucharest
- Early morning flight from Timisoara to Bucharest
- Visit the Rosen Home for Senior Citizens
- Lunch
- Visit the Bucharest Jewish Kindergarten
- Dinner with the Head of the local Jewish Community and young leaders

Overnight at [Intercontinental Hotel, Bucharest](#)

**Saturday July 6, 2019**

**Bucharest**

Shabbat optional program:

- Shabbat morning services
- Traditional Shabbat cholent lunch with the local community
- Jewish tour of Bucharest including the Choral Synagogue
- Community Havdalah

Overnight at [Intercontinental Hotel, Bucharest](#)

**Sunday July 7, 2019**

**Departure**

Transfer to Bucharest International Airport for departing flights

## **Mission Pricing:**

### **Budapest-Timisoara**

Single Occupancy: \$5,750

Double Occupancy, per person: \$5,550

### **Budapest-Timisoara, plus post-mission visit to Bucharest**

Single Occupancy: \$6,230

Double Occupancy, per person: \$6,130

Please note that participation in JDC Ambassadors missions requires a meaningful gift (minimum \$5,000 USD per person) to help support JDC's rescue, relief, and renewal programs around the world.

For more information, please contact Victoria Blint Midrony by email at [Victoriab@jdc.org](mailto:Victoriab@jdc.org) or by phone at 646-750-0823

## **Suggested Flights:**

### Saturday, June 29<sup>th</sup> New York (Newark) to Budapest

LOT Flight #12 departing at 7:25 pm

Arriving Warsaw at 9:50 am

Departing Warsaw at 10:50 am

Arriving Budapest at 12:15 pm (+1 day, Sunday)

### Sunday, June 30<sup>th</sup> Krakow to Budapest *(for those participating in the Ride for the Living)*

Lot Flight # 547 departing at 7:40 am

Arriving Budapest 8:45 am

### Friday, July 5<sup>th</sup> Timisoara, Romania to New York (Newark)

United Airlines operated by Lufthansa Flight # 8799 departing at 2:15 pm

Arriving Munich at 2:45 pm

United Airlines operated by Lufthansa Flight # 9255 departing Munich at 4:05 pm

Arriving Newark at 6:55 pm

### Sunday July 7<sup>th</sup> Bucharest to New York (JFK)

LOT Flight # 642 departing at 2:50 pm

Arriving Warsaw at 3:35 pm

Departing Warsaw at 4:45 pm

Arriving JFK at 8:05 pm