

United Hebrew Congregation
Portugal & Spain
May 2–12, 2027

Trip Overview

When is the trip?

The trip will depart St. Louis on Sunday, May 2, 2027, and arrive in Porto, Portugal on Monday, May 3. The trip will conclude in Granada on May 12. Once we secure group flight times, for those who are interested, we will have a better idea of when we depart and arrive back in St. Louis.

For whom is the trip appropriate?

All UH members and non-member family and friends are invited to join us on this congregational trip.

Is there a maximum number of participants?

Yes, between 35–40 people.

Is there a minimum number of participants?

Yes, 15.

What is the latest I can sign up for the trip?

Within 90 days of departure, confirmation of new registrations are subject to hotel availability and pricing. So, don't wait until the last minute.

Logistics

Who is our travel partner?

After a selection process, UH is partnering with Ayelet. If you have questions about registration, you can contact Elana Loftspring at Ayelet at 800-237-1517 ext. 317 or elana@ayelet.com.

What flights does UH recommend? Can I use my airline miles or do I have to purchase the flights through Ayelet?

There will be a group flight available. However, we will not have information on flights, costs, and cancellation fees until June 2026. The group flight must be booked through Ayelet. We need at least 10 people to have the benefit of a group flight.

Alternatively, you may purchase seats on these flights or on other flights by booking on the internet or with a travel agent, using miles if you have them.

What do I need to know about passports?

Now is the time to make sure your passports are up to date. Remember to make sure your passport is valid for at least 6 months after the final day of the trip to ensure smooth and easy travel.

May we arrive early?

You are welcome to fly to Porto at any time, as long as you arrange to either meet the group at the airport or at the hotel. More details to follow.

What is the weather like in Portugal and Spain in May?

- *Average May temperature in Portugal: 54–75° F*
- *Average May temperature in Southern Spain*
 - *Seville/Cordoba 79–86° F daytime and 57–59° nighttime*
 - *Granada 70F-75° F daytime, drops at nighttime*

Will UH provide a "suggested" packing list?

Yes, a recommended packing list will be provided closer to departure. Plan on bringing layers for warmth and easy-to-tote rain gear, as well as comfortable shoes for walking.

What happens if I get sick during our trip?

Our guide will assist with finding you medical care in Europe.

Will there be any free time for shopping and seeing family or friends?

Our itinerary is chock-full of important sites and experiences, and there is also some free time. There are opportunities to shop, go for coffee, and enjoy the sights and sounds of each city, so if you have family and friends there, these are great times to visit with them.

When will the itineraries be available?

The itinerary is available <https://unitedhebrewcongregation.shulcloud.com/event/travel-with-uh.html>

Will I be able meet other people who are going on the trip before we leave?

Absolutely! UH will host pre-trip gatherings, including educational sessions, as well as opportunities for community building and going over the itinerary and details before we depart.

Registration Information

How do I register?

You register directly at <http://secure.ayelet.com/Rosenberg2019.aspx>

Is a deposit required upon registration?

Yes, \$500 per person is due upon registration.

How much does the trip cost?

Pricing is for land cost only. It does not include the cost of flights or tips.

If you pay by check: Land Tour: \$5,195 Single Occupancy: additional \$1150

If you pay by credit card: Land Tour: \$5,377 Single Occupancy: additional \$1190

What is the cancellation policy?

Payment and Cancellation Policy:

A \$500 per person deposit is due at the time of reservation.

Full payment is due 90 days prior to departure.

Ayelet's cancellation policy can be found here <https://ayelet.com/travel-resources/terms-and-conditions/>

If UH or Ayelet cancels the trip for any reason 90 days or more out, and Ayelet has not had to make any non-refundable deposits on behalf of the group, then there will be a deposit refund (minus credit card fees). If we have had to send nonrefundable deposits on behalf of the group, those deposits will be taken into account when factoring refunds.

How much/what are the tips?

When you register for the trip, Ayelet will bill \$25 per person, per day for tips. These tips are for guides, drivers, and dining room waiters – anyone who will help our group.

Should I get travel insurance?

Yes, Ayelet highly recommends purchasing travel insurance. The Ayelet website has information on two possible companies through which to purchase travel insurance.

What about insurance refund if trip cancelled?

If the trip is cancelled 90 days before, the insurance cost will be refunded as well according to our normal group cancellation policy (minus credit card fees). If it is a different situation and the group is cancelling at the last minute due to some larger world event, then probably not.

Trip Leadership

Which members of the clergy and staff are going?

Rabbi Rosenberg will be leading this trip. Additional staff will be added as registration requires.

In addition, a tour director from Ayelet will be with us for the entire trip.

More Information

Whom do I contact with questions about the trip?

Please contact Ayelet: ayelet.com or call 800-237-1517 ask for Jeff. At UH, please contact Esther Olson at eolson@unitedhebrew.org or 314-469-0700.

How will security be managed on the trip?

Security is Ayelet's primary concern no matter the destination. They err on the side of caution. Ayelet checks in with their ground staff hour by hour regarding cities and sites during the trip. If they feel that any site or itinerary puts a group in danger, they will take steps to alter the itinerary to protect the group.

NOTICE REGARDING AIRLINE TAX AND FUEL SURCHARGE Ayelet Tours has NO CONTROL over the airline tax and fuel surcharge. They are set directly by the airlines and government regulations. These costs are subject to change with no notice, and are finalized only at time of ticketing, not at time of booking. For groups, ticketing is done only after all travelers in a group have paid in full. In recent months, the airlines have been raising the tax and fuel surcharges regularly as fuel pricing has continued to fluctuate. While we try our best to estimate the tax and fuel surcharge as closely as possible, we have no control over this final amount. Ayelet Tours will send an updated invoice shortly before final payment is due with the correct fuel surcharge and tax amount. IT WILL IN MANY CASES INCREASE FROM YOUR INITIAL INVOICE. We thank you for your understanding of what has become a challenging part of group tour coordination.