



Ramah Israel Institute

Registration: <https://rii.ramah.org.il/register/>

www.ramah.org.il | info@ramah.co.il

רמה ישראל | רח' קצנלסון 8 א' | ת.ד. 31709 ירושלים 9131602 | טל: 02.679.0243 | פקס: 02.679.2069

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North American Office | National Ramah Commission | 3080 Broadway, New York, NY 10027 | Phone: 212.678.8883 | Fax: 212.749.8251

Ramah Israel is a division of the National Ramah Commission, Inc., which operates under the educational and religious supervision of The Jewish Theological Seminary.

Tentative Itinerary - (Exact schedule during days TBD)

Sunday October 27th, 2019: Depart Toronto for Barcelona.

Day 1: Monday, October 28th – Barcelona *Schedule of the day depending on arrival time – Estimated mid-morning arrival

- Meet Ramah staff and local tour guide
- City tour of Barcelona: Tour **Montjuic** hill, the **Plaza España** Barcelona, and the **Gran Vía shopping area**. See the **Paseo Gracia, Pedrera Casa Mila & Casa Batllo, Ramblas Avenue, Bokería Market** – stroll through the famous alleys
- See the architect Antonio Gaudi's "Temple in Barcelona", the famous **Sagrada Familia**, one of the symbols of the city
- Visit the **Plaza Cataluña** and the **Columbus column**
- **Ramah-led:** orientation and expectations for this experience

O/N: Hotel Hesperia Presidente or similar, Barcelona

Day 2: Tuesday, October 29th – Girona and Besalu

- Visit the famous kabbalistic **city of Girona** – city of the **Ramban** - Nachmanides
- Tour the **Jewish museum** with ancient Jewish tombstones
- Explore the beautiful **Arab Baths**
- See the city of **Besalu**, including the **Jewish Quarter** with the well-known **mikveh** and ruins of the **ancient synagogue. Bring them back to life with Mincha**
- Return to Barcelona

O/N: Hotel Hesperia Presidente or similar, Barcelona

Day 3: Wednesday, October 30th – Barcelona – Granada

- Flight from **Barcelona to Granada**
- Check-in to Hotel, Lunch
- See the famous **Alhambra Palace**, where the expulsion order of Spanish Jewry was signed, and it was from here that Columbus was sent to discover the New World
- See the **Ambassadors' Hall, Lions' courtyard** and the **Hadasim courtyard**, and the **Nazarie Palace**
- Walk in the beautiful **Generalife gardens**
- See the **Gypsy Flamenco Zambra** dance show at **Sacromonte Caves**

O/N: Hotel Corona de Granada or similar, Granada

Day 4: Thursday, October 31st – Cordoba

- Drive to **Cordoba** - the city of the **Rambam** and **Yehuda Halevi**
 - Cross the **Guadalquivir**, walk on the Roman bridge and enter the **Old City** and **Jewish quarter** with the Jewish-themed squares and streets
 - See the **statue of the Rambam** and pray in the synagogue named after him
 - See the **Mezquita**, once the **great mosque of Cordoba** that is now a cathedral
- O/N: Hotel Conquistador or similar, Cordoba*

Day 5: Friday, November 1st – Gibraltar

- Travel to **Gibraltar**, the British enclave known as "**The Rock**"
 - Stop on the way EITHER at **Malaga** OR at **Cadiz**
 - Tour the Rock: See the **Monkey Colony**
 - Tour the stunning **St Michaels Cave**
 - **Prepare for Shabbat** at Gibraltar's welcoming Jewish community – numbering in the hundreds and with almost seven centuries of history there
 - **Oneg Shabbat – Rabbi/Ramah led**
- O/N: Elliott Hotel or similar, Gibraltar*

Day 6: Shabbat, November 2nd – Shabbat in Gibraltar

- Shabbat services in one of **Gibraltar's five active synagogues** and lunch
 - Walking tour of **the Jewish areas of Gibraltar** – see the synagogues, schools, and Jewish community past and present
 - **Ramah-led:** Using Shabbat to reflect – Halfway through the experience
 - Havdallah together
- O/N: Elliott Hotel or similar, Gibraltar*

Day 7: Sunday, November 3rd – Seville

- Leave for **Ronda**, city tour
 - Stop at the famous **Ronda Bullfighting Arena**
 - Travel to Seville, start with panoramic outlook
 - Visit the **Fort of Alcazar**, a stunning former royal palace
 - If time - see the magnificent **Cathedral of Seville**, one of the largest in the world, where Cristopher Columbus is buried
 - Walk through the **Plaza España Square** and the beautiful **Parque de Maria Luisa**
 - Take a **walking tour of the Jewish Quarter** – also known as the **Santa Cruz District** – and stroll through the ancient lanes
- O/N: Hotel Sevilla or similar, Seville*

Day 8: Monday, November 4th – Badajoz - Evora

- Drive to **Badajoz** for a city tour and lunch. **Badajoz was an important Jewish community in the fifteenth century**
 - Cross the border into **Portugal**
 - Arrive at **Evora**
- O/N: Hotel Vila Gale or similar, Evora*

Day 9: Tuesday, November 5th – Evora - Belmonte

- City tour of **Evora**, the former capital of Portugal
 - See the small town of **Castello de Vida** and the **Jewish Quarter**, with the **oldest synagogue in Portugal**, and learn about the ancient community there
 - Drive up to **Marvao**, the city of the hilltop citadel, and gaze down on the land
 - Arrive at **Belmonte**
- O/N: Hotel Belmonte or similar, Belmonte*

Day 10: Wednesday, November 6th – Belmonte – Guarda –Troncoso

- See the **Jewish Museum**, and local synagogue **Bet Eliahu** to learn about the **Conversos** and their story in Belmonte
 - Drive to **Guarda** to see the **Jewish Quarter** there
 - Visit the **synagogue** and **Jewish Museum** in **Troncoso**
- O/N: Hotel Turismo or similar, Troncoso*

Day 11: Thursday, November 7th – Coimbra - Tomar

- See the **Coimbra University**, the oldest in Portugal, including the **library of King Joao** and the **Fountains of Love and Tears**
 - Travel to the beautiful cliff-top city of **Coimbra** for a city tour
 - Drive to **Tomar**, see the **ancient synagogue**; bring it back to life Ramah style
 - Arrive at Lisbon, check in to Hotel
- O/N: Hotel NH Parque or similar, Lisbon*

Day 12: Friday, November 8th – Sintra, Cascais, Estoril, Cabo Roca, Lisbon

- Visit the pink town of **Sintra** with its gardens and palaces
 - Go to **Cascais**, the beautiful resort town in Portugal, and see the "**Devil's throat**."
 - Stop at **Estoril**, a town with a casino, hotels and luxurious villas inhabited by some of the world's the richest people as well as some exiled kings
 - Stop at **Cabo da Roca**, the westernmost extent of continental Europe, and see the Mediterranean
 - Arrive at Lisbon and **prepare for Shabbat** with the Jewish community
 - **Oneg Shabbat – Rabbi/Ramah led**
- O/N: Hotel NH Parque or similar, Lisbon*

Day 13: Shabbat, November 9th – Shabbat in Lisbon

- Shabbat services and lunch
 - Walking tour of **Lisbon** sites close to hotel in the **Juderia – Jewish Quarter**
 - The **Alfama district, Avenue Liberdade** and **Rossio square**
 - See the beautiful **Jeronimos monastery**
 - Havdalla together
 - **Ramah-led** sum-up of the journey
- O/N: Hotel NH Parque or similar, Lisbon*

Day 14: Sunday, November 10th – departure **Schedule of the day depending on departure time*

- Possible tour of other sites in Lisbon, depending on departure time.
- Flight from Lisbon to Toronto...or...

Optional extension to Madrid – 10 participant minimum

Day 14: Sunday, November 10th – Arrival *Schedule of the day depending on arrival time
– Estimated mid-morning arrival

- ...flight to Madrid
- Introduction and tour depending on arrival time
- Check in to hotel, free time

O/N: Hotel NH Abascal or similar, Madrid

Day 15: Monday, November 11th – Madrid

- City tour of the famous sites of Madrid, capital of Spain
- Go to the **Prado Museum**, the national art museum of Spain, considered to have the finest collection of European art
- Tour the **Royal Palace of Madrid**, the official residence of the Spanish royal family, and the largest Royal palace in Europe
- Free time in the city

O/N: Hotel NH Abascal or similar, Madrid

Day 16: Tuesday, November 12th – Toledo

- Drive to **Toledo** - panoramic tour around the city & the **Tajo River**
- See the **Synagogue of Santa María la Blanca** - possibly the oldest standing synagogue building in Europe, and the **Synagogue of El Transito** the "Synagogue of Samuel ha-Levi" – bring those synagogues back to life with song and prayer
- Free time in Toledo
- Return to Madrid

O/N: Hotel NH Abascal or similar, Madrid

Day 14: Wednesday, November 13th – departure *Schedule of the day depending on departure time

- Free time in Madrid, depending on departure time.
- Flight from Madrid to Toronto

Costs

Price for land only:

\$4705 per person in a double

\$940 single supplement*

Madrid extension:

\$1590 per person in a double

\$314 single supplement

*Please note: Single supplement is for the first four singles; after that the price will rise depending on the amount of singles requested.

These prices include:

- Accommodations for 13 nights:
 - Hesperia hotel or similar in Barcelona (2 nights)
 - Corona hotel or similar in Granada (1 night)
 - Conquistador hotel or similar in Cordoba (1 night)
 - Eliott hotel or similar in Gibraltar (2 nights)
 - Sevilla hotel or similar in Seville (1 night)
 - Vila Gale hotel or similar in Evora (1 night)
 - Belmonte hotel or similar in Belmonte (1 night)
 - Troncoso Hotel or similar in Troncoso (1 night)
 - NH Parque hotel or similar in Lisbon (3 nights)
 - Abascal hotel or similar in Madrid (3 nights) – **extension only**
- Full board with 3 Kosher meals daily throughout the trip
- Entrance to all sites and activities as per the itinerary
- Transportation on luxury air conditioned tourist class bus
- One internal flight from Barcelona to Granada
- One internal flight from Lisbon to Madrid (**extension only**)
- 1 Tour Educator from Ramah Israel accompanying the group at all times
- 1 Professional Local English speaking Trip Leader with the group every day
- 1 Local Logistics coordinator in every major city as relevant
- 1 bottle (1.5 liters) of mineral water each day
- Miscellaneous – petty cash, equipment, map etc.

These prices do not include:

- Any components not mentioned above
- Flights to and from Europe
- Health and travel insurance (we strongly recommend purchasing travel insurance)
- Gratuities for all staff members (approximately 10 Euro / \$12 per person per day)
- Personal expenses

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Important to Know:

- Ramah Israel has no control over any airline services such as seating, special meal requests, changes in departure times or delays. These remain the sole responsibility of the airline company.
- As this trip is months away, much of the itinerary is subject to change both on the order and the site itself. We will make every effort to visit every place mentioned in the itinerary, or equivalent sites.
- All evening activities, unless otherwise stated, are for the participants to explore and enjoy on their own. Whenever possible, nearer the time we will suggest optional local cultural activities on the participants' expense.

Registration, Payment, Deposit, Cancellation Fees & Policy:

Registration and payment will be done via the Regpacks online registration system, which is accessible at the link: <https://rii.ramah.org.il/register/>

All payment and quotes are in US dollars. Payment can be done via credit card, e-check or check via snail mail to the Ramah office in NY. All details are outlined on the Regpacks form.

A \$1,000 USD Deposit per person must be received at the time of booking in order to confirm your reservation. Payment in full is due by July 1, 2019. A minimum number of 20 participants are required to operate tour dates. If a minimum number has not been reached prior to tour departure and the tour is cancelled you will receive a FULL refund.

This trip is fully refundable up to June 26. Any cancellations received after June 26th will need to pay in full. We strongly recommend taking out travel insurance in case of emergency.