

## FAQs for Hebrew College's Jewish Discovery Tour of Spain

We're excited to have you travel with Hebrew College Me'ah on our inaugural Jewish Discovery Tour of Spain! People are excited to travel with us and are asking questions about the trip. Here's some answers.

Full trip details including links to the itinerary and pricing page are accessed via

<https://www.keshetisrael.co.il/meah>

### Who is this trip for?

This is an active tour geared to adults (couples, singles, empty nesters). It is not designed for families.

### What is the level of physical activity?

This is not a strenuous trip although there is walking every day. We will be spending most days exploring on our feet, often through medieval alleyways and cobble stone streets. Stairs are often unavoidable. However, we also rest on the bus in between stops, stopping for meals and at the various sites we are visiting, etc. There is no hiking or walking that is not in cities.

**This trip is appropriate for folks using walking sticks and canes but not wheelchairs or walkers.**

You can expect up to 2-3 miles of walking per day, but not all at once. Most of the places are relatively flat, except for Toledo. That's a bit hilly so even some of the street walking is with an incline. The Alhambra complex is quite spread out and we will be going throughout the palaces and through the gardens. It's not totally flat either.

### How much classroom time is there and how much free time?

There is no formal classroom time on the trip. There is on-site learning throughout the program. We learn as we visit places from our guides and also spend some time learning as we travel from place to place on the bus.

We will be learning with Me'ah instructor – Rabbi Lenny Gordon, Keshet Vice President and Program Director – Kayla Ship, as well as a local Spanish on the ground tour guide for Jewish groups.

## How can I prepare for this trip? Is there a reading list available?

Keshet, our tour company, has provided us with an extensive recommended reading list. Email Terri Swartz Russell [tsrussell@hebrewcollege.edu](mailto:tsrussell@hebrewcollege.edu) for this list.

In addition, we will be offering two Spain related courses this year in our Me'ah Select course offerings (details coming soon) that anyone can take but are particularly relevant for folks going on this Spain trip.

## What are the options for air travel?

You may choose to add in the airfare provided by Keshet or opt to make your own arrangements. Airfare from Boston can be included in the price if you prefer. Pricing info is on the pricing page that you can access directly via <https://hebrewcollege.edu/wp-content/uploads/2023/05/Hebrew-College-MEAH-Spain-pricing-10.8.23-for-participants.pdf>

## What are the arrangements for kosher food and Shabbat observance?

This program is veggie in non-kosher establishments with a few kosher meals when there are kosher options. The overall program is NOT kosher.

Our tour is Shabbat friendly in that there are only walking tours or discussions on shabbat so no one needs to drive, etc. For Friday night, it is possible to drive to the synagogues before Shabbat comes in and walk back (about 30-40 minutes) to the hotel. These are liberal *kehillot*, not Orthodox, with egalitarian davening and definitely no *mehitza*.

**I'm ready to sign up for this trip!**

**Great! Use this direct link to the registration page:**

[https://keshetisrael.formstack.com/forms/hebrew\\_college\\_meah\\_sepharad\\_discovery\\_may\\_2024](https://keshetisrael.formstack.com/forms/hebrew_college_meah_sepharad_discovery_may_2024)

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