



WWW.KOSHERTRAVELERS.COM

Presents...

A DELUXE TOUR: Provence, France

Tour Code	EPROV0705
Tour Start Date	May 07, 2012
Tour End Date	May 16, 2012
Price Land Tour Only	€2370
Price with flights from Tel Aviv	€2,900
Single Supplement	€900
Pre/Post Hotel Night	€100 Twin Share / €95 per single



A Tour of Provence, following ancient Jewish life...and World famous painters. The four communities of Avignon, Carpentras, Cavaillon & Isle sur la Sorgue, "Arba Kehilot", are World known although we do neither talk about a large population (2500-3000 people at most) nor about famous scholars or philosophers or artists. But Carpentras & Cavaillon have still got the most ancient synagogue in France, from the 14th & 15th Century. They have witnessed Jewish life that was never interrupted since the Jews became refugees in Provence after the fall of the 2nd Temple. Provence as such is of course of much interest to us, Jewish visitors...but being also World famous since the Impressionist painters, we will take advantage of being there in May to try and retrace the routes of light and color that Cezanne, Van Gogh or Chagall loved so.

Monday May 07



We'll take a flight from Israel to Nice and after landing drive to Aix en Provence where we'll be able to see the luxurious landscapes that impressionists so loved

We'll visit the Cezanne Museum and then we'll head for Arles, on the footsteps of Van Gogh. Here he lived and painted, long after the Jewish Community, living on Rue de la Juiverie (Now Rue du Docteur Fanton), ceased to exist. We'll visit the Arena, one of the most ancient of the Roman world.

Overnight in Arles

Tuesday May 08

We'll tour in the heart of the natural park of the Camargues. The Camargue is a triangular area lying on the coast between the Languedoc-Roussillon and Provence. It is a river delta where the Rhône meets the sea - a marshy island bounded by two branches of the Rhône and the Mediterranean Sea. With an area of over 930 km² (360 sq. miles), the Camargue is western Europe's largest river delta, with exceptional biological diversity, and home to unique breeds of Camargue Horses and Camargue Bulls, and to more than 400 species of birds including Pink Flamingoes. Much of the area is under water - inland salt water lakes, called étangs in the Languedoc. Approximately a third of the Camargue is either lakes or marshland. The largest of these salt water lakes is the The Étang de Vaccarès. Established as a national park and nature reserve in 1972, the Parc Régional de Camargue covers 820 km² including some of the wildest and most protected in Europe. It is a major world heritage wetland. A roadside museum provides background on flora, fauna, and the history of the area.

Overnight in Arles



Wednesday May 09

We'll leave Arles and visit Nimes, with its exceptional architecture, followed by a visit to one of the "must-sees" in Provence - Saint Remy. The main reason is without a doubt Vincent Van Gogh, who produced more than 150 paintings of the countryside surrounding Saint Rémy, including the "vase avec iris". Many of the places painted by the artist can be rediscovered, the wild flowers, olive trees, cypresses, the Alpilles - and, sadly enough, the room in the Saint Paul de Mausole Asylum where Van Gogh stayed from May 1889 to June 1890. Were it not for Vincent van Gogh and his paintings, St. Rémy would be just another historic town in France. It has wonderfully restored town houses; it is the birth place of Jewish astronomer Nostradamus, lovely shops and a weekly market.

Wednesday is market day, then a visit to the famous Jewish cemetery with graves from before 1400.

We'll end our day in Avignon where we will stay overnight.

Thursday May 10



Avignon, visit to the town famous for its bridges on the river Rhone, the Pope's palace, and the synagogue.

In the 14th Century, France expelled the Jews, but the Pope offered them refuge in Provence, a papal territory in the south. For about a century, the Papacy made its headquarters in Avignon. The Jews of Provence became known as the "Pope's Jews" and there they lived in relative freedom, enjoying the Pope's protection (though they were made to observe curfews and wear identifying hats) and being employed in many occupations and professions.

We'll continue and visit the Synagogue in Carpentras, the second town (out of four that protected Jews) and then we'll visit the perched village of Gordes, which has a world wide reputation due to its famous inhabitants, and Peter Mayle's book A Year in Provence certainly helped. While strolling around the tiny streets which climb up between the tall houses, you will discover here and there beautiful old doorways, arcades and walls of flat stone perfectly restored, and on the other side, there is the panorama of the valley and mountains of Luberon.

Friday May 11

We're headed this morning for Cavaillon and its Synagogue. The Cavaillon Synagogue bears the hallmarks of a unique history specific to the Jews of this region. The present structure, built in 1774 in a place of another synagogue dating to the 15th Century, features many of the extravagant decorative flourishes and color palette (including pink, gold, green and blue) of the Rococo style that was fashionable at the time. Gold and crystal chandeliers hang over the main room and the gilded ark is flanked by neo-classical columns topped with carvings of flowers indigenous to Provence.



We'll drive to Nice via Cassis, a pretty fishing village with lovely and lively harbor and the Calanques, a wild and rugged terrain stretching from Marseille to the east towards Cassis, a series of inlets with steep walls – the French fjords! This is one of France's great natural beauty areas.

Shabbat will be celebrated in Nice; our hotel will be at walking distance to the Synagogue

Saturday (Shabbat) May 12

After prayers, Kiddush and a long walk in beautiful lively Nice
We shall have our Shabbat meal followed by rest at the hotel.

Sunday May 13

We're headed to a lovely village, very picturesque: Saint Paul the Vence, one of the oldest medieval towns on the French Riviera, it



is well-known for its modern and contemporary art museums and galleries such as Fondation Maeght which is located nearby. We'll be able to visit some of the art galleries.

We'll drive to the capital of French perfumes: Grasse, and see one of the factories that uses lavender and other flowers of Provence in the making of perfumes

In the evening, we'll feel like people of the jet set when we'll walk around Monaco. Monaco is well known for its tax haven status, and has a great deal to do with its exclusivity and appeal. It is also well known for tourism as a playground for the rich and famous, with its renowned Monte Carlo Casino. The Grand Prix is another major part of Monaco too, but it does boast many other exciting sports and activities.

Monday May 14

An excursion in nature is planned for today: we'll drive and hike in the gorgeous "Gorges du Verdon", also called the Grand Canyon du Verdon, is a spectacular canyon that forms a border between the Alpes-de-Haute-Provence and the Var. Up to 700 m deep, the 21-km-long canyon varies in width between 6 and 100 m at the bottom and 200 to 1500 m at its rim.

Although it's much smaller than Arizona's Grand Canyon, the Gorges du Verdon is deep, compact, wild and beautiful. From Castellane to the village of Rougons, the Verdon River flows clear and swift, and the road follows along the banks. At Rougons, by the Point Sublime, the river plunges into the narrow rock walls, and there's no escape until it comes out the western end before flowing into Lac de Ste Croix.

Tuesday May 15

Before leaving, we certainly have to pay the world-famous Chagall Museum a visit. The museum stands out as one of the most interesting on the French Riviera. It contains seventeen superbly displayed large canvases depicting biblical scenes and themes from the Old Testament in bright, joyous colors. The Chagall Museum also holds sculptures, stained glass windows, mosaics, tapestries, preparatory sketches, engravings, and lithographs from this important 20th-century artist

We will also have a drive along the "Riviera" today and see the elegant medieval village of Eze perched like an eagle's nest on a narrow rocky peak overlooking the Mediterranean Sea. The ancient fortified village is still crowned with the ruins of its 12th-century fortified castle (torn down in 1706), sitting on a narrow rocky peak. The castle grounds host the well-known Jardin Exotique, and from the top (429 m) you'll have a good view of the coast.

Wednesday May 16

Transfer to Nice airport for our homebound flight.

Price Includes:

- First Class Tourist Hotels

- Entrance fees as per the itinerary
- Comfortable air conditioned touring coach
- Half board kosher food daily & supplies for making sandwiches for lunch
- Professional experienced English-speaking guide
- Local English-speaking Guide as required

Price Does Not Include:

- Travel & Health Insurance
- Personal expenses and evening entertainment not included in the itinerary
- Tips for local service providers (Euro 80 per person)
- Shows and evening entertainment not included in the itinerary
- Tip for our Tour Guide (Recommended: \$3 per person per day)
- Miscellaneous expenses such as departure fees visas security surcharges etc. where applicable.

Important to know :

There may be changes to the order of places visited. We will make every effort to visit every place mentioned in the itinerary.

⊗ The tour organizers have no control over airline services such as seating, special meal requests, changes in departure times or delays. These remain the sole responsibility of the airline company.

Payment Terms:

A \$500 USD Deposit per person must be received at the time of booking in order to confirm your reservation. Payment in full is due 90 days before departure. A minimum number of 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.

- **We strongly recommend purchasing Travel Insurance.**

Important to Know:

- ➔ There may be changes to the order of places visited. We will make every effort to visit every place mentioned in the itinerary.
- ➔ The tour organizers have no control over airline services such as seating, special meal requests, changes in departure times or delays. These remain the sole responsibility of the airline company.

Kashrut on Tours



Kosher food is provided to our travelers on all our tours. We work with the local Rabbinate to provide Hashgacha for all local ingredients and fresh meat and poultry. In some cases, we fly in kosher food from Israel and other sources, depending on the destination of the tour. We do not guarantee Pat Israel and Chalav Israel for all destinations. In many destinations we have our own crockery and cutlery. Where we don't, we

provide disposables at the meals. When we cook in Hotel kitchens, we ensure proper Kashering and we use our own kitchenware on kashered and covered surfaces. All this is done under the strict supervision of our trained staff/guides who function as our Mashgichim. Our travelers enjoy gourmet meals prepared by our team including fresh local fish, fruit, and vegetables. This is an integral part of Jewish travel. We make great efforts to assure that our travelers will experience local foods first-hand, while maintaining stringent observance of Kashrut laws on all occasions.

Rabbi Yisrael Meir Levinger – Head of Kashrut on all Land Tours

Graduate of Yeshivat Kfar Haroeh and Yeshivat Beer Yakov. He served as Chief Rabbi for 22 years in Basle, Switzerland and for 20 years was on the council of Vaad Hakashrut of Europe. He has authored books on Shechita, and many Kashrut topics and is now working on the Encyclopedia of Kashrut. Rav Levinger is the Company Rav and oversees and is responsible for all our operations and logistical methodology to ensure the highest standards of Kashrut on each tour and each destination worldwide.

Any questions about Kashrut please submit to david@eddiestravel.com and Rav Levinger will respond directly.

Deposit, Cancellation Fees & Policy:

A \$500 USD Deposit per person must be received at the time of booking in order to confirm your reservation. Payment in full is due 90 days before departure. A minimum number of 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.

- 90 days before departure bookings are refundable less a \$100 administration fee
- 60-90 days prior to departure: \$500 + \$100 per passenger
- 30-60 days prior to departure: \$1,000 + \$100 per passenger
- Less than 30 working days prior to departure: 100% of total - no refund
- We strongly recommend purchasing Travel Insurance.

Flights

If you are joining us for the Land Tour package only (from outside Israel) you can get an obligation free quote for your flights from Shelley@eddiestravel.com

Travel Insurance

Travel insurance encompassing both cancellation and medical insurance is very important and we cannot stress that enough. We strongly recommend that our clients are adequately insured when travelling. It is crucial to purchase the travel insurance within 14 days from the 1st payment that you make for this trip (flights/cruise/tour etc). Your payment is made directly to the insurance company. We highly recommend the 'cancel for any reason' upgrade option. Our preferred policies are Travel Safe (USA & Canadian residents), Travel Select (USA residents) and Global Trip Protection Elite (All other Nationalities).

For an obligation free quote and further details email Yonah insurance@eddiestravel.com

Bookings: Due to the limited number of spaces on this tour, we urge you to please complete the booking form and return it to us by fax as soon as possible.

EDDIE'S KOSHER TRAVEL – About the Company

Established in 1975, Eddie's Travel is one of the most respected travel agencies in the Jewish world. For many decades, our goal has been to provide the kosher traveler with a full range of exciting and inspiring travel options while ensuring the highest levels of Kashrut. We have been creating exciting Passover hotel programs for over two decades, and offer a full range of kosher tours and cruises for the discerning Jewish traveler in search of an enriching, unforgettable experience, world-class kosher cuisine and unparalleled personal service.

SHAI BAR ILAN GEOGRAPHICAL TOURS – About the Company

Ever since it opened its doors in 1980, Shai Bar-Ilan Geographical Tours has specialized in providing quality organized kosher l'mehadrin tours to exotic locations for the observant public. Our tours range from Patagonia to Indonesia; from Iceland to Antarctica and all points in between – our tour managers are all experts in the regions they guide, including the local cuisine. On our trips you will enjoy exposure to local Jewish traditions and a selection of authentic culinary dishes from each area in which you travel. Our guests are assured of the highest level of personal service at international standards and receive full value for their money.