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***Journey Through Sepharad: A Jewish Roots Trip to Spain***

***Led by Kayla Ship***

*April 26 to May 5, 2026*

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| **Sunday April 26** | ***bienvenidos a espana-welcome to spain*** |

* Rendezvous at hotel in Madrid in afternoon. (*Airport transfers are NOT included in the package price. There is a Taxi stand outside the arrivals hall of the airport.)*
* Introductions and Orientation with Keshet Tour Educator, Kayla Ship
* Walking tour of Madrid, highlighting Jewish sites including the Plaza del Sol and Plaza Mayor.
* Welcome Dinner at Gaudium Chamberi, a chef restaurant featuring traditional Sephardi cuisine. (*All included meals will either be fish or vegetarian*)

***Overnight:*** *Hotel Catalonia Las Cortes, Madrid*

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| **Monday April 27** | ***to andalucia*** |

* Breakfast at the hotel
* Check-out and depart hotel for Andalucia.
* Stop in Consuegra to visit the Windmills of Don Quixote.
* *On site learning: Cervantes and Converso Literature*
* Lunch stop (on own) on the way.
* *On the Bus Learning: Would the Rambam or Hasdai have eaten that? Traditional Sephardi Jewish cuisine before the expulsion.*
* Arrival in Cordoba.
* Check-in at hotel and freshen up.
* Dinner at the hotel

***Overnight:*** *Hotel Eurostars Palace, Cordoba*

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| **Tuesday April 28** | ***cordoba: the golden age of jewish spain*** |

* Breakfast at the hotel
* Explore the rich interplay between Muslim, Jewish and Christian cultures and the impact of this cross fertilization on Jewish scholarship and tradition as we walk through the Old City.
* Tour of Jewish sites in Cordoba's Juderia neighborhood, including Yehudah HaLevi Square, the statue of Maimonides, and the medieval synagogue.
* Visit the beautiful “La Mezquita” Cathedral Mosque.
* Visit a typical Andalucian patio. On site learning: *"Inside the Courtyard of Hasdai ibn Shaprut: The Beginning of the Golden Age" and "The Hebrew Poetry Revolution”.*
* Lunch (kosher) at Casa Mazal which specializes in Sephardi Jewish cuisine
* Visit Casa de Sefarad – the House of Sepharad Museum and Cultural Center for a guided tour and short concert of Ladino music. On-site learning: *“Rambam, the Golden Mean & Holistic Medicine”.*
* Dinner and evening at leisure.

***Overnight:*** *Hotel Eurostars Palace, Cordoba*

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| **Wednesday April 29** | ***to Granada*** |

* After breakfast at the hotel, meet with Rabino Haim Casas, the first Spanish born Rabbi since the Expulsion of 1492.
* Depart Cordoba to travel to Granada
* En route, visit an olive oil plantation with tasting.
* Group Lunch en route
* *On the Bus Learning: “Haberes Buenos” and other Ladino Expressions.*
* Check-in at hotel and time to freshen up.
* Enjoy the spectacular view of the Alhambra from the outlook of the Mirador de San Cristobal.
* *On-site learning: Shmuel Ibn Nagrela Hanagid-Poet, Warrior, Vizier*
* Tapas Dinner followed by live Flamenco performance

**Overnight:** *Melia Hotel, Granada*

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| **Thursday April 30** | ***Alhambra*** |

* Breakfast at the hotel
* Tour the impressive Alhambra, a palace and citadel dating to the 14th century, whose design may have been inspired by the home of Shmuel ibn Nagrela Hanagid.
* *On-site learning: Patron and Poet" –poetry by Judah Halevi, Shmuel ibn Nagrela, Abraham ibn Ezra, and Shlomo ibn Gvirol*
* Visit & meet local Taracean artisans working in traditional regional wood crafts.
* Stroll through the beautiful Generalife Gardens.
* Group Lunch
* Visit the “Monument to the Capitulations” depicting Queen Isabella & Columbus.
* On-site Learning: “*Was Colombus Jewish?* *Discovering the New World: The Jewish Role in the Age of Exploration”.*
* Dinner and evening at leisure.

***Overnight:***  *Melia Hotel, Granada*

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| **Friday May 1** | ***to Madrid*** |

* Breakfast at the hotel
* Travel north to Madrid.
* Lunch break (on own) en route.
* Check-in and time to freshen up.
* Join the Reform Community of Madrid for Kabbalat Shabbat services.
* Candle lighting
* Pot luck dinner with the community

***Overnight:*** *Hotel Catalonia Las Cortes, Madrid*

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| **Shabbat May 2** | ***prado museum*** |

* Breakfast at the hotel.
* Mid- morning study session with Keshet Tour Educator: *“Dona Gracia-Pushing the Envelope: Businesswoman, Philanthropist, Jewish Heroine” and* “*The Status of Jewish Women in Sepharad”.*
* Afternoon at leisure to explore on your own.
* Late afternoon guided visit through the Prado Museum. Free time to explore the Prado on your own.
* Dinner and evening at leisure.

***Overnight:*** *Hotel Catalonia Las Cortes, Madrid*

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| **Sunday May 3** | ***toledo-the 2nd Jerusalem*** |

* Breakfast at the hotel
* Depart hotel for Toledo, once the most vital and powerful Jewish community in the world.
* Visit the Damasquinados Suarez factory which forges swords using ancient techniques and makes authentic Damescene inlaid jewelry. Watch a live demonstration by the blacksmith.
* Ascend by a series of escalators to the Old City, entering in the historic Juderia.
* Visit the Shmuel HaLevy-El Transito Synagogue and Sephardic Museum.
* *On-site learning: Caught Between Two Worlds: Conversos, the Inquisition and Expulsion*
* Visit the Ibn Shushan (Santa Maria La Blanca) synagogue which was turned into a Church. (time permitting)
* Lunch at local restaurant
* Panoramic Outlook over the city.
* Return to Madrid.
* Dinner and evening at leisure.

***Overnight:***  *Hotel Catalonia Las Cortes, Madrid*

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| **Monday May 4** | ***segovia*** |

* Breakfast at the hotel.
* Travel to Segovia, entering under the 2,000 year old Roman Aqueduct.
* Walking tour of the Juderia including the Jewish Museum in the home of Abraham Senor, the Great Synagogue (Corpus Christi), and Plaza Mayor.
* Lunch break (on own)
* Return to Madrid.
* Summary discussion and farewell dinner.

***Overnight:*** *Hotel Catalonia Las Cortes, Madrid*

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| **Tuesday May 5** | ***Bienvenidos-departure*** |

* Breakfast at the hotel
* Farewell! Departure from Madrid airport.
* *Airport transfers are NOT included in the package price. The front desk can arrange a taxi to the airport for you.*
* Listed activities and speakers and hotels are subject to confirmation.
* Program will be staffed by a Keshet Israel Tour Educator and local Spanish licensed guides.
* All breakfasts plus underlined meals are included in the package price.
* This itinerary is proprietary to Keshet and is intended for the promotion of and to inform those considering joining this Keshet trip. It is not to be transmitted to any other party without prior authorization from Keshet

*Activity Level-Please note that we will be spending most days exploring on our feet, often through medieval alleyways and cobble stone streets. Stairs are often unavoidable.*

*Note for single travelers: This program offers a warm and welcoming atmosphere for those travelling with friends or on their own. The atmosphere you'll find is of learning and experiencing in the company of a small group of individual friends. There is a good chance that you will not be the only person without a travel partner. You may wish to have your own room, in which case the single supplement is noted on the pricing. However, if you prefer to save this fee we'll try to match you up with another solo traveler. Just let us know that you'd like a roommate when registering.*



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