



Jewish Federation of Lehigh Valley

March of the Living Delegation 2027

Frequently Asked Questions



Q: What is the March of the Living Program and who participates in this experience?

A: March of the Living is part of the single largest Jewish educational program for teens and adults in the world. The March of the Living brings together individuals from multiple countries and regions around the world to spend time in Poland surrounding Yom HaShoah, Holocaust Memorial Day. The trip allows participants to learn about the Jewish community that once thrived in Poland as well as encountering the present-day resurgence of Jewish culture and life in Poland. The time in Israel will allow participants to experience Israel's Memorial Day, and celebrate, Israel's Independence Day.

Q: What are the dates of the 2027 March of the Living?

A: The official program begins midday on Monday, May 3rd in Krakow, Poland. The Poland portion of the program will end in Warsaw, Poland on Sunday early afternoon, May 9th. Participants can elect to return back to the USA or other destinations at this time or continue with the group to Israel, with an expected arrival in Israel early evening of May 9th. The Israel portion of the program will conclude on Thursday, mid-afternoon, May 13th. Each participant is responsible for their own flight arrangements to Poland- arrival to Krakow and return from Warsaw. If you elect to travel to Israel, the return from Israel and the flight to Poland is the responsibility of each individual. The flight from Warsaw to Tel Aviv is included in the price of the full program.

Q: Is this a really depressing trip?

A: The March of the Living journey to Poland and Israel allows participants to encounter the richness and anguish of our past, the vitality of the present, and the hope for our future. Visiting the sites in Poland, while filled with emotion, is also both positive and uplifting, because you will share moments of both sadness and joy with people from all over the world. The Israel portion of the trip is powerful and inspiring. Participants come away creating long-lasting bonds and experiencing a life-changing event.

Q: Is security a program concern?

A: Security and safety are a high priority throughout the March. MOTL delegations travel with at least one-armed security guard per bus, and all site visits are checked and cleared by security in the mornings and before groups arrive. March of the Living International works with the highest levels of law enforcement and government in Poland and Israel.

Q: What religious practices or expectations are there; is the food kosher?

A: The program is set up to accommodate the religious needs of all its participants. Buses do not operate on Shabbat and all food in Poland and Israel is certified kosher.

Q: Is the trip very strenuous?

A: There is a fair amount of walking on most days. It is important to wear the correct shoes for being on your feet for several hours per day. You can sit and rest at any given location.

Q: If my passport is expired, or if I do not have a passport, what should I do?

A: Passports can be renewed at your local post office. Please submit a copy of the picture page of the renewed passport. You must have a valid passport that expires on or after Nov. 1, 2027.

Q: Do you need Trip Protection/Cancellation Insurance? Does MOTL provide Health Insurance?

A: The International March of the Living does not provide this type of insurance; however, **it is highly recommended** that you purchase a travel insurance policy that includes both medical and emergency evacuation coverage. A list of travel insurance companies that previous participants have utilized will be shared with all registered participants. If you want to purchase Cancel for Any Reason Insurance, you must do so within 21 days of first payment for any aspect of the program. The International March of the Living does not provide health insurance. **All participants must have health insurance in place to cover both emergency and/or routine medical services overseas.** If your health insurance does not cover routine and emergency medical services that happen abroad, you must purchase a short-term supplemental travel health insurance policy for the trip.

Q: Is my March of the Living Trip considered tax deductible?

A: As the International MOTL is a designated 501-C3 charitable organization, all contributions are tax deductible, however, the journey itself is not due to the exchange of goods and services.

Q: Do you need a visa to enter Poland and Israel?

A: US Citizens do not require a visa to enter either Poland or Israel, however, the State of Israel does require an Electronic Travel Authorization. Relevant details will be shared prior to departure. If you are a citizen of another country other than the USA, please check with the Polish and Israeli Consulates to see if a visa is required for entrance.

Q: What is the program fee and when will I be able to apply to participate in the 2027 MOTL?

A: The cost of the program will include all hotels (4 and 5 Star), museum and site entrance fees, guides, ground transportation, and the majority of meals. The price will not include flights except for the flight from Warsaw to Tel Aviv for full-program participants. Please note that each delegation's forms are specific to their group. An outline of the cancellation policy will be included in the application. Both pricing and the application will become available in mid-September.

Q: What is the itinerary for the program?

A: The itinerary includes (in Poland), Krakow, Auschwitz and Birkenau, Warsaw, and Majadanek. The time in Israel, commemorating Israel Memorial Day and celebrating Israel Independence Day includes visits to places of significance.

Q: If I have additional questions or concerns, whom should I contact?

A: For specific questions about the 2027 Jewish Federation of Lehigh Valley MOTL delegation contact Lee Solomon, Director of Community Engagement at lee@jflv.org or Naom Schacter, Chairperson, Jewish Federation of Lehigh Valley MOTL delegation at naomielice@gmail.com. You can also contact Monise Neumann, National Consultant for International March of the Living at monise@motl.org.