

CANDLES HOLOCAUST MUSEUM AND EDUCATION CENTER



AUSCHWITZ TRIP 2014

This packet provides preliminary information on the summer 2014 educational travel options led by Auschwitz survivor Eva Mozes Kor and CANDLES Holocaust Museum and Education Center. The information presented here, including dates, cost, and itinerary, are subject to change pending final confirmation from international tour operators. We know you need to make plans, so we promise to try to stick as closely as possible to the info presented here!

CONTACT:

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Dear Friend of CANDLES,

Thank you for your interest in our 2014 trip to Poland. Visiting Auschwitz with a survivor is an unforgettable journey that very few people will ever have the chance to experience. In fact, of the more than 1,000,000 visitors to Auschwitz every year, we estimate less than 1% of those visitors have the opportunity to tour with a survivor – perhaps as few as 0.01%!

If you have ever had the inclination to visit Auschwitz and learn from that tragic and historic site, if you have ever felt a passion for studying the Holocaust, if you are fascinated by the story of Eva Kor and the twins of Auschwitz, if you are seeking a trip that is meaningful and different from all other trips, if you are seeking to make lifelong connections with interesting people from all walks of life, if you want to be part of history, then this trip is for you. Do not let this opportunity pass you by!

For many people, the first consideration is cost. In the past six years, we have taken many students, teachers, and retired people on limited or fixed income to Auschwitz. We want everyone to be able to go no matter one's age or occupation, so our goal is to keep the price as affordable as possible. We are currently accepting bids to get the best prices. *If our cost comes in lower than we have estimated in this document, we will pass those savings on to you.* Please do not let the prices you see in this document hold you back. You may think there is no way to afford it, but we have seen this play out time and time again: If you are determined, there is a way. Keep in touch with us, ask questions, stay on the info distribution list, and keep thinking of creative ways to afford the trip.

This year we are excited to announce a new opportunity for those with a special interest in the story of Eva Mozes Kor. After our Poland portion concludes, Eva will lead an optional tour of her hometown in Transylvania, Romania, as well as other sites in the region that were important to her experiences pre- and post-war. This is an opportunity that has never been presented to our Auschwitz trip members and a journey Eva has not taken since 2001. In fact, she has only been back to her village three times since that fateful day in 1944.

We highly encourage you to read through the options in this packet, do your own research on the sites we will visit, ask plenty of questions, and by all means join us on the trip! When you are ready to take the next step, please email Nicole Sconce, Operations Director, at nicole@candlesholocaustmuseum.org or call the museum at 812-234-7881.

Do not miss out on this informative and enlightening journey!

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Kiel Majewski', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Kiel Majewski
Executive Director

P.S. If you would like to see photos from last year's trip, [hold the "control" key and click here](#) to view my photo album-style report to the CANDLES Board of Directors.

OPTION A

Auschwitz-Birkenau – 9 days

Walk in the footsteps of survivor Eva Kor as she recounts her harrowing and inspiring story of survival, triumph, and forgiveness in the very place where it all happened. Learn about the lives of the victims, the Nazi system of destruction, and the courage of survivors from the expert tour guides of the Auschwitz-Birkenau State Museum. Tour Krakow, Poland's historic Jewish quarter, including Oscar Schindler's factory and the filming location of Steven Spielberg's *Schindler's List*. Meanwhile, soak in the splendor and beauty of Krakow, Poland's charming, medieval royal city, and visit the Wieliczka Salt Mine, a UNESCO World Heritage site.



Above, left to right: "Gate of Death" entrance to Birkenau; Infamous "Work Makes Free" sign at Auschwitz; Eva pointing to a photo of herself taken at liberation; Main Market Square in Krakow's Old Town

Preliminary Itinerary – June 28-July 6

- **June 28** – Depart USA from Chicago
- **June 29** – Arrive in Krakow, get situated at hotel
- **June 30** – Morning: Take walking tour of Krakow's Old Town, including Wawel Cathedral and Market Square. Afternoon options: Wieliczka Salt Mine, Oscar Schindler Factory Museum, Jewish Quarter, free time.
- **July 1** – Tour Auschwitz II/Birkenau with Eva
- **July 2** – Tour Auschwitz I
- **July 3** – Morning: Tour Plaszow Concentration Camp (connected with Schindler Factory). Afternoon: Free time/options (see above).
- **July 4** – Morning: Birkenau guided tour or time for picture-taking. Afternoon: Auschwitz I candle-lighting ceremony, time for further exploration of exhibits.
- **July 5** – Free day/options
- **July 6** – Return to USA

Approximate Cost: \$3,500-\$3,900

Includes:

- Airfare from Chicago to Krakow and back
- Ground transportation
- 7-night hotel stay
- Daily breakfast and dinner
- Auschwitz-Birkenau entrance fees and tour guides
- Tips and taxes
- Unforgettable opportunity to tour Auschwitz with a survivor

OPTION B

Romania Heritage Tour – 9 days

Be part of the first group to ever tour Eva's home village of Portz in Transylvania, Romania. Visit the site of her family home and schoolhouse, then ride through the countryside past rustic villages that look untouched from 70 years ago. Stand on the site of the regional ghetto where Eva's family was deported to Auschwitz, and tour the Northern Transylvania Holocaust Museum in Simleu Silvaniei. Explore Cluj, where Eva and her sister Miriam lived after the war, where Eva defied the ruling Communist party and the twin girls participated in their first Holocaust remembrance ceremony in 1946. Conclude the tour on the Danube, with three nights and two full days exploring Budapest, Hungary, known as one of the world's most beautiful cities.



Above, left to right: Last photo taken of Eva's family, at their home in Portz before the war; wooden church in Portz; Northern Transylvania Holocaust Museum in Simleu Silvaniei; a view of Cluj; a view of Budapest from the Danube.

Preliminary Itinerary – July 5-13

- **July 5** – Depart USA from Chicago
- **July 6** – Arrive in Budapest, Hungary, and take coach or train to Cluj, Romania
- **July 7** – Tour Cluj-Napoca, including apartment where Eva and her twin sister lived after the war, former Communist party headquarters, and synagogue where Eva and Miriam attended first Holocaust remembrance ceremony
- **July 8** – Tour village of Portz, including site of Eva's family home, schoolhouse, church, and cemetery of Eva's grandparents
- **July 9** – Tour Simleu Silvaniei, including site of former Cehei ghetto and Northern Transylvania Holocaust Museum
- **July 10** – Morning: Take coach or train from Cluj to Budapest. Evening: Optional activities in Budapest, including Jewish Quarter (site of Europe's largest synagogue), parliament, museums, castles.
- **July 11** – Morning: Guided tour of Budapest. Afternoon/evening: Free time.
- **July 12** – Morning: Guided tour of Budapest's historic Jewish quarter, including largest Neologue synagogue in Europe. Evening: Sightseeing cruise on the Danube.
- **July 13** – Return to USA

Approximate Cost: \$3,700-\$4,200. Includes:

- Airfare from Chicago to Budapest and back
- Ground transportation, including trains and/or coaches
- 7-night hotel stay
- Daily breakfast and dinner
- Museum entrance fees and tour guides
- Tips and taxes

OPTION A + OPTION B

Poland + Romania – 16 days

After the Auschwitz experience, fly from Krakow to Budapest and trace Eva's life story before and after the Holocaust.

Preliminary Itinerary – June 28-July 13

- **June 28** – Depart USA from Chicago
- **June 29** – Arrive in Krakow, get situated at hotel
- **June 30** – Morning: Take walking tour of Krakow's Old Town, including Wawel Cathedral and Market Square. Afternoon options: Wieliczka Salt Mine, Oscar Schindler Factory Museum, Jewish Quarter, free time.
- **July 1** – Tour Auschwitz II/Birkenau with Eva
- **July 2** – Tour Auschwitz I
- **July 3** – Morning: Tour Plaszow Concentration Camp (connected with Schindler Factory). Afternoon: Free time/options (see above).
- **July 4** – Morning: Birkenau guided tour or time for picture-taking. Afternoon: Auschwitz I candle-lighting ceremony, time for further exploration of exhibits.
- **July 5** – Free day/options
- **July 6** – Fly from Krakow to Budapest. Meet Option B group at airport, take coach or train to Oradea, Romania.
- **July 7** – Tour village of Portz, including site of Eva's family home, schoolhouse, church, and cemetery of Eva's grandparents
- **July 8** – Tour Simleu Silvaniei, including site of former Cehei ghetto and Northern Transylvania Holocaust Museum
- **July 9** – Tour Cluj-Napoca, including apartment where Eva and her twin sister lived after the war, former Communist party headquarters, and synagogue where Eva and Miriam attended first Holocaust remembrance ceremony
- **July 10** – Morning: Take coach or train from Oradea to Budapest. Evening: Optional activities in Budapest, including Jewish Quarter (site of Europe's largest synagogue), parliament, museums, castles.
- **July 11** – Morning: Guided tour of Budapest. Afternoon/evening: Free time.
- **July 12** – Morning: Guided tour of Budapest's historic Jewish quarter, including largest Neologue synagogue in Europe. Evening: Sightseeing cruise on the Danube.
- **July 13** – Return to USA

Approximate Cost: \$5,000-\$5,800

Includes:

- Airfare from Chicago to Budapest and back as well as airfare from Krakow to Budapest
- Ground transportation, including trains and/or coaches
- 14-night hotel stay
- Daily breakfast and dinner
- Museum entrance fees and tour guides
- Tips and taxes

About Eva Kor

Eva Mozes Kor is a survivor of the Holocaust, a forgiveness advocate, and a revered public speaker. Powered by a never-give-up attitude, Eva has emerged through a life filled with trauma as a brilliant example of the power of the human spirit to overcome. She is a community leader, a champion of human rights, and a tireless educator of young people.

In 1944, Eva and her family were loaded into a cattle car packed with other Jewish prisoners and transported to the Auschwitz concentration camp. Eva and her twin sister Miriam were just 10 years old. At Auschwitz, the girls were ripped apart from their mother, father and two older sisters, never to see any of them ever again. Eva and Miriam became part of a group of children used as human guinea pigs in genetic experiments, under the direction of the now-infamous Dr. Josef Mengele. Approximately 1,500 sets of twins were abused, and most died as a result of these experiments. Eva herself became gravely ill, but through sheer determination, she stayed alive and helped Miriam survive. Approximately 200 children were found alive by the Soviet Army at the liberation of the camp on January 27, 1945. The majority of the children were Mengele twins. Eva and Miriam Mozes were among them.

In 1995, Eva opened CANDLES Holocaust Museum and Education Center in Terre Haute, Indiana, with a mission to prevent prejudice and hatred through education about the Holocaust. Thousands of people, including many school groups, have visited CANDLES since it opened. In 2003, the museum was destroyed by a hate-filled arsonist. Eva vowed to rebuild, and with the help of a generous public outpouring of support, the museum was rebuilt and reopened in 2005. Eva has delivered her message all over the world, including several times in Germany, Israel, and Poland, and was a featured speaker at the 10th anniversary of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission in South Africa. Her story is documented in the award-winning film *Forgiving Dr. Mengele* and the popular young adult book *Surviving the Angel of Death: The Story of a Mengele Twin in Auschwitz*.

*A trip of a lifetime with a Holocaust survivor.
A chance to meet new peers, friends, and mentors.
An opportunity you do not want to miss!*

About the Trip

By providing community members with an immersion experience in the historical setting of Auschwitz, we hope to foster powerful breakthroughs in awareness of our respective roles in creating a world based on hope, healing, respect, and responsibility. We want to help our community members become witnesses to history so they can make the world a brighter place. Everyone is welcome on this trip regardless of religion, occupation, ethnicity, or any other factor.

About CANDLES Holocaust Museum and Education Center

CANDLES is a 501(c)(3) not-for-profit organization founded in 1995 by Auschwitz survivor Eva Mozes Kor. Our mission is to shine a light on the story of the Holocaust and Eva Kor to create an empowered community of critical thinkers who will illuminate the world with hope, healing,

respect, and responsibility. We have led group tours of Auschwitz in 2005, 2007, 2010, 2012, and 2013 with up to 100 people. Our surveys conducted during and after the trip indicate that 100% of all trip participants are “highly satisfied” or better with their experience.

Feedback from Past Trip Participants

“This is by far the most amazing thing I’ve ever done!”

“This trip was more than I ever expected. I am ready to begin planning my Holocaust unit with such greater insight and a better understanding for the enormity of the subject matter.”

“Many thanks to Eva and the CANDLES staff for offering an amazing immersion into the tragic story of the Holocaust. Thanks, too, for inspiring and empowering us with a positive response – forgiveness - giving me hope in the face of continued expressions of prejudice and hatred in our world.”

“Sometimes there are experiences that you know, as they are happening, that they will change you. This is one of those experiences, and I thank all of you who were a part of my life-changing experience for sharing this moment in time with me.”

“This trip is not only informative – it’s enlightening.”

“I am so glad to have gone on this journey with such a respectful, compassionate group of people.”

Next Steps

Call or email Nicole at the museum to let her know you are interested: 812-234-7881 or nicole@candlesholocaustmuseum.org.

Nicole will then add you to our information list and keep you updated with any new information. If you are ready to reserve your spot, fill out the attached form and mail it with your \$500 non-refundable deposit, or \$750 for combined options. Payments and forms may also be sent electronically. Total balance is due by May 1, 2014. Payment plans are available!

We will also announce any scholarship opportunities for students, teachers, and community members on our website and via email.

CANDLES 2014 TRIP REGISTRATION

Name: _____

Street Address: _____

City, State, ZIP: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

Occupation: _____ Date of Birth: _____

How did you find out about the trip? _____

Why do you want to go? _____

Sign me up for (circle one):

Option A (Poland)
\$3500-\$3900

Option B (Romania)
\$3700-\$4200

Option A + B (Poland + Romania)
\$5000-\$5800

Payment amount enclosed: _____

Traveling alone or possibly with guests? _____ How many guests? _____

*Please fill out an additional registration sheet for each guest.

Are you willing to submit to a background check and criminal history report? _____

Return this form with your \$500 nonrefundable deposit, or \$750 for combined options, to:

CANDLES Holocaust Museum and Education Center

Attention: Nicole Sconce

1532 S. 3rd Street

Terre Haute, IN 47802

Fax: 812-478-2824

Email: nicole@candlesholocaustmuseum.org

Phone: 812-234-7881

Payments and forms may also be sent electronically. Please make all checks payable to CANDLES Inc. Please contact Nicole with any questions. We look forward to seeing you on the trip!