

FRJC

The Foundation for Remote Jewish Communities

presents

JOURNEY HOME 2018

JAPAN & CHINA through Jewish eyes™

July 1 ~ July 15, 2018 ♦ A 15-day deluxe Kosher tour visiting
Kyoto, Tokyo, Beijing, Xian & Shanghai

Escorted by Dr. Amiel Tokayer



Dear Fellow Travellers,

In the literature of the Holocaust, the amazing story of European Jews who fled across the world to a haven in the Far East is virtually unknown. Born and raised in Japan, I grew up with these stories at the dinner table told by my father, Rabbi Marvin Tokayer, and I met key figures, both Japanese and Jewish, and visited the sites where the lives of tens of thousands of Jews were saved during World War II. Join me on a 'journey home' to Japan and China.

There are so many fascinating highlights. You will see a Shinto priest wearing a tallis, and hear an award-winning Japanese choir that will perform a private concert for you, in Hebrew and Yiddish! You'll walk the glittering Shanghai waterfront and visit historic Ohel Moishe Synagogue and Museum. In Beijing stand on the amazing 3,000 mile-long Great Wall and in Xian, marvel at the life-size terracotta army, complete with warriors, horses and chariots - truly one of the "wonders of the ancient world." And you'll visit historic Kyoto and see the mysterious "Well of Israel", considered by many to be the landing site of one of the Lost Tribes of Israel.

You will meet distinguished guest speakers throughout the tour including Professor Pan Guang (Director of the Center for Jewish Studies, and author of *The Jews in Shanghai*), and others. You'll visit the highlights of these exotic lands and also see them from a Jewish perspective - *through Jewish eyes*.

Included in the tour cost is a tax-deductible donation to The Foundation for Remote Jewish Communities (FRJC), a 501(c)3 not-for-profit public charity dedicated to preserving and promoting the endangered Jewish communities on the periphery of the Diaspora. If you wish to reserve space on this program, please complete the reservation form and send it, along with your deposit, to FRJC c/o Lotus Tours, 136-18 39th Avenue, Suite 1102, Flushing, NY 11354. If you have any questions, please call (212)267-5414 or email info@lotustours.us

Best Wishes,



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Jul 1, Sun USA to Lotusland

Board your widebody jet bound for Japan. Cross the International Dateline enroute and lose one day.

Jul 2, Mon Arrival in Japan

Upon arrival in Osaka, you will be met and transferred to the Nikko Princess Hotel (or similar). Welcome to Japan

Jul 3, Tue Kyoto B,L,D

This traditional capital of Japan, with its magnificent original gardens, temples, and shrines, has remained beautifully preserved. We will visit the major sights of Kyoto including the Shogun's Palace with its intriguing "nightingale floor", the breathtaking Golden Pavilion, Temple of 1000 Buddhas that will serve as your introduction to the world of Buddhism, imposing Heian Shinto Shrine & Garden, and an ancient well bearing the inscription "Well of Israel". This evening, at the Beit Shalom, we will be hosted to a memorable private concert and dinner by the world-renowned Japanese Hebrew Choir.



Jul 4, Wed Kyoto - bullet train to Tokyo B,L,D

Visit the exotic and unique outdoor food market before boarding the 200-mph "bullet train" to Tokyo. Upon arrival, we'll be met and transferred to the Hotel New Otani (or similar). At dinner, we will meet the Jewish community and Dr. Tokayer will speak of the role that Japan played in the saving of 20,000 Jews during the Holocaust.

Jul 5, Thu Tokyo - fly to Beijing B,L(D)

Tokyo, Japan's modern capital, is a bustling metropolis where traditional Japanese culture and religion live side by side with 21st century architecture and technology. At the Imperial Palace, we will learn of the special relationship of Japan's Imperial Family with the Jewish people. Highlights also include Meiji Shinto Shrine, the Asakusa Buddhist Temple and market, and the famous Ginza - Tokyo's glittering "5th Avenue". Then it's "sayonara" as you board your flight to Beijing. Upon arrival, transfer to the Capital Hotel (or similar).

Jul 6, Fri Beijing B,L,D

Dr. Tokayer will introduce the history of Jews in China. We'll visit nearby Tiananmen Square, the largest public square in the world, and tour the historic and magnificent Forbidden City (the former Imperial Palace, as seen in the film "The Last Emperor"). Visit the picturesque Summer Palace including a refreshing boat ride on the placid artificial lake where you will feel like an emperor (or empress). Shabbat Services and dinner at the hotel, catered by Chabad. Shabbat Shalom.

Jul 7, Sat Shabbat in Beijing B,L,D

Shabbat Shalom. Shabbat services and meals at the hotel and Dr. Tokayer will discuss the Jewish experience in China. Afternoon leisurely walking tour to nearby parks and gardens including a traditional Chinese "hutong."

Jul 8, Sun Great Wall B,L,D

Join Dr. Tokayer for sunrise tai chi exercises in the park (optional!) before departing for the Great Wall of China. See, climb and take a photo on one of the "7 Wonders of the World". Walk along the 'Sacred Way' of original giant stone statues of mythical animals.

Jul 9, Mon Beijing ~ bullet train to Xian B,L,D

Morning visit to Temple of Heaven, the UNESCO World Heritage site that is symbolic of China. After lunch, we'll board our bullet train to Xian. Dinner with invited guest speakers from the Kaifeng Jewish community. Check-in at the Xian Shangri-La (or similar).



Jul 10, Tue Xian ~ Terra Cotta Warriors B,L,D

Founded on the Silk Road, Xian was the capital for 11 dynasties and the largest city of the ancient world. Xian is most noted for the discovery of a virtual army of life-size terra cotta warriors, horses and chariots dating from the 1st dynasty, considered one of the wonders of the ancient world. We'll also visit the magnificent Silk Road Museum that houses unbelievable antiquities including Jewish artifacts and figurines from 1300 years ago. This evening, enjoy a cultural show of music and dance from the Tang Dynasty.

Jul 11, Wed Xian - fly to Shanghai B,L,D

Walk or ride a bicycle on the ancient City Walls and see the historic pagoda where Buddhism was introduced to China. At a jade factory, watch a demonstration on making priceless jewelry from this exquisite stone. Accommodations at the Millennium Hongqiao Hotel (or similar).

Jul 12, Thu Shanghai B,L,D

The Jewish experience in China is most evident in Shanghai, China's largest and most important cultural, industrial and commercial city. Former headquarters of the "Rothchilds of the East" - the Sassoon, Kadoorie and Hardoon families - Shanghai was also home to some 20,000 European Jewish refugees during World War II. Visit the former Jewish ghetto, and Ohel Moshe synagogue that is now an exceptional Jewish museum, and the historic monument to the refugees who survived the Holocaust in Shanghai. Professor Pan Guang will host a special presentation at the Center for Jewish Studies. Drive along the world-famous Bund with its elegant European architecture and visit the magnificent Children's Palace (former Kadoorie home). This evening, enjoy an exciting performance of the world renowned Chinese acrobatic circus. A day to remember!



Jul 13, Fri Shanghai B,L,D

Visit the spectacular Shanghai Museum with its vast collection of exquisite art and antiquities. Since Shanghai is also a "shopper's paradise," we'll have an opportunity to shop for fine silks, cashmeres, carpets and assorted tchatchkas. Afternoon free to explore the city at leisure, or enjoy other sightseeing options. Shabbat Dinner with the Shanghai Jewish community.

Jul 14 Sat Shabbat in Shanghai B,L,D

Shabbat Services. At lunch, we will meet members of the current Shanghai Jewish community. Dr. Tokayer will summarize the Jewish experience in the Far East. This evening, enjoy a night tour to glittering Nanjing Road and the Xintiandi entertainment district.

Jul 15, Sun Return to USA B

Transfer to Pudong International Airport for the flight home. Re-cross the Dateline and arrive this same day. ###
(optional Hong Kong extension available, upon request)

B = breakfast L = Lunch D = Dinner () = inflight

All this is included:

- round-trip group economy airfare from New York JFK and flights within China on modern Boeing or Airbus jets
- 5-star Deluxe air conditioned hotels throughout, double occupancy
- all meals: hotel buffet breakfast daily and kosher lunches & dinners incl. Buddhist vegetarian and Chabad
- all sightseeing and cultural events via air-conditioned coach with English-speaking guides incl. entrance fees
- "bullet trains" in Japan and China • all gratuities (incl. tips to guides, drivers, porters, all hotel and dining staff)
- meetings with the Jewish communities of Japan & China incl. invited guest speakers and dignitaries
- transfers to/from hotels, train terminals and airports (in conjunction with group flights) via chartered coach
- all hotel taxes & service charges • portorage of 1 piece of luggage per person (limit: 44lbs per person)
- tour kit incl. comprehensive guidebook and luggage tags

Not included: passport and visa fees; items not on the table d'hote menus of included meals; purchases from the in-room minibar; phone/fax/internet; laundry & dry cleaning; and items of a personal nature.

Tour cost including round-trip group airfare from JFK (via Japan Airlines)
\$8,888
p.p., dbl occ. incl. air taxes, security & PFCs; subj. to change until ticketed; single supplement \$2,395; Land Only: \$7,590

2018 JOURNEY HOME ~ RESERVATION FORM

please print

Name _____ *(copy of passport must accompany this form)*

Name _____ *(copy of passport must accompany this form)*

Address _____ Email _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____ Fax _____

Phone (day) _____ (eve) _____ (other) _____

Please reserve _____ spaces. I/We enclose \$ _____ (min \$900 p.p.) deposit payable to FRJC, and (min \$1,100 p.p.) deposit payable to Lotus Tours. You will be invoiced for the balance.

I/We will join the group flight from JFK I/We wish to charge the group airfare to a credit card

I/We will arrange our own international flights (arrive Kyoto 7/2, fly Narita to Beijing 7/5, depart Shanghai 7/15)

SPECIAL EARLY BIRD OFFER:

**Reserve before Nov 1, 2017.
Save \$180 per person off
the inclusive tour cost.**

Your tour hotels: All hotels are chosen for their service, quality, comfort and convenience. Featured hotels:



*Nikko Princess
Kyoto*



*New Otani
Tokyo*



*Capital Hotel
Beijing*



*Shangri-La
Xian*



*Millennium Hongqiao
Shanghai*

Terms & Conditions

Air transportation via scheduled IATA airlines, on round-trip economy-class group fare basis (taxes & fuel surcharge not guaranteed until ticketed)

Accommodations in deluxe hotels as indicated, or similar, including all hotel taxes and service charges, double occupancy basis.

Meals are buffet breakfast at the hotels; lunches and dinners at the synagogues or vegetarian restaurants, on table d'hote group menu basis.

Sightseeing and special events via chartered air-conditioned coach with English-speaking guides, including all entrance fees.

Group transfers between airports and hotels, via chartered air-conditioned coach with local guide to meet and assist.

Tour costs are based on 'cash' prices; the use of charge cards will incur a 4% bank credit card service charge.

Reservations

Mail a photocopy of your passport together with \$900 p.p. tax deductible donation by check, payable to FRJC and \$1,100 p.p. check deposit payable to Lotus Tours, Ltd. You will receive a confirmation kit including visa instructions, travel insurance information, invoice, and a tax receipt; the balance is due Apr 1, 2018.

Cancellations and refunds: the initial deposits are non-refundable; for cancellations received between 180 and 90 days, \$1,100 charge will apply; within 90 days, the land portion is not refundable; within 60 days, there may be a penalty on the air portion, as well. Cancellation charges cover non-refundable expenses incurred on behalf of the participant and the group, and help protect tour fares for the remaining participants. No refund or credit for early withdrawal. **Cancellation insurance is highly recommended.** Details on comprehensive low-cost group insurance will be provided with confirmation.



Responsibility: The Foundation for Remote Jewish Communities, Ltd. (FRJC), Lotus Tours/Pacific Delight Travel LLC and/or associated companies (The Organizers) give notice that all tickets issued by them and all arrangements for transport, accommodations and meals, are made by them as agents for the tour participant upon the express condition that they shall not be held liable for any injury, damage, loss, accident, delay or irregularity which may be occasioned by reason of any defect of any vehicle or through the acts of any company or person engaged in conveying the passengers herewith, or of any hotel/ship proprietor or employees. Itineraries and fares may be affected by changes in air services of the various countries. The right is reserved to withdraw any feature announced in this program and to make such alterations in the itinerary as may be found desirable for the convenience and proper carrying out of the tour. The right is reserved to decline, accept or retain any person as a member of the tour. Guest speakers are subject to professional commitments. The Organizers accept no responsibility for losses or additional expenses due to delays or changes in schedules, sickness, weather, strikes, war, quarantine or other causes. All fares shown are based on tariffs, taxes and exchanges rates in effect at time of printing and subject to change. The carriers are not to be held responsible for any act, omission or event during the time passengers are not on their respective conveyances. The passenger ticket shall constitute the sole contract between the carriers and the purchaser or passenger.