



**INSIDE JEWISH ESTONIA & FINLAND
JDC Entwine Insider Trip**

SAMPLE ITINERARY

Day One: Transfer to Helsinki, Finland

Afternoon Depart for Finland

Day Two: Welcome to Helsinki!

Morning Arrive in Finland

Afternoon Welcome to Finland! Opening Lunch & Introductions Facilitated by Co-Chairs & Staff

Briefing on JDC's Role in the Baltics with Ariel Nadbornik, Development Director for the Helsinki Jewish Community and Former JDC Employee & Basya Gartenstein, JDC Entwine Jewish Service Corps Fellow

JDC Entwine's Global Jewish Service Corps (JSC) is a year-long professional opportunity for recent college graduates and young professionals to directly engage with JDC's global mission and actively fulfill the value of Jewish responsibility. JSC Fellows create innovative programs that respond to specific Jewish community needs, gain an understanding of pressing Jewish and humanitarian challenges around the world, and explore Jewish values underlying their service. JDC offers placements in Israel, the overseas Diaspora Jewish communities, and countries where JDC has non-sectarian projects.

Evening Walking Tour of Helsinki with Local Guide

Dinner with Community Leaders

Optional Evening Out

Overnight in Helsinki

Day Three: Understanding Helsinki's Jewish Landscape

Morning Breakfast at the Hotel

Tour of the Helsinki Jewish Community, including the Synagogue and Schools

There has been Jewish education in Finland since 1878. The Jewish school was founded by Christians for Jews during the time that Jews were still in Finland on temporary visiting permits. In 1890 Jews were given permission to provide their own education to their children. After much fundraising they founded their own school in 1893. But after independence (1917) a new school was founded which is the one that exists today. It was moved to the community center in the 1960s.

One of two synagogues in Finland (the second is in Turku), Helsinki's synagogue is located in the Kamppi (Kampen) district. The synagogue is used by the 1,200-strong Jewish community of Helsinki. The synagogue building, designed by the Viipuri-born architect Jac Ahrenberg (1847-1914), was completed in 1906.

DRAFT ITINERARY - SUBJECT TO CHANGE

Introduction to the Jewish School with Ilpo Kuusela, School Principal

Interactive Activity with Students Led by Participants

Discussion about Local Education & the History of the Kindergarten with Rebecca Hasenson, School Director

Afternoon Lunch at the School

Overview of Helsinki's Jewish History & Presentation on the Community Archives at the Community Center

Core Conversation #1: *Our Intentions*

Free Time & Souvenir Shopping in Alexanderinkatu, Kamppi & Forum Neighborhoods

Evening Service Project at the Jewish Cemetery with Community Members

Group Reflection on Service Project with Community Members (at the cemetery)

Dinner with Local Peers

Optional Evening Out

Overnight in Helsinki

Day Four: Day Trip to Suomenlinna!

Morning Breakfast at the Hotel

Depart to Suomenlinna by Ferry

Suomenlinna is an inhabited sea fortress built on six islands (Kustaanmiekka, Susisaari, Iso-Mustasaari, Pikku-Mustasaari, Länsi-Mustasaari and Långören) and which now forms part of the city of Helsinki. Suomenlinna is a UNESCO World Heritage site and popular with tourists and locals, who enjoy it as a picturesque picnic site.

Tour the Island's Important Landmarks

Afternoon Lunch at Local Restaurant

Return to Helsinki

Visit to the Esperia Care Home for the Elderly

Meet with Sara-Koti and Laila Takolander, the Home's Community Representatives

Spend Quality Time with Elderly Residents

Evening Core Conversation #2: *Arevut and JDC*

Festive Dinner at Local Restaurant with Local Peers

Optional Evening Out with Local Peers

Overnight in Helsinki

DRAFT ITINERARY - SUBJECT TO CHANGE

Day Five: Travel to Tallinn

Morning Breakfast

Ferry to Tallinn

Pre-World-War II, Estonia was home to a small but vibrant Jewish community. Jewish life in Estonia came to an abrupt halt in 1940 with the Soviet occupation and the subsequent German occupation in 1941. After the war, a number of Jews who had previously fled returned to Soviet-occupied Estonia.

Afternoon Lunch in Tallinn

Walking Tour of the Jewish Community

Welcome to Tallinn! Briefing & Tour of the Jewish Compound with Local Jewish Community Leaders

The tour will include an introduction to JCC Programs, the Tallinn Jewish school, Tallinn Synagogue and the Jewish Museum.

Evening Dinner with Community Professionals
Optional Evening Out

Overnight in Tallinn

Day Six: Lending a Hand in the Community

Morning Breakfast at the Hotel

Introduction to Social Welfare Programs & Service Project with the Welfare Director at Social Work Center

Service Project (Part I): Bake Challah & Pack Gift Baskets for Elderly Clients alongside Local Peers

Afternoon Lunch with Local Peers & Conversation with the Social Welfare Director

Service Project (Part II): Deliver Gift Baskets & Home Visits to Elderly

Tour of the Kindergarten & Shabbat Program with Kindergarten Kids

Core Conversation #3: *Arevut and Me*

Evening Kabbalat Shabbat with Estonian Peers at Restaurant

Shabbat Dinner with Estonian Peers

Overnight in Tallinn

Day Seven: Shabbat in Tallinn

Morning Breakfast at the Hotel

Optional Services

Guided Walking Tour of Tallinn & Jewish Tallinn

Afternoon Group Shabbat Lunch in Old Town

DRAFT ITINERARY - SUBJECT TO CHANGE

Discussion with Special Guest & Local Community Leader Gennadi Gramberg

Gennadi Gramberg was born in 1956 in Ukraine. He graduated from the Dniprodzerzhynsk Institute of Industry with a diploma of an electrical engineer. Between 1979 and 1990 Gennadi worked at the Electrical Engineering Plant in Tallinn. He has participated in activities of the Estonian Jewish Cultural Society since 1988, and has been a member of Executive Board since 1989. He was elected chairman of the JCS in 1990, served as chairman of the Estonian Jewish Community between 1992 and 1995, and as chair of the EJC Council between 1995 and 2007. He remains a member of the EJC Council. Gennadi participated in the opening of Tallinn Jewish School and was the first teacher of the Hebrew language and Jewish customs. In 1991-1995 he hosted the "Shalom aleikhem" show on Radio 4 and was the editor of the "Hashachar" newspaper in 2000-2006. He is the author of the book, "Tallinn New Synagogue." Gennadi currently works at the Tallinn Environment Department.

Evening Havdalah & Dinner with Local Peers from Jclub

JClub is a club for young adults in their 20s and 30s that allows young people to be part of the Jewish community through educational and fun activities. JClub helps young people to grow and connect to each other and the Community through shared goals, interests and experiences. Activities include wide variety of educational, leadership, volunteer and social events, workshops, lectures, community services, Shabbat dinners and more.

Experience a Tallinn Tradition! Closing Ceremony of XXXIV Tallinn Old Town Days

Tallinn Old Town Days is a festival that began in 1982 to celebrate the beginning of summer. These festivities fill yards, squares, streets, coffee shops and halls with music, art, etc. Every year Tallinn Old Town Days follows a different slogan, which also inspires the theme of the festival. This year's motto, "The Living Streets of the Old Town" will showcase performances on the streets that were important throughout old town history. Throughout the event days, the streets are filled with people who are wearing ancient clothes to create an ancient environment. Some visitors of Old Town take part in the tradition by buying costumes from the local market on Harju Street.

(Shabbat Ends)

Overnight in Tallinn

Day Eight: Engaging Tallinn's Next Generation

Morning Breakfast at the Hotel

Guided Visit to Kadriorg Palace & Art Museum

Kadriorg can be considered to be the grandest example of palace and park design in Estonian architectural history. The palace, originally an imperial summer residence, has been extremely well preserved since the early 18th century. Designed to resemble the Italian palaces of the time, the palace has a facade which is three levels at the front and sides and two levels at the rear in a mix of architectural styles. Today the palace is home to the foreign art collection of the Estonian Art Museum.

Afternoon Lunch in the Community
Interactive Leadership Activity with Local Teens from the School of Madrichim (counselors)

Panel Discussion with Senior Madrichim in Leadership Positions

Free Time and Shopping at Viru Center

Core Conversation #4: *Action*

DRAFT ITINERARY - SUBJECT TO CHANGE

Evening Festive Closing Dinner with Young Families from the Community
 Optional Evening Out

Overnight in Tallinn

Day Nine: In Transit

Morning Depart Tallinn