



TEMPLE EMANU-EL

presents

A Symphony of Jewish Berlin

Louis Lewandowski Festival

DECEMBER 15–21, 2026

Itinerary subject to change

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 15

The Overture

- Private Transfers upon arrival
- 3:00 PM Welcome & Curated Introduction: An opening session at our hotel, including a specialized briefing to ensure a seamless experience.
Depart by bus.
- 4:30 PM Architectural Deep-Dive: A private exploration of the Jewish Museum, where Daniel Libeskind’s architecture mirrors the “voids” and echoes of Jewish history.
- 6:30 PM Dinner at the hotel

Overnight: Adlon, Berlin

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 16

Symbols of Power & Unity

- Breakfast at hotel
- 9:00 AM Depart for tour with guide Alex Green
- 9:15 AM Imperial Berlin: A walking tour starting at the Brandenburg Gate and the Reichstag, exploring the city’s transformation from an imperial capital to a symbol of reunification.
The Weight of Memory: A guided journey through the Memorial to the Murdered Jews of Europe, including a visit to the underground Information Center to honor individual stories in the “Room of Names.”
Shadows of the Reich: A visit to the site of Hitler’s Bunker – a parking lot today – and the site of the former New Reich Chancellery. We will stop at the Silhouette of Georg Elser, a striking monument to the man who nearly assassinated Hitler.
Topography of Terror & The Wall: An exploration of the former Gestapo and SS headquarters, now a memorial site situated alongside a significant preserved segment of the Berlin Wall.
- 1:30 PM Diplomatic Lunch: A private dining experience at Salon Berliner featuring guest of honor Israeli Ambassador Ron Prosor, for a discussion on modern geopolitics. TBC
- 3:30 PM The Craft of the Spirit: Schnapps Tasting Visit the historic distillery, Mampe Berlin. This “liquid history” session explores the traditional production of German bitters and gins. Sample a flight of small-batch spirits while learning about the city’s 19th-century distillery traditions. Finish off by creating your own gin to take home.
- 6:00 PM Refresh back at the hotel followed by dinner
- 7:30 PM Culinary Excellence: An elegant welcome dinner at Bocca di Bacco, known for its refined Italian cuisine and extensive cellar. Possible Invited Guests:
 - Regina Yantian, Artistic Director of the Festival
 - Nils Busch-Petersen, Festival Director
 - Joining for dinner with one of the visiting international choirs

Overnight: Adlon, Berlin



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[Register Now](#)

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THURSDAY, DECEMBER 17

Avant-Garde Galleries & Culinary Traditions

	Breakfast at hotel
● 10:00 AM	Depart for Gallery hop with Dr. Martin von Ostrowski, German postwar and contemporary artist. • Explore neighborhoods such as Mitte and Kreuzberg, the epicenter of Berlin's contemporary art scene. Our morning will focus on contemporary art, independent galleries, and the city's cultural energy.
● 12:30 PM	Lunch at Orania • KINDL Center for Contemporary Art (Kindl Brewery)
● 5:00 PM	Refresh back at the hotel
● 5:30 PM	Enjoy a light bite before boarding the bus to the Festival.
● 6:00 PM	Festival Opening: After time to refresh and dinner, we will attend the Opening Gala of the Louis Lewandowski Festival, celebrating the majestic choral traditions of 19th-century Berlin.
● 8:45 PM	Enjoy an exclusive dinner at the Sky Restaurant , their glass exterior elevator takes you directly from the entrance, offering a unique 270° panorama at a height of 70 meters. From every seat, enjoy Berlin's stunning sea of lights. TBC
● 11:15 PM	Return to hotel.

Overnight: Adlon, Berlin

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 18

Heritage, Enlightenment & Shabbat

	Breakfast at hotel
● 9:30 AM	Depart for Wannsee • Contrast at the Lake: A deep dive into the "banality of evil" at the House of the Wannsee Conference, the site where the "Final Solution" was planned. We then transition to the Liebermann-Villa, the former summer home of the Great Jewish Impressionist Max Liebermann. • The Final Note Glienicke Bridge: At the "Bridge of Spies," we reflect on the story of Natan Sharansky—whose "zigzag" walk to freedom mirrors the resilience we often celebrate in our music.
● 1:00 PM	Lunch in Hackescher Markt, a vibrant district of historic courtyards and living history.
● 2:30 PM	The Righteous Path: A visit to the Workshop of Otto Weidt, followed by the "Barn Quarter" (Scheunenviertel) to see the resurgence of modern Jewish life in Berlin.
● 4:00 PM	Refresh at the hotel and prepare for Shabbat
● TBA	Shabbat in the City: We gather at the Crowne Plaza for a soul-stirring Shabbat service and dinner, joining voices with visiting cantors and fellow festivalgoers.



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SATURDAY, DECEMBER 19

Remembrance & Choral Resilience

Breakfast at hotel

9:00 AM

Depart hotel with Dr. Martin von Ostrowski, German postwar and contemporary artist.

9:30 AM

The Grandeur of Museum Island: Begin the morning with a short stroll from the Adlon to Museum Island, a UNESCO World Heritage site. Explore the hidden courtyards of Auguststraße, visiting pioneering spaces such as Eigen + Art or the KW Institute for Contemporary Art, which focus on the city's evolving creative identity.

1:00 PM

Experience lunch at the quintessential social energy of a Berlin beer hall.

3:00 PM

A poignant and historical stop, Gleis 17 (Track 17) at Grunewald Station serves as a powerful memorial documenting the systematic deportation of over 50,000 Berlin Jews through 186 chronologically ordered steel plates etched with dates and destinations.

6:00 PM

Refresh back at the hotel

7:15 PM

Depart for dinner at Oxymoron.

Overnight: Adlon, Berlin

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 20

Art, Infamy & The Bridge to Freedom

Breakfast at hotel

9:00 AM

A walking journey through Jägerstraße to the site of the Mendelssohn Banking House, where we will have a look at the small museum honoring the family's vast cultural and financial contributions. We pause at the Memorial for the Book Burning at Bebelplatz, a solemn reminder of the destruction of books and intellectual life. **The Jewish Quarter & Enlightenment:** An exploration of the historic heart of Jewish Berlin. We visit the Old Jewish Cemetery to pay respects at the tomb of philosopher Moses Mendelssohn, then view the Jewish High School and the former Jewish school for girls in a Bauhaus style, symbols of the community's intellectual and creative continuity.

11:30 AM

Visit to Christmas Market Humboldt Forum

1:30 PM

Lunch at Markt Halle Neun

3:45 PM

Refresh at hotel

4:30 PM

Depart for the festival

Farewell Crescendo: Our journey concludes with the Festival Finale, a celebratory evening of music and camaraderie followed by a grand Farewell Dinner.

Overnight: Adlon, Berlin

MONDAY, DECEMBER 21

A Harmonious Departure

Breakfast at the hotel

Enjoy a leisurely final breakfast before your private transfer to the airport. We depart Berlin not just with memories, but with the echoes of the "Lewandowski sound" and a deeper connection to the enduring spirit of the Jewish people.

TOTAL PER PERSON:

\$9,535

SINGLE SUPPLEMENT:

\$1,475