

In Honor of the 25th Anniversary of the Carpatho-Rusyn Society
THE CARPATHO-RUSYN HERITAGE TOUR
Visiting Rusyns in Slovakia, Poland and Ukraine
June 24-July 5, 2019

Dear Friends,

Come experience a world away -- one off the beaten tourist path of Europe.

The Carpatho-Rusyns are a stateless people in Eastern Europe with their own incredibly rich language, religious expression and culture. To experience them fully, you have to spend time in their homeland in the Carpathian Mountains – a homeland that today falls within the borders of Poland, Slovakia and Ukraine.

See their folkways, eat their cuisine, hear their music, see their dances, sing their songs. Experience their remote villages, their distinct wooden churches, their ancient art and their impact on the modern world.

Experience a people, a culture few will ever have the chance to know.

John Righetti

The Rusyn Heritage Tour

ITINERARY

DAY 1: Mon., June 24 - Depart from Newark

Depart from Newark for your overnight trans-Atlantic flight to Rzeszow, Poland.

DAY 2: Tues., June 25 – Rzeszow / Sanok

L,D

AM: Welcome to Rzeszow. You will be met at the airport and depart immediately for Sanok.



PM: Upon your arrival in Sanok you will have a light lunch at the hotel.

Sanok was once settled by Poles, Jews, and Lemko Rusyns. The town's history goes back almost 1000 years when it was part of a medieval trade route.

Enjoy the remainder of the day at leisure to relax and get over your jet lag.

Dinner: Tonight enjoy a Welcome Dinner at the hotel.

DAY 3: Wed., June 26 – Sanok / Zyndranowa / Krynica

B,D

AM: Visit the Outdoor Museum of Lemko Rusyn Culture

After breakfast at the hotel you will enjoy a tour of the Outdoor Museum of Lemko Rusyn Culture. The museum is one of the largest open-air museums in Poland. It was established in 1958 by Aleksander Rybicki and contains 200 buildings that have been relocated from different areas of Sanok Land including the Low Beskids, Pogórze Bukowskie, Doły, and Jasielsko Sanockie. The collection includes exhibits on 19th and early 20th century life in this area of Poland.



Visit the Icon Museum

Your next stop is the Icon Museum containing ancient icons from the Rusyn territory in Poland, which is housed in the Sanok Castle. A Ruthenian stronghold was originally situated there and was replaced during the reign of King Casimir the Great by a Gothic castle. The castle was later rebuilt during the years 1523-48, in the Renaissance style. Of the 700 icons owned by the museum 106 are presently displayed in some of its chambers. The remainder will be displayed after the renovation of the castle is completed. The collection is the largest one in Poland. The museum also displays paintings by Zdzisław Beksiński, other paintings of contemporary artists, as well as archaeological and historical exhibits connected with the region.



PM: Visit the Lemko Museum

In the afternoon you will travel to the Lemko Rusyn village of Zyndranowa. Upon your arrival you will visit the Lemko Museum, which contains a complete Lemko homestead with costumes, Easter eggs, war memorabilia and more. The museum is set up just as the Rusyns lived at the time of immigration.

Continue to Krynica a beautiful health spa town with gorgeous topiary and home to two World Congress of Rusyns convenings in the western Lemko region. Check in to the Hotel Nikifor.

Dinner: Enjoy a traditional Rusyn dinner in the Hotel Restaurant that is designed exactly like a korchma (tavern) from days gone by.

DAY 4: Thurs., June 27 - Krynica / Gorlice / Krynica

B,D

AM: Sightseeing Tour of Krynica

This morning you will enjoy a Sightseeing Tour of Krynica. You will visit the Nikifor Museum. The Romanówka villa was built in the middle of the 19th century as a holiday guest house. It fulfilled this function for over 100 years. After being moved to its current location the interior was adapted and the building opened in 1994 as the Nikifor Museum/Romanówka Art Gallery. Marvel at the paintings of Epiphanius Drobnjak, the famous naive painter and Lemko known as Nikifor Krynicki. You will see the statue and tomb of this artist. Then study the interesting contrasts between the newly built Orthodox Church and the older Byzantine Catholic Church, the largest Byzantine church in all of Lemkovyna. Enjoy some of this classic spa town and its ambience.



PM: Excursion to Gorlice

In the afternoon you will travel to Gorlice. Visit the Holy Trinity Church with remains of a Rusyn saint and Ruska Bursa, the former Rusyn boarding school, now a Rusyn cultural center.



Dinner: Enjoy a traditional Rusyn dinner at the hotel. After dinner you will practice singing for the Lemko Vatra, a traditional Rusyn outdoor bonfire to be held the next evening with local Lemko Rusyns.

DAY 5: Fri., June 28 – Krynica / Kamjanna / Krynica

B,D

Today those who wish will visit the nearby villages. Everyone else will also visit the traditional Rusyn wooden churches, including the oldest in the Lemko region and Kamjanna, home of beekeeping and honey wine! Visit the Beekeeping Museum.

Return to Krynica to take in the town



Dinner: This evening enjoy a Rusyn Vatra and singing around the bonfire with local Lemko Rusyns while roasting kobasy, eating traditional Lemko outdoor fare and--if you're brave—jump over the bonfire!

DAY 6: Sat., June 29 - Krynica / Orjabyňa / Presov

B,D

After breakfast at the hotel you will travel into the high Beskyd chain of the Carpathians and stop in an actual Rusyn village for local Rusyn food and entertainment.



PM: Continue to Presov, Slovakia's center of Rusyn culture. Check in to the Hotel Dukla.

Dinner: Enjoy dinner at the hotel.

DAY 7: Sun., June 30 - Presov

B,D

Today those who wish will visit the nearby villages. Others enjoy a walking tour of Presov, a multicultural city with an incredibly interesting history. Shop, relax.

Prešov is a town with an interesting past and a dynamic present. The population is Slovak, Polish, and Rusyn. Prešov is the center of the Eastern District of the Evangelical Church and home to both Rusyn Orthodox and Greek Catholic Cathedrals. The monuments of Prešov are concentrated in its historical core stretching around Hlavná ulica Street, which widens into the spindle-shaped square. It is dominated by the parish Church of St. Nicholas from the mid-14th century with a tall tower reconstructed in the Gothic style.



Dinner: Enjoy dinner at the hotel.

DAY 8: Mon., July 1 – Presov / Medzilaborce / Habura / Krasny Brod / Presov B,D

AM: Excursion to Medzilaborce

After breakfast at the hotel you will visit the new Rusyn Museum in Presov. Then you will travel to Medzilaborce, the most Rusyn village in all of Slovakia! Visit the spectacular Orthodox Church and the Andy Warhol Museum, right in the territory where his parents grew up. Continue to Habura where you will see the Rusyn wooden church and its commanding statue of Prince Laborec, leader of the Rusyns' ancestors, crossing the mountains. Proceed to Krasny Brod, site of an historic Rusyn monastery and a holy site to the Rusyns from pagan times. Stop in a little Rusyn village to experience a small town korcma (tavern) just like your ancestors did.





Return to Presov.

Dinner: Enjoy dinner in a Rusyn- themed restaurant with Rusyn food and Rusyn entertainment.

DAY 9: Tues., July 2 – Presov / Uzhhorod

B,D

This morning you will depart Presov and travel to Uzhhorod, the capital of the Rusyn territory since the 600s! Check into the Hotel Uzhhorod. See the ancient sites of Uzhhorod, including Uzhhorod Castle and see where the Union of Uzhhorod took place in 1646. View the Museum of Rusyn Folklife and then on to the Outdoor Museum of Rusyn Folk Culture, which features traditional Rusyn homes from every region of Transcarpathia.



Dinner: Enjoy dinner at your hotel.

DAY 10: Wed., July 3 - Uzhhorod

B,D

Today those who wish will visit the nearby villages. Others enjoy a tour of Uzhhorod. Relax and take in the city and its phenomenal Hungarian period architecture.



Dinner: Enjoy dinner at the hotel with local Rusyn entertainment.

DAY 11: Thurs., July 4 – Uzhhorod / Mukachevo / Kosice

B,D

AM: Excursion to Mukachevo

After breakfast at the hotel you will depart Uzhgorod and travel to Mukachevo, the second largest city of Transcarpathia and the religious and cultural center of Rusyns from earliest times.

Visit St. Nicholas Monastery

Visit the sacred historical site for all Rusyns, St. Nicholas Monastery on Cerneca Hora (Monk's Hill), which is now home to almost 100 Orthodox nuns. The monastery church was built in the late 1700s and holds a miraculous icon and remains of the first Rusyn saint!



Lunch on your own in the sidewalk cafes in downtown Mukachevo.

Visit Mukachevo Castle

In the afternoon you will visit Palanok, the renowned Mukachevo Castle. The view is incredible from there and the castle is filled with a museum of local Rusyn culture.



PM: Continue to Kosice, Slovakia. Check into Hotel Gloria Palac.

Dinner: Enjoy a Farewell Dinner at the hotel and then to bed for early departure the next day.

DAY 12: Fri., July 5 - Kosice / Newark

B

AM: After breakfast you will be transferred to the airport for your flight back home. You return after a wonderful travel experience and feeling culturally enriched.

B=breakfast; L=lunch; D=dinner



PRICE FROM NEWARK:

\$4049.00 p/person, double occupancy

\$ 319.00 single room supplement

The price includes all air taxes and fuel surcharges.

COST INCLUDES

Air: Round-trip airfare from Newark economy class

Hotels: 10 nights in moderate first class hotels, all rooms with private facilities; *Meals:* Breakfast and dinner daily, 1 lunch
Sightseeing: Extensive as per itinerary * All sightseeing in private deluxe motor coaches and includes the services of expert English speaking guides and entrance fees

Tour Director: Experienced English speaking Tour Director will accompany group throughout Poland, Ukraine, and Slovakia

Transportation & Transfers: In private deluxe motor coaches

Miscellaneous: Hotel taxes and service charges * Porterage at the hotels

TOUR CONDITIONS

TOUR PRICE: Tour price is based upon current tariff and exchange rates and is subject to change. It is based upon a minimum of 20 fully paid passengers. In the event this minimum is not met a surcharge will be levied.

REGISTRATION AND DEPOSITS:

A deposit (by check) of \$1000 p/person is required at time of registration, along with a signed registration form. **You will be billed for the balance, which is due on or before April 24, 2019 by check. All registrations received after April 24, 2019 must be accompanied by full payment.**

CANCELLATION TERMS:

Cancellations received:

From March 15-April 15, 2019: \$200 p/person

From April 16, 2019 onward: No refund

All cancellations must be received in writing.

NOTE: Comprehensive insurance is available to cover trip cancellation and interruption, baggage protection, medical, accidental death & dismemberment and emergency evacuation and repatriation. A descriptive booklet will be mailed to you upon receipt of your deposit.

AIR TRANSPORTATION: Economy class via any regular IATA carrier. Any cancellation, itinerary change or failure to use confirmed air space may be subject to penalties levied by the airlines at the time of ticketing. **Air tickets, once issued, are non-refundable. This is in addition to above "Cancellation Terms."**

PASSPORT/VISA REQUIREMENTS: A valid passport is required for all tour members. U.S. citizens do not require visas for travel to Poland, Ukraine, and Slovakia. If you are not a U.S. citizen call the Consulate of EVERY country you will enter (even in-transit when changing planes) to check on visa requirements. **ALL passports must be valid for at least 6 months after the return date of the tour.**

TOUR PRICE DOES NOT INCLUDE: Passport, visa, and insurance, All items of a personal nature, beverages and meals not included in the tour. Gratuities to guides, bus drivers, tour escort, and hotel and restaurant staff. Optional tours and excess baggage charges. Transfers are not included if you arrange your own air. There is no refund for unused land arrangements or any cost incurred through absence or deviation from the stated itinerary for any reason, including illness.

RESPONSIBILITY: FAR HORIZONS, a division of Tzell Travel, NJ and/or their agents, give notice that all tickets issued by them and all arrangements for transport or for hotel accommodations made by them, are made by them as agents for the passenger upon the express condition that they shall not be liable for any injury, damage, loss, accident, delay or irregularity which may be occasioned either by reason of defect of any vehicle conveying the passenger or through the act of default or any company or persons engaged in carrying out the arrangements of the tour, or otherwise in connection therewith, or of any hotel, or employee. FH and/or their agents can accept no responsibility for losses or accidental expenses due to delay or changes in schedules, defaults or overbookings by hotels, sickness, weather, strike, war, acts of terrorism or other causes. All such losses or expenses will have to be borne by the passenger. Baggage is at "owner's risk" throughout the tour unless insured. FH reserves the right to withdraw the tour, or any part of it, to make such alternations in the itinerary as they deem necessary or desirable. FH has no special knowledge or information regarding any supplier insolvency, unsafe conditions, terrorist or social unrest, health hazards or weather hazards, other than what has appeared in the public media. For information about possible dangers at your destination please call the Travel Advisory Section of the State Dept. at (202) 647-5225. For medical information contact the CDC at (877) 394-8747. You hereby release FH from any claims arising from any causes not within our control. By using your tickets, you acknowledge that you have read the foregoing and agree to it.

AIRLINE CLAUSE: Any airlines concerned are not to be held responsible for any act, omission, or event during the time passengers are not aboard their aircraft. The airline tickets when issued shall constitute the sole contract between airline and the purchaser of these tickets/and or passenger. **Airline carriers reserve the right to change equipment and schedules without prior notice or passenger approval. We must agree to this upon acceptance of group contracts. We have the option of cancelling the contract without penalty, however, we would need to protect the group on alternate flights. This is not always possible as changes can occur up to the day of departure.**

FAR HORIZONS

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RESERVATION REQUEST

Send this form with a check payable to: **TZELL TRAVEL**

Mail to: **FAR HORIZONS, 30 Two Bridges Road, Suite 250, Fairfield, NJ 07004.**

Telephone: **973-287-1719 or 877-482-8747, E-mail: info@fhorizons.com**

Enclosed is my/our deposit of \$1000.00 p/person for the above Pilgrimage to Poland, Ukraine and Slovakia.

Homeland Security rules require that you provide us with your exact name as it appears on your PASSPORT and your date of birth.

Name: (1) _____
Surname First Name Middle Name

Date of Birth: (1) _____

Name: (2) _____
Surname First Name Middle Name

Date of Birth: (2) _____

Street: _____ City: _____ State: _____

Zip: _____ Tel: _____ Fax: _____

E-mail: _____

Do you have any food allergies/dietary restrictions? _____

Do you have any health limitations/restrictions? _____

____ I would like to occupy a single room at an additional \$319.

____ I plan to share a twin-bedded room with: _____

____ I would like Far Horizons to select a roommate (if available) to share a twin-bedded room with me. If not available, I understand that I will be charged the single supplement.

Your reservation will be considered official only after your full payment has been received. Should you cancel after your reservation has been received, the cancellation penalties in the "Tour Conditions" apply. I/We have read and agree to the terms and conditions which apply to this tour, especially noting the cancellation and responsibility clauses.

Signature: _____ Date: _____