

DISCOVER BETH HAIM

Visit the historic Beth Haim Cemetery, followed by an enjoyable boat trip along the River Amstel, then go back in time at the unique Portuguese Synagogue.



BETH HAIM CEMETERY

The tour starts at Beth Haim – Hebrew for ‘House of Life’ – a seventeenth century cemetery in the village of Ouderkerk on the Amstel. It is the oldest Jewish cemetery in the western world still in use. Members of the Amsterdam-Jewish community have been buried here for four hundred years. Visitors are escorted through the cemetery, a four-acre national monument with about 28,000 graves, and also shown two buildings on the grounds: the Vegahuis (custodian’s house) and the Rodeamentoshuis (for ritual washing).



BOAT EXCURSION

After visiting Beth Haim, step aboard a boat for a 90-minute trip over the winding River Amstel back to Amsterdam. Along with the beautiful nature, admire rustic pastures and the impressive seventeenth and eighteenth-century country estates built by Amsterdam’s wealthy merchants at that time.



PORTUGUESE SYNAGOGUE

The last stop is the Portuguese Synagogue in Amsterdam’s Jewish Cultural Quarter. The building is still used as a house of worship, but it is also open to the public, and concerts are held there regularly. The 17th-century interior is still fully intact and illuminated by hundreds of candles. The other buildings in the complex include treasure chambers where visitors can admire a unique collection of ceremonial objects made of silver, gold, silk and brocade.

BOOKING INFORMATION

Starting time: Sunday through Friday, starting between 10 am & 1 pm. The tour cannot be booked on Saturdays or Jewish holidays.

Bookings can be made via service@jck.nl or phone: +31 20 5310 380

Beth Haim and the Portuguese Synagogue can also be visited without the boat excursion.

See www.jck.nl/tours for more information and prices. (Kosher) lunch on board can be requested.

Departure point: Beth Haim, Kerkstraat 10, Ouderkerk on the Amstel. Destination: Portuguese Synagogue, Mr. Visserplein 3, Amsterdam

There is a special Hop-On / Hop-Off bus stop next to Beth Haim and the Portuguese Synagogue.