



JEWISH LEADERS START AT SZARVAS



THE MAGIC OF CAMP SZARVAS

1600
CAMPERS
FROM 25+ COUNTRIES
EACH SUMMER



Albania	Germany	Poland
Belarus	Hungary	Romania
Bosnia	India	Russia
Bulgaria	Israel	Serbia
Canada	Kazakhstan	Slovakia
Croatia	Latvia	Spain
Czech Republic	Lithuania	Turkey
Denmark	Macedonia	Ukraine
Estonia	Moldova	UK
France	Netherlands	USA

DISTANCES TRAVELED TO CAMP



4 HOURS
EVERY DAY
IMMERSED IN CREATIVE
PROGRAMS ON JEWISH
CULTURE, HISTORY, & ISRAEL



90,000
KOSHER MEALS
SERVED OVER 8 WEEKS



130 COUNSELORS & UNIT HEADS
ENGAGED IN YEAR-ROUND
TRAINING PROGRAMS ANNUALLY

80% OF PARTICIPANTS
ASPIRE TO BECOME
JEWISH LEADERS



29 GLOBAL JCCS
ARE PROUD TO HAVE
SZARVAS ALUMNI
IN LEADERSHIP ROLES



TODAY, SZARVAS ALUMNI LEAD:



JEWISH COMMUNITY
CENTERS



JEWISH
KINDERGARTENS



VOLUNTEER
INITIATIVES



LOCAL & REGIONAL
JEWISH CAMPS



JEWISH EDUCATIONAL
CONFERENCES

25,000+ CAMPERS | **OVER 28 YEARS**

NOT JUST A JEWISH SUMMER CAMP

Camp Szarvas is a vital, dynamic engine of Jewish life across Central and Eastern Europe. Founded by JDC and The Ronald S. Lauder Foundation in 1990 as a safe place of Jewish connection for those who suffered under Communism, over nearly three decades it has become so much more than ever imagined. One 12-day, sun- and fun-filled, immersive Jewish session after

another, Szarvas has become a home away from home that has transformed thousands of young Jews around the globe into leaders. Once campers return home, they're eager and curious to continue their Jewish learning, give back to their communities, and serve in leadership roles that are strengthening the Jewish future in Europe and beyond.

**SASHA
FRIEDMAN**

Director, Camp Szarvas
Hungary



“ Wherever you go in Europe, you meet people who have strengthened their Jewish identity and cultivated their leadership skills at Szarvas. ”

**AGATA
RAKOWIECKA**

Director of Warsaw JCC
Poland



“ Finding my way to JDC's international Jewish summer camp at 14 inspired my decision to dedicate my career to renewing Jewish life in Poland. ”

**MAXIM
DELCHEV**

Sofia JCC Director of Jewish Education
Bulgaria



“ Camp is the place where the next generation of the Jewish community grows up. We're seeing kids become leaders in their communities. We cannot survive without camp. ”

**EVA
STUPKA**

Age 16
Moldova



“ Szarvas was one of my first Jewish experiences. Three years later, I now lead a movement of more than 3,000 teens across the former Soviet Union. ”

**GALIA
ALGRANATI**

Age 17
Turkey



“ At Szarvas we had the chance to form lifelong friendships with Jewish teens all over the world. It was a meaningful and fun experience shared with amazing people. ”

**MAYA
CIMESA**

Jewish Educator
Croatia



“ My background at Szarvas helped me become part of the team that worked on opening the first Jewish elementary school in Croatia since the Holocaust. ”

**SHAKHAF
JOSEPH**

Age 19
India



“ At Szarvas camp, I grew as a person, made new friends, made bonds stronger, and got closer to Hashem. Most importantly, it taught me to be a good human. ”

OUR VISION FOR THE FUTURE

CULTIVATING JEWISH LEADERSHIP

Budding Jewish leaders come together to learn, debate, and celebrate in open gathering spaces like the new Great Hall.

FORGING JEWISH CONNECTIONS THROUGH SPORTS

Whether tennis, soccer, canoeing or rock climbing, Szarvas builds teamwork and connections among new friends from around the globe.

CONNECTING WITH EVERYTHING ISRAEL

Israeli Corner is a themed room visited by campers each day. Israeli counselors lead programs on Israel's history, society, culture, traditions, and more.

EXPLORING JUDAISM

Szarvas is home to Beit David Synagogue, the first synagogue built in Hungary after WWII – a place for the Szarvas community to learn and worship.

WHERE FUN AND COURAGE CONVERGE

In Challenge Park, campers put themselves to the test with endurance activities that encourage them to face the unexpected – and grow.

DINE, DISCUSS, DISCOVER

Our dining hall brings together campers from around the world to share meals, sing, dance, and pray.

BUILDING THE JEWISH WORLD WE WANT TO SEE



EMBRACING JEWISH JOURNEYS

Campers hail from all over the world, each with their own story – many who have little to no Jewish experience or identity. Through informal Jewish education, stories around the bonfire, endurance activities that put their skills to the test – and a joyful, inspiring Shabbat – they gain new insights, lifelong friendships, and their own definition of what it means to be Jewish.



STRENGTHENING COMMUNITY

Following transformational summer experiences, Szarvas alumni go on to lead Jewish communities from the Baltic states to small Polish towns, from Budapest to Mumbai. They create ripple effects that strengthen not only their home communities, but also the Jewish people's place in the world. An investment in Camp Szarvas guarantees the Jewish future by ensuring state-of-the-art programs that inspire 1,600 campers over four sessions each summer. And as they come together to play sports, learn, and build lasting friendships, we are nurturing a vibrant and united pan-European and global Jewish community.



INVESTING IN EXCELLENCE

The Szarvas experience is fueling thousands of Jewish leaders across the world in a safe, secure, and welcoming environment 100 miles outside of Budapest. Our mission is to keep Camp Szarvas at peak performance by renovating our facilities, so it can continue to be a sanctuary that fascinates, stimulates, and empowers Jewish youth and others.



CUPOLA (RECREATION HALL)

Weatherproofing, adding heating and cooling systems, and replacing the floors will make the cupola a more versatile space for camp events – from sports tournaments to Shabbat services.



DINING HALL

Expanding the dining hall will ensure it continues to be a vibrant space for camp-wide meals, dancing, singing, cheering, chanting, and raucous spirit competitions.



DORMITORIES

We will upgrade electric, plumbing, and heating systems so that dormitories continue to be a more intimate connection point for campers – and a place where lifelong friendships form. New dorms will also be constructed to accommodate 180 more campers each summer.

HELP US BUILD THE NEXT GENERATION OF
GLOBAL JEWISH LEADERS
AND A STRONGER JEWISH FUTURE



**JEWISH LEADERSHIP STARTS
WITH SZARVAS – AND YOU.**



For more information, please visit www.szarvas.camp

The American Jewish Joint Distribution Committee (JDC) is the world's leading Jewish humanitarian assistance organization. JDC works in more than 70 countries and in Israel to alleviate hunger and hardship, rescue Jews in danger, create lasting connections to Jewish life, and provide immediate relief and long-term development support for victims of natural and man-made disasters. For more information, please visit www.JDC.org.