

jewish
culture
festival

פסטיבל
התרבות
היהודית

ŠTETL FEST

The End of the War?

ŠTETL FEST
is an international multi-genre
festival of Jewish culture dedicated
to presenting Jewish culture,
history, and tradition, as well as the
community itself, as an integral and
historically documented part
of our society.

stetl.cz

Program 27—31.8 2025 Brno

All events in Czech unless otherwise indicated.

daily

10.00–18.00

exhibitions

Villa Arnold	Rabbi Feder Superhero The story of the post-war Brno rabbi, written by Arnošt Goldflam and illustrated by Petra Goldflamová Štětinová	FREE
Villa Löw-Beer	Nansen's Children The story of Czechoslovak refugees in Norway	FREE ENGLISH
Memory of Nations Institute	The Heart is Fire Children's magazines: from Theresienstadt to the present day	FREE ENGLISH
	Hagibor: A Place of Hope The story of a place with a unique and complex history and interesting present	FREE ENGLISH

27-8

wednesday

11.00	Bašty 2	Jewish Architectural Heritage Walk Guided tour including a visit to the synagogue	
13.00	Memory of Nations Institute	The Heart is Fire Present-day take on Theresienstadt magazines, exhibition opening	FREE
13.00	Villa Engelsmann	Jewish Villas on Hlinky Street Lecture by Michal Doležel	
14.00	Nezamyslova 27	Guided Tour of the Jewish Cemetery	
14.00	Memory of Nations Institute	Children's Magazines in Theresienstadt Lecture by Zuzana Pavlovská	FREE
14.30	Villa Engelsmann	Guided tour of Villa Engelsmann	
15.30	Memory of Nations Institute	Nazi Propaganda in Film Lecture by Jana Šplíchalová	FREE
17.00	Memory of Nations Institute	Hagibor Through the Lens of Karel Cudlín Photographic presentation by the author	FREE
18.00	Old Town Hall	Ostrava Klezmer Band Authentic klezmer	FREE
19.00	Villa Löw-Beer	Desire to Create, Desire to Live Dramaturgical introduction and discussion with Martina Kinská and Silvie Hessová	FREE
20.00	Villa Löw-Beer	Desire to Create, Desire to Live Musical and literary stage reading focusing on the work of artists from the Theresienstadt ghetto, directed by Hana Mikolášková	PREMIERE

28-8

thursday

10.00	Villa Engelsmann	Installation of the Stones of the Disappeared in memory of Felix and Olga Engelsmann	FREE
10.00	Bašty 2	Jewish Architectural Heritage Walk Guided tour including a visit to the synagogue	
10.30	Villa Engelsmann	The Engelsmann Family in Brno Lecture by Michal Doležel focusing on the prominent pre-war industrial family	ENGLISH
11.00	Kraví hora Air-Raid Shelter	The Testimony of the Theresienstadt Walls Exhibition opening with photographer Richard Homola	FREE
11.00	Memory of Nations Institute	The Heart is Fire Literary and artistic competition results announcement	FREE
11.30	Kraví hora Air-Raid Shelter	The Testimony of the Theresienstadt Walls Guided tour of the exhibition led by photographer Richard Homola	
11.30	Memory of Nations Institute	The Heart is Fire A student performance inspired by the children's magazines of Theresienstadt	FREE
12.00	Villa Engelsmann	Returns to Brno Discussion with descendants of the Engelsmann family	FREE ENGLISH
13.00	Goose on a String Theatre	Hebrew for Beginners Language workshop	
14.00	Villa Arnold	Rabbi Feder Superhero Exhibition opening	FREE
14.00	Memory of Nations Institute	Tommy Animated film screening with an introduction by director Miloš Zvěřina	FREE

14.00	Kraví hora Air-Raid Shelter	History of the Air-Raid Shelter Under Nazism and Communism Guided tour led by Martin Koplík	
14.30	Villa Arnold	Arnošt Goldflam's Post-War Jewish Brno Author's reading and discussion	
14.30	Goose on a String Theatre	Post-War Jewish Community Renewal Lecture by Daniel Polakovič	FREE
15.00	Villa Löw-Beer	Nansen's Children Exhibition opening	FREE
15.00	Memory of Nations Institute	The Story of Hanuš and Petr Theatrical and musical adaptation of the story of Peter Ginz and Hanuš Hachenburg	FREE
15.00	Kraví hora Air-Raid Shelter	History of the Air-Raid Shelter Under Nazism and Communism Guided tour	ENGLISH
15.00	Nezamyslova 27	Guided Tour of the Jewish Cemetery in Hebrew	
15.30	Villa Löw-Beer	Norway During the War Lecture by Norwegian historian Bjarte Bruland	FREE
16.00	Villa Arnold	Jewish Heroines Pavína Šulcová debates writer Anneli Rådestad	FREE ENGLISH
16.00	Goose on a String Theatre	Baruch the Benefactor Literary and artistic workshop for parents and children	FREE
16.30	Nezamyslova 27	Guided Tour of the Jewish Cemetery Family histories and Jewish burial traditions	
17.00	Villa Löw-Beer	Czechoslovak War Refugees in Norway Lecture by Miluše Juříčková	FREE
17.00	Memory of Nations Institute	Transport Beyond Eternity Author's reading by award-winning adventure writer František Tichý	FREE
18.00	Old Town Hall	Mi Martef Klezmer songs from Eastern Europe	FREE
18.00	Goose on a String Theatre	Anna Frank <i>The Diary of Anne Frank</i> as staged by New Theatre Nitra	
18.30	Villa Löw-Beer	Frida Debate with Norwegian writer Nina F. Grünfeld	FREE ENGLISH
20.00	Kabinet múz	Bedroom Eyes and Ice Hokku Indie pop from Prague and Tel Aviv	
20.30	Villa Löw-Beer	Nina's Children Documentary film screening	NORWEGIAN / ENGLISH

29.8

friday

10.00	Goose on a String Theatre	Mazel: Learn a Little Hebrew Language workshop	
10.00– 15.00	Villa Stiassni	Maccabiah Games: Sports Day for Children and Adults Tennis, archery, running, orienteering, badminton, fencing	ENGLISH
10.00	Nezamyslova 27	In Search of the Secrets of Jewish Tombstones Thematic tour of the cemetery	
10.00	Villa Wittal	The Story of Villa Wittal Guided tour of the exhibition with curator Michal Doležel	ENGLISH
10.30	Bratři Čapků 12	Installation of the Stones of the Disappeared in memory of Nora Lustigová	FREE
11.00– 16.00	Všetičkova tram stop	In the Footsteps of Leo Eitingер and Otto Eisler Day trip to Lomnice u Tišnova with historian Michal Konečný	
11.00	Memory of Nations Institute	The Heart is Fire A student performance inspired by the children's magazines of Theresienstadt	FREE
11.00	Villa Wittal	A Jewish Family Saga Book talk by writer Brigid Grauman of the Wittal family	FREE ENGLISH
12.00	Nezamyslova 27	Guided Tour of the Jewish Cemetery	ENGLISH
13.00– 16.00	Kraví hora Air-Raid Shelter	The Testimony of the Theresienstadt Walls Exhibition	FREE

13.00	Villa Stiassni	The Unknown World of Jewish Sports and Scouting Lecture by Roman Gronský	FREE
13.00	Villa Wittal	Guided Tour of Villa Wittal	ENGLISH
14.00–18.00	Villa Wittal	Jewish Traditions Jewish-themed workshops, <i>Searching for Mrs. Wittal's Silver Spoon</i> treasure hunt	ENGLISH
14.00–18.00	Villa Wittal	Make Your Own Mezuzah Workshop, compulsory reservation	
14.00	Memory of Nations Institute	The Associational Jewish Reformed Real Gymnasium in Brno Lecture by Alena Mikovcová and Zuzana Prudilová	FREE
14.00	Villa Stiassni	Maccabi: Present and Future Panel discussion with representatives of Maccabi organizations	FREE
14.00	Špilberk 1	Špilberk Castle in Nazi Times Guided tour of the castle and <i>Chapel of the Crosses</i> exhibition	
15.00–18.00	Villa Wittal	Traditional Baking Class Two separate classes starting at 15.00 and 16.30, compulsory reservation	
15.00	Villa Wittal	Villas of the First Czechoslovak Republic in the Masaryk Quarter Guided tour led by Michal Doležel	
15.30	Memory of Nations Institute	Against All Odds: Overcoming Hardship from a Jewish Perspective Lecture by Leo Pavlát	FREE
16.00	Villa Wittal	Guided Tour of Villa Wittal	
16.00	Kraví hora Air-Raid Shelter	History of the Air-Raid Shelter Under Nazism and Communism Guided tour led by Martin Koplík	
16.00	Brno Philharmonic	On the Ground in the Middle East Debate with Tel Aviv ARD correspondent Sophie von der Tann	ENGLISH
17.00	Memory of Nations Institute	The Attics of Theresienstadt Lecture by Lukáš Lev	FREE
17.00	Křenová 14	Otto Eisler's Architecture Guided tour of the apartment building with owner Anne Newman	ENGLISH
18.00	Goose on a String Theatre	Udi Shlomo & Band World-class world jazz trio	
18.00	Old Town Hall	Trombenik Playful take on traditional klezmer in Yiddish	FREE
19.30	Goose on a String Theatre	Shabbat Candle Lighting Ceremony	FREE
20.00	Goose on a String Theatre	Shabbat Songs and Prayers performed by the Kantiléna children's choir	FREE
20.00	Memory of Nations Institute	Brno in Nazi Times Guided tour led by historian Michal Konečný	
20.30	Goose on a String Theatre Paprika Restaurant	Shabbat Shalom Community gathering with kosher wine and Israeli specialties	

30.8

saturday

10.00	Lipová 33	Otto Eisler's Architecture Guided tour of the apartment building	ENGLISH
10.00	Kraví hora Air-Raid Shelter	History of the Air-Raid Shelter Under Nazism and Communism Guided tour led by Martin Koplík	
10.00	Moravské náměstí 4	Otto Eisler's Architecture in Downtown Brno Guided tour	
11.00–13.00	Kraví hora Air-Raid Shelter	The Testimony of the Theresienstadt Walls Exhibition	FREE
11.00	Lipová 33	My Search for Otto Eisler Lecture by researcher Anne Newman	FREE ENGLISH
11.00	Špilberk 1	Špilberk Castle in Nazi Times Guided tour of the castle and <i>Chapel of the Crosses</i> exhibition	
13.00	Lipová 33	Otto Eisler's Architecture in the Masaryk Quarter Guided tour led by architect Petr Pelčák	

13.30	Villa Löw-Beer	Leo Eitinger: The Psychiatrist Who Survived the Shoah Lecture by Norwegian historian Bjarte Bruland	FREE
14.00–16.00	Kraví hora Air-Raid Shelter	The Testimony of the Theresienstadt Walls Exhibition	FREE
14.00	Villa Arnold	Richard Feder as Seen by Rabbi Goldstein Lecture by the renowned European liberal rabbi	
14.00	Goose on a String Theatre	Story Therapy Jewish literary tradition workshop led by Daniel Soukup and Tereza Gafna Váňová	
14.00	Špilberk 1	Špilberk Castle in Nazi Times Guided tour of the castle and <i>Chapel of the Crosses</i> exhibition	
14.30	Lipová 33	Otto Eisler's Architecture Guided tour of the apartment building	
15.00	Villa Löw-Beer	Desire for Human Dignity: The Story of Nora Lustigová Lecture by Miluše Juříčková and Michal Konečný	FREE
15.00	Villa Wittal	The Story of Villa Wittal Guided tour of the exhibition with curator Michal Doležel	
15.30	Goose on a String Theatre	Is War Only a Struggle for Power? Debate with Petra Procházková, Josef Holý, and Vojtěch Bahenský	
15.30	Villa Arnold	Circle or Spiral? The Story of One Generation Lecture by politician, economist, and sociologist Fedor Gál	
16.00	Lipová 33	Otto Eisler Lecture by Petr Pelčák and book launch of a re-edition of <i>Otto Eisler</i>	FREE
16.00	Kraví hora Air-Raid Shelter	History of the Air-Raid Shelter Under Nazism and Communism Guided tour led by Martin Koplík	ENGLISH
16.00–19.00	Barvičova 85	In the Footsteps of Evil A tour of unknown Nazi persecution sites with historian Michal Konečný	
16.30	Villa Tugendhat	What Are We Afraid Of? Debate with L. Hammer-Tugendhat and L. Černá on the rise of far-right radicalism	GERMAN
17.00	Villa Arnold	Jewish Identity in Times of War Debate with Pavlína Šulcová, Petr Papoušek and Anneli Rådestad	FREE ENGLISH
17.00	Villa Wittal	The Story of Villa Wittal Debate with former residents of the villa	
17.00	Moravské náměstí 4	The Storefronts of Jewish Architects in Downtown Brno Guided tour	
17.30	Goose on a String Theatre	The End of the War in Ukraine? Debate with reporter Petra Procházková	
18.30	Villa Tugendhat	Ayelet Gundar-Goshen Author's reading by the Israeli writer and psychologist	ENGLISH
19.00	Villa Wittal	Jazz and Swing in the Third Reich and Protectorate Lecture by Miloš Štědroň and Jan Dalecký	
20.30	Goose on a String Theatre	Havdalah Ceremonial end of the Shabbat	FREE
20.30	Villa Tugendhat	Nihan Devocioğlu and Sasha Agranov Turkish-Jewish songs	
20.30	Villa Wittal	In the Rhythm of Swing Dance night and workshop	
21.00	Goose on a String Theatre	Avi Taylor and Nišma Hasidic songs	FREE

31.8

sunday

10.00	Villa Tugendhat	The Legacy of Richard Feder Debate with Rabbi Štěpán Menashe Kliment	
10.00	Kraví hora Air-Raid Shelter	History of the Air-Raid Shelter Under Nazism and Communism	ENGLISH
10.00	Villa Wittal	Villas of the First Czechoslovak Republic in the Masaryk Quarter Guided tour led by Michal Doležel	
11.00	Nezamyslova 27	Guided Tour of the Jewish Cemetery Family histories and Jewish burial traditions	

11.00–13.00	Kraví hora Air-Raid Shelter	The Testimony of the Theresienstadt Walls Exhibition	FREE
11.30	Villa Tugendhat	Rabbi Levi Cooper Debate about traditional Judaism in modern times	ENGLISH
11.30	Memory of Nations Institute	Yiddish for Beginners Lecture by Petr Jan Vinš	FREE
13.00	Kraví hora Air-Raid Shelter	History of the Air-Raid Shelter Under Nazism and Communism Guided tour led by Martin Koplík	
13.00	Memory of Nations Institute	Hagibor: A Place of Hope Lecture about the social care facility for Holocaust survivors	FREE
13.00	Nezamyslova 27	In Search of the Secrets of Jewish Tombstones Thematic tour of the cemetery	
13.00	Skořepka 13	Agudas Achim Synagogue Guided tour	FREE ENGLISH
14.00	Villa Arnold	The Many Forms of Judaism Debate with Rabbi Helene Braun	FREE GERMAN
14.00–19.00	Old Town Hall	Jewish Market Israeli specialties, Jewish-themed books, Jewish items	FREE
14.00	Old Town Hall	Klec Unconventional klezmer	FREE
14.30	Goose on a String Theatre	The Tale of the Golem Even the greatest scholars are sometimes in need of help – a family friendly show	FREE
14.30	Skořepka 13	Agudas Achim Synagogue Guided tour	HEBREW
15.00	Bašty 2	Jewish Architectural Heritage Walk Guided tour including a visit to the synagogue	
15.00	Memory of Nations Institute	Eric Vogel and the Ghetto Swingers Lecture by Petr Koura	FREE
16.00	Villa Arnold	Guided Tour of Villa Arnold	
16.00	Goose on a String Theatre	Three Riddles for King Solomon Fairy-tale performance about the clever king and the queen of Sheba	FREE
16.00	Old Town Hall	Dorůžka, Fischmann, Novák World music and jazz fusion performed by the award-winning trio	FREE
16.30	Memory of Nations Institute	Swing Music as a Resistance Movement in Germany Discussion with historian Natalie Reinisch	FREE GERMAN
17.00	Goose on a String Theatre	Rewrite History: The Role of Religion in Armed Conflicts Live edition of the historical podcast	
18.00	Old Town Hall	Koza na útesu Klezmer-punk	FREE
19.00	Goose on a String Theatre	HaChucpa Legendary Brno klezmer	FREE
20.00	Brno Philharmonic	Melody Makers Authentic take on popular music from the 1920s to the 1940s	

venues:

Agudas Achim Synagogue, Skořepka 13
Brno Philharmonic, Komenského nám. 8
Goose on a String Theatre, Zelný trh 9
Kabinet múz, Sukova 49
Kraví Hora Air-Raid Shelter, Jana Uhra/Úvoz
Memory of Nations Institute, Radnická 10
Old Town Hall, Radnická 8

Špilberk Castle, Špilberk 1
Villa Arnold, Drobného 26
Villa Engelsmann, Hlinky 110
Villa Löw-Beer, Drobného 22
Villa Stiassni, Hroznová 14
Villa Tugendhat, Černopolní 45
Villa Wittal, Hroznová 39

tickets:

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The festival is held under the auspices of Petr Fiala, Prime Minister of the Czech Republic, Jan Grolich, Governor of the South Moravian Region, Martin Baxa, Minister of Culture of the Czech Republic, Markéta Vaňkoová, Mayor of the City of Brno, Martin Bareš, Rector of Masaryk University, Josef Baxa, President of the Constitutional Court of the Czech Republic, Anna Azari, Ambassador of Israel to the Czech Republic, Andreas Künne, Ambassador of Germany to the Czech Republic, and Bettina Kirnbauer, Ambassador of Austria to the Czech Republic. Special thanks to Kateřina and Petr Janků.

