

# EXPERIENCE



## ELLIS ISLAND

Ellis Island in New York Harbor opened as an immigration station in 1892 and during its first year processed nearly half a million people, an annual number that more than doubled within fifteen years.

By 1924, when more restrictive laws slowed the flow of immigrants to America, some twelve million people had passed through the island.

First and second class passengers who arrived in New York Harbor were not required to undergo the inspection process at Ellis Island, but “steerage” or third class passengers were transported from the pier by ferry



**Sunday, May 17, 2009**  
**Leaving Bais Torah at**  
**9:15 a.m.**



**\$36 per person**  
**includes bus transportation,**  
**ferry, tour and movie**

**TO RESERVE YOUR SEAT**  
**CALL DORIS AT 352-2816**  
**OR MARILYN AT 369-3631**

or barge to Ellis Island, where everyone would undergo a medical and legal inspection.

If the immigrants' papers were in order and they were in reasonably good health, the Ellis Island inspection process would last approximately three to five hours.

Despite the island's reputation as an “Island of Tears” the vast majority of immigrants were treated courteously and respectfully and only two percent were excluded from entry to the United States.

Join us when we visit this restored landmark and see what coming to America meant through film, archives, photos, recordings and the aura of the Great Hall.

---

**Sponsored by Congregation Bais Torah**

**89 W. Carlton Road ♦ Suffern, NY ♦ 845-352-1343 ♦ [www.baistorah.org](http://www.baistorah.org)**