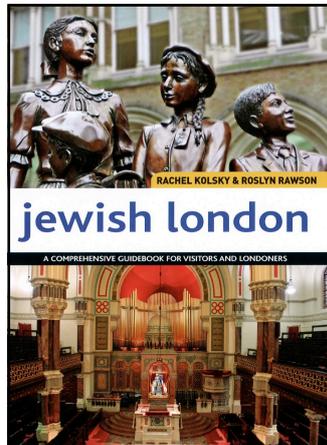


jewish london

A COMPREHENSIVE GUIDE BOOK FOR VISITORS AND LONDONERS

Rachel Kolsky and Roslyn Rawson



Reviews

UK Press

US Press

Israel Press

Amazon.co.uk / Amazon.com

Hebrew

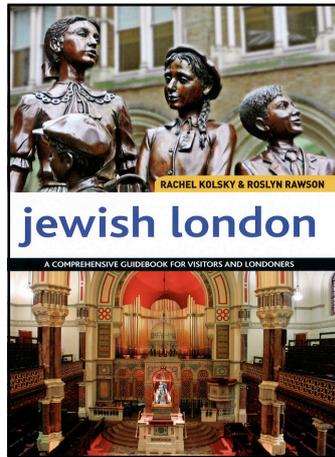
Other / Readers Comments

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for
more information, signed copies and book events

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UK Press

**KALASHNIKOV KULTUR**

By Ricky Savage, the voice of social irresponsibility

Lizzie Land

Yes, it's here, and the world of theme parks will never be the same. Why? Because the French have decided that what holidaymakers need is a whole new experience based on the life, loves and battles of a small Corsican. Welcome to Napoleon Land!

There in a field just outside Paris you will be able to celebrate the man who conquered Europe and then lost it again, marvel at the victories, attend the glorious coronation and sign up to join the Old Guard. You will be able to go from Toulon where he beat the Royal Navy one-nil to Austerlitz, where he duffed up the Austrians. By the time you've finished you too will be able to feel what it feels like to be French and understand why they are even more arrogant than the British.

Then there is the downside. How will they deal with Nelson's demolition of the French Fleet at Trafalgar? Probably by giving you a 3D opportunity to be the sniper who shot him. The retreat from Moscow? Who could want more than the chance to throw snowballs at a bunch of retreating unemployed actors as they re-enact the tragedy? I bet they won't mention that Napoleon did a runner and dashed back to the warmth of Josephine, leaving his troops behind to freeze.

And that's all before we get to Waterloo, Wellington or the small house on a small island in the Atlantic where the Brits dumped Napoleon in 1815. Yes, come to Napoleon Land for a rollercoaster ride through French history, see the greatness that was France (Mickey Mouse not included).

In the glorious world of historical theme parks should we be worried? No! Why? Simple really, the French will have to build their own, but us Brits don't have to bother, because we live in one already. We have battlefields, palaces, cathedrals and slums. So what if some of them are falling down, there's very little that can't be improved with a few holograms and a bit of CGI. Yes, welcome to Lizzie Land, an entire country looking over its shoulder at the pomp, circumstance, bloodshed and squalor that made it great.

Ultimate guide to Jewish London

Two authors have compiled the ultimate guide to Jewish London and will introduce it in person at a special event at the Phoenix Cinema this month. Rachel Kolsky, an East Finchley resident since 1995 and a trustee of the Phoenix since 1997, co-authored *Jewish London* with Roslyn Rawson.

The 224-page guide covers where to stay, eat, shop and pray, with detailed maps, practical advice, travel information and more than 200 colour photographs.

Special features include eight self-guided walking tours, restaurant reviews of over 40 eateries for all budgets and tastes, information on 44 synagogues and sections dedicated to the Jewish Museum, Holocaust memorials, Jewish art and artists, films and literature, Jewish cemeteries and day trips out of London.

Rachel said: "Despite a growing interest in Jewish heritage in London, no guide-book existed to ensure visitors and residents have all the information they need in one easy-to-read format. With Roslyn's knowledge of the Jewish community, particularly the synagogues and food, matched with my knowledge of the history of Jewish London, it seemed that we must write the book."



Jewish London co-author Rachel Kolsky

Special event

You can meet the authors at a launch event at the cinema on Sunday 25 March at 2pm. The varied programme will include a virtual tour of Jewish London, the delightful short *The Tenth Man*, which was filmed in the East End, Searle Kochberg's introduction to Jewish London on film and one of the best, but often overlooked, Jewish films from the 1940s, *It Always*

Rains on Sunday. Book via www.phoenixcinema.co.uk/whatson/ or phone the box office on 020 8444 6789.

To purchase a copy of the book contact New Holland Publishers and at the checkout use the Special Discount Code "Jewish London Rachel" for a £3 discount off the price of £10.99 (valid until 31 March 2012), with free postage and packing.

Life in a winter shelter

By Angela Anderson

Many of us know what it is like to feel cold outside in the winter, longing to get back to our home and its warmth. What of those who don't have that comfort, who don't have a home at all and who sleep in shop doorways?

A winter shelter began eight years ago as an initiative by Churches Together in Finchley, using their premises and providing volunteers and funding. Over the years the scheme has expanded to include 16 churches and synagogues, including recent additions New North London Synagogue and Holy Trinity Church in East Finchley, with volunteers from both faith groups working at Trinity Church in North Finchley.

Food, warmth and safety

Shelter is offered by a synagogue or church for one evening a week on a rotational basis to rough sleepers in Barnet from 7pm to 8.30am the following morning, operating from October to March. Guests are referred by Homeless Action in Barnet Day Centre in North Finchley.

Each faith community provides an evening meal, a warm and safe living and sleeping area, and a breakfast in the morning. The bedding, consisting of a self-inflated mattress, sleeping bag and pillow, goes into a private, labelled bag and is transported by volunteers to the next night's venue. Accommodation is provided for a maximum of 15 guests (because of the size of the smallest hall) who move on when they can obtain accommodation either from the council or private rental.

What is striking about the winter shelter scheme is that different faith groups are working together. Members of other religious communities from Finchley are most welcome to join the scheme so that services can expand. For Stephen Hiscock, a volunteer from Holy Trinity Church, working with people from the synagogue on a local, shared project was one of the most enjoyable aspects of the scheme.

What does the Barnet shelter mean to the people that use it? This poem by James Lamb, one of the homeless guests, probably says it all.

The Night Winter Shelter

They walk along the lonely street
Every now and then stop to rest their feet
Hair all matted and fingernails black
And carrying their life upon their back
That shop doorway looks good or that sheltered bench
To get out of the rain before they get drenched
God love them, these people have nowhere to go
Hoping for help but no-one wants to know
Poor rejects of life's rich tapestry
Walk through life without hope, wearily
What is the purpose, where will it end
No home, no job, no family or friend
Some of them beg for hot food and tea
Others will beg for beer or whiskey
A few of them won't 'cos they have too much pride
And suffer in silence by the roadside
They were in a dark tunnel, at the end was a light
It wasn't easy to see 'cos it wasn't that bright
But as they drew nearer the light became clearer
The illumination was a place to stay for the night
Greeted with a smile and a hot cup of tea
Friendly people said, "Come with me"
And led them to a place that they could rest
Just like a bird keeping young warm in a nest
Even though it seemed strange it was plain to see
This was a place filled with harmony
Generous, caring, considerate and kind
A place they could leave their horrid day behind
And when they finally rest their head
A chance of comfort on an unconcrete bed
Given time to reflect on the next coming day
Secure in the knowledge they'll have somewhere to stay
So thank you, Night Shelter, for the service you run
Helping the homeless, all the good you have done
Your pure human kindness is a joy to behold
For taking less fortunates in from the cold.

Bupa London 10,000

27th May 2012

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Jewish London

Rachel Kolsky & Roslyn Rawson

New Holland 2012
PB 224pp
£9.99
ISBN 978 1847739186

This book was exactly what I had been waiting for! Indeed the following day, I went to Whitechapel, followed the map and enjoyed walking around Cable Street and visiting several synagogues and interesting sites the book's authors had suggested.

'A comprehensive guidebook for visitors and Londoners' is how it is described on the front page. That is exactly what it is and does so well. There are many photographs and maps and other walks apart from the one I took. The layout of the book encourages 'dipping in' and learning new things. This is not just for the Jewish community, all will benefit as we can all understand a vital part of London's vibrant Jewish story.

Obviously Golders Green and Stamford Hill are covered, but important older areas like Spitalfields, the East End and the City have their treasures uncovered. Hidden Jewish London is revealed. The Jewish Museum and Holocaust memorials are described, cemeteries and the Rothschilds are remembered. Significant Jewish people from the past are described, especially where they lived.

The life of Jewish London today is explained by area. Educational and cultural life around London is described. Day trips are encouraged to Tunbridge Wells, Disraeli's Hughenden Manor, Montefiore's Ramsgate and Rothschild's Waddesdon Manor.

I will enjoy the other 9 walks during this summer! This book is a real treasure – it is a must-have guide.
RCurtis

Rachel Kolsky and Roslyn Rawson have written a guidebook on everything from kosher restaurants to synagogues, writes Rosy Moorhead

By Rosy Moorhead

Thursday 12th April 2012

If you've ever wished there was just one book that listed all of London's kosher restaurants and shops, gave information on historic Jewish Londoners and places, and provided walking tours of historic Jewish areas, then wish no more.

Local authors Rachel Kolsky and Roslyn Rawson have put together the definitive guidebook for Jewish tourists and Londoners alike - *Jewish London*, out this month from New Holland Publishers.

The book is one of a kind. "We couldn't believe there was no other book on the market," says Rachel, from East Finchley. "Well, there was one - self-published back in the 1980s with no pictures! People have been writing to say how glad they are there's finally a Jewish guidebook."

Packed with fascinating and practical information, *Jewish London* is broadly divided into two parts: historic Jewish London and present. The section on the past gives an overview of Jewish migration to and within the UK and details ten walking tours of areas of historical interest, including one of Jewish Hampstead. It also profiles the Jewish Museum and Holocaust memorials in the capital and informs about important Jewish Londoners - what they did, where they lived and where they are buried.

The second section focuses on Jewish London today - "Where to stay, eat, shop, pray!" Rachel laughs. This chapter contains a large section on north-west London, where there is a large Jewish population and a wide range of kosher facilities. This chapter lists cafes, restaurants, shops, hotels and synagogues, Jewish cultural and heritage organisations, ritual baths and important Jewish centres and dates.

Rachel's work as a prize-winning Blue Badge Guide running Go London Tours helped enormously. "I do a lot of Jewish tours," she explains, "so for the book I was able to talk to the people I've met on my journeys - the ones who open up the synagogues and cemeteries and people like that".

... contd

... contd

"It was hard work but really fun, and a fascinating project. You're writing about things you're passionate about. It's not a history book, it's not academic, it's not a religious book - it's about going round London and looking at things. It's a book for everyone."

As well as the helpful listings of kosher shops and restaurants and the shabbat facilities of hotels, the book uncovers a different side of London that residents may not have been aware of.

"We've been getting emails from people who didn't know there was Jewish life outside of Golders Green!" says Rachel. "I lead a tour round the National Portrait Gallery of Jewish artists and pictures of Jewish people - it's one of my most popular tours. The book is a chance for Londoners to revisit much-loved places with different eyes - the British Museum, the British Library, the V&A."

Rachel and Roslyn, from Belsize Park, spent two years researching the book and putting it together and, says Rachel, put all their passion into it. "We never stopped learning, there were always new things. To be honest, we could have written a book twice the size."

Jewish London is out now from New Holland Publishers. The authors will be giving a talk on the book at Waterstones North Finchley on April 26 and Waterstones Hampstead on July 18.

BOOK

freetime

There is Jewish life outside Golders Green

Rachel Kolsky and Roslyn Rawson have written a guidebook on everything from kosher restaurants to synagogues, writes **Rosy Moorhead**

BOOK

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Rachel Kolsky



Jerusalem the Golden, NW11



Freud Museum, Hampstead

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A review of *Jewish London*, written by Rachel Kolsky & Roslyn Rawson

This new guidebook to Jewish London published in 2012 by New Holland Publishers has been beautifully put together. The fantastic photographs bring the areas to life and make you want to rush out and visit all of these places. Rachel Kolsky has been a Blue Badge guide in London for over ten years and her walks form a large part of this book with clear directions and maps to guide you. The text is incredibly informative, explaining not only the history of the places, but also of the people who have been most influential in the Jewish Community of London. Some years ago Rachel was commissioned by the Women's Library to put together two walks about famous women living and working in the East End. One was called 'Wonderful Women of Whitechapel', and the other was 'Battling Belles of Bow'. Both of these walks remain hugely popular and some of the women mentioned on them feature in this book. We learn about Miriam Moses, the first female mayor of Stepney in 1931 and the UK's first Jewish female mayor. Then there's Minnie Lansbury, a communist and suffragette, and the first woman councillor for Poplar in 1919; and Stella Isaacs who founded the Women's Voluntary service. You can see a picture of the outside of the Jewish Maternity Hospital (also known as Mother Levy's), founded by Alice Model and opened in 1911. By the 1930s around 800 children a year were born here. The artist, and Auschwitz survivor, Naomi Blake is mentioned, as is the internationally-renowned sculptor Dora Gordine; and Rosalind Franklin, a researcher at Kings College, London, who missed out on a Nobel Prize for Medicine in spite of contributing to the isolation of the double helix of DNA in 1953. There's a classical pianist, Dame Myra Hess, and a 1970s songwriter with top ten hits, Lyndsey de Paul. We also learn about Lily Montagu, co-founder of what is now Liberal Judaism, who wanted women to play an equal role in Judaism.

If all the walking and concentrating on the history makes you tired, then the authors have thoughtfully provided information on cafes and restaurants to stop at along the way. There is also information on the various art galleries and museums that you can visit, and details of all the London synagogues. This is an essential guide to Jewish London, for visitors and Londoners alike, in which everyone will discover something new to them.

We are very grateful to Rachel for donating this lovely book to the Feminist Library!

***Reviewed by Cathy Larkin
November 2012***

Books

We both love travelling and, wherever we are in the world, we seek out Jewish heritage, synagogues and kosher restaurants and shops. Finding information about all this can be time consuming and rarely can it be found in one book. Amazingly, despite a growing interest in Jewish heritage in London, vibrant cultural centres, Jewish festivals for film, literature and music, no guide book existed about Jewish London to ensure visitors and residents have all the information they need in one easy-to-read format. With our knowledge of the contemporary Jewish community, linked with Rachel's extensive experience as a London Blue Badge guide specialising in Jewish London, we decided that we must write the book.

Publisher New Holland took us on and then it was all go. No sooner had they said they liked the idea, than we were writing sample chapters, sending in text and having to edit – drastically.

The book includes eight of Rachel's walking tours but also features historic cemeteries, Jewish art and artists, important personalities such as Disraeli and the Rothschilds, areas off the beaten track and suggested days out, together with Holocaust memorials, museums and Judaica. Several sites are little known so we hope the book will encourage a greater number of visitors.

Refugees

One of the walking tours features Jewish Hampstead. Green open spaces of the Heath, the alleyways and passages with their historic pubs and, of course, the numerous cafés in and around the High Street are what usually comes to mind when you think of Hampstead. But there is also a very different story to tell – that of the Austro-German Jewish refugees who, when fleeing Europe in the inter-war years, did not go to the East End but instead chose to make their new lives in and around NW3 and NW6. Today, an aspirational area, in the 1930s it was shabby and affordable.

Walking through the leafy residential streets, Rachel uncovered wonderful associations with the European émigrés. The seated statue of Freud at the Tavistock Clinic led her on a voyage of discovery not only of the father of psychoanalysis and his family but also that of his sculptor, Oscar Nemon, a Croatian-born artist who arrived in England in 1938. Nemon's work, including several sculptures of Churchill, is found throughout London.

A few doors away from Freud's



■ The Freud Museum is in Maresfield Gardens – but did you also know that a few doors down is the Anna Freud Centre, the clinic established by his daughter Anna

Yes, we've minded that Jewish gap

Finding there wasn't a guide to their heritage's London links, Rachel Kolsky and Roslyn Rawson penned one

home in Maresfield Gardens, now the Freud Museum, a modest sign indicates the Anna Freud Centre – a child psychology clinic established by his daughter and named in her honour after her death.

Visiting the 1930s modernist National Trust house in Willow Road leads you to the story of Hungarian-born architect Ernő Goldfinger. He arrived in England in the early 1930s and is remembered for his post-war housing tower blocks and inspiring the James Bond villain.

Walking the streets, memories of the many refugees and the Cosmo and Dorice restaurants still resonate and you can still almost hear the German lingua-franca of the day, smell the red cabbage and hear the sizzling of the Wiener schnitzels.

The book also features contemporary Jewish London, including all you need to know about where to eat, shop, stay and pray.

Our previous working lives as a

solicitor in Roslyn's case and librarian in Rachel's, ensured we researched tenaciously. Our many contacts, experts in their fields, the curators who manage the museums and galleries, and the synagogue administrators were generous with their time and knowledge.

Readers have already commented on how wonderful the illustrations are. With more than 200 photos and images, there is a mixture of past and present to put the stories into context.

■ Jewish London is published by New Holland priced £10.99. For details of Rachel's walking tours and events and for signed copies of the book with dedications, if required, contact info@golondontours.com or www.golondontours.com. You can meet the authors at Waterstones in Hampstead on Wednesday July 18 at 7pm when Rachel will be presenting a virtual tour of Jewish London.



■ The creator of Freud's statue was a Jewish émigré who also sculpted Churchill

Bookseller's Column

Charlotte Colwill, Daunt Books

A husband's love letter to his dead wife stirs emotions in tune with spring's limbo

Along with mood, apparel and leisure activity, reading preference is one of those things which is heavily reliant on the weather. You are unlikely to find anyone carrying Dostoevsky around in their beach tote and Confessions Of A Shopaholic being enjoyed by a crackling fireplace just seems incongruous.

In general, cold and moody weather encourages reflection and total immersion in a book – whereas hotter climes require fun and flighty tales.

Publishers are fully aware of these seasonal shifts in the reading public's concentration span.

Late spring invariably brings a fresh batch of "light" reads, with their pleasingly bright covers and their happy endings. Likewise, autumn sees booksellers straining under the hefty weight of boxes filled with serious-minded Booker Prize-seeking high literature.

Springtime, then, is a tricky transitional stage and we find our customers scanning the shelves with pained expressions of anxious indecision. Too late and too sunny to pick up that copy of Great Expectations they've been meaning to read since Christmas and too early to in-

dulge in the latest Jilly Cooper, they find themselves in a true pickle. Luckily for them, professional booksellers are here to ponder these difficult questions day and night and can endeavour to shine a light through the dense fog of confusion.

Bodysurfing

This year, my solution to this seasonal impasse is Francisco Goldman's stunning fictionalised memoir *Say Her Name*. Goldman is a novelist and a teacher of creative writing in the States. After a long life of bachelorhood, he fell for young Mexican writer

Aura Estrada and they were blissfully married for almost two years before she died in a bodysurfing accident in 2007. The book is the story of Aura and of their life together. Although Goldman's tragic story is not unique (he is not the first person to have lost a spouse and written about it), the writing here is so spare and utterly devoid of self-pity or melodrama, that it is compellingly readable and genuinely moving from start to finish. Aura leaps off the page as a fully realised individual without ever being exploited or over-sentimentalised. Goldman is a highly

skilled crafter of narrative and so it is, perhaps surprisingly, truly a pleasure to read. There is, of course, a deep tragedy at the heart of the book, which perhaps makes it unsuitable as poolside fodder but really it is a love letter – one without pretension or drama and ultimately uplifting and affirmative for that reason. For me, it is the perfect spring limbo book because it stirs the soul without making the head work too hard and it has just the right amount of serious emotion to appropriately see off the last of the chilly weather.



Jewish London Book Review

A Comprehensive Guidebook for Visitors and Londoners

by Annie Wigman

Written on 10/Jul/2012

Jewish London: A Comprehensive Guidebook for Visitors and Londoners brings Jewish London to life in a blaze of colour and information. Co-authors, Blue Badge Tour Guide Rachel Kolsky and solicitor Roslyn Rawson combine their knowledge and skills to make this an entertaining and informative read. It's a stepping off point too for adventures on foot around all areas of Jewish London with eight fully researched walking tours and route maps - including suggestions for where to stop to eat.

Ten area guides from Spitalfields to Stanmore, Stamford Hill to Belsize Park and, of course, Hendon and Golders Green, list synagogues (former and current), cemeteries, mikvaot and eateries, plus hotels and non-food shops where appropriate. Additional treats are chapters on Jewish history, arts and culture and people of note.

The guide contains beautiful colour plates of stunning synagogue interiors, sculptures and paintings by famous artists as well as moving reminders of the Kinderstransport and Holocaust memorials. London Galleries which house works by Jewish artists or with links to Jewish history are also listed. These include the Tates, Whitechapel and National Portrait Gallery as well as the Ben Uri and Jewish Museum.

Beauty abounds in the chapters on where famous Jewish Londoners lived and day trips out of town. Here you get a taster of the homes of luminaries such as the Montefiores in Ramsgate and the Rothschilds at Waddesdon Manor.

Rachel Kolsky and Roslyn Rawson have packed their guide to Jewish London with passion, precision and a wealth of information for all.

Revealing London's Hidden Jewish Gems

London Jewish News - 5th April 2012 / By Malcolm Ginsberg



It's not often that a guidebook gets people genuinely excited. But the stunning Jewish London sets standards that are hard to beat.

There have been books that have covered the history of the Jews in one of the world's great cities. But Jewish London, a new 224-page tome, is something else a quality production put together by two top writers prize-winning London Blue Badge guide Rachel Kolsky and travel journalist Roslyn Rawson. And they really know their way around!

From the interior of the New West End Synagogue, Bayswater, to 5 Hamilton Place, Park Lane, now the exclusive Les Ambassadeurs Club, but once the home of Leopold de Rothschild, the photographs are outstanding.

For residents of the city, the book contains many suggestions for places outside their usual haunts, as well as being an extremely useful compendium of information listing Jewish culture and heritage organisations, synagogues, museums and other important Jewish centres, as well as a calendar of Jewish festivals and events in the capital.

Cemeteries are detailed, including those closed but open to visitors upon request.

Jewish London on foot covers a series of walks, with very clear maps included. Distances are given with a time indication and local hostelrys are mentioned, though not necessarily kosher. Did you know that there is a statue to Raoul Wallenberg opposite the Western Marble Arch Synagogue in Great Cumberland Place? Wallenberg was the Swedish diplomat who saved the lives of 100,000 Hungarian Jews during the Second World War.

Then there is the sculpture of Paul Julius Reuter, founder of the news agency of his name, sited at the rear of the Old Stock Exchange in Threadneedle Street. And a bust of Anne Frank is in the British Library. These are just some of the famous Jews whose effigies have been cast in metal and stone and sit proudly on the streets of London.

While the East End, City and West Central are covered extensively, suburbia is given plenty of space too. There are sections devoted to Golders Green, Hendon, Edgware and Stanmore among others. Maybe next time, though, they can take in homes for the elderly. After all, places like Nightingale Lane are truly part of the Jewish heritage of London.

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Revealing London's Hidden Jewish Gems

London Jewish News - 5th April 2012 / By Malcolm Ginsberg

The book does not cover only London but includes interesting places that are within a days trip including Waddesdon Manor, the home of Baron Ferdinand de Rothschild, Hughenden Manor, synonymous with Benjamin Disraeli, Montefiores Ramsgate and Broomhill, perhaps not as well-known as other places, but just as interesting, being the estate of Sir David Salomons, famous for being ejected as a Jew by Parliament.

Jewish London contains all you need to know about where to tour, stay, eat, shop and pray, presented in a lively and fresh fashion.

It includes more than 200 colour photographs and artworks, 17 detailed maps and practical advice such as travel information and opening hours.

Among many other highlights are:

A series of eight easy-to-follow self-guided walking tours highlighting the major places of historic and cultural interest based on Rachel Kolskys experience as a Blue Badge London tourist guide. Reviews of more than 40 restaurants and cafes for all budgets, ranging from the sophisticated and formal to funky cafes and falafel bars.

Information on 44 shuls of all denominations noting those offering Shabbat hospitality, plus details of hotels within walking distance and their Shabbat facilities.

Detailed sections dedicated to the Jewish Museum, Holocaust memorials, Jewish art and artists, Judaica, films and literature, Jewish cemeteries, major historical personalities such as the Rothschilds, Disraeli, and Lily Montagu, and day trips out of London.

Jewish London: A comprehensive handbook for visitors and Londoners

By Rachel Kolsky and Roslyn Rawson

You and US - Women's View (United Synagogue)

Venturing out of Golders Green to Discover Jewish London

1st June 2012



Cable Street Mural - commemorating the Battle of Cable Street, October 1936

London's Jewish heritage as seen from the street could at first glance be Golders Green with its bagel and falafel bars. Or further north to Stamford Hill, where the streets are always busy with the community en route to school or shul. But there is so much more to be found - museums, memorials, art, and numerous places and plaques commemorating Jewish personalities who made London their home.

If you visit Spitalfields and the East End memories come flooding back, not only of the tailoring and furniture trades but also the social workers who initiated youth clubs, nurseries and maternity hospitals. The West End also has special Jewish associations, including Lily Montagu who established the West Central Girls' Club, and the homes of the Jewish financiers and politicians such as Disraeli and the Rothschilds. As you walk through London the public art on display or the national art collections will introduce you to the stories of the artists, such as Epstein, Freud and Nemon.

In addition to the excellent Jewish Museum there are a number of smaller museums with Jewish interest, including two that are fascinating. The first, the Czech Memorial Scrolls Museum, is located in a handsome Knightsbridge building that also houses Westminster Synagogue. There you discover the story of the rescue of 1,564 Czech Torah scrolls in 1942, their purchase from the Czechoslovak communist state in 1964, their journey to London and subsequent repair and distribution. Today, 1,400 of the scrolls are currently used in synagogues and institutions around the world, including Yad Vashem, the White House and the Royal Library at Windsor Castle.

The second museum is situated in northwest London. In Hendon, sharing the same building as the CST, is the Jewish Military Museum, which documents the British Jewish contribution to the British Armed Forces over the last 300 years up to, and including, the current campaign in Afghanistan. The many personal items in the collection are particularly poignant and include letters from Lieutenant Marcus Segal to his parents written from the First World War trenches. He complained about the lack of kosher food and asked for the Jewish Chronicle to be sent to him. Tragically, he later died in action.

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London is also host to several Holocaust memorials including the well-known Kindertransport sculpture at Liverpool Street Station. In Hyde Park there is the secluded Holocaust Memorial Garden where a remembrance ceremony is held each Yom Hashoah, a memorial to Raoul Wallenberg outside the Western Marble Arch shul, and several sculptures by Naomi Blake, herself a survivor, are seen at synagogues and at the Friends' House, Euston, where the Quakers' assistance to the refugees is commemorated.

The Ashkenazi and Sephardi cemeteries established in Mile End following the 17th century Resettlement are truly hidden treasures of the community. They are now closed, but can be visited under special arrangement, and reward visitors with the stories of the early important families and personalities of the community such as da Costa, D'Israeli, Falk, Mendoza and Rothschild. Later cemeteries still open (for example Willesden and Hoop Lane) are more easily visited and also provide a fascinating insight into the Anglo-Jewish elite of the late nineteenth century and beyond.

If you are worried about not finding kosher food and drink while exploring London, you can relax! Kosher food is now available throughout the city from the Bevis Marks Restaurant in the East End to Reubens in the West End. You can also find sustenance in two of the largest shopping malls, Brent Cross and Westfield, Shepherds Bush, whilst Selfridges has a kosher section for take away.

(This is just a taster of what Jewish London has to offer but you can discover all this and more by reading the new guide book, 'Jewish London', recently published by New Holland and written by two north London Jewish women, Rachel Kolsky and Roslyn Rawson. Rachel is also a prize-winning Blue Badge Guide and her tours of London, including those of Jewish Heritage, have been enjoyed by thousands of London explorers over the years. For more information about the book or the tours contact Rachel at info@golondontours.com / www.golondontours.com).

Member interview: Rachel Kolsky

January 26, 2012

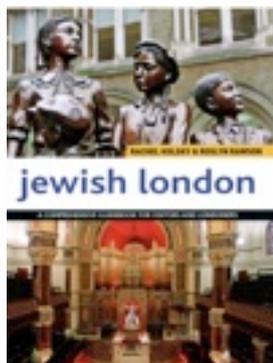


For our first member profile of 2012, we talked to [Rachel Kolsky](#). Rachel is a longstanding member of SLA, and served as SLA Europe's president in 2006/7. Most recently, Rachel has been making use of her information professional background as a tour guide, and to research and write a book on [Jewish London](#).

Can you tell us a bit about your background? How did you first become involved in the information profession?

I studied Politics and Modern History at Manchester University and my first job was in a statistics unit (anyone who knows me will be aghast at this idea – Rachel and numbers!). When the librarian was on holiday they asked me to look after the library in her absence. When I sat at her desk for the first time, I just KNEW that is what I wanted to do. So, after my post-grad library qualification I started work in the City. By luck not judgement but I really enjoyed the buzz of the financial world. My experience covered merchant banking (now called investment banking), fund management and insurance and I was lucky to work for three top-class organisations, SG Warburg, J Rothschild and AIG. While at AIG I was encouraged to join SLA and later was invited to join the Board of SLA Europe. The collaboration with fellow info pros both in the UK and abroad via SLA really increased my confidence outside of the immediate day-to-day office environment and also gave me the opportunity to speak at an international conference. ... contd

*I understand you've just written a book. Can you tell us a bit about it?
Where did the idea come from?*



Roslyn, my co-author and I love travelling. Where ever we are in the world we seek out Jewish heritage, synagogues and try to meet members of the local communities. Amazingly, there was no guide-book to Jewish London. Despite a growing interest in Jewish heritage in London, vibrant cultural centres, festivals for literature, music and dance no guide-book existed to ensure visitors and residents have all the information they need in one easy-to-read format. Roslyn and I volunteer at Jewish Book Week and, two years ago, after one of our shifts she asked me if I had ever thought of writing a book based on the coach and walking tours I lead around London. With Roslyn's knowledge of the Jewish community, particularly the synagogues and food matched with my knowledge of the history of Jewish London, it seemed that we MUST write the book!

We then had to find a publisher. We poured over guide books in Stanfords and chose the publishers who we wanted to work with. New Holland took us on and then it was all go no sooner than they said they rather liked the idea we were writing sample chapters, sending in the text, having to edit drastically. The commissioning editor got the measure of me very quickly. You write like you talk he said don't!! I had to learn to cut, cut, cut. It was tough at first but the words had to go!

The book covers both walking tours around key areas of Jewish interest but also features about historic cemeteries, Jewish art and artists, important Jewish personalities such as Disraeli and the Rothschilds, areas off the beaten track and suggested days out. Holocaust memorials are all listed and museums and Judaica are profiled. Several sites are very underknown so we hope the book will encourage greater number of visitors.

... contd

How did your background as an information professional help you with writing the book?

As an info pro with nearly 30 years behind me of researching all manner of subjects, whether in the early days using books and newspaper cuttings to later using on-line resources it was experience of research and checking sources for validity! It was also true that whether in the commercial world or the 'literary' world you must use personal communication too. You cannot get results without working with those who are the experts in their fields and in the case of a guide-book, those wonderful curators who manage the museums and galleries and the synagogue administrators who know their communities.

My work as an info pro meant I could be very well organised, or at least, aspire to being well organised. Preparing the guide-book was a collaboration between two authors with very different career backgrounds but we found we complemented each other.

I did the picture research too! This was a challenge as I did not really know what I was getting into but I loved it! Through my Jewish London walking tours and my many books on the bookshelves at home (yes, lots of real books!) I had lots of photos of my own but also an idea of which archive images I felt would add some interest to the London visitors would see while exploring. This led in turn to use my negotiation experience from working with business information suppliers. Costs of reproduction rights for images are very high now but I found that the copyright owners were really helpful and understanding about the lack of budget. I am thrilled with the range of images in the book – photos, works of art in galleries and historic archive images.

The publication timetable was tight, deadlines were always changing but never in our favour and they had to be met! We had both been used to busy corporate environments but the pressure in the corporate world never matched that of producing the book!!!

... contd

What advice would you give to someone just starting out as an information professional?

- 1) Any subject can be interesting. If you are naturally inquisitive then any subject, even if you previously knew nothing about it, will become fascinating once you are immersed in it. Obvious ones are medicine, law, finance but what about wool, cement and aviation? Whatever your background, never discount an organisation or subject matter as being uninteresting.
- 2) The info pro world is a service industry – you have to like people and want to help
- 3) You might not know the answer but you will certainly know how to find it or know the person who knows. Remember, that is often as good as knowing the answer yourself.
- 4) Info pro work is so varied. Whatever your favourite part of the work – using hard copy, researching on-line, finding the expert, analysing info, presenting info, writing – your role will include it. And if it does not, then encourage your unit to branch out into wider services. Your clients will appreciate it.

What are your plans and predictions for 2012?

Since leaving a PAYE working environment and becoming freelance my plans tend to be very simple paying the bills and praying the roof does not leak! But that is not me really. I am always making plans. Three years ago I thought how wonderful it would be to be a lecturer on cruise ships. Now I am! Two years ago I was wondering if I could write a book. Now I know I can! The key is to plan but not to be despondent if the plans do not come to fruition. Next plans? Now Jewish London is published I am planning my next book ... there is lots of interest in the theme (sorry, secret at the moment).

Thank you Rachel for sharing your insights with us! All the best of luck with your next book – sounds very exciting!



Jewish London by Rachel Kolsky and Roslyn Rawson

New Holland Publishers (UK), Ltd, 2012, price £10.99

Review by Gerald Normie for Wessex Jewish News (August 2012)

Well, well, well! And that's not just because I found so many things I didn't know before in this lavishly illustrated book. It's also because this compendium of information about contemporary and historical Jewish London is well researched, well written and well presented. At the heart of the book are ten walking tours of parts of London which are of interest to the Jewish visitor and will also interest the Jewish Londoner

Rachel Kolsky is a Blue Badge London guide and her detailed knowledge contributes to the skilled layout of the walks which are illustrated with detailed maps. Her co- author, Roslyn Rawson, has a legal background and is well informed about the Jewish London scene today. There is information about synagogues, restaurants, food, art and artists and many other things the visitor might like to know about

In addition to the coverage of Central and North West London and detailed information about the old East End there are also sections about trips of Jewish interest outside London including Montefiore's Ramsgate and Waddesdon Manor, the country house built by Ferdinand de Rothschild.

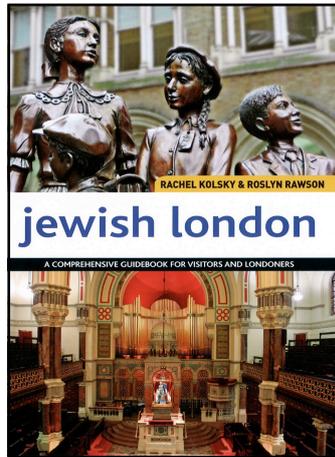
How up to date is the book? A guide book can never be entirely accurate as things change very quickly, particularly in London. The authors mention the delightful New End Theatre in Hampstead and note its presentation of many plays with Jewish themes. Just before the publication of the book in March this year it was announced that the theatre would be converted into Hampstead Village's first ever synagogue-from player to prayer.

However the reader will find that, apart from small exceptions like this, the information presented is current, extremely useful and, I should add, also topical. There is a photograph in the section, Jewish Londoners, of the blue plaque on the former home of Harold Abrahams, the 100 metres Olympic gold medallist in 1924. Roslyn Rawson and Rachel Kolsky went for gold in this Olympic year and their achievement is something to celebrate.

jewish london

A COMPREHENSIVE GUIDE BOOK FOR VISITORS AND LONDONERS

Rachel Kolsky and Roslyn Rawson



Reviews

US Press

Highlights from a review in the *Chicago Jewish Star*:



July 20-August 2, 2012

By Gila Wertheimer

...For those planning to visit London... a recommended companion is a new guide book, *Jewish London*..... From the city's famous East End, to little-known areas with a Jewish connection, to famous personages, to synagogues and cemeteries, it's all here... Visitors wishing to get a sense of Jewish London and to explore neighborhood byways will appreciate the walking tours, with maps and directions that are clear and include enough detail to make them easy to follow. Most conveniently, they all start and end near a tube station.... Rachel Kolsky is a tour guide who specializes in Jewish heritage tours, and co-author Roslyn Rawson is an attorney and writer with an interest in Jewish history and culture... It's a winning combination for both the London visitor and the armchair traveller.... The authors also enable thematic and historical explorations of, for example, Holocaust memorials and Judaica..... It's all enhanced by beautiful photos... The authors seem to have traced every Jewish echo in London..... *Jewish London* offers the key.

A guide to Jewish London

By June Sawyers, Special to Tribune Newspapers
March 27, 2012

"Jewish London: A Comprehensive Guidebook for Visitors and Londoners"

London has had a strong Jewish presence since the 11th century. In this evocative and richly illustrated guide to Jewish London, authors Rachel Kolsky and Roslyn Rawson offer a fascinating look at Jewish London today. The Jewish population hovers around 196,000; by contrast, the Jewish population of the entire United Kingdom is slightly less than 300,000. Whether visiting the bagel and falafel bars of Golders Green or the Orthodox community of Stamford Hill, Kolsky and Rawson offer smart and thoughtful observations.

The guide features a series of walking tours based on Kolsky's experience as a Blue Badge London Tourist Guide with an emphasis on the East End (the Jewish Whitechapel Walk contains everything from historic murals to the site of former settlement houses), Central London and Hampstead. The authors describe synagogues; Jewish or Jewish-themed museums (from the Freud Museum to the Jewish Museum); and kosher cafes, restaurants and shops.

The illustrations are especially noteworthy. The wonderful mural "Story of East End" by Beverley-Jane Stewart is a marvel in its own right, while the contemporary photographs place Jewish London in a historical context. All chronicle the changes that have occurred over the centuries. The historic community of Brick Lane, for example, has been transformed from a 20th-century Jewish neighborhood into the well-known center of London's Bangladeshi neighborhood.

In addition, wonderful sections explore aspects of Jewish London in more detail, including a portrait of Disraeli's London (Benjamin Disraeli, the noted 19th-century British prime minister), Holocaust memorials (such as the Holocaust Exhibition at the Imperial War Museum and the Holocaust Memorial Garden in Hyde Park) and Jewish cemeteries. The guide concludes with a glossary of Jewish terms.

The book is a must for anyone interested in exploring Jewish life in London past and present.



Jewish London: A Comprehensive Guidebook for Visitors and Londoners

Rachel Kolsky and Roslyn Rawson

May 2012 / Review by Bettina Berch

Although the cover price of *Jewish London* is a bargain, this book may end up costing you a whole lot more—like round-trip airfare to London! While Kolsky and Rawson are happy to guide you to anything of Jewish interest in or around London, from inventories of Jewish items in various museums, to cemeteries with Jewish notables, their walking tours of key Jewish neighborhoods are the real heart and soul of this book. Not only do they point out significant buildings and architectural features, they chat about the characters — the anarchists, artists, feminists, philanthropists, politicians, sports heroes and others — who lived and worked in the area, occasionally adding a website address for further information. Then too, the authors understand that while you're taking one of their tours, you'd also want to know about certain non-Jewish attractions en route. It would be a shame to go all the way to the East End, for example, and not visit the Dennis Severs' House. Their descriptions of synagogues available for visits or worship (as well as closed synagogues) are particularly useful, since this information is often hard for tourists to discover. Not only are their maps easy to use, their color photos of attractions are wonderful for both the armchair traveler and for on-the-spot identification of places of interest. While they do list some shops and places to eat in key neighborhoods, they keep it minimal, aware that such suggestions outdate guidebooks quickly. After reading *Jewish London*, there's only one unanswered question — when are Kolsky and Rawson going to Paris? Glossary, index, maps, photographs.

Olympics 2012 (re Jewish London: A comprehensive guidebook)

By [Masha Leon](#)

Published August 16, 2012, issue of [August 24, 2012](#).

Jewish London and the 2012 Olympic Games

The next best thing to being at the Olympic Games in London turned out to be an introduction to Blue Badge Guide **Rachel Kolsky**. I'd written to Sir **Martin Gilbert**, official biographer of Winston Churchill and author of some 85 other books, to ask about the involvement of the Jewish community in the 2012 Olympics. When his wife, **Esther Gilbert**, told me that he was ill, she suggested I instead speak with Kolsky, who leads tours of the Olympic Village and other sites. Esther Gilbert, who under her maiden name of Goldberg compiled three volumes of the Holocaust Memoir Digest, also mentioned that her Volyn, Poland-born mother had been an avid reader of the newspaper Der Tog (The Day). After the newspaper's demise, her mother became a loyal Forward reader.

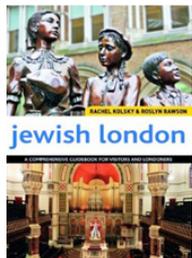
Kolsky told me in an email that she had booked both pre-and post-Olympic tours for people interested in the Jewish heritage of London, as well as in synagogues and the areas that have Jewish history. Kolsky and **Roslyn Rawson** penned the recent "Jewish London: A Comprehensive Guidebook for Visitors and Londoners" (New Holland Publishers) after volunteering at the Jewish Book Week festival and finding that, as Kolsky explained, despite a growing interest in the city's Jewish heritage — "its vibrant cultural centres, festivals, areas off the beaten track, historic cemeteries of Jewish artists... Disraeli and the Rothschilds as well as of Holocaust memorials" there was no existing Jewish-themed travel book.

Many of Kolsky's clients come from the United States or Israel, and she noted that on the tours, "the comparison and contrast between the American and U.K. immigrant experiences or the similarities and differences of the American and U.K. Jewish communities make for great conversation." I asked her about the Spitalfields section of East London, and she described it as "the place in London where you can really feel the layers not only of history within the streets and buildings but also of the different immigrant communities." She also mentioned that there are just five synagogues left in the East End, whereas there were once more than 65.

New guidebook offers a view of London through a Jewish lens

By KARINA GRUDNIKOV / 29th June 2012

Staff Writer



Acclaimed author Toni Morrison once said, "If there's a book that you want to read, but it hasn't been written yet, then you must write it." And that's exactly what Londoners Rachel Kolsky and Roslyn Rawson did.

Granted, Kolsky, a tour guide, and Rawson, a lawyer, didn't pen the next great British novel. What they did do, however, was write a book that they believed should exist, but didn't-an easy-to-read, organized and beautiful guide to all-things Jewish in London.

Just in time for the Summer Olympics in London kicking off at the end of the month, *Jewish London: A Comprehensive Guidebook for Visitors and Londoners* (Interlink Publishing) offers a way to explore London through Jewish culture and history, which spans back to the 11th century. The book features everything from historical synagogues and sculptures to kosher restaurants and even the best place to get a bagel with cream cheese and smoked salmon.

JUF News recently conducted an email interview with the authors.

JUF News: What inspired the creation of this book?

Rachel Kolsky: Despite a growing interest in Jewish heritage in London, vibrant cultural centers, festivals for literature, music and dance no guide-book existed to ensure visitors and residents have all the information they need in one easy-to-read format. Roslyn and I volunteer at Jewish Book Week and, two years ago ... she asked me if I had ever thought of writing a book based on the coach and walking tours I lead around London. With Roslyn's and my knowledge of the Jewish community, matched with my experience and knowledge of the history of Jewish London, it seemed that we must write the book!

Roslyn Rawson: I love travel guides, and when visiting other countries I usually buy three or more for each country visited. I had always wanted to write a travel guide and include the best features from my favorite guides, such as self-guided walking tours, maps, photographs, and practical details.

When visiting other destinations, I am always interested in visiting the Jewish sites, but researching these can be time consuming, and very difficult to [do] in English. In an ideal world, it would be great if there was a guide to the cultural and historical sites of Jewish interest ... for every country ... We realized there was no such guide to London's Jewish community which included all these features. As we know London very well from Rachel's extensive experience as a guide, and we have also both been involved culturally in the Jewish community over the years, we felt we had the personal knowledge and contacts to assist us, and decided to write the book and fill the gap in the market!

Did you each of you have a different role in the book's production?

RK: Our different backgrounds and experience led us to readily split the roles for producing the book, beginning with Roslyn ... taking the book from being an idea to being accepted by a publisher.

The heritage features and walks were based on my previous research for my tours, which I have been leading for over ten years ... It was also a wonderful opportunity to showcase my favorite sites in London and also those which are under-visited and deserve more exposure.

I did the picture research too and this was a wonderful part of the project ... Through my Jewish London walking tours and my many books ... at home, I had lots of photos of my own but also an idea of which archive images I felt would add some interest to the London visitors would see while exploring. I am thrilled with the range of images in the book - photos, works of art in galleries and historic archive images.

RR: As a qualified lawyer, it was important for me to ensure that our contract was as favorable to us as possible - not the easiest task for first time authors! As for research and writing, my main sections in the book covered Jewish London today, and Holocaust memorials. As Rachel is a tour guide by profession, she had already researched Jewish cultural and social history in depth for her walking tours. I needed to do all my research from scratch. As a lawyer ... accuracy was essential and the practical details, such as opening times and walking distance from public transport, were especially important from my experience of using travel guides in other countries. ...

Researching the cafes and restaurants meant enlisting my husband's help to accompany me in dining ... We went completely incognito, and paid for our meals ... those listed are eateries which I'd be happy to recommend to a friend. We felt it was important to include not just kosher establishments ... so we've included vegetarian and fish restaurants as well as "kosher style." We've clearly marked those which are kosher to avoid confusion.

Were there things that you were surprised to learn of, or to discover, in the process of writing this book?

RK: For someone who spends much of her life immersed within the heritage of Jewish London, it was not so much being surprised by anything but the sheer delight in seeing it all being coordinated within one book so that the sheer breadth and variety of Jewish London could be laid out clearly and succinctly for all to enjoy.

What I did find was that certain places became really special, such as Sukkat Shalom, the Reform synagogue in Wanstead, north east London. So many stories are interwoven-the synagogue is in a disused chapel of what was an Orphan's Asylum, so you have the wonderful thread of continuing worship but for different religions.

RR: As the child of a Holocaust survivor, it was perhaps not surprising that the first chapter of the book I researched, and then wrote about, London's Holocaust memorials. When I started, I only knew about the Imperial War Museum, the Holocaust Gallery at the Jewish Museum and the Kindertransport sculpture at Liverpool Street Station. I was then surprised to find that there are now two Kindertransport memorials at Liverpool Street, as well as a host of other monuments throughout London, many within synagogues.

In particular, I discovered: the small and quite well hidden Holocaust Memorial Garden in Hyde Park, where a remembrance ceremony is held each *Yom Hashoah* (Holocaust Remembrance Day); a memorial to Raoul Wallenberg outside the Western Marble Arch *shul* with inscriptions telling his story; and trees planted by the Anne Frank Educational Trust, accompanied by plaques outside a Covent Garden pub and in the British Library grounds.

Do you think many cities have histories that have yet to be fully discovered through a particular angle?

RK: Absolutely! Many of the big Western cities can be explored through specific angles and indeed, my walking tours of London profile not just the Jewish experience of London but also that of other immigrant communities such as the French, Italians and Bengalis. In addition, you can discover London's history from the viewpoint of women and their quest for emancipation, or the creative angle uncovering the changing artistic quarters such as Camden and Chelsea.

New York and Paris are two cities that immediately come to mind for similar exploration, where both have a fascinating Jewish story to tell but with very different endings. One of hope, being the Golden Medina, and the other with poignant family experiences during the Second World War.

RR: Definitely. From a specifically Jewish angle, in Eastern Europe, I have recently been to Lithuania, Latvia, Poland, and [Germany] where increasingly more and more monuments, statues, and plaques signifying old *shuls* and homes of prominent personalities are being erected, buildings of former Jewish interest are being renovated, with fantastic new or recently opened Jewish interest museums in all these countries.

The Jewish story in Eastern Europe is not just one of death camps, and it's important that the rich Jewish cultural life before the Second World War is brought to the fore.

Contact Rachel Kolsky at www.golondontours.com or info@golondontours.com to find out more about tours and visits of Jewish London.

Posted: 6/29/2012 11:11:46 AM

Exploring Jewish London During the Olympics and Beyond

Two long-standing friends collaborate on a comprehensive guidebook that presents the broad sweep of London's history and culture, refracted through a Jewish prism.

By Jayne Cohen / July 2012

With Queen Elizabeth II's Diamond Jubilee just past and the Summer Olympics beginning July 27—not to mention America's continuing obsession with the television series *Downton Abbey*—it's no surprise that London is a white-hot tourist mecca these days.

For travelers with a Jewish interest, though, “anytime is a good time” to visit, say Rachel Kolsky and Roslyn Rawson, authors of the new guidebook, *Jewish London: a Comprehensive Guide for Visitors and Londoners* (Interlink Publishing, \$17.95). “If you are interested in literature, then come in February for Jewish Book Week. Come in November for the Jewish Film Festival, and a new festival for May is Gefiltefest, which celebrates everything connected with the Jewish passion for food.”

A collaboration of two long-standing friends, *Jewish London* presents the broad sweep of London's history and culture, refracted through a Jewish prism. We turned to it to learn more about the marquee attractions and hidden gems for your next trip.

To best help you explore this terrific walking city, much of the book is divided into walking tours of areas with Jewish connections. As the authors show, this covers an unexpectedly large part of the city. That's because Jewish players have had such a major role in shaping the London—and world—stage, from the financiers (including the Rothschilds and the Montefiores) to the politicians (10 Lord Mayors were Jewish), entrepreneurs (such as the founder of Shell Oil and the co-founder of Britain's foremost store brand, Marks & Spencer), writers, artists and, most notably, extraordinary philanthropists.



©Rachel Kolsky

Kolsky, a prize-winning London Blue Badge Guide, has led tours of Jewish London for more than 10 years, and in the warm, chatty text that accompanies each site, she shares her secrets and asides.

For first-time visitors, the authors suggest a walking tour of the “classic” old Jewish East End, often likened to New York's Lower East Side. Don't let the plain façade of the Bevis Marks Synagogue here fool you. The oldest operating synagogue in the U.K., completed in 1701, its striking interior boasts seven huge brass chandeliers, still lit by candles for services on the High Holy Days and special occasions. Its two most famous congregants? The philanthropist Sir Moses Montefiore, and Benjamin Disraeli—that is, until the future prime minister's family converted to Christianity shortly before he was to become a bar mitzvah. Be sure to see the collection of beautiful Torah covers, including one made from the silk wedding dress of Judith Barent-Cohen when she married Moses Montefiore.

On a tour of the oldest area, the City of London, we pass Old Jews Street and arrive at the Bank of England. Here the authors uncover the Jewish backstory of the building, conjuring up Aaron of Lincoln, whose London home stood at this spot in the 12th century. A fabulously wealthy banker, his entire estate—worth more than 20 billion pounds in today’s money—by law reverted to the Crown at his death, because he was a Jew.



Freud Museum. ©Rachel Kolsky

A visit to the Jewish Museum “provides an opportunity to discover more of the social history of the U.K.” Don’t miss karaoke in Yiddish at the Yiddish Theatre exhibit. The small Holocaust gallery in the museum brings that era poignantly—and personally—to life by focusing on the story of a British-born Auschwitz survivor.

Rawson, the child of a Holocaust survivor, researched and wrote the chapter on London’s Holocaust memorials. Familiar with the well-known ones, like the compelling Kindertransport sculpture at the Liverpool Street Station, she was surprised, she told us, to discover “a host of other monuments throughout London,” including a “well-hidden Holocaust Memorial Garden in Hyde Park, where a remembrance ceremony is held every Yom Hashoah.”



Czech Scroll Museum. ©Jonathan Rawson

Among the other lesser-known treasures in the city is the Czech Memorial Scrolls Museum, centrally located in Knightsbridge, which “tells the story of the rescue of 1,564 Czech Torah scrolls in 1942 [and] their purchase from the Czechoslovak Communist state in 1964,” followed by their journey to London and their subsequent repair and distribution. (More than 1,400 scrolls are now on permanent loan to communities and institutions around the world.)

“Walking through the leafy suburb of Hampstead, you will discover stories of the German and Austrian refugees of the interwar years,” write Kolsky and Rawson. This brings us to the Freud Museum, the beautifully preserved home of Sigmund Freud and his eminent child psychologist daughter, Anna. This was where Freud lived, albeit briefly, following his escape from Vienna in 1938.

If there is a thread that runs through *Jewish London*, it is *tikkun olam*, repair of the world, from the munificence of the wealthiest Jews to the efforts of the many social workers, union organizers, and other activists who sought to improve the life of London’s poor. The authors highlight Lily Montagu who not only established a nationally recognized girls’ club and pushed for better working conditions for women and girls, but went on to help found what is now known as Liberal Judaism, so Jews who worked five-and-a-half-day weeks could attend Shabbat services on Saturday afternoons. In St. Johns Wood, you can visit the lovely Liberal Jewish Synagogue, where Montagu played a leading role.

You'll be hungry after all these excursions. The authors suggest that "lunch could be chicken soup or a salt [corned] beef sandwich from one of London's oldest established kosher eateries." (The book includes an extensive list of kosher, kosher-style and vegetarian cafes and restaurants.)

Or, if you want to try something homegrown from the British-Jewish kitchen: fried matzoh meal-coated fish and chips, served in Jewish and mainstream London restaurants. (Kolsky and Rawson highly recommend Fish Fish, in North West London's Temple Fortune area, for a perfectly cooked kosher version.)

Wait—fish and chips is a *Jewish* dish? Well, yes, but that's another story.

Contact Rachel Kolsky (www.golondontours.com / info@golondontours.com) to arrange tours and private visits to Jewish and other sites in London.

Jayne Cohen writes and lectures extensively on Jewish cuisine and culture. Her most recent book, [Jewish Holiday Cooking: A Food Lover's Treasury of Classics and Improvisations](#) (John Wiley), was named a 2009 finalist for a James Beard Foundation award in the international cookbook category.



ners, with a few notable exceptions (e.g., Gertrude Stein and Alice B. Toklas; filmmakers Ismail Merchant and James Ivory) were less famous. Each chapter covers one couple and highlights how the pair's personal lives synergistically developed and came to influence their work, whether as muse (Whitman and Peter Doyle), emotional stability and support (Williams and Frank Merlo), or a fully evolved working partnership (Merchant and Ivory). **VERDICT** An engaging and well-researched volume with broad appeal to the LGBTQ crowd (especially couples), as well as social historians.—Richard J. Volenta, Greater Victoria P.L., B.C.

Zeilinger, Jane. *A Little Fit Up: Why Feminism Is Not a Dirty Word.* Seal: Perseus, 2012. c.256p. ISBN 9781580053716. pap. \$16. see sex
Zeilinger, creator of a popular feminist teen blog, thefbomb.org, has written a primer on feminism for teenagers and young women. Now a student at Barnard College, she draws on her own high-school experiences to connect to readers who may be put off by both the language and the ideas of feminism. She devotes the book's first third to the history of feminism or, as she puts it, "The Badasses

Who Came Before Us." Like the rest of the book, it is talky and thinly resourced (with the occasional error), but Zeilinger's goal is to entice her readers to stick with her as she demonstrates her understanding of their plight: the abundant "bullshit," "the fucking nightmare" of dealing with body image. (The paroxysm seems intrinsic to her presentation of the issues.) Focusing on global issues, the Internet, and surviving high school, she describes feminism as both inclusive and empowering, with sound advice to young women dealing with the ongoing double standard and the images of perfect women that surround them. She concludes with a short list of other recommended resources for budding feminists. **VERDICT** Zeilinger has the bonafides to reach teenaged and twentysomething women. This just might work.—Oytha Harrison, George Washington Univ., Washington, DC

TRAVEL & GEOGRAPHY

Arnold, Daniel. *Salt to Summit: A Vagabond Journey from Death Valley to Mount Whitney.* Counterpoint, 2012. c.289p. illus. ISBN 9781582437507. pap. \$17.95. see sex

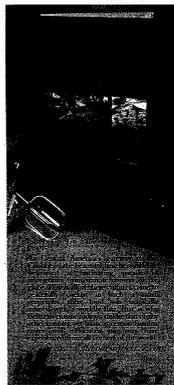
Arnold (Early Days in the Range of Light: Encounters with Legendary Mountaineers) is one tough guy—he's not even slightly intimidated by the hazardous extremes of California's deserts and mountains he describes in a travel memoir that also offers up a hearty dose of history. Aware of the dangers before him, he relishes the challenge as he sets out from the Badwater Basin in Death Valley, CA, at 292 feet below sea level to the peak of Mount Whitney at 14,505 feet above it, the highest point in the contiguous United States. Interspersed with his own experiences hiking along a route he planned himself are those of travelers who came through this area before him: Mary Arnold, who learned the secret trails of the Shoshone Indians; William Manly, who rescued the last of the forty-niners from the bottom of Death Valley; and even the infamous Charles Manson. A useful appendix of sources will help the reader consult other firsthand accounts. **VERDICT** Arnold infuses the narrative of his journey with eloquence. For avid outdoors types and students of California history. (Photographs not seen.)—Olga B. Wise, Austin, TX

Craig, William. *Yankee Come Home: On the Road from San Juan Hill to Guantanamo.* Walker, Aug. 2012. c.446p. index. ISBN 9780802170532. \$28. see sex

Freelance journalist Craig (liberal arts, River Valley Community Coll.) has a story to tell. After years of hearing that his great-grandfather fought with Teddy Roosevelt on San Juan Hill, he sought to connect with the past and retrace his ancestor's steps; this book is the result. His adventures in Cuba ultimately involve a dubious Nigerian missionary, a New England feminist choir, and a family secret. Though his travels don't work out as planned, Craig forges on. As they say on the island: "Estamos en Cuba." Readers experience Afro-Cuban religious ceremonies, brush-ups with the ever-present secret police, plenty of rum, and several hours on terrible Cuban transportation. **VERDICT** This memoir could have disintegrated into a slaptstick account of a Nigerian scam artist, inflexible Cuban bureaucrats, and the woes of a crumbling Cuban infrastructure. Instead, Craig has crafted a nuanced, coherent account of the Spanish-American War (remember the *Maine*?) interspersed with recent Cuban history and the current reality; the book is also a family memoir and quirky travelog. Recommended for anyone interested in Cuba or the Spanish-American War.—Lee Arnold, Historical Soc. of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia

Kolsky, Rachel & Roslyn Rawson. *Jewish London: A Comprehensive Guidebook for Visitors and Londoners.* Interlink Pub. Group, 2012. 224p. illus., maps, index. ISBN 9781566566002. pap. \$17.95. see sex

Travel guide Kolsky and attorney Rawson have taken the rich history of Jews in London, which dates from the 11th century, and compiled an information-packed, handsomely illustrated guide. The book includes a number of themed walks ("Old Jewish East End," "Fitzrovia and Soho," "Jewish Firsts"), each with an excellent map, as well as chapters on the hidden Jewish London, Holocaust memorials, historic Jewish cemeteries, and the Jewish Museum in Camden Town. An extensive section on London today includes recommendations for kosher restaurants, with the supervising Kashrut (dietary) authority indicated, hotels that offer Shabbat (Sabbath) facilities, and synagogues. The guide also includes essays on films and books on Jewish London, a list of current Jewish newspapers and journals, and a glossary of Jewish terms. Most entries contain contact information, the nearest Underground or bus stop, and opening hours. **VERDICT** Highly recommended for anyone, Jewish or not, planning a trip to London who is interested in this distinctive aspect of the city's history.—Linda M. Kaufmann, Massachusetts Coll. of Liberal Arts Lib., North Adam



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Review by Library Journal Review (posted to Upper Hudson Library System)

Travel guide Kolsky and attorney Rawson have taken the rich history of Jews in London, which dates from the 11th century, and compiled an information-packed, handsomely illustrated guide. The book includes a number of themed walks ("Old Jewish East End," "Fitzrovia and Soho," "Jewish Firsts"), each with an excellent map, as well as chapters on the hidden Jewish London, Holocaust memorials, historic Jewish cemeteries, and the Jewish Museum in Camden Town. An extensive section on London today includes recommendations for kosher restaurants, with the supervising Kashrut (dietary) authority indicated, hotels that offer Shabbat (Sabbath) facilities, and synagogues. The guide also includes essays on films and books on Jewish London, a list of current Jewish newspapers and journals, and a glossary of Jewish terms. Most entries contain contact information, the nearest Underground or bus stop, and opening hours.

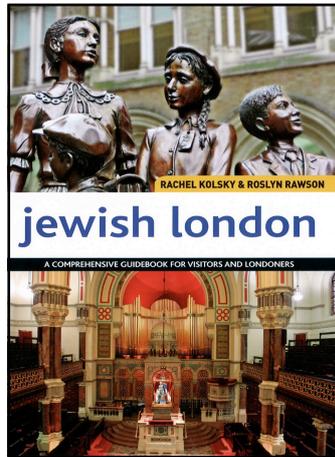
VERDICT: Highly recommended for anyone, Jewish or not, planning a trip to London who is interested in this distinctive aspect of the city's history.

Linda M. Kaufmann, Massachusetts Coll. of Liberal Arts Lib., North Adam (c)
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jewish london

A COMPREHENSIVE GUIDE BOOK FOR VISITORS AND LONDONERS

Rachel Kolsky and Roslyn Rawson



Reviews

Israel Press

JEWISH LONDON:

A Comprehensive Guidebook for Visitors and Londoners

A REVIEW by Carol Novis

Issue No. 167, December 2012 - January 2013

By Rachel Kolsky and Roslyn Rawson / 2012, New Holland Publishers.

Jewish tourists in London often pay some vague attention to the city's Jewish presence. That usually means dropping in on, say, a deli in Golders Green or the Western Marble Arch Synagogue (conveniently around the corner from Marks & Spencer), in between visits to the *real* sites of London, like the Tower of London.

But the British capital, with its Jewish population of some 280,000, has a rich Jewish history and heritage which is well worth delving into. ***Jewish London***, a lavishly-illustrated guidebook of a convenient size to schlep around, covers not only the better known sites, but is also a compendium of fascinating, little known information about this community which has existed since the 11th century.

Who knew, for example, that London has had 10 Jewish Lord Mayors? Or that Portobello Market was largely run by Jewish stall holders during the first half of the 20th century? Or that there is an Israeli connection: the home where David Ben Gurion lived for a time in W9, as well as one that Chaim Weizmann inhabited, marked by a blue plaque, in Addison Road?

The book was written by two friends from Belsize Park who spent two years researching and writing the book. Kolsky is a prize-winning London Blue Badge Guide who has led tours of Jewish London for more than 10 years.

In addition to the expected maps and list of synagogues and restaurants, a large part of the book consists of suggested walking routes. One of the richest areas in local Jewish history is the historical East End where Bevis Marks synagogue, dating from 1710, is the oldest still-operating synagogue in the UK. Kolsky and Rawson quote 17th century diarist Samuel Pepys, who wrote about a service he attended in the Creechurch Lane synagogue: "But Lord! To see the disorder, laughing, sporting and no attention, but confusion in all their service...." So much for famed British synagogue decorum!

Bevis Marks, by the way, was the synagogue that Benjamin Disraeli's family belonged to. Alas, in his barmitzvah year, after his father fought with synagogue officials, young Benjamin was baptized as a Christian.

Another walk tells the story of the radicals and revolutionaries of the East End and includes the headquarters of the Jewish anarchist movement and the Jewish Socialist Club, where Lenin, Stalin and Trotsky all attended meetings. A huge mural in Cable Street commemorates the successful efforts to stop the march of Oswald Mosley and his group of Fascists through the East End in 1936.

Other walks include Disraeli's London; the City of London, where a medieval mikveh was discovered in 2001; and Fitzrovia and Soho - home of the Fitzroy Tavern where Dylan Thomas hung out, run by the Kleinfeld family, and also home to Ronnie Scott's (formerly Ronald Schatt) famed jazz club and to Karl Marx.

There are many museums and memorials of Jewish interest in London, including the Jewish Museum in Camden Town, the Holocaust Exhibition at the Imperial War Museum and the Czech Memorial Scrolls Museum which tells the story of the rescue of 1,564 Czech Torah Scrolls in 1942, and they are all described in some detail.

Even non-Jewish museums often have a Jewish link and the book takes readers on a tour of the works of Jewish artists at the Tate Britain, Tate Modern and National Portrait Gallery, among others.

This wonderful book will make you want to visit London again, even if you've been there many times before. And its list of Jewish events and when they take place will help you decide exactly when you want to visit. Here's a hint: the annual Gefiltefest, which celebrates Jewish food, takes place in May.

From Brick Lane to Bevis Marks

'Jewish London' is a delight for nostalgia buffs as well as an education for visitors of all ages

• YEHUDIT COLLINS

When I fortuitously received a copy of *Jewish London: A Comprehensive Guidebook for Visitors and Londoners* just before I left for a trip to the UK, I pounced on it with delight. While meant for reference and dipping into, I read it avidly from cover to cover and as the names of places surfaced from the depths of my memories, I could have sworn that the smell of heimish pickled cucumbers wafted up from the pages. Brick Lane, Petticoat Lane, Spitalfields Market – the names made me start humming an old English song, "Lonely I wandered through scenes of my childhood."

Armed with a copy of the book, which incidentally was the biggest seller after Jonathan Safran Foer's *New American Haggadah* at this year's Jewish Book Week in London, I set off on one of the three self-guided tours, the Old Jewish East End Walk, accompanied by my husband and my cousin, who, although a few years younger than I, also has memories of her parents' and grandparents' tales of the old East End. The other two walks in the area are the Angels and Radicals Walk and the Jewish Whitechapel Walk.

The maps and directions are clear and easy to follow and the text is lavishly well illustrated, and any small errors and discrepancies that have crept in are not the fault of the authors but due to unforeseen changes. For instance, we found the restaurant at Bevis Marks Synagogue closed, although we were told it would be reopening in September 2012.

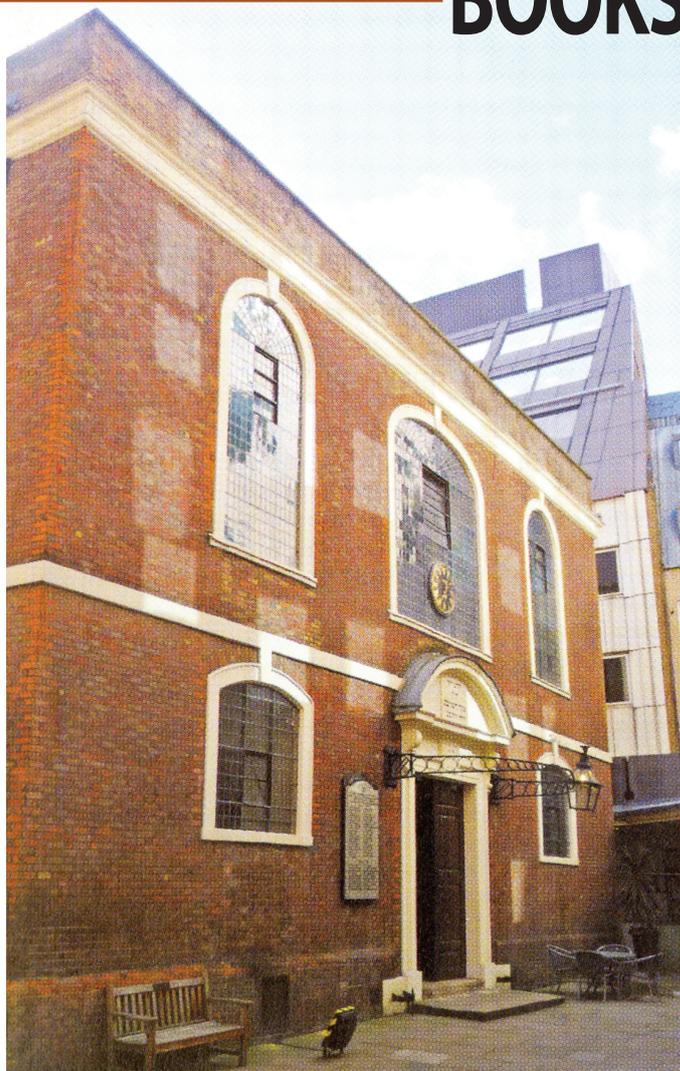
Bevis Marks Synagogue, which is still in use, was one of the high points of our tour. The names of all the wardens through the years are engraved on plaques that line the walls; the lighting still comes from hundreds of candles in ornate chandeliers, which we were told take over an hour to light. As I sat in the front center seat of the ladies' gallery, which looks directly down onto the bima, giving the mother of a bar mitzva boy a clear view, I could feel the emotions of those proud and ornately

dressed matrons seeping up through the benches.

Although we were prepared for the demographic changes and knew that the area might prove a disappointment, we were still taken aback to find street signs in English and Arabic and signs saying "Bangla City," referring to the predominantly Bangladeshi population, successors to previous waves of immigrants to the UK. Petticoat Lane is no longer redolent with the smell of pickles and herring but of hot oil and onions, although we did see a fish-and-chip shop that had made a credible attempt at mimicking the original by serving fish 'n' chips in specially printed faux newspaper cones. Although we had been warned by the book, it still felt strange to see that the old Machzikei Hadass ve Shomrei Shabbat Synagogue is now a mosque.

The book, which I shall treasure, is a delight for nostalgia buffs as well as an education for the younger generation and visitors of all ages who have no memories of old Jewish London. Indeed, even for an East End girl, there were plenty of "I never knew that" moments reading it. However, neither my cousin nor I could find any of the atmosphere of old Jewish London. While we knew that there had been vast changes – some would say improvements – we were still disappointed that very little remained to bring back and to complete the song, "fond memories of happy days gone by." Also, perhaps at our rather advanced age it was a little ambitious to embark on a walking tour of one to one and a half hours.

Apart from the self-guided tours, the book also provides a great deal of information for visitors on where to eat, where to shop and where to stay, as well as synagogues and cemeteries, and would be invaluable to visitors with London roots but little knowledge. Even habitual visitors to London will find useful information on, for instance, kosher restaurants, B&Bs and hotels, all marked with symbols showing the range that one would be expected to pay for a meal or accommodation. And for anyone tracing graves of long-deceased relatives, the informa-



BEVIS MARKS SYNAGOGUE

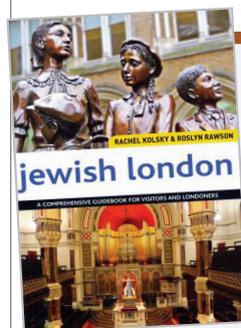
(Rachel Kolsky)

tion and phone numbers provided may save a fruitless visit to a cemetery that is open only certain hours or by appointment.

For those with the time and inclination to explore, there is also a section on day trips from London to places of Jewish interest.

Prize-winning London Blue Badge guide Rachel Kolsky, who has led tours of the city for 10 years, and lawyer Roslyn Rawson have combined their knowledge and writing skills to create a well-researched, informative and readable introduction to Jewish presence and heritage in the British capital, which was in the world spotlight this summer for the Olympics and Paralympic games.

My advice to those of an age to remember Jewish London is to read the book and happily recall the place names that surface ("Ooh, I remember when Auntie lived there"). To those young in mind and body, I recommend buying the book and walking the walks. With no preconceptions of how it used to look and feel, the book will invoke pale ghosts from old Jewish London.

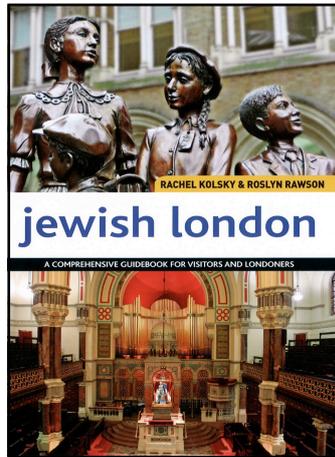


Jewish London
By Rachel Kolsky and
Roslyn Rawson
New Holland Publishers
224 pages; £10.99

jewish london

A COMPREHENSIVE GUIDE BOOK FOR VISITORS AND LONDONERS

Rachel Kolsky and Roslyn Rawson



Reviews

[Amazon.co.uk](https://www.amazon.co.uk)



***** (Five Star Reviews)

Jewish London by Rachel Kolsky and Roslyn Rawson

Very informative, 7 Jan 2013

By Ggeoffatmhg

Compact and easy to carry around when you are visiting some of the trips. Thought I knew a lot about the subject...until read this book

Comprehensive, 7 Dec 2012

By **Corinne Lever**

This was bought for a library. It will be popular because it deals with all aspects of the subject in a way that is clear and easy to follow. The walks are well planned and encourage participation. The pictures are attractive and well chosen.

An inspiration to walk and wander in wonder in Jewish London, 30 July 2012

By **Annie Wigman**

It's colourful, informative and blissfully easy to navigate. This new guidebook invites the reader to discover Jewish London present, past and resurgent. From bagels and smoked salmon to synagogues and sculptures; food, art, architecture, places of worship and people of note are all given their time in the spotlight. The photography is beautiful and the route maps for walking tours (and armchair explorers) are easy to follow. In addition to the better-known London Jewish areas like Golders Green and Stamford Hill, this book also covers Hidden Jewish London and day trips out of town, all carefully and lovingly researched.

Cultural and spiritual in equal measure, 13 July 2012
By **Nick Mayhew "Nick"**

This is the best of guide book writing: opening up a fascinating and important heritage to everyone, of any belief or background. So many stories are contained in the pages of Jewish London, something to make you stop and wonder about our city's history and its Jewish story on every page.

The guide excels in telling not only the histories that contributed to our city but also describing what the visitor will encounter today. It therefore has that rare combination of creative story telling supported by deeply considered research, its obvious intelligence lightly worn. Anyone with even the slightest interest in Jewish history, or just the cultural output of faith in general, will be charmed and intrigued by this beautiful book. It manages to celebrate both religious activity and cultural achievements alike, which broadens its appeal to pretty much anybody who is interested in art, culture, history and architecture as well as those travelling with a more spiritual focus.

The sites in the book are nearly all in central, north and east London, places most closely associated with Jewish communities, plus several day trips out to places in the Home Counties around the city. I wonder as an aside if an additional day trip to Guildford is worth including in future editions, thought to be the site of the oldest synagogue in Britain, if not Western Europe. So I look forward to the authors' next book with great enthusiasm!

Jewish London By Rachel Kolsky and Ros Rawson, 1 May 2012
By **Denise Lester**

A lively,informative excellent and comprehensive guide. Great photos. Well worth reading , studying and doing the walks. It makes London Jewish history come alive. It also shows how wonderfully rich in history London is. It's up there with other well known London tour guides.

EXCELLENT!, 27 April 2012
By **M. archer "book lover1"**

This is the book for exploring or discovering Jewish London. It's got everything you need to know - the history, places, peoples, synagogues, kosher food restaurants, the lot. The authors must be commended for doing their in-depth research, and I've found it one hundred percent reliable. Absolutely excellent, I can't praise it enough - if you need one book to London and it's past and present Jewish culture make it this one!

Jewish London, 26 April 2012
By **Artydeco**

This excellent book is lively and readable with lots of pictures, and is also scholarly and well-researched. It will therefore appeal to a broad readership- those who are unfamiliar with the subject will find it an accessible introduction, while those who know about Jewish life and culture in London will be pleased to see so much information brought together in a compact book which can easily be carried around to the recommended walks and venues. It makes a perfect present for anyone interested in London and Jewish life.

All the information needed in one book, 9 April 2012
By **Naomi Babbin**

A comprehensive and easy to read informative book on all aspects of Jewish London. Well presented, logically divided into category and beautifully illustrated. Easy to slip in to your bag and refer to on route. A must for any serious traveller to London.

Highly recommended, 9 April 2012
By **Edward Black**

What a super little book. Indispensable for Jewish visitors to London and also for Jewish residents. Covers Jewish London area by area in a way that is both erudite and accessible. Highly recommended

This decidedly is not "yet another London travel guide",

8 April 2012

By **Lawrence Normie "Widgit"** (UK/Israel)

I received this book as a gift and actually did not give it much thought until shortly before a recent business to London. The knowledge and historical erudition of the authors is remarkable, yet they succeed also to provide a very accessible source of essential tourist information for the Jewish visitor. But I think this book also should be of considerable interest not only to Jewish readers, given the wealth of interesting, often fascinating, facts concerning London's Jewish community, past and present, and its profound and beneficial impact on the development of the capital.

The Perfect Present, 8 April 2012

By **ilan**

This book makes the perfect birthday or yom tov present. After buying a copy for ourselves & finding it packed with useful & interesting information about the city we have lived in for so long, we bought copies for friends as Pesach presents.

There are some great walking tours in here but what I loved best were the useful reference guide to Jewish related shops, museum exhibits, restaurants and other places around town that I didn't know where there.

I highly recommend it.

Informative, well written guide. Highly recommend!,

7 April 2012

By **Michael Franklin**

Can't rate this book highly enough. For a Jewish non-Londoner like me this book has shown me things I would never have known. Filled with great photographs and walking routes, I highly recommend this to any visitor to London.

Finally!, 28 Mar 2012

By **Philip Lawton**

I almost didn't write this because so many people have already pointed out what makes this book great - it's the first guidebook to Jewish London for a long time, and it couldn't be better. Guided walks are accompanied by both very clear maps, as well as photos (so you know you're in the right place!). It's packed with information, covering historical issues and people (lots of blue plaques) as well as contemporary Jewish London. It also includes features on several specific places and things (the Jewish Museum, obviously, as well as an interesting synagogue, and Jewish London on Film).

It is primarily a guidebook, but there's definitely an attraction for the casual reader who's interested in that kind of thing!

Well-produced, easy to use, and full of interesting things

26 Mar 2012

By **KB0808** (Yorkshire)

This is an easy-to-use guidebook to all facets of Jewish London, from the middle ages to the present day. The emphasis is on walking tours around the city, and it's very well illustrated. There are a lot of 'hidden gems' - the book will appeal to Londoners as well as visitors to the city. Also plenty of handy information - restaurants, cafes etc., - and well-suited to all visitors interested in Jewish heritage, from people of religion to those without.

Highly recommended, 26 Mar 2012

By **Nicola**

I couldn't put this book down. The authors take you on a journey round London and reveal places one may have walked past countless times without knowing their history. The book is set out clearly and is very well written, with lovely walking tours to take the reader past the sites of interest mentioned in the chapter. Highly, highly recommended for anyone interested in Jewish London - fun to read, and very well researched with a great mix of historical and local knowledge

Jewish London at your fingertips - go discover, 23 Mar 2012

By **appletart**

Great guide to Jewish London: comprehensive yet quirky; surprising gems without neglecting the basics - perfect for capital dwellers and visitors alike. Just the right amount of essential detail, practical guidance, background information and visual temptation - without superfluous verbiage. Enjoy.

A must-have book on London, 22 Mar 2012

By **Rachel Daniels**

A totally absorbing travel and history book with fascinating details about our capital city. The attention to detail is superb - pointing out that which could so easily be missed by an uninformed traveller. It also gives very specific instructions which, for someone as geographically challenged as me, is absolutely essential! The glossary at the back is very interesting for anyone not familiar with Jewish terminology. I defy anyone who likes history or exploring London not to be inspired by this book. The Jewish Museum is now top of my list of places to visit.

as interesting and enjoyable for a non Jewish Londoner

17 Mar 2012

By **A Gentile**

Beautiful pictures and wonderfully quirky historic details made this book an interesting and diverting read for all the family. Very reasonably priced.

A fantastic long awaited book, 15 Mar 2012

By **Sue N**

We have long awaited a book on Jewish London which is not only a resource for visitors to London but is also a fantastic source for those of us who live here. I have already dipped into it several times and have made plans to visit some of the lesser known places mentioned. It is beautifully produced and enticing to the reader - whether you want food, places of interest, just anything to do with Jewish London. Well done!!

Time out for Jewish London, 14 Mar 2012

By **A. Maurice** (London)

This is a beautifully presented book and perfect for wondering around town with.

Bang up to date information, great pictures, clearly laid out and lots of interesting information.

Well worth having for those that live in London and a great guide for visitors - just like a Time Out for Jewish London.

Highly recommended.

At long last - a useful Jewish London guide, 13 Mar 2012

By **A Common Reader**

This is the book we have been waiting for! Not only does it provide ideas for walks to discover Jewish London (and not just the East End but all over central London too), there are also museums, sculptures, blue plaques, cemeteries all with Jewish associations. Things we had not even thought of seeking out. The book looks wonderful with carefully selected images and the passion and enthusiasm of the authors for their subject just jumps out of the pages.

Wowww!!!!, 13 Mar 2012

By **Renna Tandler**

What a book!!! Having lived in London my whole life, I honestly never realised how much "Us Jews" had to offer, this book has shown me delights out of Golders Green/ Hendon. Fantastic pictures and very well written.

About Time Too!!!, 13 Mar 2012

By **Jan Hechel**

Its about time there was such a comprehensive book written about Jewish London. This book is so informative and so colourful. I love it and it will definately be a book that I buy for all the family. Every Jewish household needs a copy!

Highly recommended.

Packed full of valuable information, 12 Mar 2012

By **S. Kyte "steve k london"** (London,UK)

This is a great book for anyone who wants to learn more about London's Jewish history. I have been on Rachel Kolsky's walks and she certainly knows her facts and exudes great enthusiasm which is apparent here also in the lively way in which she writes. There seem to be chapters on everything you need to know including The Rothchilds family, Holocaust, Disraeli and many others too numerous to mention. There are quality colour pictures everywhere and the maps are attractive and easy to follow with walking routes that Rachel has planned. The Whitechapel Walk in particular is one of the best I have followed. The rear part of the book is a list containing vital information for the visitor such as synagogues, eating places, shops, museums, stately homes and even cemeteries. This should sit on anyone's shelf as the ultimate reference book of Jewish London and also good bedtime reading as it is jam packed with useful and interesting information and offers excellent value for money.

Shirley Nikreem, 8 Mar 2012

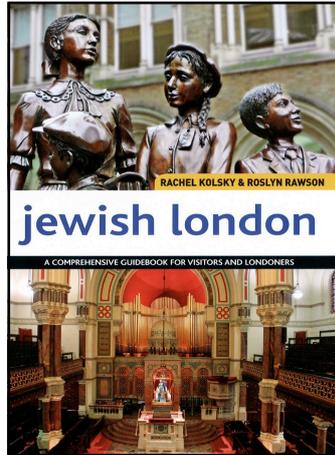
By **Shirley Nikreem**

This is a delightful book combining guided tours and a comprehensive and fascinating journey into the history of Jewish London. The tours are very well planned and the information - packed with curious facts - is delivered in a charming style at a comfortable pace. One has the option of either taking the actual tours, or enjoying the book as a great read while curling up in a chair. The book features beautiful photographs that enhance the entire reading and touring experience. Highly recommended!

jewish london

A COMPREHENSIVE GUIDE BOOK FOR VISITORS AND LONDONERS

Rachel Kolsky and Roslyn Rawson



Reviews

[Amazon.com](https://www.amazon.com)



******* (Five Star Reviews)**

Jewish London by Rachel Kolsky and Roslyn Rawson

Very useful and the photos are wonderful!, July 16, 2012

By

A voracious reader (New York, NY, United States)

I've visited a few of the places listed in this book, but I had no idea of how much I'd missed until reading the book. It's very well-written, very thorough, very interesting, and the photos are numerous & terrific.

Great book, June 6, 2012

By **E. Silverstone** (Toronto, Ontario Canada)

I enjoyed reading this book. Just a little disappointed that the book only focused on Jewish places in one city, London. Perhaps the title of the book should have reflected this.

A must read for anyone planning a visit to London, April 23, 2012

By **Susan**

This charming book is a must-read for anyone planning a visit to "ye olde London" (regardless of religion). Very informative, beautifully illustrated and an easy but intellectual read. This is the authors' first book and I cannot wait for their next one to come out!
Susan Taragin, Jerusalem.

Jewish london by Rachel Kolsky and Roslyn Rawson, March 5, 2012

By **Cavendish** (England)

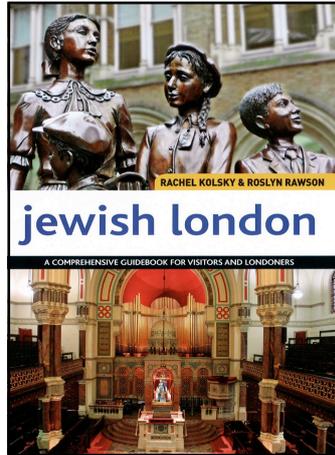
A fantastic informative and thorough guide to Jewish London , very well written and excellently presented with maps included throughout the book. Easy to read with great pictures, well worth it.

Note: There are additional reviews on Amazon.com but they are duplicates of those on Amazon UK

jewish london

A COMPREHENSIVE GUIDE BOOK FOR VISITORS AND LONDONERS

Rachel Kolsky and Roslyn Rawson



Reviews

Hebrew

JEWISH LONDON IN A LONDON - REVIEW

צדקא שאול (26/04/2012)

לא עמו קצרה היכרות שאחרי להיות מאוד יכול אבל, שכזה למדריך המתנתם לא אולי שתי מכנסות מהודר נייר על המודפסים צבעוניים עמודים 224 פני על. בלעדיו תוכלו של הקלאסיים יהודיים האתרים את רק לא, רוסון ורוזלין קולסקי רחל, הספר מחברות החבויים מיהלומיה כמה גם אלא, העיר

מזרח יהודי של האצבע טביעות את מכיר מצוי ישראלי שכל ההנחה מנקודת נצא אם גם יודע הוא אם ספק, ליין פטיקוט בשוק וכלה אפל"מווייטצ החל, 20-וה 19-ה במאות העיר 17-ה המאה לאמצע עד פילוא המרחיק הטיולים ספר לעזרתנו בא כאן. היתר כל על עמד בו המקום היכן לנו מגלה הספר. אנגליה לאדמת לשוב היתר קיבלו היהודים כאשר ישיבה שבה דוונשייר כיכר היסטוריית על, 1657-1701 השנים בין הראשון הכנסת בית שהוקם, "מרקס בוויס", הספרדי הכנסת בית על וגם 1859-ב היהודית הקהילה הנהגת פעיל דייווע 1701-ב

משם. זנגוויל ישראל, ציוני הפעיל התגורר, לדוגמה, (סטריט פאשן) האופנה ברחוב ברחוב, הקדום סטפני רובע של העירייה ראש, מוזס מרים של ביתה אל להגיע אפשר, אלדר ברחוב, משם הרחק לא. ההגירה למוזיאון שהפך הכנסת בית ליד ממש, פרינסלט רשת מייסד, כהן ק'ג חי בו הבית נמצא מקום בקרבת. גרטלר מרק הצייר התגורר לרוני וגם, פינטר הרולד, למחזאי, רוזנברג איזק, והמשורר לצייר בשכונת שחי, "טסקו" נולדו, אחרים ורבים, אלה כל. בסוהו שהקים אז'הג מועדון בשל המפורסם, סקוט בלונדון הבנגלית הקהילה של למעוזה מכבר זה שהפכה, "אנד-איסט" ב

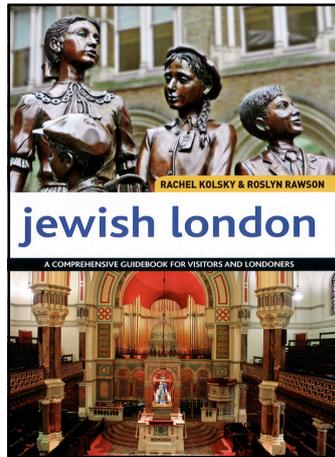
בעיר מקום בכל חותמם את הטביעו שיהודים העובדה הדגשת הוא בספר שמעניין מה שר היה הוא? בלישה. מייפר בשכונת בלישה-הור ולסלי דיזראלי, מונטיפיורי, רוטשילד האורות רעיון את שהגה כמי בעיקר התפרסם אך, '30-ה בשנות הבריטי המלחמה. התחבורה שר היה כאשר שמו על נקראים אלה. החצייה מעברי צדי משני המהבהבים סר" כיהן בו, היהדות לרחוב מסביב, שם? ובסיטי. מרקס קרל של מקומו נפקד לא בסוהו זהו, כן. רויטר יוליוס של לזכרו אנדרטה למצוא ניתן, ההומה הכרך של כשריף "מוזס היום סיודעי לא מועסקיה ואפילו הבינלאומית הידיעות סוכנות נקראת שמו על האיש יהושפט בר ישראל היה האמיתי ששמו

לכך שמתוודע מי? יהודי היה, סלרס פיטר, נשכח הבלתי שהשחקן יודעים כבר כמה לונדון מערב-צפון. ביתו ליד ולהצטלם היל מזוויל לשכונת לנסוע יכול הראשונה בפעם וכמוהו רקפא בלסייז בשכונת פרויד זיגמונד היה להם וראשון ראש. רבים ענקים גידלה סנט בשכונת. קליין מלאני בשם (מרה יריבה וגם) נוספת ופסיכואנליטיקאית, אנה, בתו לו חי, ווייל במיידה, משם הרחק ולא, קוקושקה אוסקר, הצייר רבות שנים לו חי ווד ונס'ג בתי היו בהן בשכונות גדלו, אחרים ורבים, הללו השמות. ששון וידל, התסרוקות אמן בית. מכבר זה ייעודם את שינו מבנים מאותם רבים, ולצערנו תמחוי ובתי רספ בתי, כנסת גרין ברוק ברחוב אחר כנסת ובית יהודי לא ספר לבית הפך גייט היל נוטינג של התפילה

jewish london

A COMPREHENSIVE GUIDE BOOK FOR VISITORS AND LONDONERS

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SJ

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Dr AS

I used Rachel's book for my recent visit to London and it was fabulous!!!

DB

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EP

"Just what was missing from the bookshelf!!"

SH

I am the fortunate recipient of a gift of your book, 'Jewish London', with which I am so impressed. Initially, I intended just to glance through it but I found myself carried away by your fascinating descriptions of the areas, the sites and the personalities and kept on reading! It is a beautifully presented treasure rove of information, to which I shall constantly refer.

For me, your book is a wonderful blend of the nostalgic and the contemporary and as you go into detail even about places of former Jewish interest.

VB