



The Auerbach Central Agency for Jewish Education's
The Seidman Educational Resource Center



EXPLORING JEWISH PHILADELPHIA
SUMMER - FALL 2005

MUSEUMS

1. **The National Liberty Museum**
The National Liberty Museum was created to celebrate our nation's heritage of freedom and the wonderful diverse society it has produced.

The National Liberty Museum
321 Chestnut Street
Philadelphia, PA 19106
215-925-2800
liberty@libertymuseum.org
<http://www.libertymuseum.org/>

2. **The National Museum of American Jewish History**

Established in 1976, and situated on Philadelphia's Independence Mall, the National Museum of American Jewish History is the only museum in the nation dedicated exclusively to collecting, preserving and interpreting artifacts pertaining to the American Jewish experience.

The National Museum of American Jewish History
55 North 5th Street
Philadelphia, PA 19106-2197
215-923-3811
nmajh@nmajh.org
<http://www.nmajh.org/>

3. **The Philadelphia Jewish Archives Center**

The Archives has created a 60-90 minute visit plan and presentation for groups of 11-15-year-olds (12 student maximum). It provides an introduction to the Jewish experience and the impact of Jews on the life of our region. The

program makes the connection through the stories of real individuals and authentic voices, images, and documents.

The research collection contains original archival materials, photographs, and books concerning the Jewish experience of the Philadelphia region. Call for an appointment.

The Philadelphia Jewish Archives Center
18 S. 7th Street
Philadelphia, PA 19106
215-925-8090, ext. 228 or 229
<http://www.jewisharchives.net>

4. The Philadelphia Jewish Sports Hall of Fame

The goal of the Greater Philadelphia Jewish Sports Hall of Fame and Museum is to provide the community with tangible and lasting evidence of the past, present and future of Jewish sportsmen and sportswomen in our area and to instill community pride in Jewish accomplishments in the field of sports and the role sports has played in preserving Jewish culture.

The Philadelphia Jewish Sports Hall of Fame
Adolph and Rose Levis Sports Museum at the Gershman Y
401 S. Broad Street
Philadelphia, PA 19147
215-446-3036
<http://www.phillyjcc.com/homepage.html>

5. The Philadelphia Museum of Jewish Art

The museum's permanent exhibit contains a collection of Judaica, including ancient and modern pieces. Changing exhibits focus on 20th-century Jewish art and photography.

The Philadelphia Museum of Jewish Art
Congregation Rodeph Shalom
615 North Broad St.
Philadelphia, PA 19123
215-627-6747
<http://www.rodephshalom.org/museum.html>

6. The Rosenbach Museum and Library

This collection features Judaica, such as the Portuguese Hebrew Bible dated to 1491, and the first Haggadah printed in the United States. The museum also holds several letters and portraits of the Gratz family, including the famous 1831 portrait of Rebecca Gratz by Thomas Sully. Of special delight is the Maurice Sendak Gallery, which contains his complete works!

The Rosenbach Museum and Library
2010 Delancey Place
Philadelphia, PA 19103
215-732- 1600
info@rosenbach.org
<http://www.rosenbach.org/home/home.html>

7. **The Sam Azeez Museum of Woodbine Heritage**

A historic museum that documents the acculturation of Russian Jews in the Cape May county area, this museum is housed in the Woodbine Brotherhood Synagogue building, which was built by the early Woodbine, New Jersey colonists. The synagogue is listed on the National Register of Historic Places. Open Wednesday, Thursday, Friday and Sunday from 10:00 – 4:00 P.M.

The Sam Azeez Museum of Woodbine Heritage
610 Washington Avenue
Woodbine, NJ 08270
609-861-5355
<http://www.thesam.org/>

8. **The Temple Judea Museum**

The Temple Judea Museum was founded in 1984 to contain the merged Judaica collections of two Philadelphia – area synagogues, Temple Judea, and Reform Congregation Keneseth Israel. The museum staff includes a director/curator and an active group of volunteers. The Friends of the Museum offers tours and special events. Special Exhibit: *YIDDISHKEIT: Growing Up Jewish in America* by Joan Myerson Shrager - September 18 - November 13, 2005.

Reform Congregation Keneseth Israel
8339 Old York Road
Elkins Park, PA 19027
215-887-2027
<http://www.kenesethisrael.org/mus.htm>

SYNAGOGUE TOURS

1. **Beth Sholom**
8231 Old York Road
Elkins Park, PA 19027
215-887-1342
<http://www.bethsholomcongregation.org/>

2. **Mikveh Israel**
44 N. 4th St.
Philadelphia, PA 19106
215-922-5446
<http://www.mikvehisrael.org/>

3. **Rodeph Shalom**
615 N. Broad St.
Philadelphia, PA 19123
215-627-6747
<http://www.rodephshalom.org/>

JEWISH PHILADELPHIA WALKING TOURS

1. **American Jewish Committee Historic Tour**
Tour Guide: Simmi Hurwitz – 610-648-9482 or 215-665-2300
A custom walking, bus, or combination tour of Colonial Jewish Philadelphia can be combined with a tour of historic Mikveh Israel Synagogue. Contact Ms. Hurwitz for her descriptive brochure.

2. **The Eastern European Experience in Philadelphia 1880 – 1920 Tour**
Tour Guide: Harry D. Boonin, author of *The Jewish Quarter of Philadelphia*
215-918-0326.
A walking tour through Society Hill and Queen Village and several historic Center City synagogues. Contact Mr. Boonin for a brochure.

3. **First Person Character Tours**
Tour Guide: Meryl Levy, 151 E. Salem Ave., Sewell, NJ - 856-468-8191
Tours of 18th century Jewish Philadelphia in the Independence Mall area, suitable for youth or intergenerational groups. Meryl leads the tours in costume and character, e.g., as Rebecca Franks or Rebecca Gratz.

4. **Shalom Philly Tours**
Tour Guide: Linda Nesvisky - 215-635-3494 <http://www.shalomphillytours.com/>
Tours focus on Jewish settlements and highlight Jewish contributions to early American society. Stories and readings of Philadelphia's Jewish pioneers, such as Haim Salomon, David Franks, the Gratz family, and Nathan Levy are included. Tours can be conducted in Hebrew or English, by foot or bus, and are geared for 5th grade to Seniors. Contact Ms Nesvisky for a brochure.

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The Auerbach Central Agency for Jewish Education
7607 Old York Road Melrose Park, PA 19027
215-635-8940 Fax: 215-635-8946
www.ajae.org info@ajae.org

8/05
Nancy M. Messinger - ext. 1215
Bonni R. Kraus - ext. 1218
Please contact us with any additions or corrections to this resource.

