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Rabbi Deborah Prinz Bio

Rabbi Deborah Prinz lectures about Jewish celebratory breads and chocolate, in-person and virtually, nationally and internationally. The next time you pick up a piece of chocolate or bread, consider that you are partaking in aspects of the Jewish past, the Jewish spirit, and Jewish belief.

Articles about and interviews of Rabbi Prinz have appeared in the national and local media. She has delivered many talks to community organizations. Prinz worked in synagogues for thirty years and at the Central Conference of American Rabbis as Director of Program and Member Services for seven years before heading onto the chocolate trail with the publication of her first book *On the Chocolate Trail*. Since then she has published a children's book and completed the research for her next book about Jewish breads:

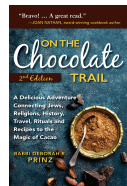


Order! *On the Bread Trail: Jewish Baking Around the World* (CCAR

Press) takes readers on a captivating journey to uncover the deep historical, cultural, and spiritual connections embedded in a wide menu of Jewish breads. In this sequel to *On the Chocolate Trail*, Prinz explores the values that inform Jewish baking, the cherished seasonal and holiday

breads that adorn our tables, and the everyday breads that accompany us throughout our lives.

On the Bread Trail feeds our souls with global recipes, historical insights, and delicious inspiration. From babka to berches, challah to lachuch, this book is a celebration of heritage, resilience, and the stories that emerge from Jewish kitchens around the world. The book includes a discussion guide for adult learning and book clubs.



Order! *On the Chocolate Trail: A Delicious Adventure Connecting Jews, Religions, History, Travel, Rituals and Recipes to the Magic of Cacao*. (2nd Edition, Jewish Lights Publishing) unwraps surprising Jewish connections with chocolate, including Jews in the trade, retail, and production of chocolate. A delectable journey and gastronomic adventure, the book features 25 historical and contemporary recipes. Prinz was awarded a Starkoff Fellowship and a Director's Fellowship from the American Jewish Archives as well as a Gilder Lehrman Fellowship from the Rockefeller Library to pursue the research for the chocolate book. It stirs age-old passions for chocolate and religion using information gathered from travel to Belgium, Canada, England, France, Israel, Italy, Mexico, Spain, Switzerland, and throughout the United States. Discussion guide available.



Order! *The Boston Chocolate Party* melds themes of Jews in the chocolate trade, the American fight for independence, and Hanukkah's messages of freedom. Co-authored with Tami Lehman-Wilzig, this picture book unravels a story of redemption, friendship, and celebration against the backdrop of freedom sought by the American colonists and by the Maccabees. The Boston Tea Party of December 16, 1773, coincided with the last night of Hanukkah. Educator resources available.

Exhibitions! Prinz co-curated "Semi[te] Sweet: On Jews and Chocolate" which was mounted at the Bernard Museum of Temple Emanu-El, New York City and travels around the world. It features art, artifacts, and memorabilia portraying narratives of Jews and chocolate.

On the Chocolate Trail also formed the basis for "A Sweet Treat! Chocolate and the Making of American Jews," an exhibit at Central Synagogue (NYC) from November 10, 2023-February 16, 2024.

More! Prinz has blogged at *HuffPost*, *The Forward*, *The Jewish Week*, reformjudaism.org, and at her website rabbideborahprinz.org (formerly onthechocolatetrail.org). She has published in scholarly, professional, and popular journals such as *The CCAR Journal*, *The Hebrew Union College Annual*, *Reform Judaism Magazine*, and *The CCAR Yearbook*. Articles about and interviews of Rabbi Prinz have appeared in the national and local media.

Rabbi Prinz has held a number of leadership positions in the national and regional Reform movement, having served the Central Conference of American Rabbis (CCAR) as

Director of Program and Member Services and the Director of the Joint Commission on Rabbinic Mentoring. In addition she has mentored rabbinical students through the Mayerson program at the Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion (HUC-JIR) and was a Senior Fellow at HUC-JIR's Center for the Study of Ethics and Contemporary Moral Problems. She has consulted for HUC-JIR, the Union for Reform Judaism (URJ), and other organizations. Prinz was honored to conduct the worship services at regional and national biennials of the URJ. Elected by her colleagues, Rabbi Prinz held each office of the Board of the Pacific Association of Reform Rabbis including President.

The Rabbi Emerita of Temple Adat Shalom, San Diego County, California, she was its Senior Rabbi for almost twenty years. Prior to that she was the Rabbi of a synagogue in Bergen County, New Jersey, and also the Assistant Rabbi of Central Synagogue in Manhattan.

During her almost thirty years in congregational work, Rabbi Prinz contributed to the local Jewish community as well. She served on the Executive Committee, including as President, of the San Diego Rabbinical Association and was named "Woman of the Year" by Brandeis University National Women's Committee.