



On the *Chocolate* Trail

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Learn about Jewish History, Jewish Values, and Jewish Culture from Chocolate and from Bread

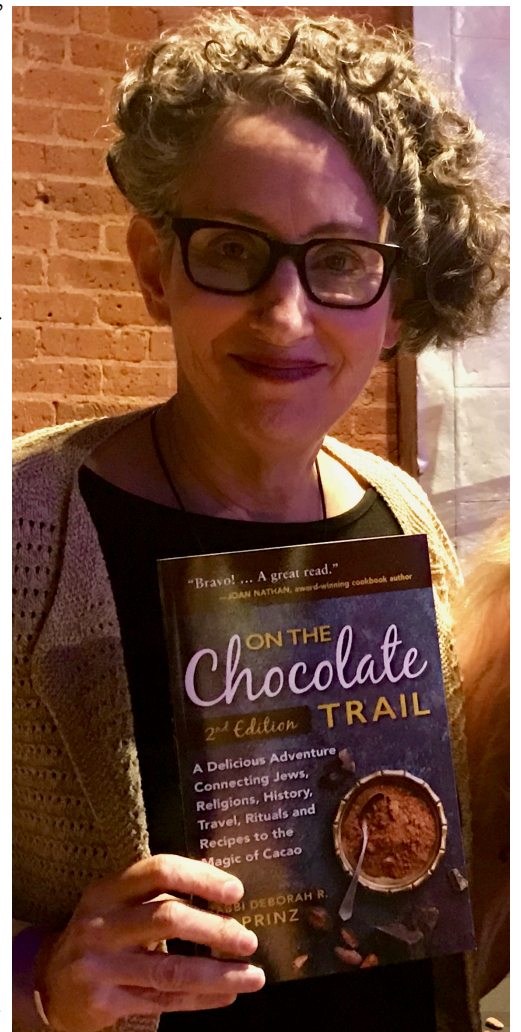
Rabbi Prinz speaks by zoom and in-person for scholar-in-residence weekends, adult learning programs, auxiliaries, fund raisers, donor programs, special occasions, and food festivals. The next time you pick up a piece of chocolate or bread, consider that you are partaking in aspects of Jewish history.

New! *The Boston Chocolate Party*, a picture book co-authored with award-winning children's book writer, Tami Lehman-Wilzig. With historic irony, the Boston Tea Party of December 16, 1773, coincided with the last night of Hanukkah. In *The Boston Chocolate Party*, a narrative of redemption and celebration, the reader learns about the parallel stories of freedom sought by the American colonists and by the Maccabees through the eyes of 8 year old Joshua.

Available! *On the Chocolate Trail* (2nd Edition, Jewish Lights Publishing) has been used creatively with adults and young people. Quantity discounts are available. Also, chocolate accompaniments (see below) and author book signings are very popular.

Forthcoming! *On the Bread Trail* explores and celebrates Jewish breads, providing insights into Jewish identity, culture, history, and customs around the world. Among Jews, these special occasion, yeasty loaves reflect a diversity that is at once distinct and also universal. The book offers up around 25 unusual recipes. To be released by Behrman House.

Traveling! The museum exhibit, "Semi[te] Sweet: On Jews and Chocolate," based on the book, *On the Chocolate Trail* and co-curated by Rabbi Prinz, was featured in the *New York Times*. Now available to travel, it does not require humidity control or security.



Adult Learning Topics: *On the Bread Trail* (including book signings)

1. *Breaking Jewish Breads: More Than Challah:* Explore the diversity of Jewish communities through celebratory breads. These fancifully shaped breads express Jewish hopes through the seasons of the year. (uses slides and handout)
2. *The Polemics of Leaven: Why Matzah?* Text study about the potent meanings of yeast since biblical times especially as it informs our Passover use of matzah. (uses handout)
3. *Instead of Cake, Try Wedding Bread:* The custom of baking and celebrating nuptials with Jewish bridal breads took root in places such as Baghdad, Eastern Europe, Ethiopia, Georgia, Greece, Kurdistan, Morocco, and Turkey. (uses slides)



Adult Learning Topics: *On the Chocolate Trail*

1. *Jews on the Chocolate Trail:* Explore the surprising Jewish historical connections to chocolate in this gastronomic adventure. (uses slides)
2. *Jewish Chocolate Parties: From Generation to Generation:* Colonial period Sephardi Jews contributed to chocolate parties in the founding of the US. (uses slides)
3. *Jewish Resilience through Chocolate:* An opportunity to learn how chocolate nurtured Jews facing upheaval in earlier generations. Chocolate smoothes things over in times of stress. (uses slides and handout).
4. *What is the Best Chocolate? Jewish Ethics Mix into our Chocolate Eating:* Faced with a mélange of options when selecting our chocolate, chocolate lovers might be informed by our Jewish values. We will review the complexities of measuring our food values against our chocolate choices and consumption. (uses slides and handout)
5. *Colonialism in Our Chocolate:* Discussions around chocolate's colonial infused past. Some in the industry have harmed and maligned generations of people of color, particularly those who farm and harvest cocoa beans. (uses slides)
6. *Women on the Chocolate Trail:* This session about women and chocolate melds an enjoyment of chocolate with an exploration of chocolate's narratives about women. (uses slides)
7. *Israelis Are Meshuga for Chocolate:* Chocolate permeates Israel. A chunk of Israel's growth as a state may be seen through its chocolate industry, which reflects both immigrant stories and the entrepreneurship of Israel. (uses slides)
8. *Chocolate Revives World War II Refugees:* Chocolate provided succor and support for



immigrants and refugees. It contributed to survival and renewal in strong contrast to the deprivations of that time. (uses slides)

9. *Questions Rabbis Ask About Chocolate – Text Study*: Finding relevance to our modern lives in the study of our ancient texts, we will look at *she'elot u'teshuvot* (questions and answers) from the responsa literature about chocolate. Bring your own questions as well as your passions for text learning and for chocolate. (uses handout)
10. *Chanukah and Christmas Chocolate Melt into Gelt*: This presentation speculates about how Chanukah and Christmas chocolate melt into gelt by unraveling some celebratory themes of these December holidays. (uses slides)
11. *A Haggadah for a Socially Responsible Chocolate Seder*: This experience mixes the Haggadah with chocolate ritual foods to discuss social justice issues, worker justice, and food justice. (uses slides, copies of *A Haggadah for a Socially Responsible Chocolate Seder*, and chocolate ritual foods)

Family Learning Options: Reading and book signing

1. *The Boston Chocolate Party (with slides and activities)*
2. *What is the Best Chocolate? (with slides and activities)*

Further Resources For On The Chocolate Trail: Free downloads/bonus materials at onthechocolatetrail.org:

- Book Club Discussion Guide
- Lesson Plans for use in Jewish schools
- *A Haggadah for a Socially Responsible Chocolate Seder*

Bread Accompaniments:

- Chocolate babka tasting
- Babka bake-off
- Jewish breads bake-off
- Bake or shape seasonal Jewish breads in a group setting



Chocolate Accompaniments:

Everyone loves to taste chocolate in connection with *On the Chocolate Trail*. Organizations and synagogues have offered fun, interactive events such as these:

- Tastings of the 25 historical and contemporary recipes in *On the Chocolate Trail*
- Seder using *A Haggadah for a Socially Responsible Chocolate Seder*
- Chocolate tasting
- Chocolate bake-off



- Multi-course chocolate themed Shabbat dinner
- Chocolate Oneg or Kiddush
- Mini-chocolate festival
- Chocolate making
- Chocolate and wine tasting

Brief Bio for Rabbi Prinz

Rabbi Prinz has held a number of leadership positions in the national and regional Reform movement, having recently 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. She has mentored rabbinical students through the Mayerson program at the Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion (HUC-JIR) and was also a Senior Fellow at HUC-JIR's Center for the Study of Ethics and Contemporary Moral Problems (2015-2016). She has consulted for HUC-JIR, the Union for Reform Judaism (URJ), and other organizations. Elected by her colleagues, Rabbi Prinz held each office of the Board of the Pacific Association of Reform Rabbis and assumed its presidency in 2005. She was honored to conduct the worship services at regional and national biennials of the URJ. Along with Rabbi Karen Fox, she served as a founding Co-Coordinator of WRN.

The Rabbi Emerita of Temple Adat Shalom, San Diego County, California, she held the position of Senior Rabbi for almost twenty years. Prior to that she was, for seven years, the Rabbi of a synagogue in Bergen County, New Jersey, and also the Assistant Rabbi of Central Synagogue in Manhattan. She has delivered many talks to community organizations.

