

Tracing Your Jewish Roots from Home: Resource Guide

Free Database for U.S. Records

FamilySearch.org: Search for your ancestors in U.S. birth, marriage, & death records, census records, immigration & naturalization records, etc.

Note: You will be required to create a free account before you can begin searching.

Best Paid Databases for U.S. Records

Note: The New York Public Library is currently offering New York residents free access to these databases from home. To get an online library card, visit [nypl.org/books-music-movies/ebookcentral/simple](https://www.nypl.org/books-music-movies/ebookcentral/simple). If you already have a library card, open these databases at [nypl.org/collections/articles-databases](https://www.nypl.org/collections/articles-databases).

Ancestry.com: Search for your ancestors in many types of U.S. records.

Newspapers.com: Search for your ancestors in U.S. historical newspapers and obituaries.

Locating your Ancestral Towns

JewishGen.org/communities/search.asp: Search for your ancestor's reported town of origin and discover its modern name and location.

Finding Jewish Records from the "Old Country"

JewishGen.org/databases: Click on a database for your country of origin and search for your ancestors in Jewish birth, marriage, death, & burial records, census records, Holocaust survivor and victim lists, etc.

Note: You will be required to create a free account before you can begin searching.

Exploring your Ancestral Towns and Regions

JewishGen.org/jewishgen/researchdivisions.htm: Click on the research division for your ancestral country/region & browse historical photos, maps, memoirs, etc.

GenealogyIndexer.org/directories: Search worldwide historical address and phone books to find your ancestors' homes and businesses.

web.nli.org.il/sites/jpress/english/pages/default.aspx: Read historical Jewish newspapers from towns & regions around the world to discover what newsworthy events were taking place when your ancestors lived there.

Center for Jewish History Online Resources

genealogy.cjh.org/family-tree-chart: Print out a free family tree chart to organize basic facts about your ancestors.

genealogyguides.cjh.org: Find links to our recommended online resources by topic or country of origin.

facebook.com/centerforjewishhistory: Every Tuesday at 3:30 PM, watch our weekly 20-minute webinar series on topics such as how to find NYC records online, and we will answer your questions live.

gi@cjh.org: E-mail our genealogy librarians for expert research advice.