

On the Chocolate Trail; A Delicious Adventure Connecting  
Jews, Religions, History, Travel, Rituals and Recipes to the  
Magic of Cacao by Rabbi Deborah R. Prinz.  
Jewish Lights Publishing 2013.

Debbie Prinz is an evangelising rabbi, evangelising for the delights of chocolate in all its many incarnations! And with the Jewish love of food extending for far too many of us to chocolate she has a ready, eager audience.

On the Chocolate Trail is a book about a passion, and as with many such books, or, at least, the best of them, even when it is looking at historical events the passion is still discernible and carries the reader on with the book.

On the Chocolate Trail is divided into two parts: Forging the Chocolate Trail and Other Religious Chocolate Revelations, each subdivided into several chapters with headings like Jews Dip In To Chocolate in the American Colonial Period and Faith Diffused Chocolate Revelations, with the most important chapter of all being left till last, Shopping for the Best Chocolate: Values and Ethics.

On the Chocolate Trail is part history, part travelogue, part travel guide, part recipe book, containing something for everyone. It is written with verve and style and is full of practical information, not least details of the world's museums of chocolate and places from which to source chocolate.

Debbie Prinz may not have seen writing this book when she was studying for the rabbinate as part of her future, but it feels like the most natural thing for her to have done now and will find a ready place in many homes and libraries, providing its classification can be agreed!

Rabbi Dr Charles H Middleburgh