

SELF-GUIDED TOUR GUIDE FOR FLOOR 3
Dreams of Freedom: 1880-1945

YOUR PATHWAY	WHAT TO LOOK FOR
<p>If you are coming down the stairway from the fourth floor, stop at the bottom of the stairs.</p> <p>If you are coming off the elevator, turn left and then right.</p>	<p>Do you see a big, wavy white sculpture on the wall with video projected on top of it? Here you can listen and watch the stories of 5 immigrants who came to America for different reasons. These stories come from the hand-written letters of these immigrants. Do the wavy forms remind you of letters? What else do they remind you of?</p>
<p>Walk towards the Statue of Liberty.</p>	<p>Feel free to climb on the big white sculptures on the floor. The writing on top of these forms is from the letters you have just listened to. The language is Yiddish.</p>
<p>Turn right. Cross the bridge and walk into the gallery. Pass the pile of suitcases and go up to one of the three computer screens on your left.</p>	<p>Select a character and go through the inspection. If you had come through Ellis Island at the end of the 19th century, this would have been your final hurdle before being allowed to enter America.</p>
<p>To see some of the things that Jewish immigrants packed in their suitcases, walk towards the two large display cases on the wall to your right.</p>	<p>In the first display case, look at the two candlesticks that survived a pogrom in Russia. [A pogrom is a violent riot purposely directed against a particular group. Jews were often victims of pogroms in Russia during this period.] Can you see evidence of violence in the base of the left candlestick from Kishinev?</p> <p>In the second display case, look for a muffin tin brought to Philadelphia by seventeen-year-old Eva Baen. Remember Eva because you will meet her again!</p>
<p>As you turn left, you approach a series of small galleries that will introduce you to life in the Lower East Side of New York over 100 years ago.</p>	

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Your first stop is home.	<p>Make yourself at home in the bedroom. Open the closet. Try on clothes. Sit on the bed and read any of the books. In a real tenement home, do you know how many children may have shared a bed this size?</p>
Exit the house and turn left, passing by an exhibit on Yiddish Newspapers. Turn left and you'll be at your second stop -- school.	<p>Open up the desk in the back of the classroom to hear Eva Baen's story and to see her composition book, attendance card, and English exercise. Are you able to read her handwriting? Where is she asking to work?</p> <p>Listen to the teacher and students, while watching the blackboard. What are they studying?</p>
Leave the schoolroom and turn left. When you see a large sewing machine you are at the third stop—work.	<p>Many Jewish immigrants who came to America worked in garment factories and sweatshops.</p> <p>Look to the wall on your right to find Eva Baen's handkerchief and memo book.</p> <p>Have fun playing with the wooden puzzles.</p>
When you leave the "work" room, walk about six feet to a new gallery on your left. It is painted dark grey, as it is about World War I.	<p>In the case straight ahead of you is the uniform of Irving Berlin. Irving Berlin came from Russia to America at age 5. He grew up to be one of America's most famous song-writers, responsible for "White Christmas" and "God Bless America."</p>
Walk into the next gallery and turn left. Take a seat in the theater.	<p>Watch a couple of these films. One is about Jewish comedians. One is about Jewish actors and actresses. And one is about the Jewish men who created many of the Hollywood studios.</p>
Upon exiting the theater, go straight across to another gallery about Jewish entertainers, artists and athletes.	<p>Find any surprises?</p> <p>Did you know there were famous Jewish boxers?</p> <p>Did you know that two Jewish men created Superman?</p>