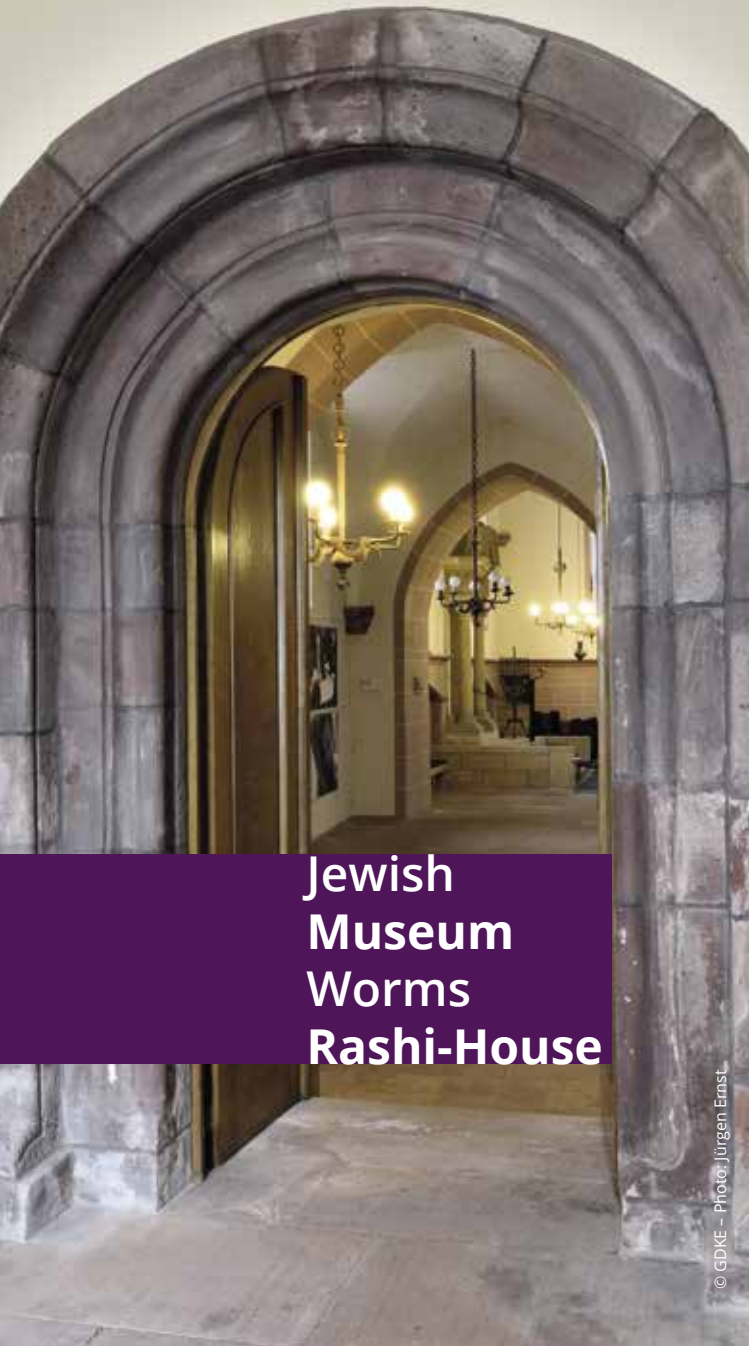


The Exhibition

ShUM on the Rhine

From the Middle Ages to Modernity



Jewish
Museum
Worms
Rashi-House



ShUM

Shin (Sch) = ShPIRA = Speyer

Waw (U) = Warmaisa = Worms

Mem (M) = Magenza = Mainz

Together: an innovative Jewish community association. Flourishing between the 11th and 13th century. Scholars and buildings, traditions and personalities – still anchored in the tradition and present day Jewish worlds.

ShUM on the Rhine

From the Middle Ages to Modernity

The Jewish Museum in the Rashi-House shows the exhibition on the ShUM communities on the ground floor and in the basement. In the lecture room you can watch films about the Jewish history and discover 3-D reconstructions of Jewish monuments.

The exhibition site and its history

The Rashi-House is located exactly on the same spot where the Jewish community house had stood since the late 12th century. In the 19th and 20th century, the building was used as a teaching house, for weddings and as a hospital as well as an old people's home for the Jewish community. From November 1938 until the end of 1942, as a "Judenhaus", it became a transit space for Jews expelled from their homes before being deported to the German extermination camps. After 1945, the building is owned by the City of Worms, used for other purposes and demolished in 1971. Between 1980 and 1982 a new building, the present Rashi-House, is constructed. It takes up the form of the medieval building. Valuable parts of the medieval walls can still be found in the basement. Go on a voyage of discovery through times and history!



The upper floors house the City Archive with the photo department and the Lower Monument Protection Authority.

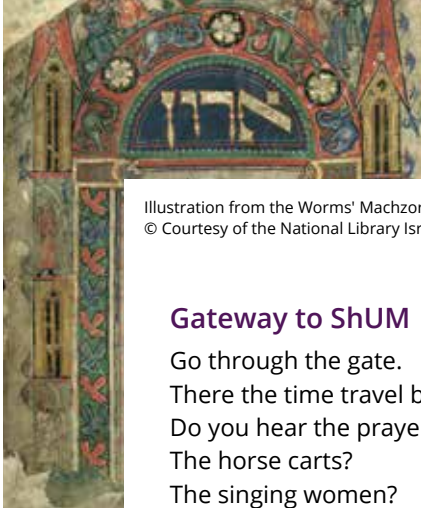


Illustration from the Worms' Machzor
© Courtesy of the National Library Israel, Jerusalem

Gateway to ShUM

Go through the gate.
There the time travel begins.
Do you hear the prayers?
The horse carts?
The singing women?

UNESCO World Heritage

The ShUM Sites of Speyer, Worms and Mainz

What is World Heritage? Why are the ShUM Sites of Speyer, Worms and Mainz unique and what distinguishes them from other Jewish places? Here you can find out more about them and get closer to the outstanding, exemplary synagogues, women's shuln, yeshivot, ritual baths and cemeteries.



Jewish places

Imperial cathedrals and Jewish quarters are in close vicinity in the ShUM cities. When did Jews come to the three cities on the Rhine? Legends and unique documents tell you about this.



Privilege 1074.
The original is stored in the City Archive in the Rashi-House.

Synagogue, Interior
Worms, 1920s
© City Archive Worms



Worms' Synagogue

Almost 1000 years of history, reflected in this synagogue, which appears modest from the outside – measured against the imperial cathedrals. The building mirrors brightest and darkest eras, tells of destruction and reconstruction, of the Shoah and the subsequent recovery. Get to know the Worms' Jewish citizen Isidor Kiefer here: You'll meet him time and again in the exhibition.

Zakhor! Remember!

זכור

Shoah

An installation on the Shoah disturbs the room and leads you to films from which you can choose. Watch historical film footage of the reopening of the Worms' synagogue on 3 December 1961 – or a short film on the history of the synagogue – or listen to the son of a Worms Jew who talks about his family history.

View into the women's school.
Title page from a compilation
on the 900th anniversary of
Worms Synagogue, 1934
© City Archive Worms



♀ Women

Immerse into the world of women in ShUM. Jewish women are important and respected members of the community in the Middle Ages. They take responsibility in and for the community, are educated and employed.

≡ Water

ShUM on the Rhine ... every Jewish community needs water for ritual purification. What is a mikveh? When do women or men use the ritual bath? When were the monumental mikva'ot in ShUM built? Immerse yourself and get to know this cleansing process – also through a film that lets you descend into the breathtaking medieval mikveh in Speyer.



Mikveh Worms
© City Archive Worms

Via the staircase you now reach the basement, along various objects.

Road Sign, Tel Aviv
© Susanne Urban



Scholarship

Meet the great scholars: Eleazar of Worms, Rashi and Gershom ben Jehuda. Meet learned women like Dulcia and the daughters of Rashi. Learn about the legal statutes of the Takkanot ShUM and discover a book from the 17th century. Listen to the story of Unetane Tokef, the liturgical poem, and let yourself be musically seduced by Leonard Cohen. Accompany the Worms' Machzor on its journey through centuries and as far as Israel. And what does the dragon from Mogilev has to do with Worms?

Take a seat and browse through pages of the Machzor or Rashi's life.



Thousands of Stones

The medieval Jewish cemeteries in Mainz and Worms bear witness to the history and people of the communities. These places underline: Jewish cemeteries are eternal places, places of remembrance and of rootedness. It started here that the Ashkenazi burial culture established itself. Meet Rivka and Jaakow. Discover lions, flowers and jugs. Marvel at the goblet of the

Chevra Kadisha from the early 17th century – one of the oldest Judaica in Germany.



Heiliger Sand. View of the cathedral,
drawing, 1920s
© City Archive Worms



News from ShUM

ShUM was innovative and modern, and how many smart women have you met! ShUM is still a magnetizing attraction for Jews today. The application for being enlisted as UNESCO world heritage testifies to the appreciation and recognition of the ShUM Sites of Speyer, Worms and Mainz far beyond the Jewish world.

ShUM stays in the news ... Read and listen for yourself.



Jewish places

Get to know the Judengasse. Since when did Jews live here? Why do the houses bear names and house signs? You'll find that out, too.

A map, which vividly interweaves the latest building research and historical knowledge, shows you the Judengasse as it was in 1760!

Last but not least: a large, illuminated wall dates from the late 12th century. The original plaster is from that time. The Rashi-House has seen a lot ... listen to the story, told by a voice that seems to come out of the walls.



© Heribert Feldhaus

The tour of ShUM ends here. Virtually there is much more to experience.

Don't forget: visit Speyer and Mainz as well!



© Bertram Bernward

Jewish Museum Worms Rashi-House

Hintere Judengasse 6 | 67547 Worms

Phone: +49 (0) 6241 853 4701 | 4707

E-Mail: stadtarchiv@worms.de

Information on opening hours, admission etc.

<https://www.juedischesmuseum-worms.de/juedisches-museum-EN/>

Bookings of guided tours:

Tourist-Information Worms

E-Mail: touristinfo@worms.de



Please note

The Jewish Museum in the Rashi-House and the Jewish monuments are difficult to access for people with disabilities. Through the websites and the audio guide you can learn more about the exhibition in the Rashi-House. Via an app you can experience the ShUM-Sites.

Further touristic information

<https://schumstaedte.de/en/tourism/>

The Exhibition and its audioguide



An exhibition of the City of Worms with the Jewish Museum Worms in cooperation with the State of Rhineland-Palatinate with the General Directorate for Cultural Heritage Rhineland-Palatinate (GDKE) with the participation of the ShUM-Cities Speyer, Worms, Mainz e.V. Supported by the Foundation „Gut.für die Region“ of the Sparkasse Worms-Alzey-Ried.