

ANCESTRAL QUEST

- Identify scope: location, length, ancestral focus, individual or group tour
- Identify goals: what records or people or places you hope to find, see, experience

RESEARCH

- Records and relatives (R&R)
- Find juncture locations (births, marriages, homes, work, immigrations, historical events, deaths, burials)
- Google locations, learn history of towns through Wikipedia, FamilySearch; city directory/census for address
- Google maps to check distances, street views, proximity to travel plans; Google Earth historical layers
- Check findagrave.com/billiongraves.com for cemetery information; www.roadtrippers.com
- Google historic hotels, local foods, antique shops, historical societies, libraries, museums, archives
- Find distant cousins via Facebook, PeopleSearch, Spokeo, Whitepages.com

TRIP PLANNING & HERITAGE TRAVEL

- Check climate and weather for timing; choose travel companions and transportation
- Create schedules using Evernote, TripIt, TravelMuse, www.planapple.com
- Seek historic lodging: www.vrbo.com, www.airbnb.com
- Use Google maps, Pinterest, TripAdvisor, instagram for travel plans; make reservations
- Prepare pedigree charts, ancestral info/bios/photos to bring (but not originals!)
- Don't leave home without camera, videocamera, phone, chargers, batteries, converters
- Contact facilities to make appointments to visit, check hours, email historians and residents
- Allow for the unexpected, leave extra time; buy local flowers for graves
- Screenshot anything that might need wifi access while traveling
- Use all senses to connect with past while you're there
- Find ancestral connections even if they seem contrived

FOLLOW UP: NOW WHAT?

- Use social media (Blogger, Instagram, Facebook, Twitter) to share
- Write up experience to post on genealogy sites for those who may follow your footsteps
- Share photos, stories, PowerPoint presentations at reunions, make YouTube videos
- Use Waterlogue/Brushstroke app to create frame-worthy photos; make calendars, print photos
- Examine insights gained/questions raised for further research



ANCESTRAL QUEST PLANNING QUESTIONS

- **WHO?** Whose ancestral footsteps am I following? Who will come or join me on this trip? Who (family or historical expert) already knows about this location?

- **WHAT?** What do I hope to see, what will I plan to do and find?

- **WHEN?** What time of year is best, when will this happen? For how long?

- **WHERE?** Where exactly am I going to travel?

- **WHY?** Why this place, this trip? What are my goals, motivations, dreams?

- **HOW?** How will I make this happen? What financial resources and planning and logistical work will be required?



RESEARCH CHART

Ancestor name and relationship	Birth date and place	Marriage date and place	Burial date and place	Sights/sites associated with their life	Address, notes



RESOURCES

❖ **Heritage Trails:** <http://www.familytreerings.org/p/heritage-trails.html>

❖ **Maps/Places:**

https://familysearch.org/learn/wiki/en/Main_Page

<http://www.oldmapsonline.org>

<http://www.historicmapworks.com/>

<http://www.google.com/earth/explore/showcase/historical.html>

❖ **Photos From Historic UK:**

<http://blogs.ancestry.com/ancestry/2015/08/14/on-the-street-where-they-lived-exploring-your-ancestors-hometown-in-uk-city-town-and-village-photos-1857-2005-collection/>

❖ **Living History Museums:**

<http://blogs.ancestry.com/ancestry/2015/10/16/a-trip-to-the-past-americas-8-best-living-history-farms-museums/>

❖ **Weather:**

<http://www.weather.com/>

<http://www.wunderground.com/>

❖ **Evernote Tips:**

<http://www.colleengreene.com/2014/01/27/evernote-for-genealogy-the-foundation-of-my-research-organization-system/>

<https://blog.evernote.com/blog/2012/05/29/plan-a-family-vacation-or-a-solo-trip-with-evernote-travel-series/>

<https://blog.evernote.com/blog/2013/06/05/5-ways-to-plan-a-better-trip-with-evernote/>

How to Use Evernote for Genealogy: A Step-by-Step Guide to Organize your Research and Boost Your Genealogy Productivity by Kerry Scott, 2015

❖ **Video memory of one family's heritage trip to Warsaw Ghetto:**

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=CmaAs2a2Kao>

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=A_t5PvvmHjk

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=iEotknL3Rdg>

❖ **Travel Companies/Preparation**

<http://www.cyndislist.com/travel/tours-and-cruises/>

<http://rootsroutes.com>

<http://www.ancestralfootsteps.com/>

<http://www.familytreemagazine.com/article/genealogy-insider-genealogy-tourism>

<http://seniortravel.about.com/od/typesoftravelforseniors/ss/GenealogyVacations.htm>

<http://www.thc.state.tx.us/public/upload/publications/heritage-tourism-guide.pdf>

<http://www.mprnews.org/story/2013/03/28/daily-circuit-roots-travel-genealogy>

<http://intelligenttravel.nationalgeographic.com/2013/03/04/the-road-to-discovering-your-roots/>

<http://www.wsj.com/articles/SB10001424052748703803904576152361472109114>

https://www.apgen.org/directory/search_results.html?search=true&related_services=21

<http://www.myrootsteps.com>

