

Ruth Ellen Gruber

Ruth Ellen Gruber coined the term “Virtually Jewish” to describe the way the so-called “Jewish space” in Europe is often filled by non-Jews. Publications include *National Geographic Jewish Heritage Travel: A Guide to Eastern Europe*, *Letters from Europe (and Elsewhere)* and *Upon the Doorposts of Thy House: Jewish Life in East-Central Europe, Yesterday and Today*, both books published by John Wiley & Sons; and *Virtually Jewish: Reinventing Jewish Culture in Europe*, published by University of California Press. Ms. Gruber’s articles have appeared in the New York Times, Newsday, the International Herald Tribune, the Christian Science Monitor, the Philadelphia Inquirer, the Boston Globe, the Chicago Tribune Magazine, Italy Italy magazine, the Jewish Telegraphic Agency, the Jewish Chronicle (London), the Toronto Star, the San Francisco Examiner, Reform Judaism magazine, and Avotaynu. Her current project, “Sauerkraut Cowboys, Indian Dreams: Imaginary Wild Wests in Contemporary Europe,” is an exploration of the American frontier in the European imagination, for which she won a Guggenheim Fellowship and an NEH summer stipend grant. Also: “(Candle) sticks on Stone: Representing the Woman in Jewish Tombstone Art,” for which she won a Hadassah Brandeis Institute award.