

12th Litvak Days in London
VILNA - A THOUSAND DOORS TO THE WORLD

26 November 2023

Jewish Community Centre JW3
341-351 Finchley Road, London, NW3 6ET

Litvak Days in London is an annual event organized by the Embassy of Lithuania in the United Kingdom since 2011, and is at the center of the Embassy's efforts to deepen the understanding of Lithuanian multicultural histories, and the rich art, culture and social aspects of life of the Lithuanian Jewish communities, which also have become a global legacy.

This year, the 12th Litvak Days are dedicated to the **700th anniversary of the Lithuanian capital city of Vilnius**, which has been the cradle of the Litvak Jewish traditions for ages. It is an occasion to awaken multicultural memory of the city, and reflect on the significance of Vilna Jewish cultural legacy in Lithuania, the region, and beyond.

The event is organized by the Embassy of Lithuania in the United Kingdom in partnership with the Lithuanian Cultural Attaché in the United Kingdom and the Jewish Community Center JW3 in London.

PROGRAMME

16:00–18:00 (GMT+1)

- 16:00 **Opening remarks by**
Lina Zigmantaitė, Chargé d'Affaires of Lithuania to the United Kingdom
Judy Trotter, Head of Adult Education, JW3
- 16:10 – 17:00 **Discussion on Vilna Jewish legacy in Lithuania, the region, and beyond**
Moderator: Clive Lawton, chief executive officer of the Commonwealth Jewish Council, scholar-in-residence at JW3
- Panellists:
Dr Laimonas Briedis, a writer and scholar of history, literature and the geographical imagination of Lithuania
Professor Dr Laima Laučkaitė–Surgailienė, art historian, curator, leading researcher at the Lithuanian Institute of Culture, Philosophy and Art Research
Professor Dr Michael Berkowitz, UK-based American researcher of modern Jewish history at the University College London
- 17:10 – 18:00 **Concert of Vilna Jewish music** by Lithuanian performers
Maria Krupoves (vocals, guitar) and Borisas Kirzneris (violin)
- Closing remarks** by Faina Kukliansky, President of the Lithuanian Jewish Community
- 18:00 **Reception**