



U.S. House of Representatives

# COMMITTEE ON ETHICS

## Member / Officer Post-Travel Disclosure Form

Original  Amendment

This form is for disclosing the receipt of travel expenses from a private source for travel taken in connection with a Member or officer's official duties. This form does not eliminate the need to report privately-funded travel on the Member or officer's annual *Financial Disclosure Statement*. In accordance with House Rule 25, clause 5, **you must complete this form and file it with the Clerk of the House, B-81 Cannon House Office Building, within 15 days after travel is completed.** Please **do not** file this form with the Committee on Ethics.

**NOTE: Willful or knowing misrepresentations on this form may be subject to criminal prosecution pursuant to 18 U.S.C. § 1001.**

1. Name of Traveler: Congressman Pete Stauber
2. a. Name of Accompanying Relative: Jodi Stauber OR None   
 b. Relationship to Traveler:  Spouse  Child  Other (specify): \_\_\_\_\_
3. a. Dates: Departure: 08-08-2019 Return: 08-16-2019  
 b. Dates at Personal Expense, if any: \_\_\_\_\_ OR None
4. Departure City: Minneapolis, St. Paul, MN Destination: Tel Aviv Return City: MSP
5. Sponsor(s), Who Paid for the Trip: American Israel Education Foundation
6. Describe Meetings and Events Attended (attach additional pages if necessary):  
See attached extensive itinerary including over 40 Members bipartisanly attending.
7. Attached to this form are **each** of the following, *signify that each item is attached by checking the corresponding box:*
  - a.  a completed *Sponsor Post-Travel Disclosure Form*;
  - b.  the *Primary Trip Sponsor Form* completed by the trip sponsor **prior** to the trip, **including all** attachments **and** the *Grantmaking or Non-Grantmaking Sponsor Forms*;
  - c.  page 2 of the completed *Traveler Form* submitted by the Member or officer; **and**
  - d.  the letter from the Committee on Ethics approving my participation on this trip.
8. a. I represent that I participated in each of the activities reflected in the attached sponsor's agenda  
**Signify statement is true by checking the box:**   
 b. If not, explain: \_\_\_\_\_

LEGISLATIVE RESOURCE CENTER  
2019 AUG 29 PM 1:55  
OFFICE OF THE CLERK  
U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

**I certify that the information contained in this form is true, complete, and correct to the best of my knowledge.** I have determined that all of the expenses on the attached *Sponsor Post-Travel Disclosure Form* were necessary and that the travel was in connection with my duties as a Member or officer of the U.S. House of Representatives and would not create the appearance that I am using public office for private gain.

Member / Officer Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

*Pete Stauber*

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

8/27/2019



U.S. House of Representatives

# COMMITTEE ON ETHICS

## Sponsor Post-Travel Disclosure Form

Original  Amendment

This form must be completed by an officer of any organization that served as the primary trip sponsor in providing travel expenses or reimbursement for travel expenses to House Members, officers, or employees under House Rule 25, clause 5. A completed copy of the form must be provided to each House Member, officer, or employee who participated on the trip *within ten days of their return*. You must answer all questions, and check all boxes, on this form for your submission to comply with House rules and the Committee's travel regulations. Failure to comply with this requirement may result in the denial of future requests to sponsor trips and/or subject the current traveler to disciplinary action or a requirement to repay the trip expenses.

NOTE: Willful or knowing misrepresentations on this form may be subject to criminal prosecution pursuant to 18 U.S.C. § 1001.

1. Sponsor(s) who paid for the trip: American Israel Education Foundation (AIEF)

2. Travel Destination(s): Israel

3. Date of Departure: August 8, 2019 Date of Return: August 16, 2019

4. Name(s) of Traveler(s): The Honorable Pete Stauber and Jodi Stauber

Note: You may list more than one traveler on a form only if *all* information is *identical* for each person listed.

5. Actual amount of expenses paid on behalf of, or reimbursed to, each individual named in Question 4:

	Total Transportation Expenses	Total Lodging Expenses	Total Meal Expenses	Total Other Expenses (dollar amount per item and description)
Traveler	\$6,676.63	\$1,266.99	\$1,562.59	\$2,393.31 Please find breakdown attached
Accompanying Family Member	\$6,676.63	\$1,266.99	\$1,562.59	\$2,393.31 Please find breakdown attached

6. All expenses connected to the trip were for actual costs incurred and not a *per diem* or lump sum payment. Signify statement is true by checking box:

I certify that the information contained in this form is true, complete, and correct to the best of my knowledge.

Signature: *Rachel Hirsch* Date: August 29, 2019

Name: Rachel Hirsch Title: In-House Counsel

Organization: American Israel Education Foundation (AIEF)

I am an officer of the above-named organization. Signify statement is true by checking box:

Address: 251 H Street NW, Washington DC 20001

Telephone: (202) 639-5248 Email: rhirsch@aiefdn.org

Committee staff may contact the above-named individual if additional information is required.

If you have questions regarding your completion of this form, please contact the Committee on Ethics at 202-225-7103.





U.S. House of Representatives  
COMMITTEE ON ETHICS

TRAVELER FORM

1. Name of Traveler: Peter Stauber

2. Sponsor(s) who will be paying for the trip: American Israel Education Foundation (AIEF)

3. City and State OR Foreign Country of Travel: Israel

4. a. Date of Departure: 8/8/19 Date of Return: 8/16/19

b. Will you be extending the trip at your personal expense?  Yes  No

If yes, list dates at personal expense: \_\_\_\_\_

5. a. Will you be accompanied by a family member at the sponsor's expense?  Yes  No If yes:

(1) Name of Accompanying Family Member: Jodi Stauber

(2) Relationship to Traveler:  Spouse  Child  Other (specify): \_\_\_\_\_

(3) Accompanying Family Member is at least 18 years of age:  Yes  No

6. a. Did the trip sponsor answer "Yes" to Question 8(c) on the *Primary Trip Sponsor Form* (i.e., travel is sponsored by an entity that employs a registered federal lobbyist or a foreign agent)?  Yes  No

b. If yes, and you are requesting lodging for two nights, explain why the second night is warranted:

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

7. *Primary Trip Sponsor Form* is attached, including agenda, invitee list, and any other attachments and contributing sponsor forms:  Yes  No

NOTE: The agenda should show the traveler's individual schedule, including departure and arrival times and identify the specific events in which the traveler will be participating.

8. Explain why participation in the trip is connected to the traveler's individual official or representational duties. Staff should include their job title and how the activities on the itinerary relate to their duties.

Learning and building relationships wit foreign leaders.

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

9. Is the traveler aware of any registered federal lobbyists or foreign agents involved planning, organizing, requesting, or arranging the trip?  Yes  No

10. For staff travelers, to be completed by your employing Member:

ADVANCED AUTHORIZATION OF EMPLOYEE TRAVEL

I hereby authorize the individual named above, an employee of the U.S. House of Representatives who works under my direct supervision, to accept expenses for the trip described in this request. I have determined that the above-described travel is in connection with my employee's official duties and that acceptance of these expenses will not create the appearance that the employee is using public office for private gain.

Signature of Employing Member Pete Stae Date 7/22/19





## Primary Trip Sponsor Form

This form should be completed by private entities offering to provide travel or reimbursement for travel to House Members, officers, or employees under House Rule 25, clause 5. A completed copy of the form (and any attachments) should be provided to each invited House Member, officer, or employee, who will then forward it to the Committee together with a *Traveler Form* at **least 30 days before the start date of the trip**. The trip sponsor should **NOT** submit the form directly to the Committee. The Committee website (ethics.house.gov) provides detailed instructions for filling out the form.

**NOTE: Willful or knowing misrepresentations on this form may be subject to criminal prosecution pursuant to 18 U.S.C. § 1001. Failure to comply with the Committee's Travel Regulations may also lead to the denial of permission to sponsor future trips.**

1. Sponsor who will be paying for the trip: \_\_\_\_\_  
American Israel Education Foundation (AIEF)
2. I represent that the trip will not be financed, in whole or in part, by a registered federal lobbyist or foreign agent. Signify that the statement is true by checking box:
3. **Check only one.** I represent that:
  - a. The primary trip sponsor has not accepted from any other source, funds intended directly or indirectly to finance any aspect of the trip:  **OR**
  - b. The trip is arranged without regard to congressional participation and the primary trip sponsor has accepted funds only from entities that will receive a tangible benefit in exchange for those funds:  **OR**
  - c. The primary trip sponsor has accepted funds from other source(s) intended directly or indirectly to finance all or part of this trip and has enclosed disclosure forms from each of those entities.
 If "c" is checked, list the names of the additional sponsors: \_\_\_\_\_
4. Provide names and titles of **ALL** House Members *and* employees you are inviting. For each House invitee, provide an explanation of why the individual was invited (include additional pages if necessary): \_\_\_\_\_  
The Honorable Peter Stauber (complete roster attached)
5. Is travel being offered to an accompanying family member of the House invitee(s)?  Yes  No
6. Date of Departure: August 8, 2019 Date of Return: August 16, 2019
7. a. City of departure: Minneapolis, MN  
b. Destination(s): Tel Aviv, Israel  
c. City of return: Minneapolis, MN
8. **Check only one.** I represent that:
  - a. The sponsor of the trip is an institution of higher education within the meaning of section 101 of the Higher Education Act of 1965:  **OR**
  - b. The sponsor of the trip does not retain or employ a registered federal lobbyist or foreign agent:  **OR**
  - c. The sponsor employs or retains a registered federal lobbyist or foreign agent, but the trip is for attendance at a one-day event *and* lobbyist / foreign agent involvement in planning, organizing, requesting, or arranging the trip was *de minimis* under the Committee's travel regulations.
9. **Check only one of the following:**
  - a. I checked 8(a) or (b) above:
  - b. I checked 8(c) above but am not offering any lodging:
  - c. I checked 8(c) above and am offering lodging and meals for one night:  **OR**
  - d. I checked 8(c) above and am offering lodging and meals for two nights:  If you checked this box, explain why the second night of lodging is warranted: \_\_\_\_\_



U.S. House of Representatives  
**COMMITTEE ON ETHICS**

10. Attached is a detailed agenda of the activities House invitees will be participating in during the travel (i.e., an hourly description of planned activities for trip invitees). *Indicate agenda is attached by checking box:*
11. **Check only one of the following:**  
 a. I represent that a registered federal lobbyist or foreign agent will not accompany House Members or employees on any segment of the trip. *Signify that the statement is true by checking box:*  OR  
 b. *Not Applicable.* Trip sponsor is a U.S. institution of higher education:
12. For *each* sponsor required to submit a sponsor form, describe the sponsor's interest in the subject matter of the trip *and* its role in organizing and/or conducting the trip:  
AIEF is a non-profit 501(c)(3) organization with the fundamental purpose of educating policy makers and opinion leaders about the U.S.-Israel relationship. AIEF is solely responsible for recruiting, coordinating, executing, and funding all aspects of this trip. This includes the Sabbath dinners hosted by Jerusalem families on Friday night.
13. **Answer parts a and b. Answer part c if necessary:**  
 a. Mode of travel: Air  Rail  Bus  Car  Other  (specify: taxis)  
 b. Class of travel: Coach  Business  First  Charter  Other  (specify: charter bus)  
 c. If travel will be first class, or by chartered or private aircraft, explain why such travel is warranted:  
n/a
14. I represent that the expenditures related to local area travel during the trip will be unrelated to personal or recreational activities of the invitee(s). *Signify that the statement is true by checking box:*
15. **Check only one.** I represent that either:  
 a. The trip involves an event that is arranged or organized *without regard* to congressional participation and that meals provided to congressional participants are similar to those provided to or purchased by other event attendees:  OR  
 b. The trip involves events that are arranged specifically *with regard* to congressional participation:   
 If "b" is checked:  
 1) Detail the cost *per day* of meals (approximate cost may be provided): \$149 (Includes meals, snacks, and water on the bus)  
 2) Provide the reason for selecting the location of the event or trip: The trip will take place in Israel in order to educate members of Congress about the U.S.-Israel relationship.
16. Name, nightly cost, and reasons for selecting each hotel or other lodging facility:  
 Hotel Name: King David - double room City: Jerusalem Cost Per Night: \$367  
 Reason(s) for Selecting: location and affordability  
 Hotel Name: Scots - double room City: Tiberias Cost Per Night: \$330  
 Reason(s) for Selecting: location and affordability  
 Hotel Name: Sheraton - day rooms City: Tel Aviv Cost Per Night: \$249  
 Reason(s) for Selecting: location and affordability
17. I represent that all expenses connected to the trip will be for actual costs incurred and not a per diem or lump sum payment. *Signify that the statement is true by checking box:*



U.S. House of Representatives

# COMMITTEE ON ETHICS

### 18. Total Expenses for each Participant:

<input type="checkbox"/> Actual Amounts <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Good Faith Estimates	Total Transportation Expenses per Participant	Total Lodging Expenses per Participant	Total Meal Expenses per Participant
For each Member, Officer, or Employee	\$6,138.17-\$8,312.17	\$1,207	\$1,046
For each Accompanying Family Member	\$6,138.17-\$8,312.17	\$1,207	\$1,046

	Other Expenses (dollar amount per item)	Identify Specific Nature of "Other" Expenses (e.g., taxi, parking, registration fee, etc.)
For each Member, Officer, or Employee	\$2,270	Please see breakdown attached
For each Accompanying Family Member	\$2,270	Please see breakdown attached

NOTE: Willful or knowing misrepresentations on this form may be subject to criminal prosecution pursuant to 18 U.S.C. § 1001.

### 19. Check only one:

- a. I certify that I am an officer of the organization listed below:  OR
- b. *Not Applicable.* Trip sponsor is an individual or a U.S. institution of higher education.

20. I certify that I am not a registered federal lobbyist or foreign agent for any sponsor of this trip.

21. I certify by my signature that the information contained in this form is true, complete, and correct to the best of my knowledge.

Signature:  Date: July 3, 2019

Name: Rachel Hirsch

Title: In-House Counsel

Organization: American Israel Education Foundation (AIEF)

Address: 251 H Street NW, Washington DC, 20001

Telephone: (202) 639-5248

Email: rhirsch@aiefdn.org

If there are any questions regarding this form, please contact the Committee at the following address:

### Committee on Ethics

U.S. House of Representatives

1015 Longworth House Office Building, Washington, D.C. 20515

Phone: 202-225-7103 General Fax: 202-225-7392

Theodore E. Deutch, Florida  
*Chairman*

Kenny Marchant, Texas  
*Ranking Member*

Grace Meng, New York  
Susan Wild, Pennsylvania  
Dean Phillips, Minnesota  
Anthony Brown, Maryland

John Ratcliffe, Texas  
George Holding, North Carolina  
Jackie Walorski, Indiana  
Michael Guest, Mississippi



ONE HUNDRED SIXTEENTH CONGRESS

## U.S. House of Representatives

### COMMITTEE ON ETHICS

Thomas A. Rust  
*Staff Director and Chief Counsel*

David W. Arrojo  
*Counsel to the Chairman*

Christopher A. Donesi  
*Counsel to the Ranking Member*

1015 Longworth House Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20515-6328  
Telephone: (202) 225-7103  
Facsimile: (202) 225-7392

July 26, 2019

The Honorable Pete Stauber  
U.S. House of Representatives  
126 Cannon House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Colleague:

Pursuant to House Rule 25, clause 5(d)(2), the Committee on Ethics hereby approves your and your spouse's proposed trip to Israel,<sup>1</sup> scheduled for August 8 to 16, 2019, sponsored by American Israel Education Foundation.

You must complete a Member/Officer Post-Travel Disclosure Form and file it, together with a Sponsor Post-Travel Disclosure Form completed by the trip sponsor, with the Clerk of the House within 15 days after your return from travel. As part of that filing, you are also required to attach a copy of this letter and both the Traveler and Primary Trip Sponsor Forms (including attachments) you previously submitted to the Committee in seeking pre-approval for this trip. You must also report all travel expenses totaling more than \$390 from a single source on the "Travel" schedule of your annual Financial Disclosure Statement covering this calendar year. Finally, Travel Regulation § 404(d) also requires you to keep a copy of all request forms and supporting information provided to the Committee for three subsequent Congresses from the date of travel.

Because the trip may involve meetings with foreign government representatives, we note that House Members may accept, under the Foreign Gifts and Decorations Act (FGDA), gifts "of minimal value [currently \$390] tendered as a souvenir or mark of courtesy" by a foreign government. Any tangible gifts valued in excess of minimal value received from a foreign government must, within 60 days of acceptance, be disclosed on a Form for Disclosing Gifts from Foreign Governments and either turned over to the Clerk of the House, or, with the written approval of the Committee, retained for official use.

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<sup>1</sup> Please be aware that the Committee's review of the proposed trip does not extend to either the security situation in the destination country or security related to foreign travel in general. We recommend you contact the Sergeant at Arms (SAA) for a safety and security briefing prior to your departure. SAA may be reached at (202) 226-2044 or [ohsstaff@mail.house.gov](mailto:ohsstaff@mail.house.gov). House travelers should also register for the U.S. State Department's Smart Traveler Enrollment Program at <https://step.state.gov>.

If you have any further questions, please contact the Committee's Office of Advice and Education at extension 5-7103.

Sincerely,

Handwritten signature of Theodore E. Deutch in blue ink.

Theodore E. Deutch  
Chairman

Handwritten signature of Kenny Marchant in blue ink.

Kenny Marchant  
Ranking Member

TED/KM:adw



**American Israel Education Foundation (AIEF)  
Educational Seminar in Israel  
Republican Members of Congress  
August 8-16, 2019**

**Invitees**

Founded in 1990, the American Israel Education Foundation (AIEF) funds Israel Seminars for members of Congress, and other political leaders. These educational seminars allow policy makers to understand the complex historical, religious and geopolitical context of the U.S.-Israel strategic partnership, and the Arab-Israeli conflict. Participants meet with Israeli government officials, military officers, members of the Knesset, U.S. government officials, Palestinian Authority officials and leading academics and journalists. For many of the participants, who make important decisions impacting Israel and the Middle East, these trips are their first, and sometimes, only exposure to the country.

RANK	TITLE	MOC_FIRST	MOC_LAST	P	ST
freshman	Rep.	Kelly	Armstrong	R	ND
freshman	Rep.	Jim	Baird	R	IN
sophomore	Rep.	Troy	Balderson	R	OH
freshman	Rep.	Ben	Cline	R	VA
sophomore	Rep.	Michael	Cloud	R	TX
sophomore	Rep.	John	Curtis	R	UT
sophomore	Rep.	Ron	Estes	R	KS
freshman	Rep.	Russ	Fulcher	R	ID
freshman	Rep.	Anthony	Gonzalez	R	OH
freshman	Rep.	Lance	Gooden	R	TX
freshman	Rep.	Mark	Green	R	TN
sophomore	Rep.	Clay	Higgins	R	LA
5th term	Rep.	Bill	Huizenga	R	MI
freshman	Rep.	John	Joyce	R	PA
3rd term	Rep.	John	Katko	R	NY
sophomore	Rep.	Debbie	Lesko	R	AZ
Republican leader	Republican Leader	Kevin	McCarthy	R	CA
freshman	Rep.	Dan	Meuser	R	PA
freshman	Rep.	Carol	Miller	R	WV
3rd term	Rep.	Alex	Mooney	R	WV
sophomore	Rep.	Ralph	Norman	R	SC
freshman	Rep.	Greg	Pence	R	IN
freshman	Rep.	Guy	Reschenthaler	R	PA
freshman	Rep.	Denver	Riggleman	R	VA

freshman	Rep.	John	Rose	R	TN
freshman	Rep.	Chip	Roy	R	TX
freshman	Rep.	Ross	Spano	R	FL
freshman	Rep.	Pete	Stauber	R	MN
third term	Rep.	Elise	Stefanik	R	NY
freshman	Rep.	Bryan	Steil	R	WI
freshman	Rep.	Van	Taylor	R	TX
freshman	Rep.	William	Timmons	R	SC
freshman	Rep.	Mike	Waltz	R	FL
freshman	Rep.	Steve	Watkins	R	KS
freshman	Rep.	Ron	Wright	R	TX
McCarthy Staff	Director of Member Services	Natalie	Joyce	R	CA
McCarthy Staff	Chief of Staff	Dan	Meyer	R	CA
McCarthy Staff	Digital Communications Director	Caleb	Smith	R	CA

**American Israel Education Foundation (AIEF)**  
**Educational Seminar in Israel**  
**Republican Members of Congress**  
**August 8-16, 2019**

**Breakdown of Other Expenses**

Room Rentals: \$725.59 per person

-The cost of renting rooms at hotels and restaurants for meetings and meals with speakers.

Security: \$476.47 per person

-AIEF considers the security of its trip participants as its highest priority. A security team accompanies all participants throughout the trip.

Meals for contract staff and speakers: \$176.47 per person

Hotel Commission \$167 per person for single room; \$92 per person for double room

-We pay a 7% hotel room commission to the company that books our hotels.

Speaker Fees: \$164.71 per person

-Honoraria for guest speakers

Other: \$164.71 per person

-Briefing materials, miscellaneous

Tour Guide: \$158.82 per person

-As a detailed historical understanding is crucial to maximizing the educational aspect of the trip, a licensed tour guide accompanies the group throughout the trip.

Hotels for contract staff (tour guide, bus driver, security guards): \$117.65 per person

Tips: \$58.82 per person

-Tips for hotel staff, and hostesses

Airport Assistance: \$52.94

-We use a service to help participants navigate passport control and customs.

Entrance Fees: \$41.18 per person

-Several sites require an entrance fee, including the southern Western Wall excavations and the holy sites around the Sea of Galilee.

Photography: \$23.53 per person

-On each trip we take a group photo with a professional photographer

Transportation for contract staff and speakers: \$17.65 per person



**American Israel Education Foundation (AIEF)  
Educational Seminar in Israel  
Republican Members of Congress  
August 8-16, 2019**

**FINAL Breakdown of Other Expenses**

Room Rentals: \$698.46 per person

-The cost of renting rooms at hotels and restaurants for meetings and meals with speakers.

Security: \$544.83 per person

-AIEF considers the security of its trip participants as its highest priority. A security team accompanies all participants throughout the trip.

Other: \$268.21 per person

-Briefing materials, tips, miscellaneous

Hotels for contract staff (tour guide, bus driver, security guards): \$224.25 per person

Tour Guide: \$186.39 per person

-As a detailed historical understanding is crucial to maximizing the educational aspect of the trip, a licensed tour guide accompanies the group throughout the trip.

Speaker Fees: \$175.12 per person

-Honoraria for guest speakers

Meals for contract staff and speakers: \$151.31 per person

Airport Assistance: \$72.96 per person

-We use a service to help participants navigate passport control and customs.

Entrance Fees: \$38.38 per person

-Several sites require an entrance fee, including the southern Western Wall excavations and the holy sites around the Sea of Galilee.

Photography: \$18.54 per person

-On each trip we take a group photo with a professional photographer

Transportation for contract staff and speakers: \$14.86 per person

**American Israel Education Foundation (AIEF)  
Educational Seminar in Israel  
Republican Members of Congress  
August 8-16, 2019**

**Itinerary**

**THURSDAY, AUGUST 8, 2019**

Afternoon Domestic Flights to Newark and JFK

Late Evening Flights depart for Tel Aviv

**FRIDAY, AUGUST 9, 2019**

Afternoon Flights arrive in Tel Aviv  
Transfer to Jerusalem  
Check-in to the King David Hotel

8:00-10:00 PM *Reflections on the Sabbath in Jerusalem*  
Sabbath dinners with Jerusalem families

**Reflections on the Sabbath in Jerusalem**

Israel, the only Jewish country in the world, boasts the unique tradition of honoring the Jewish Sabbath from Friday sundown until Saturday sundown. 80 percent of the Israeli population will commemorate the Sabbath, in various forms, which typically include a family dinner and special blessings. The Sabbath is especially significant in Jerusalem, home to the holiest site for Jews worldwide - the remains of the First and Second Temple.

The dinner will include a discussion on the importance of Jerusalem to the Jewish, Christian and Muslim populations; the potential for a final status agreement on Jerusalem (arguably the most sensitive final status issue); and the diplomatic challenges faced by Israel and the United States regarding Israeli urban development in the area.

10:00 PM Overnight at the King David Hotel, Jerusalem

**SATURDAY, AUGUST 10, 2019**

7:30 AM Breakfast on own

8:00 AM Depart for Masada

9:30-11:45 AM *History and Geopolitics of the Roman Empire*  
Guided survey of the National Archeological Park at Masada

## **Masada**

Masada, which was excavated in the 1960s, is considered one of the most important archeological sites in Israel. Masada was the site of the last stand of the Jews in Israel after the Romans destroyed Jerusalem and the Holy Temple in 70 A.D. A group of Jewish zealots fled to the Judean Desert and lived in the former mountaintop fortress of King Herod known as Masada for two years resisting the onslaught of the most powerful army in the world. Determined to break the resistance, the Romans finally scaled the mountain to capture and enslave the Jewish rebels. However, when they finally arrived, they found that all the men, women and children had killed themselves as a last act of defiance. They refused to give in to the Romans and become their slaves.

The ancient story of Masada has important contemporary relevance for the modern State of Israel. "Masada shall never fall again" has become the watchword of the country which has faced existential threats since its founding in 1948. Israel's elite military units, for example, are sworn in on top of Masada in a symbolic act of defiance against Israel's contemporary enemies. These soldiers along with the thousands of Israeli school children who visit Masada each year learn the lesson that Israel should never become so weak again that it would ever face national suicide as an option.

We will spend approximately two hours atop of Masada with a professional guide. The time at Masada with the guide is focused on three areas: 1. touring the ancient excavations; 2. learning the narrative of Jewish resistance to the Romans backed by the archeological and historical evidence; 3. discussing the importance of the Masada story to the contemporary Middle East and the threats in the region.

11:45 PM                      Depart for Dead Sea

12:00-2:15 PM              *Exploration of the Dead Sea Region*  
Lunch  
-at Herods

## **Dead Sea Region**

During our drive to and from the Dead Sea area, as well as during our visit to the Dead Sea, our tour guide will discuss a variety of issues integral to understanding the region, the country, and relations with both the Palestinians and Jordanians.

It is important to note that the region is mostly desert. For decades, Israel has been challenging this arid area and developing its agricultural potential. While the Middle East is suffering from water shortages, Israel, through modern technology and water conservation policies, including the recycling of over 80 percent of water used for domestic purposes and transferring it to agriculture, has literally "made the desert bloom." Some of this technology is already being shared with Jordan and the Palestinian Authority. All sides realize that a comprehensive regional water policy will ensure food production necessary to satisfy the Middle East's growing population. For example, in late 2013, the three parties agreed to build a Red Sea-Dead Sea water project to address the shortage of fresh, clean water in the region and the rapid loss of water at the Dead Sea. This highlights the growing importance for Israel and her Arab neighbors to work together on joint environmental projects.



The key regional players also face serious environmental issues in the Dead Sea region. One of the major environmental concerns is the receding of the Dead Sea and the appearance of sinkholes, which cause the earth above to collapse. Roads, fields and buildings have collapsed due to this phenomenon, and experts are concerned the tourist infrastructure along the Jordanian and Israeli shores of the Dead Sea are also in danger. This issue has led to unprecedented cooperation between Israelis, Jordanians and Palestinians and serves as a model for regional cooperation.

2:15 PM	Depart for Jerusalem
3:45 PM	Arrive at hotel
4:00 PM	Depart for Bethlehem (optional)
4:30-5:30 PM	<i>Visit to the Church of the Nativity</i> -in Bethlehem

### **Bethlehem**

One of the main objectives of the seminar is to provide participants with a deep understanding of the Israeli-Palestinian conflict. The city of Bethlehem is located just three miles from Jerusalem but already lies in a different country. Bethlehem is under full control of the Palestinian Authority. It is separated from Jerusalem by a security barrier and those traveling between Jerusalem and Bethlehem need to pass through a border checkpoint. By visiting Bethlehem, participants witness firsthand Palestinian self-rule. They also observe how the border checkpoint operates – this is especially important because each day thousands of Palestinians enter through such checkpoints on their way to work in Israel.

Additionally, the New Testament identifies Bethlehem as the birthplace of Jesus, making it one of the most significant religious sites in the world.

5:30 PM	Depart for hotel
6:00 PM	Return to Jerusalem
7:00 PM	Dinner is served -at the hotel
7:30-9:30 PM	<i>Start-Up Nation</i> Meeting with: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ BriefCam</li><li>▪ MobileODT</li><li>▪ OrCam</li></ul> Moderated by Dan Senior -at the hotel

## **Start-Up Nation**

Israel is a giant when it comes to innovation: a global leader in R&D spending and Venture Capital investment, and home to global R&D centers for the likes of Google, Apple and IBM. This evening's Start-Up Nation dinner will include a discussion with entrepreneurs representing Israeli innovation and ingenuity that has had enormous impact both in Israel and abroad.

10:00-11:00 PM      *The Ninth of Av*  
Optional: Old City night tour to see worshipers at the Western Wall

## **The Ninth of Av**

Tisha B' Av, the 9th day of the month of Av (August 10-11, 2019), is the saddest day on the Jewish calendar, on which Jews fast, deprive themselves and pray. It is the culmination of the Three Weeks, a period of time during which Jews mark the destruction of the Holy Temple in Jerusalem. Several devastating events in Jewish History occurred on the 9<sup>th</sup> of Av – both holy Temples in Jerusalem were destroyed, the Bar Kochba revolt against the Romans in 133 CE ended in defeat, the Jews of England were expelled in 1290, and the Jews of Spain were banished in 1492. On the ninth of Av, thousands of Jews from all over Israel gather at the Western Wall to pray.

11:00 PM              Overnight at the King David Hotel, Jerusalem

## **SUNDAY, AUGUST 11, 2019**

7:00 AM              Breakfast is served

8:00-8:30 AM        *Joint Press Conference*  
▪ The Honorable Steny Hoyer  
▪ The Honorable Kevin McCarthy  
-at the hotel

9:00 AM-1:00 PM    *Issues in Focus*  
Delegation will break up into various tracks  
1. Agriculture, Volcani Institute  
2. Cyber Security, Ben Gurion University  
3. Missile Defense, Palmachim  
4. Port Security, Ashdod  
5. Water and Desalination  
6. Energy

### *Track 1: Agriculture, Volcani Institute*

10:15 AM            Arrive at Volcani in Rishon  
10:30 AM            Introduction  
10:45 AM            Site tour  
11:45 AM            Depart  
Lunch en route

### **Agriculture, Volcani Institute**

Volcani, or the Agricultural Research Center (ARO) is the Israeli Ministry of Agriculture's research center. The Israeli government has undertaken an effort to become one of the world leaders in agricultural innovation. The objective of the delegation's visit is to learn about Israeli innovation in Agriculture, and to explore potential future U.S.-Israel collaborations and partnerships in this field.

#### *Track 2: Cyber Security, Ben Gurion University*

10:45 AM	Arrive at Cyber Spark and orientation
11:00 AM	Brief Site Survey
11:15 AM	Meetings with CERT Representatives
12:00 PM	Depart
	Lunch en route

### **Cybersecurity, Ben Gurion University**

The United States and the State of Israel are working together to protect their cyberspace from attacks. In July, U.S. Homeland Security cybersecurity experts spent a week in Israel sharing their know-how and experience with their Israeli counterparts. Both teams spent half of the time at the Cyber Security Research Center at the Ben Gurion University of the Negev in Beer Sheeva. The hub is home to a number of multi-nationals who are working with Israeli experts, including the Cyber Bureau in the Office of the Prime Minister, the Cyber Warfare department of the Israel Defense Forces, and those engaged in research at the university. This coming fall, a larger U.S. Homeland Security team is expected to spend time at the hub.

#### *Track 3: Missile Defense, Palmachim*

10:15 AM	Arrive at Palmachim Air Force base
10:30 AM	Orientation with Officer
10:45 AM	Site visit to Arrow 3 and drones
11:45 PM	Lunch on the base with soldiers
12:20 PM	Depart

### **Missile Defense, Palmachim**

The close partnership between the United States and Israel has yielded leading military technologies, particularly in the field of missile defense. Jointly developed by the two allies, the Arrow is among the world's most sophisticated missile shields. It is the only operational system that has consistently proven that one missile can shoot down another at high altitudes and supersonic speeds. A centerpiece of the interaction between the two militaries has been combined missile defense training, including the biannual Juniper Cobra exercise. In this maneuver, U.S. and Israeli forces practice cooperative tactics to counter the growing threat from ballistic missiles and long-range rockets.



*Track 4: Port Security, Ashdod*

10:15 AM	Arrive at Ashdod Port
10:30 AM	Orientation with Yigal Maor, Director General of Ministry of Transport, and Dov Frohlinger, Deputy CEO-New Terminal Operations
10:45 AM	Site visit of the port and security facilities
11:45 AM	Lunch at the port
12:30 PM	Depart

**Port Security, Ashdod**

The Port of Ashdod is one of Israel's two main cargo ports, along with the Port of Haifa. The port is located in Ashdod, about an hour south of Tel Aviv. Its establishment significantly enhanced the country's port capacity. It handles the largest volume of cargo containers annually of all Israeli ports. Ships carrying humanitarian aid for the Gaza Strip also unload their cargo at Ashdod. Both Haifa and Ashdod face shelling threats—the former, from Hezbollah rockets in Lebanon and the latter from Palestinian rockets from the Gaza Strip. The port's security center includes a command center that is manned 24 hours a day, 365 days a year. Security procedures include the examination of crews and passengers on cargo ships as well as tourist ships exiting and entering the State of Israel thru the Port of Ashdod.

*Track 5: Water and Desalination, Mekorot National Water Plant*

10:15 AM	Arrive
10:30 AM	Orientation and introduction to water and desalination
11:00 AM	Site visit to Mekorot National Water Plant
12:00 PM	Depart Lunch at Kibbutz Masuot Yitzchak

**Water and Desalination, Mekorot National Water Plant**

Israel is the world leader in innovation designed to overcome water scarcity. Due to its own need for sustainable water, Israel supports innovative methods, technologies, and holistic water resource management. Overcoming the challenges of an arid climate and scarce natural water reserves has always been a vital necessity for the growth of Israel's population and economy since the founding of the state. This has led to continuous improvements in Israel's water sector, through innovation in technology, practice and long-term planning. Israel treats and reuses almost all of the nation's domestic waste water for irrigation in the agricultural sector. Almost half of Israel's drinking water comes from innovative desalination efforts. Dozens of countries from around the world – including the United States – come to Israel to learn its water saving methods.

*Track 6: Energy, Noble Energy*

10:15 AM	Arrive at Noble Energy
10:30 AM	Briefing on energy distribution to neighboring countries
11:30 AM	Survey of Center
11:45 AM	Lunch
12:30 PM	Depart

## **Energy, Noble Energy**

It has been United States policy since 1973 (the Arab boycott during the Yom Kippur War) to aid the State of Israel in ensuring the country is not cut off from energy sources. Over the years the U.S. has worked with its European allies to help Israel diversify its energy sources. At the same time, the U.S. government encouraged American energy companies to establish working relations with their Israeli counterparts. Yet, due to the continuing Arab boycott, the Americans refrained from investing in Israel for fear of being cut off from much larger Arab markets. Finally, Houston-based Noble Energy decided to partner with Israel's Delek company in exploring areas in the Mediterranean Sea which could potentially hold significant natural gas deposits. Within a few years, significant deposits were found. At present Noble Energy is pumping enough natural gas to supply about a quarter of Israel's energy needs. At the same time, Noble Energy has begun to sell natural gas to Israel's neighbors – Jordan and Egypt – as well as to some European countries, and it expects to recoup its original investment in the next two to three years, while at the same time helping Israel to become energy independent and eventually a natural gas exporter.

1:00-1:30 PM            Groups reunite at Iron Dome

*U.S.-Israel Strategic Cooperation*  
Visit Iron Dome battery

## **The Iron Dome**

The Israel Defense Forces (IDF) typically honors our request to visit an Iron Dome battery, the joint U.S.-Israel funded rocket defense program. The military typically approves any visit to an Iron Dome location the week before the trip due to the constantly shifting security situation on the ground. A visit to an Iron Dome battery includes meeting with the soldiers and the commanding officer.

1:30 AM                Depart

2:00-2:30 PM        *Strategic Overview*  
At Assaf Siboni, Chetz Shachor and Nir Am overlooks

2:30 PM                Depart

3:00-3:45 PM        *Living in the Shadow of Rocket Fire*  
Meet with local kibbutz residents  
-at the Netiv Ha'asara Peace Wall, Kibbutz Netiv Ha'asara

## **Israel's Southern Front**

Since 2001, Israeli communities bordering the Gaza Strip have been living under the threat of rocket fire. Since the Israeli withdrawal from the Gaza Strip in 2005 and the Hamas takeover of the Gaza Strip in 2007, the volume, range and accuracy of the rockets has only increased. The summer of 2014 witnessed Operation Protective Edge, which returned the issue of rocket fire from Gaza to international headlines. During the strategic overview (several locations), participants will be able to see the border between Israel and the Gaza Strip, to better comprehend the landscape of the region, as well as the unique challenges faced by this area. The visit to Kibbutz Netiv Ha'asara

and meeting with local residents will be an opportunity to better understand the reality of living just kilometers from Israel's border with Gaza, to learn how almost 15 years of rocket fire has shaped those living in the communities most affected, to discuss the advent of Hamas "terror tunnels" into Israel's border towns and how communities have sought to cope with the threat on their doorstep, both physically and psychologically.

3:45 PM                      Group Photo

4:00 PM                      Bipartisan program concludes  
Depart for Jerusalem

7:30-8:00 PM              *Welcome*  
▪ The Honorable Kevin McCarthy, Republican Leader  
▪ Dr. Cameron Brown, Director, Jerusalem  
-at the Khan

8:00-9:30 PM              *The Pulse of Israel Today*  
Dinner with David Horovitz, Editor in Chief, *The Times of Israel*  
-at the Khan

### **The Pulse of Israel Today**

David Horovitz is the founding editor of *Times of Israel*, the leading current affairs website in Israel. Mr. Horovitz will provide staff with a synthesis of domestic political trends, current international affairs and the general state of mind of the Israeli voters.

9:30 PM                      Overnight at the King David, Jerusalem

### **MONDAY, AUGUST 12, 2019**

7:45 AM                      Breakfast is served  
-at the hotel

8:00 AM                      *Israeli Politics 101*  
Breakfast with Dr. Cameron Brown, Director, Jerusalem  
-at the hotel

### **Israeli Politics 101**

It is critical for trip participants to have an understanding of the parliamentary system in Israel. Dr. Cameron Brown explains how the parliamentary party system works, how coalitions rise and fall, and how Israeli politics differ from American politics. Since the group will be visiting with government officials throughout the week, we believe it's important to provide this overview early in the seminar. The group will also be arriving during an unprecedented interim Israeli government, as the Prime Minister was unable to form a coalition. Israeli voters who just went to the polls in March, will be heading back to the polls in September, making for a robust political conversation throughout the country.

- 9:15 AM Depart for Old City
- 9:45 AM-12:30 PM *Strategic Survey of Jerusalem, Part I: The Historic and Holy Basin*  
 Guided survey of the Old City of Jerusalem:
- City of David
  - Southern Wall Excavations
  - Western Wall
  - Church of the Holy Sepulchre
  - Via Dolorosa

## **Jerusalem**

Throughout its 4,000-year history, the city of Jerusalem has changed hands many times. As home to the world's three great monotheistic religions — Judaism, Christianity and Islam — Jerusalem is probably the most disputed city in history. Today, the status of Jerusalem remains the most contentious issue in the Arab-Israeli conflict. Jerusalem has been at the heart of all Israeli-Palestinian negotiations. To understand the current political issues, it is critical to understand Jerusalem's history and the role it has played in shaping the Middle East. This seminar will include site visits to various locations in and around Jerusalem to give participants a first-hand look at the historic significance of the city, as well as its geographic layout.

## **Old City of Jerusalem & the Holy Basin**

The Old City of Jerusalem is home to the holiest shrines of the three monotheistic religions, including the Temple Mount, the Church of the Holy Sepulchre, and the Al-Aqsa Mosque. During the Camp David II talks, the Palestinians and Israelis differed on the Jerusalem question, namely the Old City, the status of Arab neighborhoods just outside the Old City, and religious sites such as the Temple Mount.

The Holy Basin is the historic location of Jerusalem and refers to the land surrounding the Old City, including the Mount of Olives, which is believed to be the departure point for Jesus' final entry into Jerusalem and where Jews have been burying their dead for 2,500 years. The Holy Basin also includes the Western Wall, Judaism's holiest site, and the Temple Mount (Haram al-Sharif), sacred ground for Jews, Muslims, and Christians. Control over these sensitive areas remains among the largest disputes in the Middle East.

The professionally guided survey will walk through all of these sites and others, educating trip participants on their historical impact and their role in today's political discussions.

## **The City of David**

The Israeli-Palestinian conflict has consumed an enormous amount of time and manpower from members of consecutive American Administrations as well as members of Congress. One of the most intractable issues in the conflict has been the question of the future of Jerusalem. Jerusalem's City of David, more than any other site, represents the complexity of this conflict.

The City of David is the site most archeologists agree to be the ancient city of Jerusalem that later became the capital of the united Israelite tribes under King David. This area is one of the most intensively excavated sites in the wider region. To Jewish Israelis, the site represents the beginning

of their physical and emotional attachment to Jerusalem that has continued for over three thousand years.

At the same time, much of the site is located in the predominantly Arab neighborhood of Silwan. The residents of Silwan, and the Palestinian Authority leadership are opposed to the archeological efforts being carried out in the City of David. In several instances, homes in Silwan were purchased and then destroyed to open up more areas for excavations. Additionally, Palestinian leadership has denied in their official statements the existence of any Jewish connection to Jerusalem.

12:30 PM Depart

1:00-2:00 PM *A View from the United Nations*  
Lunch with Nickolay Mladenov  
United Nations Special Coordinator for the Middle East Peace Process  
(UNSCO)  
-at Olmaya

#### **A View from the United Nations**

Nickolay Mladenov is the United Nations Special Coordinator for the Middle East Peace Process (UNSCO). In this capacity, Mladenov is the Secretary-General's Envoy to the Quartet, and the Secretary General's Personal Representative to the Palestine Liberation Organization and the Palestinian Authority. Mladenov was appointed in February 2015 and has extensive experience in public service and international affairs. Prior to this role he was Special Representative for Iraq and Head of the United Nations Assistance Mission for Iraq (UNAMI). He has served as Minister for Foreign Affairs and Minister of Defence of Bulgaria and was a Member of the Bulgarian Parliament and the European Union. He's held several positions in the intergovernmental and non-governmental sectors, including at the World Bank, the European Institute, the National Democratic Institute, the International Republican Institute, and other international organizations in South Eastern Europe and the Middle East, including Egypt, Iraq, Afghanistan, Yemen, and Morocco. Mladenov holds MAs in War Studies and International Relations.

2:15-3:15 PM *A View from the Opposition*  
Meeting with Benny Gantz  
Leader of the Opposition, Blue and White Party  
- at Olmaya

#### **A View from the Opposition**

The Honorable Benny Gantz served as the 20th Chief of General Staff of the Israel Defense Forces (IDF) from 2011 to 2015. In 2019, he started the Blue and White Party – named after the colors of the Israeli flag – along with Yair Lapid and Moshe Ya'alon. In the March elections, the new opposition party, The Blue and White Party, managed to attain the same number of seats as Prime Minister Netanyahu's Likud party. Netanyahu, tasked with forming a coalition government, was unable to do so, and Israelis will head to the polls again in September.

3:30 PM Depart

- 4:00 PM Security check at the Prime Minister's Office
- 4:30-5:30 PM *A View from the Prime Minister's Office*  
Meeting with the Honorable Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu  
-at the Prime Minister's Office

### **Meeting with The Honorable Benjamin Netanyahu**

Every member delegation has the opportunity to meet with Israel's Prime Minister. Prime Minister Netanyahu is currently residing over an interim government, until elections are held for a second time this year in September.

- 5:30 PM Depart
- 6:00 PM *Strategic Survey of Jerusalem - Part II:*  
The Security Barrier and Outlying Neighborhoods

### **Post-1967 Neighborhoods**

When Jerusalem was reunified in 1967, following 19 years of division, the State of Israel extended the city's boundaries to include the strategic hills surrounding Jerusalem. These hills served as launching pads between 1948 and 1967 for sniper and mortar attacks on Israeli parts of the city by the Jordanian Army. Since 1967, these hills have become vibrant neighborhoods, fully integrated into the fabric of Jerusalem. It is vital for those discussing the issue of Jerusalem to understand these neighborhoods' strategic importance and their relationship to the areas in the immediate vicinity.

### **Security Barrier**

After scores of suicide bombings and daily terrorist attacks against its civilians launched following the breakdown of the Camp David II talks, Israel began construction of a security barrier near the pre-1967 "Green Line" between Israel and the West Bank to prevent Palestinian terrorists from infiltrating into Israeli population centers. Since its construction began, the number of attacks declined by more than 90% and the number of Israelis murdered and wounded decreased by more than 70% and 85%, respectively. The barrier is approximately 455 miles long. To Israel, the security barrier serves as a necessary obstacle to protect its people. To the Palestinians and others in the world, the barrier represents a physical and symbolic divide.

This seminar will survey the security barrier at different points along its route to see first-hand the barrier's construction, the operation of crossing points in and out of Palestinian areas, and the technology that facilitates its operation. Both en route to the barrier and at the barrier itself, the group will explore the competing arguments raised by the Israelis, Palestinians and the international community.

- 6:30 PM Depart
- 7:00 PM Arrive at hotel
- 7:45 PM Depart for dinner

8:00-9:30 PM            *Israel Defense Forces: The Mosaic of Israel*  
Dinner with soldiers from various units

**Israel Defense Forces: The Mosaic of Israel**

The Israel Defense Forces (IDF) is a true microcosm of Israeli society, as most young men and women are required to served directly after high school. It is also a great equalizer in Israel's diverse, multicultural society. This evening will focus on several unique units in the IDF, including "Special in Uniform", a unit that works with young adults with special needs; Unit 669, a special ops and combat unit, as well as humanitarian provider; and Duvdevan, which deals with terrorism emanating from the Palestinian territories.

10:00 PM                Overnight at the King David Hotel

**TUESDAY, AUGUST 13, 2019**

5:00-6:00 AM            Optional visit to Valley of Ela

7:30 AM                Breakfast is served  
-at the hotel

8:00-9:00 AM            *The Peace Process*  
Breakfast with Dr. Tal Becker  
Legal Advisor, Ministry of Foreign Affairs  
-at the hotel

**Tal Becker**

Since Israel's founding, the Jewish state has sought to reach a just and lasting solution to the Israeli Palestinian conflict. The United States has been closely involved in negotiations between Israel and the Palestinians. Dr. Tal Becker is a senior member of the Israeli peace negotiation team. In this position, he is on the front lines of many of Israel's most pressing diplomatic, legal and policy challenges. He is a veteran negotiator, and key behind the scenes representative, for Israel in a wide variety of contexts. During this session, he will address the prospects for peace in the current political climate. He will also discuss the complex challenges that have prevented a final status agreement thus far.

9:15 AM                Depart hotel

9:45-11:45 AM            *Remembering the Victims of the Holocaust*  
Guided survey of Yad Vashem Holocaust Memorial and Museum

**Yad Vashem**

One cannot understand Israel's position on Iran's nuclear program without understanding the trauma of the Holocaust. Israelis view threats to its destruction in light of the events of the 1930s and 1940s, when the German government's threats to exterminate the Jewish people were not



taken seriously by the international community. This museum provides an important reference point as to how Israelis interpret the threat of an Iranian nuclear program and Iranian leaders committed to Israel's destruction.

Yad Vashem, the Holocaust Martyrs' and Heroes' Remembrance Authority, was established in 1953 by an act of the Israeli Knesset. Since its inception, Yad Vashem has been entrusted with documenting the history of the Jewish people during the Holocaust period, preserving the memory and story of each of the six million victims, and imparting the legacy of the Holocaust for generations to come through its archives, library, school, museums and recognition of the Righteous Among the Nations. Located on Har Hazikaron (the Mount of Remembrance) in Jerusalem, Yad Vashem is a sprawling complex of museums, exhibits, archives, monuments, sculptures, and memorials.

Every foreign leader that travels to Israel visits Yad Vashem. Yad Vashem has become a symbol of the Jewish people and its transformation from total helplessness to self-reliance and strength. Thus, a visit to Yad Vashem provides a historical context for the Jewish state. The museum's professional docent will guide the group through the main exhibit hall and the children's memorial.

11:45 AM Depart

12:15-1:15 PM *U.S.-Israel Strategic Cooperation*  
Meeting with Ari Sacher  
Rocket Scientist, Air Superiority Systems Division, Rafael

### **U.S.-Israel Strategic Cooperation**

Ari Sacher is a Rocket Scientist and has worked in the design and development of missiles for over twenty years. He has briefed hundreds of US Congressmen on Israeli Missile Defense and speaks regularly for the Israeli Foreign Ministry. Ari is highly regarded speaker, enabling even the layman to understand the "rocket science". During this session, he will explain the U.S.-Israel strategic cooperation that has led to Israel's development of multi-tiered missile defense system.

1:30 PM Depart for Ramallah

2:30-3:30 PM *A View from the Palestinian Authority*  
-in Ramallah

### **A View from the Palestinian Authority**

During each seminar, we invite a representative of the Palestinian Authority to address the group. Our speaker will present the current state of Palestinian Authority Affairs, including the Palestinian perspective on the issues of the day, as well as relations with Israel and prospects for peace.

3:30 PM Depart for hotel

7:00 PM Depart for dinner

7:30-9:30 PM            Dinner with Ambassador David Friedman  
                                 U.S. Ambassador to Israel  
                                 -at Mamila rooftop

**Dinner with Ambassador David Friedman**

Every member delegation has the opportunity to meet with the U.S. Ambassador to Israel. Ambassador David Friedman was the first bilateral ambassador to be confirmed in the Trump Administration. Prior to his appointment as ambassador, Mr. Friedman was a nationally top-ranked attorney, and a founding partner of Kasowitz, Benson, Torres & Friedman of New York, New York. He frequently represented high-profile clients in large and significant cases and has published articles and lectured on novel and complex areas of law. Ambassador Friedman has played a lead role in negotiating multilateral disputes in some of the nation's most complex business and financial restructurings. Well known for his excellent public speaking, negotiating and interpersonal skills, he has been active for decades in U.S. policy as it relates to Israel and the Middle East. He speaks and reads Hebrew and has traveled to Israel extensively. Ambassador Friedman earned a J.D. from New York University School of Law.

10:00 PM                Overnight at the King David Hotel

PLEASE PACK FOR NEXT DAY'S DEPARTURE

**WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 14, 2019**

5:15 – 6:15 AM        Optional early morning mass at the Church of the Holy Sepulcher

7:45 AM                Check out  
                                 Breakfast is served  
                                 -at the hotel, Ambassador Hall

8:00-9:00 AM        *Strategic Threats Overview*  
                                 Meeting with Maj. Gen. (Res.) Amos Yadlin  
                                 Director, The Institute for National Security Studies (INSS)  
                                 -at the hotel

**Strategic Threats Overview**

As the delegation heads north to the borders with Lebanon and Syria, it is critical to understand the threats faced by Israel from these borders, both Iranian proxies. The briefing will cover the unique situation at each border, as well as the malign activity from Iran contributing to unrest in the region.

9:00 AM                Depart

10:00-10:45 AM     *Israel's Narrow Waistline*  
                                 Strategic Briefing at Alfei Menashe

## **Alfei Menashe**

Alfei Menashe is a Jewish community located on the western edge of the West Bank. Less than 10 miles from the Mediterranean Sea, Alfei Menashe provides a unique vantage point to discuss Israeli settlement policy, the routing of the security barrier, as well as Israel's narrow waistline.

The sliver of Israeli land west of the West Bank is often referred to as the Hadera-Gadera rectangle, with the city of Hadera denoting the northern point, and the city of Gadera the southern point. The Hadera-Gadera rectangle is home to over 50 percent of Israel's population, as well as civilian infrastructure. The area is also home to Israel's "Silicon Valley," as well as Ben Gurion international airport.

The discussion at Alfei Menashe will allow participants to see firsthand the proximity of Jewish and Arab neighborhoods in both Israel and the West Bank; as well as the strategic threats faced by the Israeli population living in Israel's narrow waistline.

10:45 AM            Depart

12:45-3:00 PM    Lunch  
                         -at Yardenit

3:00 PM            Depart

4:00-6:00 PM      *Northern Border Concerns, Part I:  
                         The Lebanese Border*

- Strategic Briefing with Lt. Col. (Res.) Sarit Zehavi
- The Hizballah Tunnel Threay

- at Dovev

## **Israel's Northern Border Concerns: Lebanon and Hizballah**

Lt. Col. (Res.) Sarit Zehavi served 15 years in the IDF in Military Intelligence –first in the Research and Analysis Branch, and later in the Northern Command. During her military service she briefed hundreds of delegations, ranging from U.S. Senators, Congressmen and politicians to global military commanders, senior journalists and visiting VIP delegations. She is the founder/director of Alma, an educational research center focusing on the security issues of Israel's northern border. Zehavi has authored many position papers focusing on Lebanon, Syria and Israel's national security challenges, and continues to brief delegations on these topics. She holds an MA in Middle East Studies from Ben Gurion University and is a resident of the northern Galilee region. She will brief the group on the current threats facing Israel by Iranian backed Hizballah in Lebanon.

6:00 PM            Depart

7:00 PM            Check-in to the Scots Hotel

8:00-10:00 PM    Dinner at Decks

### **Dinner and Discussion**

We will use this dinner as an opportunity to discuss the speakers and topics we have been exposed to thus far. We have found giving our participants an opportunity to discuss the topics and perspectives presented to them assists them in their ability to more fully understand the complexities Israel faces.

10:00 PM                      Overnight at the Scots Hotel, Tiberias

PREPARE FOR NEXT DAY'S DEPARTURE

### **THURSDAY, AUGUST 15, 2019**

7:30 – 8:15 AM              Check out  
Breakfast on own  
-at the hotel

8:15AM                        Depart

8:30-10:15 AM              *Historical Significance of the Sea of Galilee*  
*Visit to Historical and Religious sites around the Sea of Galilee*

- Mt. of the Beatitudes – Sermon on the Mount
- St. Peter's Church – Primacy of Peter
- Capernaum – Jesus's Village

### **Christian Sites at the Sea of Galilee**

As part of the seminar's focus on the complex religious fabric of Israeli society, the group will be visiting several of the most sacred sites for Christians in the Holy Land. Included is a guided survey and discussion of some of the most important events in the life of Jesus by the Sea of Galilee. Just as strategic surveys in Jerusalem focused on Jewish, Muslim, and Christian history and claims to the land, the site visits to the Christian sites help provide context for the competing religious narratives for the land of Israel. For example, we will be visiting the Mount of Beatitudes, where Jesus delivered the Sermon on the Mount, the most studied and read speech of any religion in history. Our guide will also lead discussions through Capernaum and St. Peter's Church.

10:15 AM                      Depart

11:15 AM-12:15 PM        *Northern Border Concerns, Part II*  
*The Syrian Border*  
Briefing with Cpt. (Ret.) Ilan Shulman  
Northern Border Expert  
-at Coffee Anan, Mount Bental

### **Israel's Northern Border Concerns: Syria**

Captain (Res.) Ilan Shulman, a disabled IDF veteran, divides his time guiding geopolitical tours on the Galilee and Golan Heights, lecturing to students, giving geo-political briefings for delegations through various Israeli foreign ministry programs, and fulfilling his IDF reserve duties

in the Northern Command's intelligence unit. Shulman was raised in Kibbutz Merom Golan near Israel's border with Syria, where one of his favorite jobs was herding the kibbutz cattle. Shulman served in the IDF's paratrooper's unit, rising to the position of company commander. He holds a BA in Israel and Middle East Studies. During this session he will take participants to the border between Israel and Syria and provide an overview of the Syrian civil war.

12:15 PM	Depart
12:45-2:00 PM	Lunch -at Habokrim
2:00 PM	Depart
5:00 PM	Arrive at the Sheraton Hotel
6:00 PM	Depart
6:30-8:45 PM	<i>The U.S.-Israel Relationship: Bringing it All Together</i> -at Start up Nation Central, Tel Aviv

The closing dinner provides an opportunity for participants to process the scope of the week, from the religious center of the Judeo-Christian world in Jerusalem, to the bustling economic powerhouse of Tel Aviv; from the conflict plagued northern borders with Syria and Lebanon, to the environmental and geographical wonders of the Negev desert and the Dead Sea. We will process the range of topics explored, including the U.S.-Israel strategic partnership, prospects for Arab-Israeli peace, the experience of minorities in Israel, as well as greater existential threats throughout the region. Participants will also have the opportunity to share their takeaways and ask any lingering questions that weren't covered during the week.

8:45 PM	Depart for airport
Late evening	Flights depart for Newark and JFK

**FRIDAY, AUGUST 16, 2019**

Early Morning	Flights arrive at Newark and JFK
Morning	Domestic Flights Depart