



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: Rep Bonnie Watson Coleman
2. a. Name of Accompanying Relative: Rev. Dr. William E. Coleman OR None
 b. Relationship to Traveler: Spouse Child Other (specify): _____
3. a. Dates: Departure: November 2, 2019 Return: November 10, 2019
 b. Dates at Personal Expense, if any: _____ OR None
4. Departure City: Ewing, NJ Destination: Tel Aviv, Israel Return City: Ewing, NJ
5. Sponsor(s), Who Paid for the Trip: American Israel Education Fund (AIEF)
6. Describe Meetings and Events Attended (attach additional pages if necessary):
Attended all trips and meetings as indicated on the Final Itinerary attached.
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 NOV 25 PM 3:20
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: Bonnie Watson Coleman

Date: November 25, 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: November 2, 2019 Date of Return: November 10, 2019

4. Name(s) of Traveler(s): The Honorable Bonnie Watson Coleman and Rev. Dr. William Coleman


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	\$9,259.89	\$1,361.90	\$1,186.25	\$3,905.37
Accompanying Family Member	\$9,259.89	\$1,361.90	\$1,186.25	\$3,905.37

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:  Date: November 21, 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: Rep. Bonnie Watson Coleman
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: November 2, 2019 Date of Return: November 10, 2019
 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: Rev Dr William E Coleman, Jr.
 (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.**
Rep. Watson Coleman must vote on matters related to international affairs including the Middle East and Israel. This trip will enhance her understanding of those and their relation to her service on the Appropriations and Homeland Security Committees and her ability to serve constituents
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 _____ Date November 25, 2019



U.S. House of Representatives

COMMITTEE ON ETHICS

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 Bonnie Watson Coleman (Complete roster attached)
5. Is travel being offered to an accompanying family member of the House invitee(s)? Yes No
6. Date of Departure: November 2, 2019 Date of Return: November 10, 2019
7. a. City of departure: Ewing, NJ
b. Destination(s): Tel Aviv, Israel
c. City of return: Ewing, NJ
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 dinner hosted by a Jerusalem family 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, car service from Ewing-EWR)
- b. Class of travel: Coach Business First Charter Other (specify: charter bus in Israel)
- 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: \$386
 Reason(s) for Selecting: location and affordability
- Hotel Name: Sheraton- double room City: Tel Aviv Cost Per Night: \$391
 Reason(s) for Selecting: location and affordability
- Hotel Name: Galei Kinneret- double room City: Tiberias Cost Per Night: \$375
 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	Total Transportation Expenses per Participant	Total Lodging Expenses per Participant	Total Meal Expenses per Participant
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Good Faith Estimates			
For each Member, Officer, or Employee	\$9,197.90	\$1,224.50	\$1,046
For each Accompanying Family Member	\$9,197.90	\$1,224.50	\$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	\$2,830.29	Please see breakdown attached
For each Accompanying Family Member	\$2,830.29	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: *Rachel Hirsch* Date: September 26, 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: rirsch@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. Donegan
Counsel to the Ranking Member

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

October 24, 2019

The Honorable Bonnie Watson Coleman
U.S. House of Representatives
1223 Longworth 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,¹ scheduled for November 2 to 10, 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.

¹ 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. 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
Women Members of Congress
November 2-10, 2019**

FINAL Breakdown of Other Expenses

Security: \$1,327.27 per person

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

Speaker Fees: \$925.16 per person

-Honoraria for guest speakers

Hotels for contract staff (tour guide, bus driver, security guards): \$371.04 per person

Tour Guide: \$334.45 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.

Meals for contract staff and speakers: \$317.19 per person

Other: \$191.95 per person

-Briefing materials, miscellaneous

Room Rentals: \$178.81 per person

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

Airport Assistance: \$108.52

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

Photography: \$54.96 per person

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

Transportation for contract staff and speakers: \$49.92 per person

Entrance Fees: \$38.47 per person

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

Tips: \$7.63 per person

-Tips for hotel staff

**American Israel Education Foundation (AIEF)
Educational Seminar in Israel
Women Members of Congress
November 2-10, 2019**

Invitees

1. The Honorable Angie Craig (D-MN)
2. The Honorable Jaime Herrera Beutler (R-WA)
3. The Honorable Brenda Lawrence (D-MI)
4. The Honorable Susie Lee (D-NV)
5. The Honorable Martha Roby (R-AL)
6. The Honorable Mikie Sherrill (D-NJ)
7. The Honorable Debbie Wasserman Schultz (D-FL)
8. The Honorable Bonnie Watson Coleman (D-NJ)

**American Israel Education Foundation (AIEF)
Educational Seminar in Israel
Women Members of Congress
November 2-10, 2019**

Breakdown of Other Expenses

Security: \$1,147.06 per person

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

Speaker Fees: \$647.06 per person

-Honoraria for guest speakers

Tour Guide: \$264.71 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): \$194.12 per person

Meals for contract staff and speakers: \$188.24 per person

Room Rentals: \$176.47 per person

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

Airport Assistance: \$58.82

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

Entrance Fees: \$52.94 per person

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

Transportation for contract staff and speakers: \$35.29 per person

Photography: \$29.41 per person

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

Other: \$29.41 per person

-Briefing materials, miscellaneous

Tips: \$6.76 per person

-Tips for hotel staff, and hostesses

**American Israel Education Foundation (AIEF)
Educational Seminar in Israel
Women Members of Congress
November 2-10, 2019**

Itinerary

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 2, 2019

Afternoon	Depart from various airports
Evening	Arrive Newark
11:00 PM	Depart Newark

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 3, 2019

3:20 PM	Arrival at Ben-Gurion Airport Transfer to Jerusalem Check into the King David Hotel
7:00 PM	Depart for dinner
7:15-7:45 PM	<i>Welcome and Orientation</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ The Honorable Debbie Wasserman Schultz▪ Marilyn Rosenthal, Washington DC▪ Becky Strapp, Jerusalem -at Touro
7:45-9:45 PM	<i>Zionism and Feminism</i> Dinner with Dr. Einat Wilf, Senior Fellow, Jewish People Policy Institute -at Touro

Zionism and Feminism

Dr. Einat Wilf is a leading intellectual and original thinker on matters of foreign policy, economics, educations, and Israel and the Jewish people. A member of the Israeli Parliament from 2010-2013, Dr. Wilf is considered one of Israel's most articulate representatives on the international stage. She is the author of six books that explore key issues in Israel Society. During this opening dinner, Dr. Wilf will discuss the role of women in Zionism, and diplomacy, as well as the treatment of women in Israel and the broader region.

9:45 PM	Overnight at the King David Hotel, Jerusalem
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MONDAY, NOVEMBER 4, 2019

7:45 AM Breakfast served
- at the hotel

8:15-9:15 AM *The Pulse of Israel Today*
Breakfast with David Horowitz, Editor, Times of Israel
-at the hotel

The Pulse of Israel Today

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

9:15 AM Depart hotel

9:30 AM-12:30 PM *Strategic Survey of Jerusalem – Part I:*
The Old City and the Holy Basin
Guided survey of the Old City

The 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 these sites and others, educating trip participants on their historical impact and their role in today's political discussions.

12:30 PM Depart

1:00-1:45 PM *Israeli Politics Primer*
Lunch with Lahav Harkov, Senior Contributing Editor,
Jerusalem Post
-at Anna

Israeli Politics Primer

It is critical for trip participants to understand how Israel's 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. This seminar will take place during Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu's second attempt at forming a coalition, which comes after recently-held second elections and the dissolution of the government. Lahav Harkov will explain the Israeli political system, and also provide an update on the unprecedented political dynamics currently taking place in the Jewish state.

1:45-2:45 PM

Israeli Democracy in Action

Dessert and Coffee with Female Members of Knesset:

- The Honorable Gila Gamliel, Likud
 - The Honorable Stav Shaffir, Democratic Union
 - The Honorable Pnina Tamana-Shato, Blue and White
- at Anna

Israeli Democracy in Action

The delegation will have the opportunity to hear from women members of Parliament from three of the nation's parties, including Likud, Blue and White, and Democratic Union. Each of these members will share their party's platform, key areas of focus, and their current status in coalition talks.

2:45 PM

Depart

3:15-3:45 PM

*Strategic Survey of Jerusalem – Part II:
Post-1967 Neighborhoods and the Security Barrier*

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.

3:45 PM Depart

4:00-5:00 PM *The U.S.-Israel Relationship*
Meeting with U.S. Ambassador David Friedman
-at the Jerusalem Embassy

The U.S-Israel Relationship

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, Ambassador Friedman 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.

5:00 PM Depart for hotel

7:30 PM Depart for dinner

7:45-9:45 PM *Tikkun Olam- How Israel Repairs the World*
Dinner with:

- Molly Bernstein, Program Director, IsraAid
- Galit Sasson, Senior Water Treatment Engineer, Mekorot
- Cathy Sebag, former Program Manager, MobileODT
- Sivan Ya'ari, Founder and CEO, Innovation: Africa

-at the Kinor Bakikar

Tikkun Olam

One of the major tenets of Judaism is "Tikkun Olam," to "repair the world." This dinner will focus on representatives from organizations seeking to make the world a better place in various sectors. This evening will be a dinner discussion with entrepreneurs representing Israeli innovation and ingenuity that has had enormous impact both in Israel and abroad. The group will be meeting with innovators that work in the developing world.

9:45 PM Overnight at the King David Hotel, Jerusalem
PLEASE PACK FOR NEXT DAY'S CHECKOUT

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 5, 2019

Checkout, luggage in the lobby
PLEASE BRING YOUR PASSPORT

7:30 AM

Breakfast is served
- at the hotel

7:45-8:45 AM

Prospects for Peace
Breakfast with Dr. Tal Becker,
Legal Adviser, 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 was most recently 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.

8:45 AM

Depart

9:15-11:15 AM

The Meaning of the Holocaust in the Israeli Psyche
Visit to the 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.

11:15 AM Depart

12:30-1:30 PM MEMBERS ONLY:
A View from the Palestinian Authority
Lunch with the Honorable Mahmoud Abbas
-at the Office of the President, Muqataa

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.

FAMILY GUESTS:

Alternative Programming (may include one of the following)

- Mt. of Olives
- Church of Gethsemane
- The Israel Museum

1:30 PM Depart

2:45 PM Arrive at the Prime Minister's Office
GROUP REUNITES

3:15-4:15 PM *A View from the Prime Minister's Office*
Meeting with the Israeli Prime Minister
-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 working to form a coalition government for the second time this year. Israeli's just had a historical second election in September, after the Prime Minister was unable to form a coalition earlier this year.

4:30 PM Depart

6:00 PM Check into the Sheraton Hotel

7:45 PM Depart for Dinner

8:00-9:45 PM

Israel's Civil Society

Dinner with:

- Chen Arieli, Deputy Mayor, Tel Aviv
 - Shirin Natour Hafi, Principal, New Arabic High School
 - Racheli Yaso, Development Officer and Visiting Relations Director, Yemin Orde
- at Lumina

Israeli's Civil Society

This program will be a dinner discussion with Israelis representing some of the various societal sectors—all integral parts of the fabric of Israeli society and broader identity. The evening will be an opportunity to gain insight into the Israeli population as a whole, to learn what governs the perspective and decisions of various sectors and to explore how each of the sectors represented fits into Israeli society and informs the collective national narrative.

9:45 PM

Overnight at Sheraton Tel Aviv

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 6, 2019

8:00 AM

Breakfast is served

8:15-9:15 AM

Regional Threat Assessment

Breakfast with Brig.-Gen. (Res.) Nitzan Nuriel

Immediate Past Director, Counter-Terrorism Bureau at the Office of the Prime Minister

-at the hotel

Strategic Threats Overview

Before the delegation visits Israel's southern border with Gaza, and then heads north to the borders with Lebanon and Syria, it is critical to understand the threats faced by Israel from these three areas, all 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.

9:15 AM

Depart

9:45-11:15 AM

Save a Child's Heart

Briefing at Wolfson Medical Center and Visit to Recovery Home-Tamar Shapira, Dr. Dayan (Female Dr)

Save a Child's Heart

Save a Child's Heart (SACH) is an Israeli-based international, non-profit organization. SACH is committed to saving lives by improving the quality of cardiac care for children from developing countries and creating centers of medical competence in these countries. SACH Israel has saved the lives of over 3,700 children from 50 countries where adequate medical care is simply unavailable. Approximately 50% of these children are from the Palestinian Authority, Jordan, Iraq and Morocco (countries with whom Israel has either no diplomatic relations or who are in a

state of war with Israel). More than 30% are from Africa, and the remainder are from Asia, Eastern Europe, and the Americas. These children are treated at the Wolfson Medical Center and housed at the Legacy Heritage Children's Home of Save a Child's Heart, both located in Holon.

11:15 AM Depart

12:15-1:15 PM *Living Under the Threat of Missiles*
Meeting with Michal Zur, Local Resident
-at Kibbutz Erez

Living Under the Threat of Missiles

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. At Kibbutz Erez, 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 Erez and meeting with a local resident will help the participants better understand the reality of living just kilometers from Israel's border with Gaza, to learn how over 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.

1:15 PM Depart
Lunch En Route

2:30-3:30 PM *Meeting with the Honorable Benny Gantz*
-at the hotel

Meeting with the Honorable Benny Gantz

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 had a second election in September. Prime Minister Netanyahu was again tasked with forming a coalition, and talks will be underway during this seminar.

3:30 PM Depart for the Azrieli Center

4:15-5:00 PM *360 Birds Eye View of Israel*
-from atop the Arieli Center

Azrieli Center Rooftop

From the rooftop of the Azrieli center, participants will be standing at the highest observatory in the Middle East. The panoramic view stretches from Ashkelon in the south to Hadera in the north. On a clear day one can see almost 70 percent of the country, as far as Jerusalem to the East. The importance of this visit is to provide participants a geostrategic viewpoint from which to understand the narrow waistline of Israel, which at its narrowest spans 9 miles from the Mediterranean to the West Bank. Additionally, the area visible from this vantage point—referred to as the Gadera-Hadera corridor—comprises a small rectangle of land that can be covered lengthwise in under an hour. This section of Israel includes over 50% of Israel's population, economic infrastructure, as well as its only International Airport.

- | | |
|--------------|---|
| 5:00 PM | Depart for hotel |
| 7:30 PM | Depart |
| 8:00-9:30 PM | <i>Women of Start Up Nation</i>
Dinner with Wendy Singer,
Executive Director, Start Up Nation Central
and female entrepreneurs
- at Start Up Nation Central |

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.

- | | |
|---------|---|
| 9:30 PM | Overnight at Sheraton Tel Aviv
PLEASE PACK FOR NEXT DAY'S CHECKOUT |
|---------|---|

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 7, 2019

- | | |
|---------------|---|
| | Check out, luggage in the lobby |
| 8:45 AM | Breakfast is served |
| 9:00-10:15 AM | <i>Settlements in Focus</i>
Breakfast Discussion with <ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Yariv Oppenheimer, Director of "Two State Coalition"▪ Miri Maoz, International Desk Director, Binyamin Region -at the hotel |

Settlements in Focus

Israeli settlement policy is one of the more complex issues in the ongoing negotiations between Israelis and Palestinians. Miri Maoz works on behalf of the Binyamin Region, which governs close to 50 settlements in the West Bank. Yariv Oppenheimer is the former head of Peace now, and

current director of the Two state Coalition. This session provides an opportunity for members to get an insider's perspective on Israeli settlement policy, the differing views among Israeli citizens, and the role settlements play in the current political climate.

10:15 AM Depart

11:00 AM-12:00 PM *Israel's Narrow Waist Line*
Briefing with Ian Stern
-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.

12:00-1:30 PM Depart
Lunch in a Druze village – Dalyat El-Karmel
-at Nura's Kitchen

Lunch in a Druze village – Dalyat El-Karmel

The Israeli Druze are a unique religious and ethnic minority among Arab citizens of Israel. In 2019, there were 143,000 Druze living in Israel 1.6% of the total population of the country. Male members of the Druze community serve in the Israel Defense Forces (IDF), and many have attained top positions in Israeli politics and public service. This lunch will allow participants to visit a traditional Druze village and have lunch with a family there.

1:30 PM Depart for the North

3:30-4:30 PM En route briefings:
The Jezreel Valley and the Upper Galilee

The Jezreel Valley

Our tour guide will spend an hour during the drive from Israel's center to the north to provide the delegation a briefing on the Jezreel Valley and the Upper Galilee and the challenges facing these regions of the country.

For thousands of years, the Jezreel Valley served as a land bridge linking Africa, Asia and Europe, and serving as a thoroughfare for ancient caravans and, more frequently, armies. In modern times, during World War I, for example, the British and Turkish forces fought a number of pitched battles in the valley. In 1948, following Israel's establishment, the combined forces of Iraq and Jordan attempted unsuccessfully to capture the valley in order to split the just-born Israel into two parts. In the early 20th century, after decades of neglect, Jewish pioneers drained the swamps in the valley, transforming this region into Israel's "breadbasket" known for wheat, cotton, sunflowers, and fish ponds. The Jezreel Valley is also home to historical and biblical sites including Tel Megiddo and Nazareth.

Today, it is an important symbol of Israel's complex and diverse political reality. The Jezreel Valley, together with the areas of the Lower and Upper Galilee, is home to the majority of Israel's Arab citizens. A survey of this area provides an opportunity to discuss and learn about Israel's Arab citizens—20 percent of the population—each of which has full democratic, social, and welfare rights, the right to vote and serve in the Knesset, and the opportunity to serve on Israel's Supreme Court. These issues are not widely-known, and this segment gives trip participants the opportunity to understand Israel's relationship with its largest minority group.

Upper Galilee

The Upper Galilee is home to the largest variety of ethnic communities in Israel including Druze, Circassian, Arab Muslim, and Arab Christian villages. The Galilee is also home to ancient Jewish and Christian holy sites that provide additional historical and political context to regional tensions. Just as in the case of the Jezreel Valley, the area illustrates the role of minorities in Israel.

At the same time, the Upper Galilee is home to some of the most prominent industrial hubs. Best known among them is the Tefen Industrial area, home to numerous enterprises established by the region's residents – Jewish and Arab. In 2006, Upper Galilee's ISCAR Metal Working Company was purchased for \$5 billion by Warren Buffet's conglomerate holding company. Since then, a number of American investors have become partners in some of the region's hi-tech and bio-tech companies.

While time does not permit for sites visits, a drive through the region allows for expanding on the importance of the area in the context of the U.S.–Israel relationship.

4:30-5:30 PM

Northern Border Exposure, Part I: Hizballah Next Door
Briefing at the Border with Lebanon
With Lt. Col. (res.) Sarit Zehavi
-at Dovev

Israel's Northern Border Exposure, Part I: Hizballah next Door

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.

5:30 PM Depart
6:30 PM Check into Galei Kinneret
8:00 PM Depart for dinner
8:15-10:00 PM *Dinner and Discussion*
-at Decks

Dinner and Discussion

We will use this dinner as an opportunity to discuss the speakers and topics we have experienced to date. 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 Galei Kinneret, Tiberias

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 8, 2019

Check out, luggage in the lobby
7:45 AM Breakfast on own
- at the hotel, Main Dining Hall
8:30 AM Depart
9:00-10:30 AM *Historical Significance of the Sea of Galilee*
Guided survey of historical and religious sites:

- Mt. of Beatitudes
- Church of the Primacy of Peter

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 a discussion through St. Peter's Church.

- 10:30 AM Depart, travel to the Golan Heights
- 11:30 AM-12:45 PM *Northern Border Exposure, Part II: The Tragedy in Syria*
 Briefing at the border with Syria
 Briefing by Cpt. (Res.) Ilan Shulman
 - at Merom Golan

Ilan Shulman

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.

- 12:45-2:00 PM *Women in the IDF*
 Lunch with Israel Defense Forces Soldiers
 -at HaBokrim

Women in the IDF

Israel is one of the few countries in the world with a mandatory military service requirement for women—presently women serve for 2 years and 4 months after high school. Women are represented in all units of the army, including combat roles. During this lunch, the delegation will have a chance to hear from a diverse group of women serving in various units of the Israel Defense Forces (IDF).

- 2:00 PM Depart
 Travel back to Jerusalem via the Jordan Valley

- 2:00-3:00 PM En route briefing:
Israel's Relations with the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan

Israel's Relations with the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan

The tour guide will spend approximately an hour during the drive through the Jordan Valley to explore several topics related to Israel's eastern neighbor—specifically, Israeli-Jordanian strategic cooperation, as well as the implications of the Syrian civil war on the Kingdom.

The Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan became the second Arab country after Egypt to recognize Israel when it signed a comprehensive peace agreement that ended nearly five decades of warfare. Shepherded by United States President Bill Clinton, the accord signed on Oct. 6, 1994, marked the onset of a new era of economic, cultural, and political dialogue and cooperation between the two countries.

In recent years, the two countries have worked together to combat the increased threat from terrorism by coordinating their security efforts and preventing infiltrations across their shared border. Today, Jordan hosts over 1.4 million Syrian refugees fleeing civil war. Following our discussion with Israeli soldiers patrolling the Syrian border, our guide will address how the influx of Syrian refugees and the threats in the region impact Jordan internally, as well as relations and further potential for strategic partnership between Jordan, the United States, and Israel.

- 5:30 PM Check into the King David Hotel
- 7:00 PM Depart for dinner
- 7:15-9:15 PM *Reflections on the Sabbath in Jerusalem*
Dinner hosted by Tamar and Tani Benovitz
- at their home in Jerusalem

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. Eighty 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, holding 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.

- 9:15 PM Overnight at the King David Hotel

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 9, 2019

- 7:00 AM Breakfast on own
- at the hotel
- 7:30 AM Depart for Dead Sea Area
- 7:30-9:00 AM En route briefing:
Jericho Road and the E-1 Corridor

Jericho Road and the E-1 Corridor

On the drive from Jerusalem to Masada, the group will travel on the highway known as the “Jericho Road” is the strategic importance of the area east of Jerusalem. In 1948 and in 1967, the Jordanian army attacked Jerusalem from the east; the 1948 attack resulted in the city’s division that lasted until 1967. Since then, Israel has established the City of Ma’ale Adumim east of Jerusalem, today home to some 40,000 residents. To the Palestinians, however, Ma’ale Adumim is the largest settlement on the West Bank. When Israel attempted to expand Ma’ale Adumim’s boundary into

an area known as “E-1”, the U.S. State Department stepped in and asked that no construction take place there. The issue needs to be examined with those discussing the future of Jerusalem in the context of the Israeli-Palestinian negotiations.

9:00-10:00 AM

History and Geopolitics of the Roman Empire
Guided survey of the Masada National Park

Masada

The Sabbath in Israel begins Friday afternoon and concludes on Saturday evening. During the Sabbath, virtually everything in the country is closed including all government offices, businesses, newspapers etc. Therefore, for years, we have used Saturdays to expose our congressional members and staff delegations to some of the key historical and cultural sites in Israel such as Masada. Masada, which was excavated in the 1960s, is considered one of the most important archeological sites in Israel and, indeed, in the whole world.

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

10:00 AM

Depart

10:30 AM-12:00 PM

The Dead Sea Region
- at Herods Hotel

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 that 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.

12:00 PM	Depart for Jerusalem
2:00-4:00 PM	<i>Lunch in the Old City</i> -at Golden Panoramic
4:00 PM	Prepare for Departure
6:00-8:00 PM	<i>The U.S.-Israel Relationship: Bringing It All Together</i> Closing dinner - at the hotel

Closing Dinner

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, and 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.

8:00 PM	Depart for the airport
11:10 PM	Depart Israel

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 10, 2019

4:30 AM Arrive Newark

Morning Depart for various airports

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May 17, 2019

The Honorable Bonnie Watson Coleman
2442 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Representative Watson Coleman,

On behalf of the American Israel Education Foundation (AIEF), we would like to invite you and your family guest to participate in an educational seminar in Israel for a group of bipartisan Congresswomen. The trip will depart Saturday afternoon, November 2, and return to the U.S. on Sunday morning, November 10. Congresswoman Debbie Wasserman Schultz is the senior member on the trip.

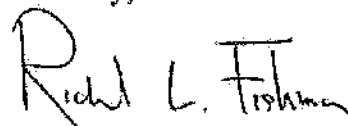
This seminar will delve into some of the most difficult issues facing Israel and the region. Israeli leaders from across the political spectrum, along with Palestinian leaders, will explore the peace negotiations and the obstacles to peace, the myriad of security threats facing the region, and the strategic relationship between the United States and Israel.

Participants will hear a wide array of viewpoints, including discussions with: members of the Israeli Knesset and the Palestinian Authority; U.S. government officials; military leaders; heads of non-governmental organizations; and prominent academics and journalists. The program will also include visits to historic and religious sites in Jerusalem and the Galilee.

All trip-related expenses will be paid for by AIEF, and all aspects of the trip will be in full conformity with House Ethics rules. AIEF will provide additional information to assure your compliance with ethics rules.

We hope you will be able to join us on what promises to be a rich, insightful and educational trip. To confirm your participation, please return the Participant Confirmation Form to jperetz@aiefdn.org. If you have any questions, please contact Marilyn Rosenthal at (202) 639-5338.

Sincerely,



Richard Fishman
Executive Director, AIEF