

RE-3 Senators and Officers Post Travel Disclosure of Travel Expenses

Post Travel Filing Instructions: Complete this form within **30 days** of returning from travel. Submit all forms to the Office of Public Records in 232 Hart Building. **This form is a public disclosure. The form and all attachments will be made publicly available.**

Date/Time Stamp

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PUBLIC RECORDS

2023 SEP 20 PM 2:27

Certification: In compliance with the Regulations Governing Privately Sponsored Travel, Senate Rule 35, and the Honest Leadership and Open Government Act of 2007, I certify that I accepted the following gift of privately sponsored travel:

Private Sponsor(s):

American Israel Education Foundation (AIEF)

Travel Dates:

08/25/2023 to 08/31/2023

Name of accompanying family member (if any):

Cynthia Daines

Relationship to Traveler:

Spouse

Expenses

Transportation Expenses	Lodging Expenses	Meals Expenses	Other Expenses (Amount & Description)
\$19,753.74	\$1,585.00	\$1,536.00	\$20,700.00

I also certify that attached to this form are all required documents for post travel disclosure, including:

- The final **Private Sponsor Travel Certification Form** with all attachments
- The final invitation
- The final approved itinerary

I certify that all trip information reflected in the attachments above accurately reflects the travel that I accepted. If there were any changes to the trip after I received approval from the Committee, the changes are described in ATTACHMENT 1.

I have made a determination that the travel described above was in connection with my duties as an officeholder, and did not create the appearance that I was using public office for private gain.

I have made a determination that the travel described above was in connection with my duties as an officeholder, and did not create the appearance that I was using public office for private gain.

9/20/2023

Date

STEVE DAINES

Printed Name of Traveler



Signature of Traveler

ATTACHMENT 1 – CHANGES FROM APPROVED PRE-TRAVEL

Note: Material changes to a trip that occur after the Committee has issued an approval letter may invalidate the Committee's approval. Please contact the Committee with any questions regarding changes to an approved trip.

Were there any changes to the pre-approved travel expenses? (Transportation, Meals, Lodging, Other)?

☒ Yes ☐ No

Expense Change	Revised Amount	Explanation
Misc. Expenses	\$7,065.01	The "other" costs associated with this trip were estimated at \$10,350, but came in under -\$3,284.99 for a total of \$7,065.01

Were there any changes to the pre-approved itinerary?

☐ Yes ☒ No

Explanation: There were no changes to the pre-approved itinerary.

Were there any additional changes to the pre-approved trip?

☐ Yes ☒ No

Explanation: There were no additional changes to the pre-approved trip.



American Israel Education Foundation Inc. (AIEF): AIEF Israel Seminar for Sen. Steve Daines (R-MT)

 STEVE DAINES

Title:
Senator

Employing Office/Committee:
DAINES, STEVE

Duty Station:
BELGRADE, MT

Destination(s):
Tel Aviv, Israel
Tiberias, Israel
Jerusalem, Israel

Explain how this trip is specifically connected to the traveler's official or representational duties:

Not applicable for Senators and Officers.

Name of accompanying family member (if any):
Cynthia Daines

Name and Relationship to Traveler:
Spouse

Organization Information

Organization Name

American Israel Education Foundation Inc. (AIEF)

Is your organization classified as a §501(c)(3)?

☒ Yes ☐ No

§501(c)(3) Organization Type

Public Charity

Address

251 H Street NW

Address 2 (Optional)

Public Charity

City, State Zip

Washington DC, District Of Columbia 20001 United States

Phone Number

(240) 476-2852

Organization URL

History of Congressional Travel

Founded in 1988, the American Israel Education Foundation Inc. (AIEF) funds Israel Seminars for members of Congress, Capitol Hill staffers, state and local officials, and other political influentials. These trips to Israel are among the most critical programs AIEF supports on behalf of the U.S.-Israel relationship. These educational seminars allow policy makers to understand the complex historical, religious and geographic context of 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.

Educational Activities

AIEF grants sponsor innovative programming to educate a wide audience, including college students, members of Congress and their staff, and political professionals. In addition to educational seminars, AIEF sponsors leadership training and briefings on the Middle East and the U.S.-Israel relationship.

Lobbyist and Foreign Agent Registration Information

Lobbyist Registration Status: *I certify that the sponsor is not a federally registered lobbyist and do not retain or employ a federally registered lobbyist.*

Foreign Agent Registration Status: *I certify that the sponsor is not an agent of a foreign principal and do not retain or employ an agent of a foreign principal.*

Foreign Government Involvement

Foreign Agent Registration Status:

- ☒ I certify that the sponsor is not a foreign government.
- ☒ I certify that the sponsor is not an entity that is owned or operated by a foreign government.
- ☒ I certify that the sponsor does not receive funding from a foreign government.

Comments

Comments

None Entered

Signature Page

The signature page is below.

Purpose and Details

Provide a brief description of the trip.

This seminar, which will be on the ground in Israel for five days, is specifically designed to explore foreign policy and defense issues related to the U.S.-Israel relationship. Some of the key issues to be addressed include: the security threats confronting Israel on its Northern and Southern borders; the threat posed by a nuclear Iran; the opportunities presented by recent peace agreements between Israel and a number of Arab states; and the current prospects for peace between Israel and the Palestinians. The seminar will consist of discussions with Israeli government officials, military officers, Members of the Knesset, Palestinian representatives and U.S. officials; as well as site surveys of the northern border with Lebanon and Syria, the southern border with the Gaza Strip, and the security fence.

Explain how the purpose of the trip relates to your organization's mission.

AIEF is a non-profit 501(c)(3) organization with the mission of providing educational programming about the U.S.-Israel relationship. This delegation will have the opportunity to meet with a diverse group of Israelis and see first-hand the outcome of U.S.-Israel strategic cooperation in the region.

Is your organization the only sponsor for this trip?

☒ Yes ☐ No

Grantmaking Organizations (Optional)

There are no grantmaking organizations.

With or Without Regard for Congressional Participation

The trip is arranged or organized specifically with regard to congressional participation.

Lobbyist/Foreign Agent Involvement in Planning, Organizing, Requesting or Arranging

- ☒ The trip will not in any part be planned, organized, requested, or arranged by a registered lobbyist or agent of a foreign principal, other than de minimis involvement.

Lobbyist/Foreign Agent Financing

- ☒ The trip will not be financed in any part by a registered lobbyist or agent of a foreign principal.
- ☒ No funds or in-kind contributions were earmarked directly or indirectly for the purpose of financing this specific trip from a registered lobbyist or agent of a foreign principal or from a private entity that retains or employs one or more registered lobbyists or agents of a foreign principal.

Lobbyist/Foreign Agent Accompaniment

Complete if all sponsors are §501(c)(3) organizations

- ☒ The trip is limited to three days (for trips inside the continental United States) or seven days (for trips outside the continental United States), and no lobbyist or agents of a foreign principal will accompany the Member, officer, or employee at any point throughout the trip
- ☐ The trip is limited to a one-day event (exclusive of travel time and **one** overnight stay) and no registered lobbyists or agents of a foreign principal will accompany the Member, officer, or employee on any segment of the trip
- ☐ The trip is limited to a one-day event (exclusive of travel time and **two** overnight stays) and no registered lobbyists or agents of a foreign principal will accompany the Member, officer, or employee on any segment of the trip

Complete if any of the sponsors is not a §501(c)(3) organizations.

- ☐ The trip is limited to three days (for trips inside the continental United States) or seven days (for trips outside the continental United States), and no lobbyist or agents of a foreign principal will accompany the Member, officer, or employee at any point throughout the trip
- ☐ The trip is limited to a one-day event (exclusive of travel time and **one** overnight stay) and no registered lobbyists or agents of a foreign principal will accompany the Member, officer, or employee on any segment of the trip
- ☐ The trip is limited to a one-day event (exclusive of travel time and **two** overnight stays) and no registered lobbyists or agents of a foreign principal will accompany the Member, officer, or employee on any segment of the trip

Certification of No Recreational Activity and No Alcohol

- ✓ Travel expenses paid for will not include expenditures for recreational activities.
- ✓ Travel expenses paid for will not include expenditures for alcohol, except as permitted by the Regulations Governing Privately Sponsored Travel.

Invitees

i Members and staff from the House of Representatives **will not** receive invitations.

The list of invitees is below.

Travel Details

Trip Start Date/Time:
08/25/2023 @ 02:28 PM



Trip End Date/Time:
08/31/2023 @ 02:28 PM

Will the traveler be accompanied by a family member for whom the sponsor will pay travel expenses?

☐ Yes ☒ No

Itinerary

The itinerary is below.

Transportation (Per Member/Officer/Employee: \$9,876.87 | Accompanying Family Member: \$9876.87)

Traveler Type	Transportation Type	Class	Amount
Member/Officer/Employee	Airfare	Business	\$8,501.87
Note roundtrip business class on a commercial airline			
Member/Officer/Employee	Ground Transportation	Charter	\$1,375.00
Note charter bus on the ground in Israel			
Accompanying Family Member	Airfare	Business	\$8,501.87
Note roundtrip business class on a commercial airline			
Accompanying Family Member	Ground Transportation	Charter	\$1,375.00
Note charter bus on the ground in Israel			

Lodging (Per Member/Officer/Employee: \$1,585.00 | Accompanying Family Member: \$0.00)

Traveler Type	Check-In	Check-Out	Facility	City	State	Country	Nights	Cost/Night	Cost Exceed Per Diem
Member/Officer/Employee	08/26/2023	08/28/2023	Sheraton Tel Aviv	Tel Aviv	None	Israel	2	\$445.00	No

Traveler Type	Check-In	Check-Out	Facility	City	State	Country	Nights	Cost/Night	Cost Exceed Per Diem
Member/Officer/Employee	08/28/2023	08/29/2023	Magdala	Tiberias	None	Israel	1	\$270.00	No
Member/Officer/Employee	08/29/2023	08/30/2023	King David	Jerusalem	None	Israel	1	\$425.00	Yes

Cost Exceeds Per Diem Reason

Double room occupancy exceeds per diem rate in Jerusalem by \$5. The single room rate is below the per diem.

Meals (Per Member/Officer/Employee: \$768.00 | Accompanying Family Member: \$768.00)

Traveler Type	Date	Breakfast	Lunch	Dinner	Incidentals	Total	City	State	Country	Cost Exceeds Per Diem
Member/Officer/Employee	08/26/2023	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$100.00	\$0.00	\$100.00	Tel Aviv	None	Israel	No
Accompanying Family Member	08/26/2023	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$100.00	\$0.00	\$100.00	Tel Aviv	None	Israel	No
Member/Officer/Employee	08/27/2023	\$30.00	\$54.00	\$100.00	\$0.00	\$184.00	Tel Aviv	None	Israel	No
Accompanying Family Member	08/27/2023	\$30.00	\$54.00	\$100.00	\$0.00	\$184.00	Tel Aviv	None	Israel	No
Member/Officer/Employee	08/28/2023	\$30.00	\$41.00	\$75.00	\$0.00	\$146.00	Tiberias	None	Israel	No
Accompanying Family Member	08/28/2023	\$30.00	\$41.00	\$75.00	\$0.00	\$146.00	Tiberias	None	Israel	No
Accompanying Family Member	08/29/2023	\$30.00	\$39.00	\$100.00	\$0.00	\$169.00	Jerusalem	None	Israel	No
Member/Officer/Employee	08/29/2023	\$30.00	\$39.00	\$100.00	\$0.00	\$169.00	Jerusalem	None	Israel	No
Member/Officer/Employee	08/30/2023	\$30.00	\$39.00	\$100.00	\$0.00	\$169.00	Jerusalem	None	Israel	No
Accompanying Family Member	08/30/2023	\$30.00	\$39.00	\$100.00	\$0.00	\$169.00	Jerusalem	None	Israel	No

Reasonable Miscellaneous Expenses (Per Member/Officer/Employee: \$10,350.00 | Accompanying Family Member: \$10,350.00)

Traveler Type	Expense Type	Amount	Notes
Accompanying Family Member	Conference Fees	\$1,225.00	room rentals, airport assistance, entrance fees, photography, tips
Accompanying Family Member	Conference Fees	\$1,875.00	speaker fees
Member/Officer/Employee	Conference Fees	\$750.00	tour guide
Accompanying Family Member	Conference Fees	\$750.00	tour guide

Traveler Type	Expense Type	Amount	Notes
Member/Officer/Employee	Conference Fees	\$1,225.00	room rentals, airport assistance, entrance fees, photography, tips
Member/Officer/Employee	Conference Fees	\$1,875.00	speaker fees
Accompanying Family Member	Other (security)	\$4,250.00	
Member/Officer/Employee	Other (contract staff, speaker, guest meals and hotels)	\$2,250.00	
Accompanying Family Member	Other (contract staff, speaker, guest meals and hotels)	\$2,250.00	
Member/Officer/Employee	Other (security)	\$4,250.00	

Additional Attachments

Document Name

There are no additional attachments.

PRIVATELY SPONSORED TRAVEL

SPONSOR SIGNATURE PAGE

I hereby certify that the information submitted in connection with the trip listed below is true, complete, and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief.

Trip Name: AIEF Israel Seminar for Sen. Steve Daines (R-MT)
Travel Date(s): August 25-31, 2023
Travel Destination(s): Israel

Sponsor: American Israel Education Foundation (AIEF)

Arne Christenson

(printed name of sponsor representative)

Managing Director

(title)

DocuSigned by:

Arne Christenson

177E715472C848E...

(signature of sponsor representative)

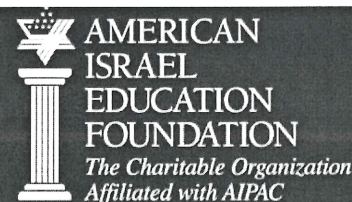
5/23/2023 | 11:37 PDT

(date)

**American Israel Education Foundation (AIEF)
Educational Seminar in Israel
Senator Steve Daines (R-MT)
August 25-31, 2023**

Invitees

The Honorable Steve Daines (R-MT)



March 7, 2023

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251 H STREET, NW
WASHINGTON, DC
20001
TEL 202.639.5180

The Honorable Steve Daines
U.S. Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator Daines,

On behalf of the American Israel Education Foundation (AIEF), we would like to invite you and your family guest to participate in an Israel Seminar for members of the Senate, August 25 – September 1, 2023. The trip will depart Friday evening, August 25; and return to the U.S. Friday morning, September 1.

This seminar will delve into some of the most exciting and vexing issues facing Israel and the region, among them: the security threats confronting Israel on its northern and southern borders; the threat posed by a nuclear Iran; the opportunities presented by recent peace agreements between Israel and a number of Arab states; and the current prospects for peace between Israel and the Palestinians.

Participants will hear a wide array of viewpoints, including discussions with: top Israeli and Palestinian political leaders; U.S. government officials; military officials; 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 Senate Ethics rules. AIEF will provide additional information to assure your compliance with ethics requirements.

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 fill out the [Participant Confirmation Form](#) for both the member, and their family guest. If you have any questions, please contact Julie Peretz at jperetz@aiefdn.org or (240) 476-2852.

Sincerely,

Richard Fishman
Executive Director, AIEF

**American Israel Education Foundation (AIEF)
Educational Seminar in Israel
Senator Steve Daines (R-MT)
August 25, 2023 – August 31, 2023**

Itinerary

Friday, August 25, 2023

12:10 PM	United #2078 departs Bozeman Gallatin Field Airport
6:30 PM	United #2078 arrives at Newark International Airport
10:55 PM	United #90 departs Newark International Airport

Saturday, August 26, 2023

4:20 PM	United #90 arrives at Ben Gurion International Airport
5:20 PM	Transfer to Tel Aviv
6:15 PM	Check in to the Sheraton Hotel, Tel Aviv
7:15 PM	Depart
7:30 – 8:15 PM	The Origins of the State of Israel Walking tour of the Independence Trail

Tour guide Mike Hollander will guide the Senator on a brief walking survey to explore the landmark locations and institutions established in the first modern Hebrew city, which reflect the values upon which the State of Israel was founded. These include the principles of freedom, justice, and equal social and political rights; as well as freedom of religion, conscience, language, education and culture. These values are the basis of the relationship between the United States and Israel.

8:15 – 10:00 PM	Welcome and Orientation Dinner with: ▪ Dr. Cameron Brown, Director of AIPAC-AIEF, Jerusalem ▪ Arne Christenson, Managing Director for Policy and Politics, Washington, D.C. -at Alena, Norman Hotel
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During the welcome and orientation, staff will lead a discussion about the objectives for the week ahead.

10:00 PM Depart

10:30 PM Overnight at the Sheraton Hotel, Tel Aviv

Sunday, August 27, 2023

7:45 – 8:30 AM Breakfast on own

8:30 – 9:30 AM **Pulse of the Nation**
Briefing with Yaakov Katz
Immediate Past Editor, *The Jerusalem Post*
-at Studio 4, Sheraton Hotel

Ya'akov Katz is the editor of *The Jerusalem Post*, Israel's most-read English news website and best-selling English newspaper. He previously served for close to a decade as the paper's military reporter and defense analyst. He is the author of "Shadow Strike: Inside Israel's Secret Mission to Eliminate Syrian Nuclear Power" and co-author of two books: "Weapon Wizards - How Israel Became a High-Tech Military Superpower" and "Israel vs. Iran - The Shadow War." Mr. Katz will provide the Senator with a synthesis of domestic political trends, current international affairs and the general state of mind of Israeli voters at this particular moment in time.

11:00 AM Depart for the Ministry of Defense

11:20 – 11:30 AM Arrival, security check

11:30 AM – 12:30 PM **Israel's Multi-Front Challenges**
With IDF General or Head of Intelligence

The Ministry of Defense will provide an overview of the current security challenges faced by Israel on the southern and northern borders, and throughout the Middle East.

12:30 PM Depart for the Azrieli Center

12:45 – 1:15 PM **Israel's Narrow Waistline**
Strategic briefing at Azrieli rooftop

From the rooftop of the Azrieli center, the tour guide will brief the Senator on Israel's narrow waistline. The Senator 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 Hadera-Gadera rectangle – 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.

1:15 PM Depart for lunch

1:30 – 2:45 PM **Regional Strategic Overview**
Lunch with Dr. Jonathan Spyer
Fellow, The Jerusalem Institute for Strategic Studies
-at 2C

In order to understand the strategic threats facing Israel, one must understand the unique situation facing Israel at the borders with the Gaza Strip, Lebanon, and Syria, all Iranian proxies. This briefing will provide an overview of each border, as well as the malign activity from Iran contributing to unrest in the region.

2:45 PM Depart

3:15 – 4:15 PM **Countering the Drone Threat**
Briefing and demonstration
-at Sentrycs

During this program, Sentrycs will provide a briefing and demonstration of their "counter-drone solution," a unique way to identify civilian drones that have malicious intent, and mitigate the threat. They will also discuss how this technology could be used by the United States.

4:15 PM Depart, break

6:00 – 7:00 PM **Meeting with The Honorable Yair Lapid**
Head of the Opposition, Yesh Atid
-at Club Board Room, Floor 18, Sheraton Hotel

It is customary for member delegations to meet with the leader of the opposition party, to get a comprehensive view of the Knesset. Yair Lapid is an Israeli politician and former journalist who is the Chairman of the centrist Yesh Atid party, and Leader of the Opposition since January 2023. Previously he served as the 14th prime minister of Israel, the alternate prime minister of Israel and minister of Foreign Affairs from 2021 to 2022.

7:15 PM Depart for dinner

7:30 – 9:00 PM

Israel's Energy Resources

Dinner with:

- Inna Braverman, Founder of EcoWave
- Bini Zomer, Corporate Affairs Manager,
Chevron Mediterranean Limited

-at Claro

Israel is an “energy island”, disconnected from neighboring countries. With a growing population, Israel's energy needs continue to increase. During this session the speakers will discuss Israel's energy resources, including natural gas, and alternative sources such as wave energy.

9:00 PM

Overnight at the Sheraton Hotel, Tel Aviv

Monday, August 28, 2023

7:45- 8:15 AM

Breakfast on own

8:15 – 9:15 AM

Artificial Intelligence and the Battlefield

Briefing by Maj. Gen. (Ret) Prof. Isaac Ben Israel

Director, Blavatnik ICRC and; Head, Yuval Ne'eman

Workshop for Science, Technology and Security,

Tel Aviv University

-Studio 4, Sheraton Hotel

During this session, Prof. Maj.-Gen. Isaac Ben-Yisrael will share the work of the Blavatnik Interdisciplinary Cyber Research Center (ICRC) at Tel Aviv University. This program fosters interdisciplinary scientific research on information age, digital transformation and cybersecurity, with implications for the United States and international community.

9:30 AM

Depart for the North

11:00 AM – 12:00 PM

En route briefing: The Jezreel Valley and Upper Galilee

Our tour guide will spend an hour during the drive from Israel's center to the north to provide 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; as a thoroughfare for ancient caravans and; more frequently, armies. 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. The Upper Galilee is home to the largest variety of ethnic communities in Israel including

political support. During this visit, the delegation will have the opportunity to go into a Hezbollah tunnel discovered by the Israel Defense Forces (IDF), to see firsthand the threat this terrorist army poses to Israel and the region. Hezbollah has created a network of tunnels hundreds of kilometers long to enable terrorists to stage an infiltration attack on military and civilian targets in northern Israel. The IDF conducted Operation Northern Shield between December 2018 and January 2019, to locate and destroy the tunnels. In January 2020, the IDF began installing a series of underground sensors along the northern border to detect any new subterranean tunnels being dug into Israeli territory from Lebanon. The Senator will hear from an IDF officer who will guide them through the opening of the tunnel, and share the anti-tunneling technology Israel is using to detect new tunnels.

4:15 PM Depart

4:30 – 6:30 PM **The Israeli Model for Protecting Natural Resources**
Briefing with Mike Hollander, tour guide
-at Kziv River Basin

During this briefing, the tour guide will describe Israel's conservation model, as executed by the Israel Nature and Parks Authority (INPA). The INPA works to protect resources, heritage, and culture in national parks and nature reserves, while developing these sites, adding educational tools, and upgrading visitor accessibility. Israel has a deep commitment to protecting natural resources including habitats, ecosystems, and plant and animal diversity. During this briefing at the Kziv River Basin in the Upper Galilee, the Senator will learn how the Israelis think about and execute their conservation efforts, with implications for the United States and the State of Montana.

6:30 PM Depart

7:00 PM Check in the Magdala Hotel, Tiberias

7:30 – 9:30 PM **Dinner and Discussion**
-at Magdalena

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 reflect on the topics and perspectives presented to them assists in their ability to understand Israel's complexities.

9:30 PM Overnight at the Magdala Hotel, Tiberias

Tuesday, August 29, 2023

7:30 – 8:00 AM

Breakfast

8:00 AM

Depart

9:30 – 10:30 AM

Historic and Religious Significance of the Galilee Region

Tour of historical and religious sites around the Sea of Galilee

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

As part of the seminar's focus on the complex religious fabric of Israeli society, the delegation 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.

10:30 AM

Depart for Rafael

11:30 AM – 1:00 PM

U.S.-Israel Strategic Defense Cooperation

Briefing with Gidi Weiss

Vice President for International Business Development
-at Rafael

During this session, Mr. Weiss will explain the U.S.-Israel strategic cooperation that has led to the country's multi-tiered missile defense system. Gideon (Gidi) Weiss is Vice President for International Business Development at Rafael's Air & C4ISR Systems Division. He is responsible for leading, directing and coordinating marketing, business development and sales activities across Rafael's international markets.

1:00 PM

Depart

2:00 – 3:00 PM

Lunch

-at Tanduka

3:00 PM

Depart

5:30 – 7:15 PM

Strategic Survey of Jerusalem: The Holy Basin

- Davidson Center
- Western Wall

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. The Holy Basin is the historic location of Jerusalem and refers to the land surrounding the Old City, including the Mount of Olives, believed to be the departure point for Jesus' final entry into Jerusalem and the cemetery 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.

7:15 – 8:15 PM Dinner
 -in the Old City

8:15 – 10:00PM **Strategic Survey of Jerusalem: The Holy Basin (continued)**
 ■ The City of David

Jerusalem's City of David, more than any other site, represents the complexity of the Arab-Israeli 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 sides 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. Palestinian leadership has denied the existence of any Jewish connection to Jerusalem.

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

Wednesday, August 30, 2023

6:00 – 7:00 AM **Early Morning Mass (optional)**
 -at the Church of the Holy Sepulchre

7:30 – 8:30 AM Breakfast on own

8:30 AM Depart for Yad Vashem

9:00 – 10:45 AM **The Significance of the Holocaust in Israeli Society**
 Tour Yad Vashem: The World Holocaust Remembrance Center

One cannot understand Israel's worldview 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 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 delegation through the main exhibit hall and the children's memorial.

10:45 – 11:30 AM Depart for Prime Minister's Office, security check

11:30 – 12:00 PM **Israel's Strategic Threats and Opportunities**
Meeting with Ron Dermer, Minister for Strategic Affairs
-at the Prime Minister's Office

Ron Dermer is a political consultant and diplomat, serving as the Minister of Strategic Affairs. Previously, he served as the Israeli Ambassador to the United States from 2013 – 2021. His presentation will focus on the U.S.-Israel relationship.

12:00 – 1:00 PM **Meeting with the Honorable Benjamin Netanyahu**
Prime Minister of Israel
-at the Prime Minister's Office

It is customary for members of Congress to meet with Israel's Prime Minister, to hear the official perspective of the State of Israel on issues impacting the U.S.-Israel relationship. Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu is the Chairman of the Likud party. He previously served as Israel's Prime Minister for 12 years, ending in June 2021. He is Israel's longest serving Prime Minister.

1:00 PM Depart

1:15 – 2:00 PM Lunch
-at Modern

2:00 PM Depart

2:15 – 2:45 PM **Meeting with the Honorable Eli Cohen**
Minister of Foreign Affairs
-at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs

Eli Cohen is a politician and businessman that currently serves as the Minister of Foreign Affairs. His presentation will focus on his efforts to implement Israel's foreign policy, and promote economic, cultural, and scientific relations with other countries.

3:15 – 4:15 PM

Israel and the International Stage

Coffee with Dr. Tal Becker

Senior Legal Adviser, Ministry of Foreign Affairs

-at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs

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.

4:15 – 7:15 PM

Prepare for departure, Check out

7:15 PM

Depart

7:30-9:00 PM

Reflections on the Week

Closing dinner

-at 1868

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.

9:00 PM

Depart for the airport

Thursday, August 31, 2023

1:00 AM

United #0141 departs Ben Gurion International Airport

5:25 AM

United #0141 arrives at Chicago O'Hare International Airport

9:14 AM

United #2661 departs Chicago O'Hare International Airport

11:36 AM

United #2661 arrives at Bozeman Gallatin Field Airport