



The Len Hill Education Program

Dedicated to providing American policymakers and opinion leaders with balanced information that lays the groundwork for pursuing Israeli- Palestinian peace through diplomacy

August 27 - September 2, 2022

MISSION GOALS: *The aim of the mission is to explore the current state of affairs and facts on the ground in the region, while gaining increased understanding of the challenges and the opportunities in both Israeli and Palestinian politics today. The delegation will be particularly focused on the role of US policy and the options for American assistance in moving toward peaceful resolution of long-running conflicts in the region.*

DISCLAIMER: *One of the objectives of this trip is to provide participants with a window into the broad spectrum of opinions related to the conflict and its resolution in order to foster a deeper understanding of the complexities of the issues at hand. Therefore, we will meet with individuals and groups engaged in various activities or political agendas. In some cases, the policies of the J Street Education Fund diverge from the beliefs of speakers; however, we recognize the importance of trying to understand one another's viewpoint.*

ITINERARY

SATURDAY, AUGUST 27, 2022: WELCOME

*****DRESS CODE: CASUAL**

Afternoon	Flights Arrive at Ben Gurion Airport
	Drive to hotel and check-in
6:30 PM	Meet in the lobby (2nd floor) to depart for dinner
6:40 - 7:00 PM	Walk to dinner
7:00 - 8:30 PM	Welcome Dinner: Overview of the Current Political Climate <i>This session will serve as an orientation to the state of Israel's current affairs and a political overview.</i>
	<u>Speaker:</u> Noa Landau, Political Correspondent, Haaretz

Location: Animar, Retsif Herbert Samuel St 94, Tel Aviv-Yafo

Hotel: David Intercontinental | Yehezkel Kaufman St 12, Tel Aviv-Yafo +972-3-795-1111

SUNDAY, AUGUST 28, 2022: ISRAEL: PAST, PRESENT, FUTURE

*****DRESS CODE: CASUAL / BUSINESS CASUAL**

- 8:30 – 9:30 AM** **Seminar: Israeli-Palestinian Conflict 101 (Part 1)**
This session will serve as an orientation, with the goal of framing the week ahead in light of the history, geography and political dynamics in the region.
- Speaker:** Dr. Dahlia Scheindlin, Political Analyst
- Location:** Gallery Room, David Intercontinental Hotel
- 9:45 - 11:00 AM** **Seminar: Israeli Politics and Public Opinion 101 (Part 2)**
An introduction to the Israeli political system, including structure, political parties, and political trends.
- Speaker:** Dr. Dahlia Scheindlin, Political Analyst
- Location:** Gallery Room, David Intercontinental Hotel
- 11:00 - 11:25 PM Drive to Ben Gurion House in Tel Aviv
- 11:30 - 12:30 PM** **Visit and Tour at the Ben Gurion House in Tel Aviv**
A docent will lead us through the Ben Gurion House, which presents two parallel stories: the history of Israel and Israeli society, and the biography of Ben Gurion. The Museum exhibits focus on historical turning points in the country's development, presenting the conflicts, social challenges and dilemmas the country faced at that time.
- 12:30 - 12:45 PM Drive to Lunch
- 12:45 - 2:00 PM** **Lunch Discussion: Vision of Zionism**
The modern State of Israel was born in 1948, based on an idea of reclaiming Jewish history and the Jewish people's right to self-determination. In this discussion, we will explore the Israeli founding fathers' vision and reflect upon where we are today.
- Speaker:** Prof. Arie Saposnik, The Ben-Gurion Institute for the Study of Israel and Zionism
- Location:** Goshen, Nahalat Binyamin St 30, Tel Aviv-Yafo

- 2:00 - 2:30 PM** **Meeting with Tel Aviv-Yafo City Council Member Abed Abu Shehadeh**
- Location:** Goshen, Nahalat Binyamin St 30, Tel Aviv-Yafo
- 2:30 - 4:00 PM Executive time
- 4:00 - 5:00 PM** **IDF Strategy Briefing**
This IDF briefing will acquaint us with the major security threats Israel faces in the region.
- Speaker:** Brig. Gen. Dr. Oren Setter, IDF Strategic Division
- Location:** Gallery Room, David Intercontinental Hotel
- 5:15 - 6:15 PM** **Briefing from Commanders for Israel's Security (CIS)**
Leaders of Commanders for Israel's Security will share their perspective on the security challenges that Israel faces.
- Speaker:** Dr. Nimrod Novik, Member, Executive Committee, CIS
- Location:** Gallery Room, David Intercontinental Hotel
- 6:15 - 6:30 PM Walk to Dinner
- 6:30 - 8:00 PM** **Dinner with Israeli Political Advisors**
At dinner, we will be joined by advisors to Israeli political officials. Congressional staff will have the opportunity to converse and network with their Israeli counterparts who work in the Knesset.
- Dinner Guests:**
Noa Pinto, Spokesperson, MK Mossi Raz, Meretz
Nitzan Machlis, Director of Foreign Affairs, MK Gilad Kariv, Labor
Gilad Shats, Adviser, Minister of Culture and Sport Chili Troper, Blue and White
Alon Hutter, Chief of Staff, Deputy Minister of Economics, Yair Golan, Meretz
Meital Arbel, Parliamentary and legal advisor, MK Michal Rozin, Meretz
Shahar Tenenbaum, Parliamentary Advisor, MK Naama Lazimi, Labor
- Location:** Night Kitchen, Lilienblum St 20, Tel Aviv-Yafo

Hotel: David Intercontinental | Yehezkel Kaufman St 12, Tel Aviv-Yafo +972-3-795-1111

MONDAY, AUGUST 29, 2022 GAZA BORDER & ISRAELI POLITICS

****Logistical note: We will be checking out of the hotel today. Before we meet, please (1) bring your luggage to the lobby floor to be loaded to the bus; (2) settle any additional items charged to your room at the front desk and (3) bring your passports with you.***

*****DRESS CODE: BUSINESS CASUAL**

6:30 – 8:00 AM Buffet breakfast served at hotel

8:00 – 8:20 AM Load luggage onto the bus

8:30 - 9:30 AM Bus Briefing en route to Kfar Aza: Israel-Gaza relations
Overview of Israeli policy toward the Gaza and major events that have influenced Israeli-Hamas relations.

Speaker: Adina Vogel-Ayalon, Chief of Staff, J Street

9:45 - 10:45 AM Tour: Life in Kfar Aza
We will be led on a tour by local residents in Sderot to discuss life in the Gaza perimeter and the effects of the continuous escalations and rocket-fire from Gaza.

Speaker: Chen Kotler, Kfar Aza Resident

Location: Kfar Aza

11:00 - 12:30 PM Lunch Session: Humanitarian Crisis in Gaza
In this briefing, we will learn about life in Gaza, and the variety of humanitarian issues Gazans face, such as restrictions on freedom of movement and access to healthcare.

Speakers:

Tania Hary, Executive Director, Gisha – Legal Center for Freedom of Movement

Mohammed Azaiza, Field Coordinator, Gisha – Legal Center for Freedom of Movement

Alberto Natta, Coordination Officer, UNSCO

Location: Kfar Aza

12:30- 2:00 PM Drive to Jerusalem

2:00 - 2:30 PM Arrival at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and security clearance

2:30 - 3:00 PM Meeting with Deputy Foreign Minister Idan Roll

Location: Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Jerusalem

3:00 – 3:30 PM **Meeting with Head of North American Division of Ministry of Foreign Affairs David Roet**

Location: Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Jerusalem

3:30 - 4:00 PM **Meeting with MK Mossi Raz**

Location: Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Jerusalem

4:00 – 4:15 PM Drive to the Hotel

4:15 - 5:45 PM Check in + Executive time

5:45 PM **Meet in the lobby to walk to dinner**

6:15 – 8:00 PM **Dinner: Mejdi Home Hospitality with Armenian Family**
At dinner, we will be joined by “The Armenian Cousins” - a project which shares Armenian culture and community with visitors to the Holy Land. The Armenians of Jerusalem hold three national identities: Armenian, Palestinian and Israeli. The “cousins” are a small family of four with two children - ages 8 and 9. Nubar is a music teacher and therapist; Anoush is an artist and graphic designer. The patriarch of their family adds spirit to the hospitality, performing with the oud, a signature sound of the city.

Hosts: Nubar and Anoush Voskourjeian

Location: Armenian Quarter, Jerusalem Old City

Hotel: **Herbert Samuel** | Shamai St 25, Jerusalem | +972- 2-5600600

TUESDAY, AUGUST 30: PALESTINIAN POLITICS AND INTRODUCTION TO SETTLEMENTS

*****DRESS CODE: BUSINESS**

6:30 – 8:30 AM Buffet breakfast served at hotel

8:30 - 9:30 AM **Bus Briefing en route to Ramallah: Palestinian Politics 101 (Part 3)**
Overview of the Palestinian political structure and parties.

Speaker: Adina Vogel-Ayalon, Chief of Staff, J Street

9:30 - 10:45 AM **Meeting with Minister Hussein Al-Sheikh, Secretary General of the PLO Executive Committee**
We will discuss the current state of affairs in Palestine and the Palestinian Authority and PLO’s political interests and priorities with regard to the

US-Palestine relationship, as well as the diplomatic resolution of the conflict.

10:45 - 11:30 AM Drive to Dr. Khalil Shikaki's office

11:30 - 12:30 AM Briefing: Palestinian Politics and Public Opinion

We will learn about the state of Palestinian public opinion regarding the Israeli-Palestinian conflict, Palestinian politics, and internal Palestinian social and cultural issues.

Speaker: Dr. Khalil Shikaki, Director, Palestinian Center for Policy and Survey Research

12:30 - 1:00 PM Drive to Rawabi

1:00 - 2:30 PM Tour at Rawabi + Lunch

Rawabi is the West Bank's first Palestinian planned development community. It seeks to provide opportunities for home ownership, employment, education, and leisure. We will have a tour followed by lunch in one of the restaurants.

2:30 - 3:00 PM Drive to Eli

3:00 - 4:00 AM Meeting with Binyamin Regional Council

We will have an opportunity to hear directly from Israeli settlers living in the West Bank. We will learn what drives them, why they have chosen to make their homes where they have, and what their hopes are for the future.

Speaker: Eliana Passentin, Head of Binyamin Regional Council International Affairs

Location: Eli

4:00 - 5:30 PM Drive to hotel

5:30 - 7:15 PM Executive time

7:15 PM Meet in the lobby to walk to dinner

7:30 - 9:00 PM Dinner with Israeli and Palestinian Peace and Human Rights Leaders

At dinner, we will be joined by Israeli and Palestinian Peace and Human Rights leaders who will provide us with insights into the work they are doing to advance people-to-people cooperation and the protection of human rights for those affected by the ongoing Israeli- Palestinian conflict.

Dinner Guests:

Huda Abuarquob, ALLMEP
Ido Dembin, Molad Center
Asmahan Simry, Comet-ME
Sharon Bengio, EcoPeace
Jessica Montell, HaMoked

Location: EatWith Chef Roni, Lincoln St 6, Apt 8, Jerusalem

Hotel: *Herbert Samuel* | Shamai St 25, Jerusalem | +972- 2-5600600

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 31: WEST BANK – FACTS ON THE GROUND

*****DRESS CODE: CASUAL**

6:30 – 8:30 AM Buffet breakfast served at hotel

8:30 - 9:10 AM Introduction to Israeli Settlements
An overview of the strategy and plans behind Israeli settlement construction in the West Bank.

Guide: Yehuda Shaul

9:15 - 10:00 AM Settlement Tour en Route to Hebron
We will have an on the ground visit to settlements; understanding settlement blocs, illegal outposts, and ideological settlements, the legal and international ramifications of settlement expansion, as well as potential territorial and security solutions.

Guide: Yehuda Shaul

10:00 - 10:45 AM Drive to Hebron

10:45 - 12:25 PM Walking tour of Hebron
On this walking tour of Hebron, we will visit the H2 area, see checkpoints in the city and see the Jewish settlement of Hebron.

Guide: Benzi Sanders

12:25 - 1:30 PM Visit H1 area in Hebron
During the walking tour of Hebron, we will visit H1, the Palestinian Authority-controlled section of the city.

Guide: Issa Amro

1:30 - 2:30 PM **Drive Susya: Lunch on the bus**

2:30 – 4:00 PM **Site Visit at Palestinian Village Susya**

Learn about the situation of Palestinians living in the South Hebron Hills in Area C of the West Bank, in communities under pending demolition orders. We will hear firsthand about life and activism in the region.

Speaker: Nasser Nawaja, Palestinian human rights activist

Guide: Yehuda Shaul

4:00 - 5:30 PM Drive to Jerusalem

5:30 - 7:00 PM Executive Time

*****DRESS CODE: BUSINESS CASUAL**

7:00 - 9:00 PM Dinner Meeting with US Embassy

Discuss the ways the United States can play a constructive role in the region.

Speakers:

Stephanie Hallet, Deputy Chief of Mission, US Embassy

Lourdes Lamela, Political Counselor, Office of Palestinian Affairs

Location: Piccolino, Yo'el Moshe Salomon St 12, Jerusalem, 9463312

Hotel: *Herbert Samuel* | Shamai St 25, Jerusalem | +972- 2-5600600

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 1: OLD CITY AND EAST JERUSALEM

*****DRESS CODE: MODEST DRESS**

6:30 – 8:15 AM Buffet breakfast served at hotel

8:15 AM Meet in the lobby to depart for walking tour

8:30 – 12:30 AM Tour of the Old City of Jerusalem

We will visit the major holy sites in Jerusalem, with an emphasis on the Al Aqsa Mosque / Temple Mount, and learn about its religious, historic, and political significance. We will discuss how the situation in the Old City of Jerusalem impacts the developments on the ground in the region.

Guide: Dr. Eran Tzidkiyahu

12:30 - 1:00 PM Drive to the Educational Bookshop

1:00 - 2:30 PM Lunch at the Educational Bookshop

Participants will visit the Educational Bookshop in East Jerusalem and hear firsthand about the challenges Palestinian residents of Jerusalem face over a traditional lunch.

Speaker: Ahmad Muna, Assistant Manager, Educational Bookshop

2:30 - 3:15 PM Drive to Shuafat Refugee Camp

3:00 - 4:00 PM Visit UNRWA Shuafat Refugee Camp

We will have the chance to speak with the UNRWA representatives and staff and learn about the services UNRWA provides and the unique challenges of operating in the Shuafat Refugee Camp in East Jerusalem.

Speakers:

Synadicta Nkrumah, Deputy Director UNRWA Affairs West Bank
Thaer Jalloud, Chief of Jerusalem Area Officer

4:15 - 5:00 PM Drive to hotel

5:00 - 6:15 PM Executive time

6:15 PM Meet in the lobby to walk to dinner

6:30 - 8:00 PM Dinner Session: The US Role Moving Forward

This session will focus on the potential role that the US can play in furthering the two-state solution under the current circumstances.

Location: Kedma, Mamilla Mall, Jerusalem

Speakers:

Dr. Shira Efron, Director of Research, Israel Policy Forum
Ibrahim Dalalsha, Director, Horizon Center for Political Studies and Media Outreach

Hotel: *Herbert Samuel* | Shamai St 25, Jerusalem | +972- 2-5600600

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 2: EAST JERUSALEM + US ROLE MOVING FORWARD

****Logistical note: We will be checking out of the hotel today. Before we meet, please (1) bring your luggage to the lobby floor to be loaded to the bus; (2) settle any additional items charged to your room at the front desk and (3) bring your passports with you.***

8:00 – 8:15 AM Check-out and drop luggage off in hotel lobby

8:30 AM Meet in lobby to depart for Yad Vashem

9:00 - 10:30 AM Tour at Yad Vashem

On this tour, we will visit the museum commemorating the Holocaust and the loss of six million Jews

10:30 - 11:00 PM Drive to East Jerusalem

11:00 - 1:00 PM	<p>East Jerusalem Geopolitical tour <i>On this tour, we will visit the Old City of Jerusalem as well as areas of contention in East Jerusalem and evaluate the developments in Jerusalem and their impact on a potential solution for the core issue of Jerusalem.</i></p> <p>Guide: Daniel Seidemann, Founder, Terrestrial Jerusalem</p>
1:00 - 1:30 PM	Falafel lunch at Mount of Olives
1:30 - 1:45 PM	Drive to Augusta Victoria Hospital
1:45 - 2:45 PM	<p>Visit at Augusta Victoria Hospital <i>Learn about the impact of the U.S. decision to cut the \$20 million transferred by the U.S. government through USAID to hospitals in East Jerusalem. Many of these hospitals have been struggling with a continued economic crisis for many years.</i></p> <p>Speakers: Dr. Fadi Atrash, CEO, Augusta Victoria Hospital Rachel Hadari, Director of Medicine, Business & Environment Department, Peres Center for Peace & Innovation</p>
2:45 - 3:15 PM	Drive to the hotel
3:15 – 5:45 PM	Executive time
5:45 PM	Load luggage on the bus + walk to dinner
6:00 – 8:00 PM	<p>Farewell Dinner <i>Each participant will have the opportunity to share their takeaways from their experiences over the past week and discuss how this will impact their work in the United States. We will review potential opportunities for action that support a diplomatic and peaceful resolution to the Israeli-Palestinian conflict.</i></p> <p>Location: Sea Dolphin</p>
8:20 - 9:20 PM	Drive to Ben Gurion Airport
11:25 PM	Departure flight