Israel
PAST AND PRESENT
March 18 to 31, 2017

a program of the stanford alumni association
In 2013 I had the opportunity to visit Israel for the first time. Although I knew this tiny country boasted an extraordinary number of historic sites, holy places, archaeological excavations and diverse landscapes considering its diminutive size, and although I knew that the nature of its existence elicits passionate and varied opinions, I was unprepared for the wealth of opportunities we were able to harness in order to gain insight into this complex land and create a true Travel/Study experience. Join us and faculty leader Allen S. Weiner, co-director of the Stanford Center on International Conflict and Negotiation, for this exploration of modern and ancient Israel as we visit historical and contemporary cities, both Israeli and Palestinian; experience the most sacred sites of the world’s three great monotheistic faiths; and meet with a vastly diverse array of people that comprises this multifaceted and ever-evolving society.

BRET S. THOMPSON, ’83, DIRECTOR, STANFORD TRAVEL/STUDY

Highlights

**MEET** with local scholars, settlers, soldiers, and journalists to gain insight into regional geopolitics and to better understand and appreciate Israel’s complex society.

**EXPLORE** Jerusalem’s Old City, home to the Western Wall, Church of the Holy Sepulchre and Dome of the Rock—three of the holiest sites in Judaism, Christianity and Islam.

**VISIT** the Palestinian city of Ramallah and the cutting-edge Palestinian development of Rawabi, a facts-on-the-ground example of positive self-determination and seldom visited by tourists.

COVER: JERUSALEM

MASADA AND THE DEAD SEA
ALLEN S. WEINER, JD ’89, is a senior lecturer in law at Stanford Law School, where he serves as director of the Stanford Program on International and Comparative Law and as co-director of the Stanford Center on International Conflict and Negotiation. A scholar of international law, his research and teaching focus on security issues (the law governing the use of force and the laws of war), international criminal law and international conflict resolution. His scholarship is deeply informed by experience; he practiced international law in the U.S. Department of State for more than a decade advising government policymakers, negotiating international agreements, and representing the United States in litigation before international courts and tribunals. In his scholarship on the challenge of resolving violent political conflicts, Weiner has always had a particular focus on the Israeli-Palestinian conflict. He says, “My work on the Israeli-Palestinian conflict has always emphasized the connections between theory and practice, and I have been a frequent visitor to the region. I learn more each time I visit. My hope is that what my colleagues and I have learned about conflict resolution can, in turn, be of assistance to the many Israelis and Palestinians I meet who are working toward a peaceful resolution of their conflict.” During our program his lectures will address barriers to resolving the Israeli-Palestinian conflict and the changing regional security situation.

“...made Israel and the Middle East emotionally and intellectually accessible.”

PETER GUUNDER,
ISRAEL PAST AND PRESENT, 2016

SIGN UP ONLINE: alumni.stanford.edu/trip/israel2017
OR BY PHONE: (650) 725-1093
Itinerary

SATURDAY & SUNDAY, MARCH 18 & 19
U.S. / TEL AVIV, ISRAEL
Depart the U.S. on overnight flights, arriving in Israel on Sunday. Transfer to our hotel in Jerusalem and gather for a welcome reception and dinner. KING DAVID HOTEL (3/19: D)

MONDAY, MARCH 20
JERUSALEM—THE OLD CITY
Explore the Jewish Quarter of the Old City, stopping to view some of the sites excavated over the past 30 years, including the Jerusalem Archaeological Park, home to the Southern Wall steps where Jewish pilgrims once entered the Temple Mount and where Jesus is said to have overturned the tables of the money-changers. Observe the faithful praying at the Kotel (Western Wall) and wind through the Western Wall Tunnel, which runs along the length of the Temple Mount. KING DAVID HOTEL (B,L)

TUESDAY, MARCH 21
JERUSALEM / BETHLEHEM / BEHREON
Meet with an Arab-Israeli journalist, then return to the Old City to explore its Christian Quarter. Walk along the Via Dolorosa to the Church of the Holy Sepulchre, which is widely considered to be the place of Jesus’ crucifixion, burial and resurrection. Travel to the West Bank city of Bethlehem to visit the Church of the Nativity, the basilica constructed around the cave traditionally designated as the birthplace of Jesus. Also visit the divided city of Hebron, location of the Tombs of the Patriarchs, venerated by Jews and Muslims alike. KING DAVID HOTEL (B,L,D)

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 22
JERUSALEM—THE NEW CITY
Attend a guest lecture given by a local scholar to learn how the Holocaust is viewed in contemporary Israeli society, then explore Yad Vashem, Israel’s national memorial to the six million Jewish victims of the Holocaust. Choose to explore either the Israel Museum, home to the Dead Sea Scrolls, or meet with members of Jerusalem’s first startup accelerator. KING DAVID HOTEL (B,L,D)

THURSDAY, MARCH 23
JERUSALEM / RAMALLAH
Visit the Temple Mount, or Noble Sanctuary, arguably the most hotly contested piece of real estate in the world. Site of the First and Second Temples, this platform is home to Al-Aqsa Mosque and the Dome of the Rock, Islam’s third-holiest site. Drive to the West Bank city of Ramallah to meet with key Palestinian personalities before continuing to Rawabi, a new Palestinian city in the process of development, to meet with the project’s chief architect. Return to Jerusalem for a meeting with representatives of an Israeli-Palestinian grassroots organization working toward peace and coexistence. KING DAVID HOTEL (B,L)

FRIDAY, MARCH 24
JERUSALEM / GUSH ETZION
After hearing a political science professor from Hebrew University lecture on Israeli politics, gain a behind-the-headlines insight into current developments in Jerusalem. Drive to Gush Etzion, the block of West Bank settlements originally established in the 1920s, and engage in a dialogue with a settler. Participate in a traditional Shabbat dinner this evening with chayalim bodedim, lone soldiers serving in the Israel Defense Forces (IDF) who have no immediate family in Israel. KING DAVID HOTEL (B,L,D)

SATURDAY, MARCH 25
MASADA / DEAD SEA
Drive through the Judean Desert to
Masada, Herod’s mountain palace and site of the Jewish Zealots’ last stand against the Roman legionnaires. Float in the mineral-rich waters of the Dead Sea, and drive by Qumran, the area where the Dead Sea Scrolls were discovered. **KING DAVID HOTEL (B,L)**

**SUNDAY, MARCH 26**
**JORDAN VALLEY / SEA OF GALILEE / ROSH PINNA**
Drive along the Jordan Rift Valley to Bet She’an, one of Israel’s largest archaeological sites. Continue to the Sea of Galilee and visit Tabgha, where Jesus is said to have performed his miracle of multiplying the loaves and fishes. Explore Capernaum, which served as a base for Jesus during his Galilean Ministry, and enjoy a spectacular view from the Mount of Beatitudes, traditional site of Jesus’ “Sermon on the Mount.” Drive through the charming town of Rosh Pinna to our hotel. **MITZPE HAYAMIM (B,L,D)**

**MONDAY, MARCH 27**
**GOLAN HEIGHTS / TZFAT**
Travel into the Golan Heights to visit former Israeli and Syrian fortifications and drive to the top of Mount Bental for a view of Quneitra, the largely destroyed and abandoned Syrian garrison town that now lies in the U.N. demilitarized zone. Visit 16th-century synagogues and peruse lovely art galleries in Tzfat, a center of Kabala for hundreds of years and a contemporary artists’ colony. **MITZPE HAYAMIM (B,L,D)**

**TUESDAY, MARCH 28**
**NAHARIYA / NAZARETH / TEL AVIV**
Drive to the city of Nahariya and meet with the director of its main hospital to learn about Syrian patients—victims of the ongoing civil war—who have received medical care there. In Nazareth visit the Church of the Annunciation, which has been venerated since Byzantine times as the place where the Virgin Mary is said to have been visited by the Archangel Gabriel. On our way to Tel Aviv, stop in the town of Baqa al Gharbiyye to meet the vice president of Al-Qasemi College, an academic institution founded as an institute of Sharia and Islamic studies that fosters a culture of dialogue between religions and cultures. **DAVID INTERCONTINENTAL (B,L,D)**

**WEDNESDAY, MARCH 29**
**TEL AVIV**
Meet with a former IDF brigadier general and member of the Israeli-Palestinian Trade Office, then explore the Yitzhak Rabin Center, which was established to perpetuate Prime Minister Rabin’s legacy by promoting tolerance across all sectors of Israeli society. Take a guided tour of the newly renovated Templar neighborhood of Sarona, now a trendy fashion center and culinary market, and explore the urban culture of the city during a tour of Tel Aviv’s unique graffiti and street art. **DAVID INTERCONTINENTAL (B,L,D)**

**THURSDAY, MARCH 30**
**TEL AVIV**
Visit the Jaffa Overlook to view the port where, according to tradition, Jonah emerged from the whale and St. Peter was born. Visit Independence Hall, where Prime Minister Ben Gurion declared Israel’s independence in 1948, and stroll through a neighborhood famous for its Bauhaus buildings, the proliferation of which won Tel Aviv recognition as a World Heritage site. Enjoy the rest of the day at leisure before gathering for a festive farewell reception and dinner. **DAVID INTERCONTINENTAL (B,D)**

**FRIDAY, MARCH 31**
**TEL AVIV / U.S.**
Check out of our hotel this morning and transfer to the airport for flights home. (B)
Trip Information

DATES
March 18 to 31, 2017 (14 days)

SIZE
34 participants; single accommodations are limited—please call for availability

COST *
$9,995 per person, double occupancy
$12,695 per person, single occupancy
*Association nonmembers add $300 per person

INCLUDED
12 nights of deluxe hotel accommodations
12 breakfasts, 9 lunches, 8 dinners
Welcome and farewell receptions
Gratuities to guides and drivers for all group activities
All tours as described in the itinerary
Transfers and baggage handling on program arrival and departure days
Minimal medical, accident and evacuation insurance
Educational program with lecture series and pre-departure materials, including recommended reading list, a selected book, map and travel information
Services of our professional tour manager to assist you throughout the program

NOT INCLUDED
International and U.S. domestic airfare
Passport and visa fees
Immunization costs
Meals and beverages other than those specified as included
Independent and private transfers
Trip-cancellation/interruption and baggage insurance
Excess-baggage charges
Personal items such as internet access, telephone and fax calls, laundry and gratuities for nongroup services

AIR ARRANGEMENTS
International and U.S. domestic airfare is not included in the program cost. Round-trip, economy-class airfare on United Airlines between San Francisco and Tel Aviv is approximately $1,625 as of July 2016 and is subject to change without notice. Information on booking flights will be sent to confirmed participants.

WHAT TO EXPECT
We consider this program to be moderately strenuous and at times physically demanding and busy. We will have a very full schedule of excursions, lectures and special events, with very little downtime, and most days will require early-morning starts. Daily excursions involve one to three miles of walking with tours lasting as long as four hours. Much of the walking takes place at ancient sites, where paths can be rocky and uneven and you may be required to walk through tunnels, caves or in dimly lit spaces, as well as on city streets, which can be uneven, cobblestoned and slippery. In some instances, such as museums, guided tours require standing in one place for up to 50 minutes at a time and climbing up and down several flights of stairs that may not have handrails. Many sites and buildings do not have elevators and also do not allow buses to pull up in front, thus requiring a walk of several minutes, sometimes uphill, to reach the entrance. Our journey at times requires several hours of travel by motorcoach, the longest drives being up to six hours long (with stops). Participants must be physically fit, in good health and able to keep up with an active group of travelers. We welcome travelers 15 years of age and older on this program.
Deposit & Final Payment
A $1,000-per-person deposit is required to hold your space. Sign up online at alumni.stanford.edu/trip/israel2017 or call the Travel/Study office at (650) 725-1093. Final payment is due 120 days prior to departure. As a condition of participation, all confirmed participants are required to sign a Release of Liability.

Cancellations & Refunds
Deposits and any payments are refundable, less a $500-per-person cancellation fee, until 120 days prior to departure. After that date, refunds can be made only if the program is sold out and your place(s) can be resold, in which case a $1,000-per-person cancellation fee will apply.

Insurance
Stanford Travel/Study provides all travelers who are U.S. or Canadian citizens with minimal medical, accident and evacuation coverage under our group-travel insurance policy. Our group policy is intended to provide minimal levels of protection while you are traveling on this program. You may choose to subscribe to optional trip-cancellation and baggage insurance. Information will be provided to travelers with their welcome materials. The product offered includes special benefits if you purchase your policy within 14 days of written confirmation of your participation on the trip.

Eligibility
We encourage membership in the Alumni Association as the program cost for nonmembers is $300 more than the members’ price. A person traveling as a guest paid for by a current member will not be charged the nonmember fee. To purchase a membership, visit alumni.stanford/goto/membership or call (650) 725-0692.

Responsibility
The Stanford Alumni Association, Stanford University and our operators act only as agents for the passenger with respect to transportation and exercise every care possible in doing so. However, we can assume no liability for injury, damage, loss, accident, delay or irregularity in connection with the service of any automobile, motorcoach, launch or any other conveyance used in carrying out this program or for the acts or defaults of any company or person engaged in conveying the passenger or in carrying out the arrangements of the program. We cannot accept any responsibility for losses or additional expenses due to delay or changes in air or other services, sickness, weather, strike, war, quarantine, force majeure or other causes beyond our control. All such losses or expenses will have to be borne by the passenger as tour rates provide arrangements only for the time stated. We reserve the right to make such alterations to this published itinerary as may be deemed necessary. The right is reserved to cancel any program prior to departure in which case the entire payment will be refunded without further obligation on our part. The right is also reserved to decline to accept or retain any person as a member of the program. No refund will be made for an unused portion of any tour unless arrangements are made in sufficient time to avoid penalties. Baggage is carried at the owner’s risk entirely. The airlines concerned are not to be held responsible for any act, omission or event during the time that passengers are not onboard their plane or conveyance. Neither the Alumni Association, Stanford University nor our operators accept liability for any carrier’s cancellation penalty incurred by the purchase of a nonrefundable ticket in connection with the tour. Program price is based on rates in effect in July 2016 and is subject to change without notice to reflect fluctuations in exchange rates, tariffs or fuel charges.

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Terms & Conditions
“Stanford Travel/Study allowed us to do things and meet people that would not have been possible for the ordinary traveler.”

CAROLE MCCORKLE, ISRAEL PAST AND PRESENT, 2016