

# Houston Hillel Perspectives Trip to Israel Waiver and Agreement

I, \_\_\_\_\_, reviewed this Waiver and Agreement, which details Houston Hillel's policies on conduct, financial liability, liability, and medical liability during a Perspectives trip, and a media/photography release.

Houston Hillel Perspectives (also referred to as Rice Hillel Perspectives) is a 10 day trip to Israel and the Palestinian Territories. The purpose of this trip is to educate Jewish and non-Jewish University student leaders about the Israeli-Palestinian conflict. Houston Hillel Perspectives is offered by Houston Hillel and is limited to student leaders of all backgrounds.

Participants will meet with intellectuals, grass-roots activists, politicians and decision makers from Israel and the Palestinian Authority, and will take part in dialogues of co-existence. Trip participants will visit cities and sites in the Palestinian Authority and Israel (including adjacent to Gaza) considered central to all three major religions, and will receive a unique opportunity to learn about the history and current issues of one of the world's most debated conflicts.

Thanks to Houston Hillel, Perspectives is a heavily subsidized trip, including round-trip airfare, hotels, travel throughout the trip, and most meals. Participants will be responsible for some expenses, including the following:

- A \$200 non-refundable deposit
- All food prior to arrival in Israel and after departure from Israel.
- Most lunches in Israel and many dinners.
- Ground transportation to and from your departure airport.
- Other personal expenses, such as passport fees and souvenirs.

Participants must:

- Remain as a full-time student for at least one academic year after the completion of the trip.
- Complete a post trip evaluation.
- Write a 500+ word reflection.

Also, we hope that you will:

- Participate in meetings prior to departure.
- Be willing to reconvene on campus to discuss your experience.

## WAIVER AND AGREEMENT

In consideration for a heavily subsidized trip to Israel and Palestine, I agree to the following:

### **Conduct and Financial Responsibility**

I understand that if I am asked to leave the Houston Hillel Perspectives Trip to Israel ("Perspectives"), or do not complete the Perspectives trip, I will be responsible for all expenses incurred from that date forward, including accommodations. At the sole discretion of Houston Hillel ("Hillel"), I may also be responsible for the original cost of my airfare and/or any costs incurred in obtaining transportation back to my point of origin.

Furthermore, I agree to pay for any property that has been lost or incurred damage during the trip because of my misuse or misconduct, including damage to housing accommodations, rental vehicles, or equipment of on-the-ground service partners.

### **Behavioral Conduct, Alcohol and Drugs Policy**

I agree to abide by all rules, requirements, policies and guidelines of Hillel, the Perspectives program provider, and any other organization or entity that is conducting activities or providing goods or services in connection with the program. I further agree to abide by the laws of the local country and community and to behave in a manner that is appropriate in the local community and reflects well on Hillel and my university.

#### Behavioral Conduct

- Participants will conduct themselves in an appropriate, respectful, and professional manner throughout the duration of the trip.
- Violence of any kind will not be tolerated.
- Tardiness to any program or scheduled meet-up time is not acceptable.
- Leaving the group at any time without the knowledge and consent of Hillel or the tour provider is prohibited.
- Students with diverse opinions are welcome, but participants must productively engage in civil and nonjudgmental conversations. Personal and ad hominem comments toward other participants will not be tolerated. Similarly, students whose behavior creates a significantly uncomfortable environment will not be tolerated.

#### Drugs and Alcohol

- Participants may not consume, purchase or possess any illegal drug.
- Regardless of your age, consuming alcohol is not permitted during program time, in hotel rooms, on the street, or during any travel (including on buses and domestic or international flights).
- Drinking is only permitted during non-program times in locations that are authorized and designated for that purpose (pubs, bars, hotel bar).
- Purchase of any form of alcohol for later use outside the designated locations is not permitted. It is forbidden to buy or to be in possession of bottles or multiple cans of alcoholic drinks of any kind from supermarkets, grocery stores, kiosks, Duty Free, or anywhere else. (Duty Free purchases on return trip is permitted if you are of the legal drinking age.)
- During leisure nights (nights out) participants may go to a bar, pub, etc., and drink responsibly within the parameters given by the tour guide and staff.
- Being visibly intoxicated during any program hours is grounds for immediate removal from the Perspectives trip.
- Consumption of alcohol is prohibited in the evenings before visits to certain holy or sensitive locations, including Yad Vashem and The Temple Mount.

If I violate any of these laws, rules, requirements, policies, guidelines, or standards of conduct or otherwise behave in a manner that is considered by Hillel to be detrimental to myself, other participants, and/or the program, Hillel shall have the right to limit or terminate my participation in the program and I shall be financially liable as outlined above.

### **Liability**

I acknowledge and agree that Hillel, its Board of Directors, officers, servants, agents, employees, and representatives, shall not be liable or responsible for any loss or damage that I may sustain to my person or property arising from, or in connection with any aspect of the Perspectives trip. The itinerary, activities, programs, facilities, accommodations and travel related to the Perspectives program have been organized by third parties. It is understood and agreed that Hillel, its Board of Directors, officers, servants, agents,

employees, and representatives, assume no responsibility whatsoever, and I fully release the Hillel Parties from any damage or claim, whether known or unknown, arising from or related to the itinerary, activities, programs, facilities, accommodations and travel connected with the Perspectives program.

### **Medical Liability**

I acknowledge that the Perspectives tour may be physically strenuous, involves jetlag and long and intense days, and be mentally and emotionally challenging for those reasons and due to the subject matter of the Perspectives tour. I am aware that I have the ability to consult a physician and/or mental health professional. If I have any reason to be concerned about my ability to participate in, and complete, the Perspectives tour, I agree to consult a medical professional before participating in the Perspectives tour, and share all relevant information with Hillel.

I am voluntarily participating in the Perspectives tour and the activities offered, and understand the dangers and risks involved. By participating, I represent that I am in good health, do not suffer from any physical or mental ailment or disability which would make my travel and/or participation on Perspectives hazardous, unwise, unwarranted, or a potential source of danger to me or to others who may travel with me or participate on the Perspectives tour. While reasonable precautions will be taken on the trip, I understand that some activities and locations are potentially dangerous and could result in permanent injury or death. I understand that due to the area and season in which I am traveling, travel plans may change at the last minute. I hereby agree to accept any and all risks associated with participating in a Perspectives tour. As with any traveling and/or volunteer activity, there are certain inherent risks. Should I require emergency medical treatment as a result of illness or accident arising during Perspectives, I consent to such treatment. I agree to inform Hillel of any medical conditions (e.g. allergies, asthma, epilepsy, bee sting reactions, etc.) I have of which I am aware that may limit the extent of my physical abilities and/or participation and about which medical and/or emergency personnel should be informed. Further, I agree to reimburse Hillel for any and all costs associated with the provision of medical care and treatment to me during the trip, including monitoring fees provided by external providers, whether I consented to medical treatment myself or whether a Hillel staff member consented on my behalf. I understand that Hillel will not accept reimbursement of any medical expenses through my carrier, but that I must personally reimburse Hillel within a month of the trip. This release is intended to be broad in its effect. I hereby agree to accept and assume any and all risks of injury, illness, or death, and I am verifying this statement by providing my real or electronic signature below.

I am aware of my personal medical needs, and have arranged for adequate hospitalization insurance to meet any and all needs for payment of hospital costs while participating in the Perspectives trip. I understand and agree that Hillel endeavors to, but does not guarantee that there will be, medical personnel available at the location(s) of the Perspectives program, during transportation, and/or anywhere else in any location to which I may travel while participating in the Perspectives trip. I agree that Hillel is not required to provide for or obtain any medical treatment for me. I understand that, at its sole discretion, the Perspectives tour provider may arrange a medical insurance policy to provide medical coverage during my participation in the Perspectives tour.

### **Media/Photography Release**

I hereby give Hillel permission to post or publish my name and quotes, articles, thank-you letters, or photographs related to my participation in the Perspectives tour, in whole or in part, without compensation, on any Hillel-related social media sites or pages of the Hillel website, and on any pages of a supporter's website and in any promotional materials prepared for or on behalf of Hillel. I understand that Hillel will not include my phone number or address in any promotional materials in which my name, quotes, articles, thank-you letters, or photographs, etc. may appear and that my address will not be disclosed to third parties in the course of preparing quotes, articles, thank-you letters, or photographs, etc. for posting or publishing. I give permission to Hillel to photograph, film, and videotape me and to use those images in support of its purposes and programs. I understand that this permission authorizes Hillel to reproduce, display, and distribute my image in print, online, or by other means using any medium or technology now known or hereafter developed. I expressly waive any right or privilege to inspect these images in advance and/or to claim compensation of any

kind for their use. I also expressly waive any and all rights of privacy and any and all rights accruing under the federal Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act and any applicable Texas laws that I may have.

I forever discharge and release Hillel and its employees, officers, directors, agents, and students from all claims and causes of action, including but not limited to claims for invasion of privacy or misappropriation, liabilities and damages and attorneys' fees at all levels arising out of the authorized use of my images. I acknowledge that I have carefully read this photographic release and fully understand its contents. I understand and agree that this release is intended to be as broad and inclusive as permitted by the laws of the State of Texas, that this release shall be governed by and interpreted in accordance with the laws of the State of Texas. I agree that in the event that any clause, sentence, or provision of this release is held invalid by any court of competent jurisdiction, the invalidity of such clause or provision shall not otherwise affect the remaining provisions herein which shall continue to be enforceable.

I represent that I am at least eighteen (18) years of age.

I have carefully read this waiver and agreement and I fully understand its contents. I am aware that this is a release of liability and a legal contract between Hillel and myself and that it affects my legal rights. I am signing this document of my own free will. I acknowledge that I have had the opportunity to review this document and to seek legal advice if I have any concerns.

Signed in \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_ on \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_  
city state date year

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Participant

\_\_\_\_\_  
Print Name