



friendship force

INTERNATIONAL

Experience different views. Discover common ground.

United States eFlyer

June 2018

The U.S. eFlyer is a place to find information about domestic Journeys within the United States, undersubscribed U.S. outbound Journeys, and occasional regional conferences and special events. The Journeys listed in the U.S. eFlyer are open to all ambassadors, representing some of the many places where you can experience new cultures and expand your global circle of friends.

If you are interested in any of the following Journeys, please contact the Journey Coordinator directly.

Journey to Moscow and St. Petersburg, Russia

Journey Dates:

August 1 - 10, 2018

Price:

\$1,900

Contact Information:

Oyuna Sengeeva

oyuna@friendshipforce.org

404-806-8170

Host Club:

[FF of Moscow](#)

Spaces Available: 8

Do you want to see the capital of Russia? Walk along the Red Square? Visit the Tretyakov Gallery? How about to visit St. Petersburg? See the St. Isaac's Cathedral, the Hermitage, the Tsarskoe Selo, the Catherine Palace? If your answer to these questions is YES, then we are glad to have you join our Journey.

August 1 - 5: You will be home-hosted by FF Moscow, and you see the main attractions around the city as mentioned above

August 5 - 10: You will stay in a hotel in St. Petersburg enjoying the attractions around the city as mentioned above.

KNOW BEFORE YOU GO:

- Average mobility requirements include walking between one and three miles per day and prolonged standing in museums and similar venues.
- Weather should be fair, with temperatures between 73-83°F (23-28°C) during the day.
- Estimated hotel costs are based on double-occupancy. Add \$195 USD for single occupancy in the St. Petersburg hotel.

View this Journey on the FFI Catalog

[Moscow and St. Petersburg, Russia - August 2018](#)



Journey #14283

Connecticut, USA to Edmonton & Area and Lethbridge, Canada

Journey Dates:

August 12 - 26, 2018

Price:

\$900

Contact Information:

Paul and Pat Trotta

pltrotta@gmail.com

860-426-2126

Host Clubs:

[FF Edmonton and Area](#)

[FF Lethbridge](#)

Spaces Available: 6

Please join us to visit our neighbors in Edmonton and Lethbridge in Canada. Edmonton is the capital of Alberta Province. Highlights of visit include the Ukrainian heritage Village, a tour of the Capitol, the Fringe Festival and the West Edmonton mall--the largest North American mall.

Lethbridge sits on the doorstep of the Rockies and our welcome dinner features a steak roast from native Angus beef. We'll visit "Head-Smashed in Buffalo Jump" (join us to find more about it!), tour Hutterite country, stroll through the authentic Nikka Yuko Japanese Gardens and visit a farmer's market.

We have 6 spaces available for this Journey. Grab your space before they are all gone!



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INTERNATIONAL

Journey #14417

Western Michigan to Medicine Hat, Canada

Journey Dates:

August 14 - 21, 2018

Price:

\$500

Contact Information:

Marcia Ellis

ellism@wmich.edu

269-760-2582

Host Club:

FF of Medicine Hat

Optional Extensions:

Banff National Park

Spaces Available: 2

Join us in the sunniest city in Canada next August!

We will have a one week Journey meeting the friendly people of Medicine Hat. There are over 100 km (62 mi) of walking trails in the city. All of the major parks are linked by the extensive trail system.

The bizarre sandstone formations of nearby Red Rock Coulee Natural Area will make you feel like you're on a *Star Wars* set. The Medalta pottery made in the Historic Clay District was once shipped around the world.

The Esplanade Arts & Heritage Centre is a marvel of contemporary Canadian architecture on traditional Blackfoot territory, just steps from the South Saskatchewan River. From its rooftop terrace, you can see Saamis, the shoreline escarpment which is the setting for the story of how Medicine Hat got its name when it started as a railroad town.

Cost of the Journey is \$500 per person and includes the FFI fee and transportation to and from Calgary airport to Medicine Hat.

There is an opportunity for an add-on stay in Banff National Park, Alberta, Canada, located in the spectacular Canadian Rockies for 3 nights. Please email ellism@wmich.edu as soon as possible if you are interested in joining us in Canada!



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Journey #14352

Dallas to Reno-Tahoe, USA

Journey Dates:

August 14 - 24, 2018

Price:

\$400

Contact Information:

Julia Cooper

acjc1804@hotmail.com

972-238-9190

Host Club:

FF Reno-Tahoe

Spaces Available: 2

You are invited to join us in the lovely countryside of the Reno/Lake Tahoe area in the summer of 2018.

Activities will include a boat ride on Lake Tahoe to Emerald Isle, a day trip to the Nevada State Capitol, Carson City, and a tour of Virginia City a popular historic gold rush town.

We will also spend time enjoying Donner State Park and the Squaw Valley area and a visit to TERC [Tahoe Environmental Research Center] at Lake Tahoe. And of course, no trip to Reno would be complete without trying trying your luck at one of the famous Reno casinos!



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INTERNATIONAL

Greater Cincinnati, USA to Leicestershire, UK & Norderstedt, Germany

Journey Dates:

August 29 -
September 12, 2018

Price:

\$1,030

Contact Information:

Sandra Small
41011sandra@gmail.com
859-250-9055

Host Clubs:

[FF Leicestershire](#)
[FF Norderstedt](#)

Spaces Available: 11

Please join us as we travel to two historic European regions. We will begin our Journey with a one-week homestay in Leicestershire. With this fun-loving host club, we will visit sites you have read about in history books: the home of Lady Jane Grey, the “battlefield” where Richard III met his doom, Leicester Cathedral, Donington Hall, (which puts Downton Abbey to shame), and Foxton Locks. The visit includes a day trip to Lincoln to see the Lincoln Cathedral and Castle (including the Magna Carta) and opportunities to enjoy one of England’s greatest traditions, afternoon tea.

After we depart from Leicestershire, we will be hosted by the club in Norderstedt, Germany, for a one-week homestay. They have promised a rousing game of Bosseln (similar to field-style Klootschieten) in a local park. Two days will be spent enjoying the beautifully rebuilt city of Hamburg and its harbor. Participants will also have the opportunity to see the NordArt exhibition. NordArt is one of the largest contemporary art exhibits in Europe and features painting, sculpture, photography, and other art installations from over 200 artists, all set in an historical iron foundry and extensive park grounds.

Included in the \$1,030 cost of the tour:

- Host fees and Friendship Force fees
- Air transportation between Leicestershire and Norderstedt

If you would like more information, please contact Sandra Small at 859.250.9055 or Kay Atkins at 513.378.3278.



Bicycle Tour Through the Ruhr Valley

Journey Dates:

September 7 - 14, 2018

Price:

\$830

Contact Information:

Anke Schweigert-
Schwertfeger

anke.schweigert@yahoo.de

Host Club:

[FF Metropole Ruhr](#)

Spaces Available: 7

Meet members of FF Metropole Ruhr in Germany and join them, as well as members from all over the world, on this fantastic bike trip through the Ruhr valley.

Enjoy a welcome party and stay with your host family the first night. On day two, we will start with our bike tour. Rental bikes are provided. Our route will lead us through mostly flat areas, and we will make detours to see points of interest and relax during well-earned breaks.

We will cycle about 50 km a day and stay in different hotels along the route (three nights). The bike tour ends on day five of this Journey. Ambassadors will be back with the host families for days five through seven, where we will make different trips in the Gelsenkirchen area, e.g. to a coal mine or a water castle.

We look forward to meeting you!

View this Journey on the FFI Catalog:

[Bicycle Tour Through the Ruhr Valley](#)



Journey #14152

Penticton-Okanagan, Canada to Flathead Valley, USA

Journey Dates:

September 11 - 18, 2018

Price:

\$320

Contact Information:

Judith Single

judithesingle@gmail.com

204-294-6428

Host Club:

FF Flathead Valley

Spaces Available: 8

Join us on a Journey to the beautiful area of Flathead Valley in Montana. This Journey may include a visit to Kalispell, MT with a tour of Conrad Mansion, a visit a private elk herd, a possible boat cruise, entrance into the Air Museum, and Hungry Horse Dam. Then visit Glacier National Park with its spectacular scenery, thundering waterfalls, and alpine meadows. The cost may fluctuate a bit depending on activities planned.



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Discover Hungary

Journey Dates:

September 20 - 26, 2018

Price:

\$1,300

Contact Information:

Krisztina Balough

kriszta.b70@gmamil.com

Host Club:

[FF Székesfehérvár](#)

Spaces Available: 7

Meet members from all three of our Hungarian clubs in one week, as we are day-hosted in Budapest and Pécs, and home-hosted in Székesfehérvár!

You will stay in a hotel in Budapest for the first two nights. Relax at the Széchenyi Thermal Bath, go on a Danube river dinner cruise, and take a stroll in the city centre of Budapest with the Budapest club members. Sights include Vaci Street, Vorosmarty Square, the Danube bank-promenade, Saint Stephen Basilica, and many more.

Leave for Székesfehérvár by rented minibus and meet your hosts for the next four nights. Go on a sightseeing tour of the historical city centre of Székesfehérvár, and visit some museums and Bory Castle.

With Székesfehérvár as your base, you will travel to different places in Hungary by rented minibus: Balatonfured to see Lake Balaton (biggest freshwater lake in Central Europe), the Benedictine Archabbey of Pannonhalma (UNESCO World Heritage Site) to taste five different wines produced in the abbey winery, and to visit FF Pécs, and see the world-famous porcelain museum in Herend.

Join us for unforgettable memories!

View this Journey on the FFI Catalog:

[Discover Hungary](#)



Dallas, USA to Central Israel

Journey Dates:

October 4, - 10, 2018

Price:

\$540

Contact Information:

Michael Wald & Haiya Feder

hnaftali@juno.com

214-739-1504

Host Club:

[FF Central Israel](#)

Spaces Available: 2

Experience the old and new Israel with a Friendship Force club in great demand.

Highlights include:

- Joe Alon Center of the Bedouin Culture and Museum
- Beit Guvrin archeological site
- Atlit Detention Center, (if you saw the movie *Exodus* then you know a little about this period and site)
- Kibbutz Ein Ha Carmel
- Druize Villiages
- Weitzman Institute
- Hagana Museum
- Local arts and crafts market... and much more!



Journey #14199

Greater Atlanta, USA to Cairo, Egypt (Petra & Israel)

Journey Dates:

October 17 -
November 5, 2018

Price:

\$400 (Home Hosting Only)
\$3,580 (Tour Cost - double
occupancy)

Contact Information:

John Wilhelm
jgwilhelm1961@gmail.com
770-921-4333

Host Club:

FF of Cairo

Post Homestay Tours:

Luxor & Aswan, Egypt
Petra, Jordan
Jerusalem, Bethlehem and
more in Israel

Spaces Available: 2

This Journey begins with a seven-day homestay in Cairo that will include several cultural activities, including a day-trip to Alexandria, a visit to the Pyramids in Giza, a visit to the Egyptian History Museum, and many other local places of interest.

We will then fly to Aswan and board a river boat. We will cruise the Nile for three days and visit Kom Ombo, Edfu, the Valley of Kings, and finally arrive in Luxor. Then we will fly to Amman, Jordan and travel to Petra during our two days there.

We conclude our Journey with a six-day stay in Israel. We will visit Jerusalem, (old & new city), Bethlehem, Nazareth, Golan Heights, the Sea of Galilee, and other nearby towns. We depart from Tel Aviv to return home.

Included in Post Journey Tour:

- All accommodations at four-star hotels including daily breakfast.
- All sightseeing tours; including transportation by A/C comfortable minivan, an English-speaking guide, and entrance fees as mentioned in the itinerary.
- Local professional guides.
- Flights from Cairo to Aswan and Luxor to Amman.
- Four-days/three-night Nile cruise on a five-star cruise ship including; accommodation, breakfasts, lunches, and dinners.
- Sightseeing tours during the cruise.
- An 800-meter horse ride in Petra.

View the Journey on the FFI Catalog

[Journey to Cairo, Egypt and Beyond](#)



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INTERNATIONAL

Northeast Ohio, USA to Napier and Hamilton & Waikato, New Zealand

Journey Dates:

October 27 -
November 15, 2018

Price:

\$2,418

Contact Information:

Mark Binnig
markbin@juno.com
440-298-3914

Host Clubs:

[FF Napier](#)
[FF Hamilton & Waikato](#)

Spaces Available: 8

Our Journey starts on October 29 in Auckland where we will spend a couple of days sightseeing.

Then we fly to the seaside resort town of Napier where we will be hosted by the local FF club. Our visit may include beaches, wine trails, Maori meeting houses, and rainforests.

After we leave our friends in Napier, we will travel by bus to Hamilton, where we will meet our hosts, the FF of Hamilton and Waikato. Hamilton is the largest inland city in New Zealand and the Hamilton Gardens are listed in "101 Gardens You Must See Before You Die." Hamilton is also near the geysers and hot springs of Rotorua.

After our visit with FF Hamilton and Waikato, ambassadors can either travel by bus back to Auckland or embark on their own personal adventures.

The estimated cost includes three nights in Auckland with sightseeing, transportation to Napier, Hamilton and back to Auckland, FFI and host fees.



Wisconsin-Madison, USA to Aichi and Oita, Japan

Journey Dates:

October 27 -
November 10, 2018

Price:

\$1,400

Contact Information:

Kathy Speck Kemeny
kspeckemeny@gmail.com
608-836-0272

Host Clubs:

[FF Aichi](#)
[FF Oita](#)

Spaces Available: 5

If you are intrigued by Japanese culture, this 15-day/14-night home-hosted Journey will give you an excellent opportunity to explore the rich heritage of two different regions of the country: Aichi Prefecture (Oct. 27 - Nov. 3) and Oita Prefecture (Nov. 3 - 10).

Ambassadors will meet with their hosts at Chubu Centrair International Airport in Nagoya, in the early afternoon of Oct. 27. The next six days will take us to several museums of this highly industrialized region, (including the Toyota Museum of Industry and Technology, Noritake China/Porcelain Museum, Seki Samurai Sword Museum, and the Tofu Factory); to the UNESCO World Heritage Site of Shirakawa-go in the mountains of Gifu Prefecture by charter bus tour; to Japanese Gardens, Shinto Shrines, Buddhist Temples, and to ancient Inuyama Castle.

On Nov. 3, we will fly from Nagoya to Kumamoto, from where a charter bus will transfer us to Taketa, Oita Prefecture. During this second week we will experience a Japanese thermal bath (Onsen); walk around the geothermal areas of Beppu; walk in kimonos on the streets of Kitsuki; enjoy a Japanese tea ceremony; marvel at the colors of autumn while hiking in Kuju Highlands; visit a Sake Brewery; and meet with junior high school students to learn about each other's cultures.

There will be a free day during each week to do optional activities with your host. The host clubs will also have welcome and farewell events for us. Our program will conclude on Nov. 10, when a charter bus will take us from Taketa back to the airport in Kumamoto. From that point ambassadors will have the chance to either continue traveling to other regions of Japan on their own, or they can return to Nagoya and return to the United States.

Please join us for this fascinating Journey to Japan!



Discover Iceland and the Northern Lights

Journey Dates:

November 1 - 5, 2018

Price:

\$3,080

Contact Information:

Tracy Harrell

finance@friendshipforce.org

404-965-4360

Spaces Available: 10

Join this incredible Discovery Journey to Reykjavík, Iceland with high hopes of viewing the magnificent Northern Lights! With the small group size, you will really get to know your fellow ambassadors, and interaction with locals is an integral part of the adventure. Though there is no home-hosting on this Journey, we intend to spread the FFI mission to cultivate Friendship Force clubs and members where there have previously been none.

Some of the key local interactions we will have include: visiting a local geothermal-powered pizzeria and brewery; spending time with local rescue teams and sharing a meal to understand the demands of their jobs and the impact they have on the community, a visit to a local farm, horticulture greenhouse and/or mushroom farmers' bistro for lunch.

A highlight and top priority of the trip will be viewing the Northern Lights. This rare and marvelous experience can be elusive and hard to come by. Though a sighting is never guaranteed and can fail to happen on any given trip, the itinerary has been built to maximize opportunities to view this magnificent natural phenomenon. Hopefully, ambassadors will enjoy watching the enchanting colorful lights and learn all about this amazing show from an expert guide.

Other highlights include a Jeep tour through the wonderful landscape of Hveragerði, relaxing at the Blue Lagoon Spa, free-time and private walking tour of the capital city, Reykjavík, and touring through the South Coast and the Golden Circle area.

You won't want to miss this once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to see one of the most incredible natural wonders that our earth has to offer.

View this Journey on the FFI Catalog
[Discover Iceland and the Northern Lights](#)



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Discover Kenya

Journey Dates:

November 2 - 9, 2018

Price:

\$1,045

Contact Information:

Shirley Hauck

vhauck@whidbey.net

Host Club:

[FF Nairobi](#)

Spaces Available: 14

For the first two weeks of November 2018, experience a homestay in Nairobi, a train ride through Kenya, a beach hotel stay on the Indian Ocean, and even a wildlife safari!

Some of the highlights of this Journey include:

- Fort Jesus
- Bamburi Nature Trail
- Kiambethu Tea Farm
- The Great Rift Valley
- David Sheldrick Elephant and Hippo Orphanages
- Kazuri Bead Factory
- Utamaduni Craft Center and Veranda Restaurant

Sightseeing, adventures, safaris, and parties create unforgettable moments. However, the most memorable treasure of this Journey to Kenya may, as always, become the lifelong friendships we have the privilege to make with our Kenyan hosts and their friends.

There is an optional post-Journey Safari extension (Nov. 10 to 15, 2018) that includes six days in Amboseli, Aberdares, Lake Nakuru, and Masai Mara with full-board (breakfast, lunch, and dinner) in hotels and luxury camps (large walk-in tents). The cost of the extension is \$1049 USD per person.

View this Journey on the FFI Catalog

[Discover Kenya](#)



Global to Fortaleza, Manaus and Amazon Village, Brazil

Journey Dates:

November 7 - 19, 2018

Price:

\$1,500

Contact Information:

Thiago Fabio

thiago.fbio@hotmail.com

Host Club:

FF Fortaleza

Spaces Available: 20

This Journey to Fortaleza and Manaus will be incredible!

Ambassadors will have a unique opportunity to stay in the homes of native people to experience the rich, diverse, and inclusive culture for which the North and Northeast of Brazil are known.

Ambassadors will also have the chance to stay in a village within the Amazon Rainforest...an experience that not even many Brazilians have had! This Journey is going to be fantastic! Come see for yourself.

KNOW BEFORE YOU GO

- Fortaleza: the weather is always hot and most of times sunny. Therefore, bring light clothes, sandals, water, and lots of sunscreen.
- Manaus: It is very humid and hot. Bring an insect repellent to avoid the mosquitoes in the forest. Long-sleeve shirts and pants might also be appropriate for treks in the jungle (due to the branches, sticks, and dense foliage).

View this Journey on the FFI Catalog:

[Global to Fortaleza and the Amazon, Brazil](#)

View an invitation from the Journey Coordinator:

[JC Thiago Lorena Invites You to Join Him in Brazil!](#)



East Coast Super Regional Conference in Charleston, SC

Conference Dates:
November 7 - 9, 2018

Price:
\$200 (early bird by July 15)
\$225 (regular price)

Contact Information:
Allison Lindsey
allison@friendshipforce.org
404-965-4342

Making Connections

The Conference Committee for the East Coast Super Regional Conference would like to invite you to our conference! Clubs from the Northeast and Mid-Atlantic States, the Southeast, and Florida will gather together in Charleston, SC, November 7 - 9, to share information and ideas. Visit with old friends and meet new ones all while enjoying the beauty and culture of Charleston, SC.

Schedule Overview:

Wednesday, Nov 7: Arrival Day, Presidents Meeting 4-6PM, Dinner out together at local restaurant

Thursday, Nov 8: Plenaries & Workshops from 8AM - 4PM, Dinner at 7:00 with Keynote speaker, Tina Singleton of Transformation Table (www.transformationtable.com)

Friday, Nov 9: Plenaries & Workshops from 8AM - 12PM

Notes: Conference fee includes dinner on Thursday night with our Keynote speaker, Tina Singleton of Transformation Table. Additional tickets can be purchased for \$50 each.

Conference Website:

<https://eastcoastffconference.weebly.com/schedule.html>

To Register:

[East Coast Super Regional Conference Registration Form](#)



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Journey # 15113

Greater Atlanta to Bogota, Quito, and the Galapagos

Journey Dates:

April 26 - May 11, 2019

Price:

\$3,695

Contact Information:

Bonnie Evans

kbemje@bellsouth.net

(404) 771-0010

Host Club:

FF Bogotá

Optional Extension:

Amazon Basin

Spaces Available: 20

The dream Journey starts with a seven-night homestay in the colorful, fun city of Bogotá, Colombia. Some of the sites we will visit are the Ministry of Culture of Colombia, Museum Santa Clara, Monteserrate Hill, Rose Farm in Tocancipa, and The Gold Museum. We will also visit the Basilica Nuestra Señora de Fatima, Universidad de la Sabana, Salt Cathedral, Museo Botera, Boyaca Bridge, and Villa de Leyva, Usaquen are some of the other stops. We will be entertained with lively music and Latin dancing at the welcome and farewell parties.

We will continue our Journey and fly to Quito, Ecuador for three nights where we will stay at Patio Andalusia Hotel which is close to the old town. Two days of tours will take us to Pululahua Volcano and visit the Intinan Museum where we will stand in the northern and southern hemispheres at the same time. Many other famous sites will be visited in Quito. A visit to Otavala will awe us with the views, and we will be able to shop in the famous handicraft Indian market. The day will be filled with scenic beauty of the Andes of Ecuador.

Off we fly to Baltra in the Galápagos Islands where an exciting adventure awaits with viewing incredible, rare animals, birds, sea creatures, and geological formations. The professional tour is six-days/five-nights and visits four to five islands. It will be a Journey of a lifetime that many people have on their bucket list.

We fly back to Quito where ambassadors will fly back home or continue on the optional four-days/three-night HUAORANI Amazonian Encounter. The \$920 extension cost includes a night before and after the Amazon Encounter. We will be visiting the Amazon Basin with a stop along the way to enjoy the Hot Springs in Papallacta. We will travel down the Arahuno River in a motorized canoe before arriving at Itamandi Lodge, our lodging place. You will visit an animal rescue center and a local Kichwa community and their farm. We will spend one full-day encountering the Huaorini tribe that were first contacted by civilization in 1956. We will learn about their culture, including eating a meal, watching a blowpipe competition, and seeing their ceremonial dancing and handicrafts. On our way back to Quito we will visit a parrot licking spot and see hundreds of colorful parrots. Your pre- and post-Amazon accommodation is Posada Mirolinda Hotel located near the airport.



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I N T E R N A T I O N A L

Experience different views. Discover common ground.

United States eFlyer

US eFlyer Submissions are due the 21st of each month. Please submit your information to FFI using this online form:

[US eFlyer Submission Form](#)

If you have any questions about the US eFlyer or submission process, please contact:

Maryam Jordan

maryam@friendshipforce.org

404-965-4337