



friendship force

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

Experience different views. Discover common ground.

United States eFlyer

May 2019

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 Edmonton & Area, Manitoba, Canada and Greater Harrisburg, USA

Journey Dates:

August 1 - 27, 2019

Price:

\$1,050 (FFI Fees/Host Fees)

Contact Information:

Teresa Whitters

twffss@outlook.com

Host Clubs:

[FF Edmonton and Area](#)

[FF Manitoba](#)

[FF Greater Harrisburg](#)

Spaces Available: 7

The FF Southern Sydney club is excited at the opportunity of a triple Journey in August 2019 to Canada and the east coast of the USA.

If you decide to join us, you will have the chance to see diverse parts of Canada, starting in Edmonton near the beautiful Canadian Rocky Mountains, which you could visit en route if you so desired. Then we fly to the central province of Manitoba near Lake Winnipeg. The Canadian countryside and its people are a joy to experience.

After a five-day individual break where everyone will be “doing their own thing,” we will gather in Harrisburg, Pennsylvania, USA. This area is rife with the history of the American Civil War and has Amish and Mennonite communities which we will visit. We also have the chance to enjoy Hershey chocolates amongst many other cultural and culinary pleasures.

Some of us will be visiting nearby Washington and possibly staying in New York either during the break or after the Journeys have been completed. The choice is yours!

Please contact Teresa Whitters if you are interested in these Journeys or have any questions. We currently have space for 8 ambassadors, and we'd love to meet and travel with you.

[Edmonton & Area and Manitoba, Canada and Greater Harrisburg, USA](#)



Journey #15070

Greater Omaha to Berlin, Norderstedt, Schwerin and Hamburg, Germany

Journey Dates:

August 23 - September 8

Price:

\$1,200

Contact Information:

Joy Schaal

joyhugs100945@gmail.com

402-496-2573

Host Clubs:

[FF Schwerin](#)

[FF Norderstedt](#)

Spaces Available: 2

Join us on our adventure to Germany!

First we will have a wonderful tour of Berlin seeing these cultural highlights: Brandenburg Gate, Reichstag Building, Sinti and Roma Memorial, Holocaust Memorial, Embassies (USA, France, UK, Russia), Old governmental district, Frederick Street/Checkpoint Charlie, Gendarmenmarkt (Konzerthaus, Deutscher Dom, Französischer Dom), Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Bebelplatz (place of Nazi book-burning in 1933), Berlin Castle, Museum Island, Nikolai Quarter, Berlin City Hall (Rotes Rathaus), and Alexanderplatz. We will also have a River Cruise lunch, with two full days to explore Berlin.

After leaving Berlin we will travel by train to Hamburg and Miniaturwunderland, afterwards having lunch there. We'll visit Elbphilharmonie, the NordArt exhibition, and the Arboretum in Ellerhoop.

Next on to Schwerin by train where we will have a guided tour of the city, visiting Schwerin palace museum, and taking a bus ride to Lübstorf to visit Wiligrad Castle. A visit the open-air museum of folklore Mueß will round out the experience. Later, we will have fun at a picnic then go for a horse and carriage ride.

We will end up our Journey in Wismer, where we will have a guided tour. Then we move on to Hamburg to return home or go on to another destination.

This Journey is a great experience for anyone who wants to learn more about German culture, art, and history.

For more details, view this Journey on the FFI Catalog:

[Berlin, Schwerin and Norderstedt, Germany](#)



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INTERNATIONAL

One-Of-A-Kind Journey in collaboration with Habitat for Humanity Global Village-Moinesti, Romania

Journey Dates:

August 30 - September 7

Price:

\$1,700

Contact Information:

Chuck & Betty Oldanie

boldanie@tampabay.rr.com

727-392-4698

Host Clubs:

FF Bucharest

Spaces Available: 4

Note: The fee includes FFI fees, housing, all meals, water and snacks while on the build site; local transportation to and from the airport in Bucharest; cultural and sightseeing activities to help you understand the place and the people; medical and evacuation insurance; a U.S. Global Village Volunteer Handbook for Romania; and a donation to Habitat for Humanity. Your airfare to and from Bucharest is not included.

Friendship Force Florida Suncoast is offering this unique opportunity for Friendship Force members to expand their usual global collaboration and goodwill efforts, when traveling abroad, by combining forces with Habitat for Humanity partners and other locals, while building lasting relationships and creating affordable housing that Habitat families will treasure as “Home” for years to come. Through these expanded efforts of global collaboration and goodwill, the cause of friendship and peace will be furthered.

Your experience on this Journey will be memorable and rewarding. The Journey will begin and end in Bucharest. Three days of the Journey will be spent working on a Habitat Global Village site, as part of a Friendship Force team helping to construct decent, affordable housing that will build better lives for families in Romania. The remainder of the days will be spent sightseeing and participating in various cultural events.

Previous construction experience is not required. Habitat is accustomed to working with volunteers with varied experience levels. They do recommend that volunteers be able to lift 15 pounds and tolerate being on their feet for a couple of hours, if need be. However, the primary key to volunteers’ success is flexibility – of the mind and spirit. If interested don’t delay! The maximum number of ambassadors for this Journey is 16.

A 3 day optional “add-on” stay is available at the end of this Journey with members of the FF Bucharest club who have offered to day host our group for 3 days (Sep. 8 – 10, 2019) to help us see and learn more about important sites, food, and culture. Please note that lodging, meals, and other costs would be at your own expense.

For more details, view this Journey on the FFI Catalog:

[Habitat for Humanity Global to Romania](#)



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INTERNATIONAL

Journey #15203

Reno-Tahoe, USA to Brandon & Area and Stratford-St. Marys, Canada

Journey Dates:

September 4 - 18, 2019

Price:

\$1,050

Contact Information:

Lynn Capurro

lynncapurro@gmail.com

775-885-7968

Host Clubs:

[FF Brandon & Area](#)

[FF Stratford-St. Marys](#)

Spaces Available: 12

UPDATED THIS MONTH!

This is a two-week Journey to Mid and East Canada with hosts in FF Brandon & Area and FF Stratford-St. Marys.

We will meet in Winnipeg and rent cars/vans and drive to Brandon. While in Brandon, we will see such things as Riding Mountain National Park, Minnedosa Heritage Village and bison compound, a Hutterite Colony, The International Peace Gardens on the Canadian/American border.

Then we return to Winnipeg and fly to Toronto and then on to Stratford in an agricultural region. There we will visit a farmer's market where we could ride a horse-drawn carriage, visit a sugar bush (where they make maple syrup), see the sights in a car rally, visit a robotic dairy farm, pioneer museum, cheese factory, etc.

The costs for the transportation between the host clubs is still not exactly pinned down, but the price reflects our best estimate for now.



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INTERNATIONAL

Greater Hamilton and Burlington to Limburg, Belgium and Székesfehérvár, Hungary

Journey Dates:

September 15 -29, 2019

Price: \$2,000

Contact Information:

Heather Oliver

holiver@cogeco.ca

905-627-0632

Host Clubs:

FF of Limburg

FF of Székesfehérvár

Spaces Available: 3

We have 3 spaces available to Limburg, Belgium; 1 space with home-hosting for Székesfehérvár, Hungary (anyone beyond that number is welcome to stay in a hotel in Székesfehérvár, and the club there will offer day-hosting to balance both segments). Ambassadors will arrange their own international and domestic flights.

On September 15, we'll meet Limburg hosts at the Hasselt train in Limburg. There is the possibility of an optional group pre-tour to Ypres and Flanders Fields, ahead of the main Journey. Limburg, Sept. 15-22, may include day trips to Antwerp and Leuven, local sightseeing around the Limburg province, a brewery, museums. Sept. 22 we travel back to Brussels by train or bus to get flight to Budapest. Sept. 22, 23 – stay in a hotel in Budapest and see local attractions with the group.

On September 24, we'll meet the president of FF Székesfehérvár to tour Budapest and take us back to Székesfehérvár by chartered bus. As hosts in Székesfehérvár work, you will be out of the home from 8:00 a.m until 8:00 p.m., while taking tours and seeing the area - to Pannonhalma (40 miles) to visit the UNESCO World Heritage site the Benedictine Arch-Abbey and taste 5 different wines at the Winery of the Abbey, the porcelain museum in Herend, and Lake Balaton area, Balatonfüred and Tihany, and tour Székesfehérvár. Saturday we spend the day with the hosts; Saturday evening is the farewell party. Sept. 29 we will go by reserved bus to Budapest for onward travel.

All ambassadors must be in good physical condition and have high stamina. There will be a lot of walking on uneven ground and some hosts have multiple stories in their homes with a washroom on a different floor than the bedroom.



Austin, USA to Karsiyaka Bay, Turkey

Journey Dates:

September 17 - October 1

**Price: \$435 for homestay,
\$950 for optional 2nd week
tour**

Contact Information:

Kay Binder
kaybinder2@gmail.com
512-838-1183

Host Club:
[FF of Karsiyaka Bay](#)

Spaces Available: 8

NEW THIS MONTH!

An exciting homestay of seven days in the exotic city of Izmir includes not only a tour of the city but incredible historic sites in the surrounding area around Izmir. An excursion to the coast to overnight in hosts' summer homes is planned with an short excursion on the Pelagos Sea.

All meals and expenses, except personal purchases and some drinks, all included. Following the homestay, a seven-day tour of famous historic sites and cities takes us throughout Turkey and includes transportation, hotels, fees, breakfast and some dinners.

Some highlights of the Journey include: A day trip to world-famous Ephesus ruins and also visit Virgin Mary's shrine; a visit to a carpet factory, watch demonstrations of famous Turkish carpets; visiting Alacati, a beautiful village which is one of the most popular tourist attractions in Turkey; visiting Cesme Castle & Museum.

If weather permits, stay overnight in Cesme at hosts' summer home. Then have a boat trip next day, swim in the Aegean Sea, with many shades of blue, dine at a fish restaurant, visit the Farmer's Market in Karsiyaka, have lunch at Pide Restaurant for Turkish Pizza, take a ferry across the Izmir Bay & visit Ataturk Museum (father of modern Turkey) & the Izmir History and Art Museum.

We'll have a city tour in Izmir. Go to 5,000 year old Kemeralti Bazaar, Kizlaragasi Inn, see city clock tower - a symbol of Izmir. Taste the world famous doner kebab. You can then have a chance to do souvenir shopping, visit the amazing Cars Museum then take the Urla winery road and taste the award-winning wines of the region. This is a Journey of a lifetime!



Discover Iceland

Journey Dates:
October 1 - 7, 2019

Price:
\$2,932

Contact Information:
Rose Schultz
roses@jswtech.com
641-777-3336

Spaces Available: 5

Note:
The price differs depending on the number of people as follows:
16 participants: \$2,932/person
14 participants: \$2,984/person
12 participants: \$3,055/person
10 participants: \$3,144/person
9 participants: \$3,349/person

Join this incredible Discovery Journey to Reykjavik, 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. We intend to cultivate these meetings with local professionals and tradesmen to create new Friendship Force clubs and members in Iceland where there have previously been none.

There is no home-hosting on this Journey. We will visit a local rescue team, visit a historical thermal swimming pool; locals often use the thermal pools. They are usually outdoors and are a good way to get a feel of the local habits. You will have the opportunity to taste some typical Icelandic treats.



For more details, view this Journey on the FFI Catalog:

[Discover Iceland](#)



Baton Rouge, USA to Ribeirao Preto and Piracicaba, Brazil

Journey Dates:

October 3 - 21, 2019

Price:

\$2,300

Contact Information:

Sheila Melancon

sheilamela@cox.net

225-964-0286

Host Club:

FF Ribeirao Preto

FF Piracicaba

Spaces Available: 2

NEW THIS MONTH!

This fantastic Journey is planned with the help of a travel agent who has all flights, Iguazu Falls arrangements and bus travel arranged.

We will leave October 3 out of Ft. Lauderdale on Azul airlines, fly to Sao Paulo then to the unbelievable Iguazu Falls for an optional tour and 3 night stay in a hotel. At the falls we will have the option to have Brazilian BBQ and see Brazilian dancers.

Then we're off on a flight to Ribeirao Preto (October 7) which will be the start of our first week of the Journey. This is a very progressive city where we'll visit museums, see a sugar mill, have an opportunity to go to a "hot springs" spa.

We'll travel by bus to Piracicaba (October 14) for our second week of the Journey. This is another progressive city which is on the Piracicaba River and is closer to Sao Paulo City. We'll have great opportunities to explore this area and then we will travel to Sao Paulo to depart for the USA on October 21.



Exploring South of Brazil

Journey Dates:

October 20 - November 3

Price:

\$2,100

Contact Information:

Helcio Lanzoni

hlanzoni@teseprime.org

011-55-16-99156-5213

Host Club:

[FF Curitiba](#)

Spaces Available: 13

Get to know the south of Brazil from from all angles on this combination Journey which includes a homestay and personalized tour! Begin your adventure with a week of home-hosting with the incredible Friendship Force of Curitiba, as you samba the night away, enjoy a picnic lunch and visits to local wineries, and learn to cook Brazilian food with your new Brazilian friends! Then continue on with a tour of the breathtaking Iguassu Falls and the Itaimbezinho Canyon, part of the Aparados da Serra National Park.

Some highlights of this Journey include:

- Try traditional Brazilian food with people who know how to cook it!
- Experience a real samba night
- Visit beautiful places with a Brazilian point of view
- Tours are amazingly personal, allowing us to obtain a really thorough understanding of the cities
- Explore the part of Brazil closest to Europe due to the European colonization in the area

For more details, view this Journey on the FFI Catalog:

[Exploring South of Brazil](#)



Discover Chile with La Serena, Chile

Journey Dates:

November 5 - 16, 2019

Price:

\$4,225

Contact Information:

Vicki Coulson Vance

brlacolibri@gmail.com

225-275-3816

Host Club:

[FF La Serena](#)

Spaces Available: 2

Note: Price of \$4225 USD includes four internal flights, six nights homestay fees, four nights all-inclusive hotel in the Atacama Desert with all meals, guided tours, ground transportation, gratuities, FFI fees and one night hotel upon arrival in Santiago with ground transfer. Not included is your international airfare to Santiago, travel insurance, free day activities and personal expenses.

There are two spaces left to discover the wonders of Chile on November 5-16 with a homestay in colonial La Serena followed by a tour of the Atacama Desert, the world's driest desert region.

Our friendly hosts in La Serena, Chile's second oldest city, will show us the best of this seaside city with visits to vineyards, parks, museums, market, beach villages, and a special day trip to Damas Island where we hope to see penguins, sea lions, and pelicans. Practice your Spanish in the local market while you shop for crafts and local art and enjoy the taste of superb Chilean wines of the Andean Elqui Valley - try out a delicious pisco sour. We will see crystal clear skies, stars, and constellations with a night visit to an observatory.

Following our homestay, we will have a four-night all-inclusive stay in San Pedro de Atacama in the world's driest desert. No need for a raincoat here, as the region receives about 1 mm of rainfall per year! This high remote, rugged land is made up of volcanoes, geysers, salt flats, lagoons with pink flamingos, thermal springs, colorful rock formations and small villages. In fact, this is where NASA tests out the Mars rover since the land is similar! Some of our excursions include visits to the Valley of the Moon, Los Flamencos National Reserve, El Tatio Geysers, nighttime star-gazing, dips in thermal pools, and trips to the salt flats.





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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