



# ALUMNAE ASSOCIATION of SMITH COLLEGE

## *The Middle East in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century* *A World Leaders Symposium* March 19 to April 3, 2009

### **Preliminary Itinerary** (subject to amendment)

#### **Day 1 – Thursday, March 19, 2009**

**Gateway City**

- Depart the USA for Dubai.

*(Appropriate in-flight meals)*

#### **Day 2 – Friday, March 20, 2009**

**Dubai**

- Upon arrival at the Dubai International Airport this evening, transfer to the Jumeirah Beach Hotel.
- Check into your room overlooking the azure waters of the Arabian Gulf.

*(Appropriate in-flight meals)*

*Jumeirah Beach Hotel*

#### **Day 3 – Saturday, March 21, 2009**

**Dubai**

- The morning begins with a welcome orientation and lecture, followed by an excursion of your choice, including lunch at a local restaurant.
- Excursion choices during the time in Dubai will include visits to all-women Sheikh Zayed University, Sharjah Wildlife Park, Palm Jumeirah and the Gold Souk.
- Convene for an exclusive welcome reception and dinner this evening at the hotel.

*(B, L, R, D)*

*Jumeirah Beach Hotel*

#### **Day 4 – Sunday, March 22, 2009**

**Dubai**

- Start the day with your choice of excursions followed by lunch at a local restaurant.
- The lecture program continues this afternoon, starting with a keynote address by former Secretary of State James Baker, III.
- Gather this evening for dinner at the hotel.

*(B, L, D)*

*Jumeirah Beach Hotel*

#### **Day 5 – Monday, March 23, 2009**

**Riyadh, Saudi Arabia or Abu Dhabi, U.A.E.**

- Symposium participants have a choice today of flying by charter plane to Riyadh, the capital city of Saudi Arabia, or driving to the neighboring Emirate of Abu Dhabi.
- In Riyadh, participants will meet with local dignitaries and visit the National Museum.

- In Abu Dhabi, symposium participants will also meet with local dignitaries and get a behind-the-scenes look at Abu Dhabi's educational museum projects currently in development.
- Return to Dubai this evening.

(B, L, D)

*Jumeirah Beach Hotel*

**Day 6 – Tuesday, March 24, 2009**

**Dubai/Embarkation**

- Enjoy lectures and a panel discussion by speakers before lunch at the hotel.
- This afternoon, embark on the luxurious *Silver Wind* and cruise northwest toward Bahrain.

(B, L, D)

*Silver Wind*

**Day 7 – Wednesday, March 25, 2009**

**Manama, Bahrain**

- Enjoy the lecture program onboard the *Silver Wind*.
- This afternoon enjoy your choice of excursions in Bahrain, including a discussion of Islam and Qur'an at Bait al Qur'an Museum, the Al Fatch Mosque, a discussion of the ancient Dilmun civilization at Qa'alat al-Bahrain, and the National Museum.
- This evening, gather for the captain's welcome reception.

(B, L, D)

*Silver Wind*

**Day 8 – Thursday, March 26, 2009**

**Manama, Bahrain or Dammam, Saudi Arabia**

- After breakfast, participants have the choice of continuing their exploration of the island state of Bahrain with a choice of excursions, or traveling by coach over the impressive 26-mile-long King Fahd Causeway to the Aramco oil compound and Well #7, the birthplace of the "oil era" in modern Arabia.
- Return to the ship for dinner.

(B, L, D)

*Silver Wind*

**Day 9 – Friday, March 27, 2009**

**At Sea**

- Enjoy the onboard lecture and discussion program as the ship navigates north to Kuwait.

(B, L, D)

*Silver Wind*

**Day 10 – Saturday, March 28, 2009**

**Kuwait City, Kuwait**

- Take your choice of excursions, including a tour of the architecturally impressive Arab Organizations Headquarters Building, the Calligraphy Museum, fish market and old-town souk, and the Martyr's Museum dedicated to the fallen of the Persian Gulf War

(B, L, D)

*Silver Wind*

**Day 11 – Sunday, March 29, 2009**

**At Sea**

- Enjoy the onboard lecture and discussion program as the ship navigates south to Qatar.

(B, L, D)

*Silver Wind*

**Day 12 – Monday, March 30, 2009**

**Doha, Qatar**

- This morning enjoy your choice of excursions including a meeting with personnel from the Al Jazeera television network, Arabian horse stables, a dune drive along spectacular sand dunes, and Education City.
- Continue the lecture program this afternoon as the *Silver Wind* steers toward Dubai.

(B, L, D)

*Silver Wind*

**Day 13 – Tuesday, March 31, 2009**

**Dubai, U.A.E./Muscat, Oman**

- Disembark the *Silver Wind* this morning and transfer to Dubai International Airport for a charter flight to Muscat, Oman.
- Upon arrival, transfer to the Al Bustan Palace Hotel overlooking the Gulf of Oman.

(B, L, D)

*Al Bustan Palace Hotel*

**Day 14 – Wednesday, April 1, 2009**

**Muscat**

- After breakfast, choose from several excursions, including Mutrah Souk, Sultan Qaboos Grand Mosque, Beit al-Zubair Museum, and the Beit al-Baranda Museum.
- This afternoon, enjoy lectures by our speakers before dinner at the hotel.

(B, L, D)

*Al Bustan Palace Hotel*

**Day 15 – Thursday, April 2, 2009**

**Muscat**

- The morning is dedicated to exploring Muscat through your choice of excursion, or drive early this morning to Nizwa for the lively goat market.
- After the final lecture this afternoon, enjoy a farewell reception and dinner.

(B, L, D)

*Al Bustan Palace Hotel*

**Day 16 – Friday, April 3, 2009**

**Muscat/Home**

- Depart this morning for flights back to the U.S.

(B, appropriate in-flight meals)