



## Study Tour to Israel: extra security issues

### Travel warning from the U.S. Department of State

*The latest travel warning of August 10, 2010 urges U.S. citizens to remain mindful of security factors when planning travel to Israel and the West Bank and to avoid all travel to the Gaza strip. DIS recognizes this notification of an increased risk and has therefore taken necessary precautions as outlined below.*

*DIS will not run study tours in areas in which the U.S. department of state recommends U.S. citizens avoid (for example, the Gaza strip). Any updates in the severity of the current travel warning to Israel and the West Bank will cause DIS to change the itinerary in order to avoid areas that are not recommended. This includes cancelling and refunding the study tour if all travel to Israel becomes not recommended by the department of state.*

### Local Assistance

*DIS will work with a local agent (DA'AT travel) that manages the practical details as well as day to day security. The agent will provide services such as hotels, restaurants, bus transfers, guides, etc. and will provide 24 hour assistance and constantly update our tour leaders on security issues. The agent is experienced with American tours (for example, birthright tours) and will provide hotels and other venues that are appropriate for the safety of American groups.*

### DIS Staff and Faculty

*The DIS faculty member is experienced in group travel within Israel and has worked closely with our local agent (mentioned above). The faculty member and a representative from the DIS study tour department will make a comprehensive research trip to Israel prior to the study tour. The research trip will include an inspection of the hotels, restaurants, and other venues as well as a run through of safety issues and procedures with our local agent and other suppliers.*

### Evacuation & Insurance

*DIS provides a comprehensive travel insurance which includes a 1 million kroner emergency transportation policy for each student if security or health risks become severe during our study tour. An evacuation plan can include immediate transportation to a safe area within Israel, air transportation back to Denmark, or land/sea transportation to a safe area if air travel is temporarily shut down. The United States embassy in Tel Aviv will receive a copy of our passenger list and itinerary prior to the study tour.*

### Orientation Session

*Students travelling on the DIS study tour to Israel will be required to attend an extra orientation session prior to the study tour. This session will provide students with relevant safety tips as well as a discussion and run-through of the emergency procedures.*