

# FORUM RETREATS



## First Forum Retreat

### Retreat Description

Forums embarking on their first retreat will appreciate the structured, developmental aspects of the First Forum Retreat. This program positions a new Forum for growth and depth. During the program, the Forum addresses a suite of foundational elements that are critical to a healthy, high-value Forum experience—mission statement, behavioral norms/constitution, meeting structure, processes, member roles and responsibilities, communication protocols, conflict resolution process, annual calendar of activities, topic board, building trust and achieving depth. The program integrates a variety of activities, discussions and exercises that result in a structured Forum plan for the next 12 months and beyond.

### Objectives / Outcomes

The First Forum Retreat positions new Forums (less than two years old) for a high-value Forum experience. Member objectives are identified and aligned, and the Forum learns a common language for continued growth and development. Avoid common pitfalls that many Forums experience during their first year of existence and kick-start your Forum in the right direction!

### First Forum Retreat Highlights

- Align Forum mission, values and expectations.
- Learn best practices for meeting agendas, coaching and presentations.
- Experience foundational exercises and processes for building trust and respect.
- Define Forum processes and structural practices
- Develop a plan for continued growth and increasing value over the coming year.

### Details

Audience: All members of your Forum  
Work Time: 8—12 hours  
Includes: Pre-program assessment, moderator interview, pre-retreat exercises, First Forum Retreat Workbook, private, facilitated sessions, customized exercises and follow up exercises.

*n. Fo·rum - A meeting place for open discussion.  
n. Sherpa - An expert guide.*

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