



JOURNEY -TO- CUBA



A Cross-Cultural
Educational Exchange
February 1-5, 2019

Organized by Cuba Cultural Travel CST 2060914-40





ITINERARY

(Subject to Change)

DAY 1 **FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 1**

Upon arrival at **Havana International Airport (HAV)**: Clear immigration, customs and baggage, a process that takes about 30-60 minutes. You will be greeted by our local **Cuban Guides** and/or **CCT Escort**, who will assist you to our ground transportation.

1:30 pm Welcome lunch at **La Foresta** in the upscale Havana suburb of **Siboney**.

In route to our hotel or Casas, we see the **Plaza de la Revolucion**.

Afternoon Check into the **Hotel Parque Central** or your **Casa Particular (B&B)**.

Hotel Parque Central

Neptuno, esquina Prado y Zulueta, Havana, Cuba
Tel. 53 7 860 6627

After check-in/as time permits, you may explore the historic area surrounding the hotel. Stroll down the **Paseo de Marti (el Prado)**, a tree lined pedestrian promenade leading to the sea. This area includes the home of Cuba's former president **Jose Miguel Gomez** and the lavish **Palacio de los Matrimonios**. See the massive renovation project of the **Capitolio** and continue to the **Parque de la Fraternidad**. This is "Old Taxi" central; here you will find all make and models of American cars from the 1950's.

Private Bed & Breakfasts (or *Casas Particulares*) are a new form of private enterprise in Cuba affording Cuban homeowners and independent workers new employment opportunities, higher wages and incomes, increased Independence from the state, as well new ways to exchange with foreigners.

After check-in or as time permits, you may explore the surrounding neighborhood of Vedado. During your stay you may consider a walk along the Malecón (Havana's famous seawall) or **La Rampa**. Vedado is home to the most iconic buildings of Havana's modernist movement including the **Habana Libre Hotel**, the **Coppelia Ice Cream parlor**, the **Pabellon Cuba**, and the **Riviera Hotel**.

6:45 pm Depart for **Centro Asturianos** for a private musical performance and dinner. The band leader is **Professor Alberto Faya** who has been working as a musician, professor and researcher within the Cuban musical world since 1973. He has won national awards in music and musicology. He will be joined by several young musicians who will treat us to a lively journey through the history of Cuban music.

8:30 pm Group dinner at **La Terraza**, on the third floor of Centro Asturianos.



DAY 2

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 2

Complimentary breakfast is served daily in the lobby level of the Hotel Parque Central from 7am to 10am, or at the time requested at your B&B.

9:00 am CUBA IN TRANSITION: The Rule of Law as part of Cuban Reforms.

Lecture by **Rafael M. Hernandez**. Rafael is a historian, author, and editor of *Temas*, a Cuban quarterly in the field of social sciences and humanities. *Temas* is considered the leading intellectual publication in Cuba and an important source of independent thought. Rafael has taught as a visiting professor at Harvard, Columbia, the University of Texas, the University of Puerto Rico; CIDE and ITAM in Mexico, and served as visiting scholar at the Wilson Center (Washington, DC) and other US and Latin American academic institutions. Rafael has published widely on Cuban and U.S. policies, inter-American relations, international security, human rights, migration, as well on Cuban culture and civil society. *This meeting will take place in a hotel conference room.*

10:45 am Depart for a walking tour of **Havana Vieja**. Please make sure to wear comfortable shoes!

We start at **Plaza De Armas**, a scenic tree-lined plaza formerly at the center of influence in Cuba. It is surrounded by many of the most historic structures in Havana as well as important monuments.

We continue to **Plaza de la Catedral** before visiting **Plaza Vieja**. Learn about the massive historic preservation program which began in this Plaza under the leadership of City Historian, Eusebio Leal.

12:30 pm Group lunch at **Paladar Los Mercaderes**. This impeccably restored mansion is a welcome retreat from the bustling streets of the old city. We enjoy delightful tapas and a selection of seasonal specialties.

After lunch, we visit the **Plaza de San Francisco**, a cobbled plaza surrounded by buildings dating from the 18th century, dominated by the baroque **Iglesia and Convento de San Francisco** dating from 1719.

2:30 pm Return to hotel or B&B, or take a leisurely stroll back to the hotel via **Obispo Street** in Havana Vieja.

4:00 pm **ECONOMIC REFORM AND THE NEW CUBAN ECONOMY**

Lecture by professor **Juan Alejandro Triana**, faculty member of the Department of Economics at the **University of Havana**. His research and publications have focused on micro-finance, private sector regulation, as well as US-Cuba economic relations. Professor Triana will discuss various topics related to Cuba's evolving economic policies and the rapidly changing business landscape. *This lecture will take place in a hotel conference room.*

8:00 pm We visit the **Fabrica de Arte Cubano (FAC)**, and enjoy dinner at **Tierra "Arte Culinaria"** in FAC's **VIP Lounge**. Once an old cooking oil factory, this repurposed complex is without doubt the hippest place in Havana. Part Miami Art Basel, part Williamsburg warehouse party, the FAC is taking the Cuban arts scene by storm hosting viewings, performances and exhibitions of cinema, theatre, dance, music, literature, fashion, architecture, graphic design, photography, and the visual arts. After dinner, we give you 30-45 minutes to enjoy FAC before returning to our hotel/B&B. Some may wish to stay longer, in which case you can easily find a taxi upon exiting FAC.

DAY 3

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 3

9:00 am **US-CUBA RELATIONS**

Presentation by former diplomat and **University of Havana** professor, **Camilo Garcia Lopez Trigo**. In addition to his experience at the Ministry of Foreign Relations (Ministerio de Relaciones Exteriores, or MINREX) and foreign diplomatic missions, Camilo has served leadership roles at the **Cuban Writers and Artists Union** (*Union de Escritores y Artistas de Cuba*, or UNEAC) as well the **National Center for Sex Education** (*Centro Nacional de Educación Sexual*, or CENESEX). Camilo will address the most current status of U.S.-Cuba relations. Tough questions are encouraged for a free and open dialogue.

10:45 am Visit the **Museum of Cuban Art** with art historian **Aylet Ojeda**. The museum is dedicated exclusively to Cuban Art from the earliest days of colonialism to the latest generation of Cuban artists.

12:30 pm Arrive for our lecture and lunch at **Nazdarovie** - a Cuban-Soviet inspired restaurant on the Malécon. We will be greeted by **Gregory Biniowsky**, an attorney from Canada who moved to Cuba over 20 years ago. Gregory opened Nazdarovie as a way to pay homage to the Soviet women who settled and established families in Cuba. They have created a space of nostalgia and memories for the thousands of Cubans who spent 'the best years of their youth' studying at universities in the USSR - a nostalgia which transcends politics and ideology.

Lecture by Havana-based Canadian attorney **Gregory Biniowsky**. Gregory is a Canadian lawyer and political scientist who has lived in Cuba for more than 20 years, and has a diverse background involving a multitude of for-profit and nonprofit endeavors, including teaching at the **University of Havana**, doing consulting work for foreign companies exploring or setting up ventures in Cuba, and working as a consultant for the Canadian Embassy and United Nations in Havana. Gregory presently works for the Canadian based international law firm *Gowlings WLG*, focusing on offering strategic advice, business intelligence, and venture options to prospective investors and companies, from around the world, who are looking at the Cuban market. Gregory will share his personal insights into Cuban society, the evolving political landscape, and the fast changing business and investment environment.

3:00 pm After lunch, we visit to the whimsical fishing village of **Jáímanitas**, home of artist José **Fuster**, who has made a major contribution to rebuilding and decorating the neighborhood. Jáímanitas is now a unique work of public art where Fuster and his neighbors have decorated over 80 houses with colorful ornate murals and domes.

Bus tour of '**Modern Architecture**' in Western Havana. Few people realize the important place Havana holds as a treasure trove of 20th Century architecture. Our tour will highlight some of the best examples to be found in this incredibly diverse area of the city where some of its most fascinating buildings were built using different architectural styles.

Before returning to your hotel/B&B, we visit the iconic **Hotel Nacional de Cuba** overlooking the Straits of Florida and the Malecón. When the Nacional opened in 1930, Cuba was a prime travel destination many illustrious guests including Frank Sinatra, Ava Gardner, John Wayne, Marlene Dietrich, Marlon Brando, and Ernest Hemingway.

6:00 pm Depart for an unforgettable private performance by the **Orchestra Sinfónica Juvenil** (Havana Youth Orchestra). This group of supremely talented young music professors represent the finest artists of their generation. The 16-member orchestra will perform a medley of international classical favorites as well as several Cuban compositions.

7:00 pm Dinner on your own.



This morning you choose between two (2) distinct activities.

OPTION 1: LAS TERRAZAS/COFFEE TOUR

9:00 am We depart the hotel for the pioneering eco-community of **Las Terrazas** in **Sierra del Rosario** located in the province of **Artemisa** (APPROX. 50-minute drive). We will be greeted by a local guide who will educate us on the significance as well economic landscape of this revolutionary “green” project.

In 1968, President **Fidel Castro** founded the green revolution. Architect **Osmany Cienfuegos** mobilized work brigades that created over 1300km of terraces of timber, fruits, ornamentals and vegetables. They carved 170km of roads through the mountains to build homes, schools, playgrounds, and clinics all surrounding the lake of San Juan. This biosphere came under UNESCO protection in 1984 due to the success of the reforestation project. It is now home to 117 bird species, including 12 that are endemic.

During our visit to Las Terrazas, we see the ruins of a **French Coffee Plantation** built in 1801 by the French who escaped Haiti after the 1791 Haitian revolution.

We stop at the famous **Café Maria** for delightfully rich Cuban coffee. Here you may also have the opportunity to purchase locally grown/roasted Cuban coffee.

We continue to **Hotel La Moka**, an ecological hotel with trees growing up through the balconies and ceiling. The income generated from tourism has funded the community library, the new Aire Libre café, a museum and the expansion of the Hotel with a second hotel in the pipeline.

12:00 pm Lunch at **Casa del Campesino** restaurant. Delicious, plentiful, family style meals in a natural outdoor setting. Local musicians serenade guests with traditional country music.

2:00 pm Return to Havana.

OPTION 2: HEMINGWAY TOUR

9:30 am We depart the hotel for **Finca Vigía**, Ernest Hemingway’s home in **San Francisco de Paula**. The home contains original furniture, artwork, personal memorabilia & other objects collected by the author. Of special importance is the author’s library containing thousands of irreplaceable letters & telegrams, photographs, scrapbooks, manuscripts, & galley proofs.

11:00 am We continue to the picturesque fishing village of **Cojímar**. Ernest Hemingway loved this little seaside town. He kept his boat, **El Pilar**, in the harbor of Cojímar, and he used this village setting for his story *The Old Man and the Sea*, which won him the Nobel Prize for Literature in 1954.





12:00 pm Lunch at **Paladar Ajiaco** in Cojímar.

2:00 pm Return to hotel/B&B.

*Remainder of afternoon free. Optional visit to the Havana **Arts & Crafts Market**.*

7:00 pm Farewell dinner at the famous **La Guarida** restaurant. One of the best restaurants in Havana and famous not only for its delectable dining, but also as the location for the film “Strawberry and Chocolate.” It is housed on the third floor of a large, old town house carrying the charming ambience of the 1920’s.

Optional visit to one of Havana’s Jazz Clubs or the famous **Tropicana** (Cabaret Show).

Note: Tickets to Tropicana should be purchased 1-2 days in advance.

DAY 5

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 5

Morning Optional visit to a **Cigar Factory Store** of the **Havana Arts & Crafts Market**.

Hotel/B&B check-out and depart for airport (approx. 3 hours prior to departure).

** Tips may be given to your guide and driver at this time. Recommended amount is 7-10CUC per person per day for your guide; and 5-7CUC per person per day for your driver.*

BE SURE TO COLLECT YOUR BELONGINGS FROM THE SAFE DEPOSIT BOX IN YOUR ROOM

- ✓ **PASSPORT**
- ✓ **VISA**
- ✓ **PLANE TICKET**
- ✓ **OFAC LETTER OF AUTHORIZATION**

* Please note: This is a “working” itinerary. There may be some changes, additions and/or subtractions to the final itinerary. All venues and artist’s studios are subject to final confirmations. Be assured any changes made will be done to enhance the total program as well as to promote smooth operation of the tour.



TRIP COST

5 DAYS AND 4 NIGHTS

HOTEL PARQUE CENTRAL

DOUBLE, PER PERSON: \$3,210

SINGLE OCCUPANCY: \$3,685

UPSCALE CASA PARTICULAR (B&B)

DOUBLE, PER PERSON: \$2,400 *(one large bed only)*

SINGLE OCCUPANCY: \$2,805

CUSTOM DESIGNED PROGRAM INCLUDES

- Itinerary design and coordination
- Compliance with US Treasury Department
- Accommodations as selected
- All ground transportation
- Full time private tour escort
- Daily breakfast in Cuba
- Meals as listed in itinerary (including tips)
- Entrance fees to museums etc.
- Bottled water on bus and in room
- Gratuities for restaurants, porters
- Cuban Tourist Card/Visa

EXCLUDES

- Airfare to/from Cuba and associated fees
- Airline baggage fees
- Gratuities for guide and driver
- Individualized accommodation expenses (mini bar, room service, laundry fees, etc)
- Trip cancellation insurance

**IOWA STATE BAR ASSOCIATION
PEOPLE TO PEOPLE CULTURAL EXCHANGE
CUBA – FEBRUARY 1-5, 2019**



TOUR COST & CONDITIONS

HOTEL PARQUE CENTRAL

Double occupancy (per person): **\$3,210**
Single occupancy: **\$3,685**

UPSCALE CASA PARTICULAR (B&B)

Double occupancy (per person): **\$2,400** (*one large bed only*)
Single occupancy: **\$2,805**

INCLUDED

- 4-night accommodations as selected (standard room)
- Daily breakfast in Cuba
- Meals as listed in itinerary (including tips)
- Air-conditioned bus throughout the trip equipped with cold water at all times
- Admission to all museums and public buildings listed in itinerary
- Cuba Cultural Travel Escort and local Cuban tour guide
- Compliance with U.S. Treasury Department
- Cuban Tourist Card *

NOT INCLUDED

- Roundtrip airfare to/from Cuba and associated fees
- Meals other than listed on itinerary or described as on your own
- Gratuities for guide and driver (recommended amount is 7-10CUC per person per day for guide, and 5-7CUC per person per day for driver)
- Individualized accommodation expenses (mini bar, room service, laundry fees, etc)
- Trip cancellation insurance

PAYMENT DUE DATES

DEPOSIT DUE BY: OCTOBER 19, 2018

FINAL PAYMENT DUE BY: NOVEMBER 21, 2018

You may contact Laura Adams via email at Laura@CubaCulturalTravel.com or by phone at (760) 645-3269 Monday thru Friday from 9am to 5pm PST with any questions.

REGISTRATION: Registration is on a first come, first served basis with limited enrollment. Confirm your participation by completing and returning this form along with your deposit to the address noted below. **Your passport must be valid for 6 months after the dates of travel. If you need to renew your passport, please do so immediately.**

PROGRAM QUESTIONS: Please note, the proposed itinerary is subject to change. There may be some changes, additions and/or subtractions to the final itinerary. Be assured any changes made will be done to enhance the total program and promote a smooth operation of the tour. If you have any questions regarding the proposed itinerary, please contact Dani Perez at Daniel@CubaCulturalTravel.com.

REGULATIONS: Cuba Cultural Travel is a licensed California Seller of Travel. Under the Seller of Travel Act, 100% of customer funds are deposited into a business client trust account and can only be used to pay for your services. In the event legal travel to Cuba should be suspended due to new rules and regulations, your payments will be returned.

TRAVEL DOCUMENTATION: Approximately two weeks prior to the final payment due date you will receive information regarding the necessary forms for travel, final invoice, and our comprehensive travel tips. Approximately two weeks prior to travel you will receive your travel documents and emergency contact information.

** Cuban born travelers, please contact Cuba Cultural Travel prior to mailing your deposit and registration form. Fees associated with special visas for Cuban born travelers are not included.*

A note from Cuba Cultural Travel: Trips to Cuba require quite a bit of walking on uneven cobblestone streets along with stairs where an elevator is not always available. Participants must be able to walk unassisted. Please keep these physical requirements in mind when making your reservation. If you require mobility assistance, please contact us directly, prior to completing your reservation form, as Cuba is not adequately able to accommodate physically handicapped persons.

**IOWA STATE BAR ASSOCIATION
PEOPLE TO PEOPLE CULTURAL EXCHANGE
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REGISTRATION FORM

If reserving space in a double, please indicate names of both parties. Deposits may be paid separately. Please note Cuba Cultural Travel does not pair individuals. Deposit must accompany this form to confirm participation. Complete one form per room. **Initial here to indicate you understand the passport requirements previously noted:** _____

PARTICIPANT INFORMATION:

COMPLETE ONE FORM PER ROOM

| | | | | |
|----------------|----------------------------------|------------|--------|--|
| GUEST 1 | | | | U.S. CITIZEN: <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO |
| | LAST NAME (AS SHOWN ON PASSPORT) | FIRST NAME | MIDDLE | CUBAN BORN: <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO |
| ADDRESS | ANSWER YES OR NO TO <u>BOTH</u> | | | |
| | STREET ADDRESS | CITY | STATE | ZIP CODE |
| PHONE | | | | |
| | HOME | CELL | OFFICE | |
| EMAIL** | ALT EMAIL | | | |

** ALL INFORMATION, TRAVEL TIPS, FORMS, CONFIRMATIONS, AND INVOICES ARE SENT ELECTRONICALLY.

| | | | | |
|----------------|----------------------------------|------------|--------|--|
| GUEST 2 | | | | U.S. CITIZEN: <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO |
| | LAST NAME (AS SHOWN ON PASSPORT) | FIRST NAME | MIDDLE | CUBAN BORN: <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO |
| ADDRESS | ANSWER YES OR NO TO <u>BOTH</u> | | | |
| | STREET ADDRESS | CITY | STATE | ZIP CODE |
| PHONE | | | | |
| | HOME | CELL | OFFICE | |
| EMAIL** | ALT EMAIL | | | |

** ALL INFORMATION, TRAVEL TIPS, FORMS, CONFIRMATIONS, AND INVOICES ARE SENT ELECTRONICALLY.

ACCOMMODATIONS: (COST PER PERSON)

| | |
|--|--|
| OPTION 1: HOTEL PARQUE CENTRAL <input type="checkbox"/> DOUBLE ROOM \$3,210 <input type="checkbox"/> SINGLE ROOM \$3,685 | OPTION 2: UPSCALE/LUXURY CASA PARTICULAR (B&B) <input type="checkbox"/> DOUBLE ROOM \$2,400 <input type="checkbox"/> SINGLE ROOM \$2,805 |
|--|--|

IF RESERVING SPACES IN **DOUBLE OCCUPANCY IN THE HOTEL PARQUE CENTRAL ONLY**, PLEASE INDICATE: 1 LARGE BED OR 2 TWIN BEDS

DOUBLE OCCUPANCY OPTION IN AN UPSCALE/LUXURY B&B IS AVAILABLE ONLY WITH ONE LARGE BED.

Total amount of check \$_____. Enclose your deposit check payable to **Cuba Cultural Travel** for the amount of **\$1,000 per person** to reserve your space. **Deposit due no later than October 19, 2018.**

Upon receipt of your deposit, a letter of confirmation will be sent to you electronically. Additional information and forms to be completed will be sent at a later date. An invoice for the remaining balance owed will be included at that time. **Full payment is due by November 21, 2018.**

PAYMENT:

CANCELLATION POLICY:

- Payments are nontransferable and nonrefundable after the dates noted in the cancellation policy
- Due to OFAC regulations, payment must be made via personal or business check; or cashier's check issued from a US bank/account
- Payments not honored by the bank are subject to a \$25 returned payment charge
- **CREDIT CARDS, BANK CHECKS ISSUED ONLINE, AND/OR WIRE TRANSFERS CANNOT BE ACCEPTED**

- Cancellations made prior to October 19, 2018 will receive a full refund
- Cancellations made between October 19 and November 21, 2018 will forfeit full deposit of \$1,000
- Cancellations after November 21, 2018 will forfeit entire cost of trip
- All cancellations must be made in writing via email to Laura Adams at Laura@CubaCulturalTravel.com

By signing below, I hereby agree to the aforementioned cancellation policy.

Signature: _____ **Date:** _____

We strongly recommend you purchase Trip Cancellation Insurance to cover unforeseen circumstances requiring cancellation of your travel. Information on acquiring trip insurance will be sent to you with your letter of confirmation. You will have two weeks from the date of confirmation to apply for insurance for coverage of pre-existing conditions.

Please return this form along with your check made payable to CUBA CULTURAL TRAVEL to:

CUBA CULTURAL TRAVEL · 1215 EL PAISANO DRIVE · FALLBROOK, CA 92028