



JOURNEY -TO- CUBA



SAN DIEGO
DIPLOMACY
COUNCIL

A Diplomacy Tour in Support of the
Cuban People

5 Night Program: March 4-9, 2020

7 Night Program: March 4-11, 2020

Organized by Cuba Cultural Travel CST 2060914-40





ITINERARY

(Subject to Change)

DAY 1 (D)

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 4

Upon arrival at Havana International Airport (HAV), proceed to passport control and baggage claim, a process that normally takes between 30-60 minutes. Upon exiting the terminal you will be greeted and escorted to ground transportation.

On Arrival Check-in to your **Casas Particulares** in the *Vedado* neighborhood. Private Bed & Breakfasts (*Casas Particulares*) are a new form of private enterprise in Cuba affording homeowners and individuals new employment opportunities, higher wages, increased Independence from the state, as well new ways to exchange with foreigners.

3:00 pm **US-CUBA RELATIONS: DIPLOMATIC PERSPECTIVES**
Presentation by **Camilo Garcia Lopez Trigo**. Camilo is a former diplomat and professor of International Relations at the **University of Havana**. 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.

5:00 pm Our evening begins with a **Welcome Reception** and private musical performance. The band leader is **Professor Alberto Faya** who has been working as a musician, professor and researcher within the Cuban musical world since 1973.

7:00 pm Welcome dinner at the nearby **Paladar Atelier**.

DAY 2 (B,L,D)

THURSDAY, MARCH 5

Breakfast and coffee is served every day by your Cuban hosts.

9:30 am **CUBA IN TRANSITION: THE EVOLVING SOCIALIST MODEL**
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, migration, as well on Cuban culture and civil society.



11:00 am Depart for our walking tour of **UNESCO World Heritage Site of Havana Vieja**.

We see the **Plaza de la Catedral** and the **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.

Finally, we visit the **Plaza Vieja** to learn about the massive historic preservation program which began in this Plaza under the leadership of City Historian, Eusebio Leal.

1:00 pm Lunch at **Paladar Los Mercaderes**.

Remainder of afternoon free.

7:45 pm Tonight we visit the popular **Fabrica de Arte Cubano (FAC)** and enjoy dinner at **Arte Tierra** inside FAC's VIP Lounge. Once an old oil factory, this repurposed complex at FAC 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.

DAY 3 (B)

FRIDAY, MARCH 6

Morning free. Lunch on your own.

1:00 pm Depart for the whimsical fishing village of **Jaímanitas**, home of artist **José Fuster**, who has made a major contribution to rebuilding and decorating the neighborhood.

3:30 pm **GENDER & SEX RELATIONS IN CUBA**

Presentation by **Rita Pereira**. Ms. Pereira is a Cuban attorney whose areas of expertise are **gender, sexuality and the law**. Rita is an adjunct professor of Gender and the Law at the Faculty of Law of the **University of Havana** and currently works in collaboration with the **National Institute of Endocrinology** in a research project designed to study the family and the intersex child from a psychological and legal perspective. In her discussion, Rita will highlight gender and sex relations in Cuba with an emphasis on the newly proposed **amendments to the Cuban Constitution** allowing for same-sex marriage.

5:00 pm **RELIGION IN CUBA: Field Trip** with religious scholar **Elias Asef** at the *Callejon de Hamel*.

Dinner on your own. Suitable recommendations will be provided.

DAY 4 (B,L,D)

SATURDAY, MARCH 7

- 9:00 am ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE & SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT IN CUBA**
We visit the **Fundación Antonio Núñez Jiménez de la Naturaleza y el Hombre** (the “Nature Foundation”), a multi-disciplinary NGO focused on issues of the environment and sustainable development in Cuba. We will be hosted to a thought-provoking discussion by **Yociel Marrero**, Director of the Foundation’s **Economic & Environmental Responsibility and Consumption** program, to learn about Cuba’s environmental priorities and the activities of this unique environmental NGO.
- 11:30 am** Depart for **La Finca Marta** in the **Artemisa Province**. We will be greeted by scientist and farmer **Fernando Funes-Monzote**.
Lunch at La Finca Marta.
- 3:00pm** Return to Havana.
- Evening** House Party/Dinner with open bar and live entertainment at the home of a young Cuban art collector.



DAY 5 (B,L,D)

SUNDAY, MARCH 8

- 9:00 am THE NEW CUBAN ECONOMY**
Lecture by **Ricardo Torres** of the **University of Havana**. In his lecture, Mr. Torres will discuss Cuba’s recent economic reforms including the evolution of **private property rights** in Cuba, the relaxation of state intervention and Cuba’s integration into the global economy. His discussion will include a macroeconomic overview, a survey of **foreign investment**, and an outlook for the future of the Cuban economy.

Time permitting, we will visit a private art studio.
- 12:00 pm Lecture & Lunch at Nazdarovie**, a Cuban-Soviet inspired restaurant on the Malécon. We will be greeted by **Gregory Biniowsky**, an attorney and political scientist from Canada who moved to Cuba over 20 years ago. In 2014, Gregory and his business partners 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.
- CROSS-BORDER INVESTMENT OPPORTUNITIES & CHALLENGES**
Gregory 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** in Havana and the **United Nations** in Havana. Gregory presently works for the 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 is also the founding partner of **Havanada Consulting Inc.**, which is a non-profit consulting firm, specializing on giving advice to philanthropists, charitable foundations, and development NGOs who want to undertake or fund non-profit projects in Cuba. Gregory will share his personal insights into Cuban society, the evolving political landscape and the fast changing business and investment environment.

Remainder of afternoon free.
- 7:00 pm** Havana farewell dinner at the famous **La Guarida** restaurant.

DAY 6 (B,L,D)

MONDAY, MARCH 9

Morning Those returning to the United States today: Check out and depart for airport (approx. 3 hours prior to flight.) Optional morning activities depending on departure time.

For those continuing on the Extended Program:

7:30 am Check-out and depart for **Cienfuegos** and **Trinidad** via the **Bay of Pigs**.

After an hour and a half, the scenery changes as we enter the **Zapata National Park** – Cuba’s most important wetland area. The crystal clear waters of the Caribbean Sea will escort us a good part of the way. This is also where the famous “Bay of Pigs” invasion took place.

10:30 am Visit to Playa Giron and one of Cuba’s best spots for snorkeling and scuba diving, **Punta Perdiz** or **Caleta Buena**. We enjoy lunch and a bit of free time before we depart for Cienfuegos.

1:00 pm Depart for **Cienfuegos** or *La Perla del Sur* (the Pearl of the South), a villa settled by French immigrants from Bordeaux and Louisiana in the early 1800s and named after José Cienfuegos, Captain General of Cuba (1816-19).

2:30 pm Visit downtown **Cienfuegos**, the main square, **Paseo del Prado** and the **Terry Thomas Theatre**.

5:30 pm Check-in to your **B&B** in **Trinidad**.

8:00 pm Tonight we enjoy dinner with our Cuban hosts in Trinidad.

Optional: After dinner, enjoy live music performed in Trinidad’s Main Square.

DAY 7 (B,L,D)

TUESDAY, MARCH 10

Today, make sure to wear comfortable walking shoes!

9:00 am This morning we head for the Guanayara Park that hosts the **Centinelas del Río Melodioso Trail**.

Before returning to old town Trinidad, we visit el **Valle de los Ingenios** (valley of the sugar mills), the most important sugar producing region during colonial times and now declared a UNESCO Cultural Heritage Site.

We continue to **Manaca Iznaga** sugar plantation, a quaint village hacienda famous for its splendid tower, built in 1835-45 by Alejo Maria del Carmen e Iznaga, once one of the wealthiest sugar barons in Cuba.

1:00 pm Group lunch at **Restaurant Cubita Santander**.

After lunch, brief walking tour of Trinidad’s Historical Center. On this walk we visit the **Casa de los Sanchez Iznaga**.

This afternoon, enjoy free time to explore the craft markets in Trinidad and the many individual shops where the artisans of this area show their wares. Trinidad is particularly known for its beautiful linens and guayabera shirts.

Optional visit to the artist studio of **Alejandro Lopez Bastida** and well-known landscaper **Carlos Mata**.





5:30 pm Return to your B&B.

8:00 pm Farewell dinner at **Sol Ananda** in a beautifully restored 18th Century mansion on the Plaza Mayor.

DAY 8 (B)

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 11

8:00 am Check-out and depart for **Santa Clara**.

10:00 am We visit the **Che Guevara Mausoleum** and Ernesto Guevara Sculptural Complex.

TBD Check-in at **Santa Clara Abel Santamaria International Airport** (SNU). *

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

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

✓ **PASSPORT**

✓ **VISA**

* 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

6 DAYS AND 5 NIGHTS

CASA PARTICULAR (B&B)

DOUBLE, PER PERSON: \$2,290

*Add \$395 per person for upscale-luxury B&B accommodations

SINGLE OCCUPANCY: \$2,595

*Add \$635 for upscale-luxury B&B accommodations

8 DAYS AND 7 NIGHTS

CASA PARTICULAR (B&B)

DOUBLE, PER PERSON: \$3,170

*Add \$515 per person for upscale-luxury B&B accommodations

SINGLE OCCUPANCY: \$3,470

*Add \$910 for upscale-luxury B&B accommodations

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 hotel expenses (mini bar, room service, laundry fees, etc)
- Trip cancellation insurance

**DIPLOMACY TOUR IN SUPPORT OF THE CUBAN PEOPLE
IN COOPERATION WITH THE SAN DIEGO DIPLOMACY COUNCIL
CUBA, MARCH 4-9, 2020 or MARCH 4-11, 2020**



TOUR COST & CONDITIONS

5-NIGHT PROGRAM – MARCH 4-9, CASA PARTICULAR (B&B)

Double room occupancy (per person): **\$2,290**

** Add \$395 per person for upscale-luxury B&B accommodation*

Single room occupancy: **\$2,595**

** Add \$635 for upscale-luxury B&B accommodation*

7-NIGHT PROGRAM – MARCH 4-11, CASA PARTICULAR (B&B)

Double room occupancy (per person): **\$3,170**

** Add \$515 per person for upscale-luxury B&B accommodation*

Single Occupancy: **\$3,470**

** Add \$910 for upscale-luxury B&B accommodation*

INCLUDED

- Accommodations as selected (standard room)
- Daily breakfast in Cuba
- Meals as listed in itinerary (including tips)
- Air-conditioned ground transportation 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 hotel expenses (mini bar, room service, laundry fees, etc)
- Trip cancellation insurance

PAYMENT DUE DATES

DEPOSIT DUE BY: DECEMBER 1, 2018

FINAL PAYMENT DUE BY: JANUARY 14, 2019

You may contact Laura Adams via email at Laura@CubaCulturalTravel.com or at (760) 645-3269 Monday thru Friday from 9am to 5pm PST with any questions regarding travel to Cuba, registration, and payment. Direct any program questions as noted below.

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 comments and/or 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. *Please note that all services in relation to creation and implementation of this trip are being provided through Cuba Cultural Travel and not directly by San Diego Diplomacy Council. The San Diego Diplomacy Council is not responsible for any payment disputes or problems that arise during the trip.*

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.

**DIPLOMACY TOUR IN SUPPORT OF THE CUBAN PEOPLE
IN COOPERATION WITH THE SAN DIEGO DIPLOMACY COUNCIL
CUBA, MARCH 4-9, 2020 or MARCH 4-11, 2020**



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: 5-NIGHT PROGRAM, MARCH 4-9	OPTION 2: 7-NIGHT PROGRAM, MARCH 4-11
<input type="checkbox"/> DOUBLE ROOM \$2,290 <input type="checkbox"/> SINGLE ROOM \$2,595	<input type="checkbox"/> DOUBLE ROOM \$3,170 <input type="checkbox"/> SINGLE ROOM \$3,470

IF RESERVING SPACES IN **DOUBLE OCCUPANCY**, PLEASE INDICATE: 1 LARGE BED OR 2 TWIN BEDS

YES, I/WE WOULD LIKE TO UPGRADE TO THE UPSCALE-LUXURY ACCOMMODATIONS. I UNDERSTAND THE ADDITIONAL CORRESPONDING SUPPLEMENT INDICATED ON THE PREVIOUS PAGE WILL BE ADDED TO MY FINAL INVOICE.

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 December 1, 2019.**

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 January 14, 2020.**

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
- **CREDIT CARDS, BANK CHECKS ISSUED ONLINE, AND/OR WIRE TRANSFERS CANNOT BE ACCEPTED**

- Cancellations made prior to December 1, 2019 will receive a full refund
- Cancellations made from December 1, 2019 and January 14, 2020 will forfeit full deposit of \$1,000
- Cancellations after January 14, 2020 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