Visit Unforgettable CUBA
A People-to-People Experience
Featuring a NEW tour of Eastern Cuba

2017 / 2018 Departures Inside

SmithsonianJourneys.org • 877-338-8687
Top Five Reasons to Travel to Cuba with Smithsonian Journeys

1. We Know Where to Take You
Smithsonian Journeys was one of the first tour providers to receive a license to operate People-to-People programs from the Office of Foreign Assets Control, U.S. Department of the Treasury. We have operated successful tours in Cuba since 2012, and our travelers benefit from our experience, excellent guides, and contacts in the region. Plus, enjoy access to sites and experiences only Smithsonian Journeys can share with you.

2. Attend an In-Depth Panel Discussion
Enjoy an overnight stay in Miami with a reception and a special panel discussion with a diverse group of experts, a unique feature of Smithsonian Journeys’ Cuba programs. Learn about the island nation’s economy, political structure, and culture, then engage in a lively question and answer session with our experts.

3. Bringing Your Destination to Life
When you visit Cuba with Smithsonian Journeys, you’ll travel alongside an expert who has a deep understanding of the country’s culture and history. Our knowledgeable and charismatic Smithsonian Journeys Expert and dedicated tour staff will enrich your travel experience in a unique and personal way.

“I have been on a lot of very good tours, but nothing compares with this Smithsonian experience.” – Mary-Jeanne M.
Discovering Cuba was an intensely educational program that opened my eyes to this Caribbean country, its people, and its culture that for so long have been off limits to me.” – Jerry M.

Travel with New Friends
You’ll be sure to forge lasting friendships with curious travelers who share your passion for learning and exploration. Our small groups allow for a rewarding cultural exchange.

Discover Real Value
Once you add up the extras that we include—experts, enrichment, meals, excursions, and on-tour emergency insurance—you’ll know you’re getting more than you pay for. That’s what we call real value!

What’s Inside:
Two Unique Ways to Explore Cuba!
Discover Cuba  
Featuring Havana, Cienfuegos, and Trinidad  
7 days from $6,590

The energetic changes taking place in Cuba today are palpable and alluring. Now is the time to delve into Cuba’s history and culture, meet the people, and better understand the issues for the future. During this popular People-to-People program, enjoy stays in the historic capital of Havana and the French-influenced provincial city of Cienfuegos, plus make a day trip to Trinidad. Through our experts, gain a deeper understanding of this enigmatic nation and its World Heritage sites.

Highlights Include

**Architectural Preservation:** Visit a restoration facility to meet experts responsible for the rehabilitation of Havana’s crumbling buildings.

**The Arts:** Discover Cuba’s sophisticated art traditions during visits with artists in their studios and a tour of the National Museum of Fine Arts.

**Music:** Hear the complex rhythms of Cuban music, from *son* to rumba and jazz, and learn about these uniquely Cuban music styles.

**Religion:** Gain insight into the African origins of the Cuban Santeria religion as you talk with practitioners. Plus, learn about Cachita, the patron saint of Cuba.

**Unique Panel Discussion:** Enjoy an overnight stay in Miami with a reception and a special panel discussion with a diverse group of experts. Learn about the Cuban economy, political structure, and culture, then engage in a lively question and answer session with the experts.

Cuban musicians

Taking reservations now at SmithsonianJourneys.org / 877-338-8687
Itinerary

Day 1 – Miami, Florida
Enjoy a welcome reception, dinner, and a lively, thought-provoking panel discussion on the most vital issues facing Cuba today. Your Smithsonian Journeys Expert joins two other Cuba experts to share insights into the Cuban economy, political structure, and culture. An active question and answer session concludes the panel, preparing you for the week ahead. This valuable meeting with a range of Cuba scholars is a special feature of Smithsonian Journeys’ Cuba programs. (R,D)

Day 2 – Miami to Havana, Cuba
Depart Miami this morning on a group commercial flight to Havana. After clearing customs and claiming your luggage, meet with farmers and members of the community at a local organiponico (urban garden) and enjoy lunch on the grounds. Stop at Finca Vigia, Ernest Hemingway’s home for twenty years. With an expert, explore the 12-acre property and house that contains original furniture, artwork, and personal memorabilia. This evening, enjoy an introductory talk by your Smithsonian Journeys Expert, and dinner at one of the city’s paladares, a privately owned restaurant. (L,D)

Day 3 – Havana
Embark on a walking tour of Habana Vieja (Old Havana), designated a World Heritage site, to view the city’s beautifully restored colonial architecture and plazas with a representative from the City Historian’s Office. Then visit a cigar factory and meet with an expert roller to learn about one of Cuba’s most valuable exports.

Departures
November 2-8, 2017
November 9-15, 2017
December 7-13, 2017

Check SmithsonianJourneys.org for 2018 tour dates!
After lunch, visit a local community project for children utilizing acrobatic performances as a social development tool. (B,L,D)

Day 4 – Havana
This morning, explore the National Museum of Fine Arts. Here, as you view the museum's Cuban collection, you'll learn how the country's history and diverse cultures have influenced its art. Then engage in a question and answer session with a panel of Cuban experts to explore such topics as economic reform, women's rights, and Cuba's future. After lunch, visit the University of Havana and meet with college students to discuss higher education in Cuba. (B,L)

Day 5 – Havana to Cienfuegos
Today, travel southeast to the provincial town of Cienfuegos. After lunch, explore the French-influenced city center of Cienfuegos, a World Heritage site. You'll walk down the Paseo del Prado, a pedestrian-only boulevard lined with various stores, to Parque Martí, where some of the city's most prominent architecture frames this central square. Nearby, visit an artists' cooperative that showcases Afro-Cuban art. Meet with the director and several artists to learn about their work and how they are spreading contemporary art to small communities. This afternoon, delight in a performance by the renowned Choir of Cienfuegos. Join your Smithsonian Journeys Expert for a presentation before enjoying dinner on your own. (B,L)

Day 6 – Trinidad and Cienfuegos
Stopping at the Cienfuegos Botanical Gardens, the largest of its kind in Cuba, learn about efforts to maintain the country's rich biodiversity and extraordinary plant life. Afterwards, visit a former sugar mill town, where you'll meet a historian and local residents to learn about the importance of Cuba's once-thriving sugar industry. Continue to lovely Trinidad, another World Heritage site, where you'll admire its pastel-colored colonial buildings, cobblestone streets, and beautiful plazas. Meet with a representative from the City Historian's Office to discuss the achievements and challenges of preserving this 16th-century city. During your exploration of Trinidad, meet with shopkeepers, owners of casas particulares, or privately owned Bed and Breakfast enterprises, and other members of the community. This evening, gather for a farewell reception and dinner as you toast your Cuban journey. (B,L,R,D)

Day 7 – Depart for the U.S.
Bid farewell to Cuba and transfer to the Cienfuegos Airport today for your return flight to Miami. (B)

(B,L,R,D denotes included breakfasts, lunches, receptions, and dinners)

Taking reservations now at SmithsonianJourneys.org / 877-338-8687
# Accommodations

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<thead>
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<th>City</th>
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<td>1</td>
<td>Pullman Miami</td>
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<tr>
<td>Havana</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>Parque Central or Meliá Cohiba*</td>
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<tr>
<td>Cienfuegos</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>Hotel La Unión or Hotel Jagua*</td>
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* Hotels in Cuba are subject to change.

## Tour Price

- Price per person based on double occupancy: $6,590
- Price per person based on single occupancy: $8,240
- Miami-Cuba round-trip airfare is an additional $600.

(For full Terms & Conditions, visit SmithsonianJourneys.org)
Unexplored Cuba
Featuring Baracoa and Santiago
9 days from $6,590

Explore Eastern Cuba on this new program. You’ll visit the country’s first settlement, Baracoa, which is known for its unique culture, then explore Santiago de Cuba, birthplace of the Cuban Revolution and center of Afro-Cuban culture and traditional Cuban rhythms. Plus, participate in a private cooking demonstration. As you travel, you’ll meet with experts to gain insight into the complexity of the Cuban culture and learn about the unique cultures of Eastern Cuba, including the indigenous Taino.

Highlights Include

History: See where Europeans first stepped on the island country, trace the footsteps of Theodore Roosevelt’s Rough Riders at San Juan Hill, and learn of the beginnings of the Cuban Revolution.

Music and Dance: Experience the cultural highlights of the region by taking a dance class with a local dance troupe and meeting with local musicians and artists.

Diversity: Appreciate Cuba’s broader identity; from its Taino indigenous roots, to its African slave legacy to the English speaking communities of the British West Indies.

Unique Panel Discussion: Enjoy an overnight stay in Miami with a reception and a special panel discussion with a diverse group of experts. Learn about the Cuban economy, political structure, and culture, then engage in a lively question and answer session with the experts.

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Day 1 – Miami, Florida
Begin your People-to-People program with a welcome reception, dinner, and a lively, thought-provoking panel discussion on the most vital issues facing Cuba today. Your Smithsonian Journeys Expert joins two other Cuba experts to share insights into the Cuban economy, political structure, and culture. An active question and answer session concludes the panel, preparing you for the week ahead. This valuable meeting with a range of Cuba scholars is a special feature of Smithsonian Journeys’ Cuba programs. (R,D)

Day 2 – Miami to Eastern Cuba
Depart Miami for your flight to Holguín, Cuba. After clearing customs and collecting your luggage, enjoy lunch perched high on a hilltop overlooking the city. Following lunch, take in the beautiful Cuban landscapes during a motorcoach ride from Holguín to Santiago de Cuba. Upon arrival, check in to your hotel. This evening, enjoy a welcome show by the Ballet Folklórico de Oriente, one of the first dance troupes to showcase Afro-Cuban dance, followed by a festive dinner. (B,L,D)

Day 3 – Santiago de Cuba
After breakfast, drive to the World Heritage site of Castillo de San Pedro de la Roca, a fortress that was erected in the mid-17th century. In Santiago, meet with a representative of the City Historian’s Office to discuss the area’s storied past and its importance in Cuban history. Afterwards, take a walking tour of the historic district and learn about its diverse architecture and culture.
Take a break to enjoy lunch on the patio of the Hotel Casa Grande, made famous in Graham Greene’s *Our Man in Havana*, while listening to a women’s choral group perform traditional Cuban music. Afterward travel to the Granjita Siboney, or the Siboney farmhouse, where revolutionaries planned and prepared for their attack on the Moncada Barracks, which you will also have time to explore. While the attack failed, this event is seen as the commencement of the Revolution and celebrated in Cuba today. Then learn about La Tumba Francesa, a traditional dance style emerging from resettled Haitian slaves, and meet with members of the Afro-Haitian community to learn about how they keep their traditions and customs alive. Dinner tonight is on your own. (B,L)

**Day 4 – Santiago de Cuba**
Visit Casa del Caribe, a Caribbean cultural center, to participate in a discussion about religion, history, nationality, and culture with Carlos Lloga, a cultural studies expert. After lunch, visit the Museo de Carnaval, showcasing Santiago’s famous Carnival, one of the world’s largest, after Rio and New Orleans. Enjoy a performance by Congo de los Hoyos, a community dance project, followed by dinner at a local paladar (privately owned restaurant). Afterwards visit the Jose Marti Housing Project, the first community built by volunteer labor in response to destruction caused by a hurricane and spend time with residents of this historic community. (B,D)

**Day 5 – Santiago to Baracoa**
Travel by motorcoach to Baracoa, Cuba’s oldest city and one of Christopher Columbus’ stops on his first voyage to the New World in 1492. On the way, visit San Juan Hill, the site of a decisive battle in the Spanish-American War. Speak with local professors about the significance of the battle and join them afterwards for a cup of Cuban espresso in their homes. Stop for lunch at Guantanamo before continuing on to Baracoa to visit Fuerte Matachin, one of the three original forts built to protect the city. A historian will join you on a walking tour of the city and share how the area transformed from a settlement of the indigenous Taino population to the first capital of Spanish Cuba. After checking in to the hotel, enjoy dinner followed by a discussion with the chef about Baracoa’s unique cuisine. (B,L,D)

**Day 6 – Baracoa**
After breakfast, visit with the semi-indigenous Guirito community. Following a traditional dance demonstration, learn a few steps as the performers lead a dance lesson before helping to prepare and enjoy lunch. Next, visit a cacao plantation where local farmers will discuss Baracoa’s most important crop, including how the seeds of this fruit are turned into chocolate. Return
Day 7 – Baracoa to Santiago
As you make your way back to Santiago, stop in Guantanamo for lunch at a local paladar. Then enjoy a musical presentation at Casa del Son y Changui, where musicians will explain how Son y Changui combine Spanish and African instruments and rhythms. Afterwards, visit the British West Indies Welfare Center for a discussion about the history of English-speaking Cubans in Eastern Cuba. Tonight, dinner is on your own after checking in to the hotel in Santiago. (B,L)

Day 8 – Santiago de Cuba
This morning, meet with veterans of the Angolan War and learn about the historic relationship between specific African countries and Cuba. Visit the Santa Ifigenia Cemetery, resting place of Fidel Castro and Jose Marti, the latter a Cuban nationalist hero and poet, and observe the solemn changing of the guard ceremony. After lunch, visit El Cobre, one of Cuba’s most famous churches, and home of the Virgen de la Caridad (Virgin of Charity), the Patron Saint of Cuba. A farewell reception tonight will include a final presentation by cultural studies leader, Carlos LLoga. Enjoy your farewell dinner as a group at a local paladar. (B,L,R,D)

Day 9 – Depart for the U.S.
Bid farewell to Cuba and transfer to Holguin for your return flights to Miami. En route to Holguin, stop for lunch in the colonial city of Bayamo, state capital of the Granma province. (B,L)

(B,L,R,D denotes included breakfasts, lunches, receptions, and dinners)
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## Tour Price

- Price per person based on double occupancy: $6,590
- Price per person based on single occupancy: $8,540
- Miami-Cuba round-trip airfare is an additional $600.

*(For full Terms & Conditions, visit SmithsonianJourneys.org)*
Our experts have dedicated their careers to pursuing their passion. Their contagious enthusiasm and expertise bring depth, excitement, and meaning to your travel in Cuba.

Emilio Cueto is an expert in Cuban culture, especially colonial graphic art and music. He left Cuba at age 17, one week after the Bay of Pigs landing, and was one of the first exiles to visit in the 1970s. He has returned many times since and is an avid collector of Cuban memorabilia and a published author. Emilio will lead the November 9 departure of Discover Cuba and the February departure of Unexplored Cuba. Our other Cuba departures will be led by comparable experts.

Q. What expectations should Smithsonian Journeys travelers have about travel to Cuba?
A. Travelers should expect the unexpected. Cuba is rapidly changing in many ways, and the average Cuban resident now has more opportunities than ever during the preceding five decades. Travelers will be able to witness, understand, and measure the multiple signs of this emerging new Cuba, including the widening gap between the “haves” and “have-nots”. They should also understand that Cuba is a developing country and some inconveniences and hardships cannot be totally excluded from their travel experience. Finally, travelers should expect to be questioned about their unique, exciting experience by friends upon their return to the U.S.

Q. What kind of insights do you hope to bring to our travelers?
A. I was born in Cuba and lived there until high school. I have returned to the island dozens of times during the last 39 years, and I have traveled extensively throughout all provinces, including the Island of Youth. Not only have I devoted many years to the study of Cuba’s history and culture, but having family and friends in Cuba I have learned many lessons about everyday life in the island. Given my background, I believe I can share with our travelers a sense of trajectory and movement, as opposed to a still picture, in the discussion of Cuba’s many realities. Last, but certainly not least, I can also bring the perspective of exile, without which no understating of the island can ever be complete.

"Emilio was the backbone of the trip, with great insights from frequent visits over the years." Mark M., Discover Cuba
FAQ

1. How does Smithsonian Journeys offer travel to Cuba?
Smithsonian Journeys was one of the first tour providers to receive a license to operate People-to-People programs from the Office of Foreign Assets Control, U.S. Department of the Treasury. We have operated successful tours in Cuba since 2012, and our travelers benefit from experience, excellent guides, and contacts in the region.

2. What is People-to-People travel?
The People-to-People educational exchange initiative allows Americans to travel to Cuba with a full-time schedule of meaningful interaction for cultural exchange. With ample time to have direct and purposeful communication with Cuban citizens, the program includes full, but very worthwhile days. Our small groups allow for this rewarding exchange.

3. What are the travel regulations for People-to-People travel to Cuba?
- Travelers must participate in a full-time schedule of meaningful interaction, including all activities planned (unless you become ill) and may not deviate from the itinerary.
- Travelers must keep a daily log of and/or receipts from any expenditures made during the trip for up to five years.
- General tourism to Cuba is still not allowed under current OFAC regulations.

4. What is OFAC?
- The Office of Foreign Assets Control (OFAC) of the U.S. Department of the Treasury administers and enforces economic and trade sanctions based on U.S. foreign policy and national security goals. Many of the sanctions are based on United Nations and other international mandates, are multilateral in scope, and involve close cooperation with allied governments.
- Due to trade and travel restrictions established by the current U.S. government sanctions on Cuba, all matters relating to travel of U.S. citizens are regulated by OFAC.
5. Will I have any free time while in Cuba?
   Due to license parameters and the purpose of our travel, travelers will be engaged in scheduled People-to-People interactions throughout the day (roughly from 9 a.m. – 5 p.m., and occasionally later). You will have less free time than on other Smithsonian Journeys’ trips. Please note some evenings will be unscheduled.

6. What documentation is needed for travel to Cuba?
   A valid passport, visa, and a signed Certification of Travel form that demonstrates your understanding of our authorized category and the restrictions of the category permitted by the U.S. Government’s Treasury Department for your travel to Cuba (People-to-People Exchanges).

“Cuba should be experienced NOW!”
– Pat N.