

DAY-TO-DAY ITINERARY FOR DISCOVERY TOUR TO CUBA™

MONDAY, APRIL 9 – FRIDAY, APRIL 20, 2018



OVERVIEW OF DISCOVERY TOUR TO CUBA™: *Shrouded in mystery for the past fifty years, the island nation of Cuba is finally available to be discovered. Be among the first American travelers in five decades to visit this captivating country. From its beautifully adorned churches and vintage cars to its world renowned cigars and lush tropical climate, Cuba will transport you to a bygone era. You will discover a place filled with friendly people eager to share their heritage and culture with you and eagerly curious to hear about the customs and traditions of the neighboring United States of America.*

This unique tour of Cuba allows Americans and Cubans to share in special people-to-people interactions while enjoying the rich history and culture of this amazing country. Every day of your tour will be wrapped in compelling education and conversation, where both Cuban and American residents can openly share their ideas and opinions. Join in a variety of discussions about Cuba's history, agriculture, music, religion, sports and art. You can fully embrace Cuban culture when you interact with local artists and exchange views on the importance of art to a community, enjoy a dance lesson and engage with musicians who will introduce you to "son", Cuba's popular music, and be introduced to Cuban baseball players and discuss this favorite pastime in both Cuba and the United States.

The people-to-people interactions you will experience weave seamlessly into the daily visits around the country, serving to enrich and enlighten. Fascinating, informative, and insightful discoveries await every participant, both Cuban and American, on this trip of a lifetime to this great island known as the "Pearl of the Antilles". Venue International Professionals, Inc. cordially invites you join us as we visit Cuba to experience a variety of educational, cultural and personal encounters that await your personal discovery. The following is a tentative description of the day-to-day itinerary during our Discovery Tour to Cuba™:

DAY #1: MONDAY, APRIL 9th - DEPART FROM WASHINGTON, D.C. AND ARRIVE IN HAVANA, CUBA. Depart from Washington, D.C. on JetBlue Airlines Flight Number (TBD) at (TBD)am and arrive at Fort Lauderdale International Airport (FLL) at (TBD)am. Please Note: Everyone must individually process their visa for Cuba at the airline's departure gate. Depart on JetBlue Airlines Flight Number (TBD) from Fort Lauderdale International Airport (FLL) at (TBD)pm and arrive at Jose Marti International Airport (HAV) in Havana, Cuba at (TBD)pm. After clearing immigration and customs meet with your Cuban Guide. Transfer by shuttle bus and check into the NH Capri Hotel (or similar) located

in close proximity to the historic city center of Havana. After enjoying a refreshing late lunch (on your own) meet with Cuban Guide for an orientation of the day-to-day program. Afterwards, take time to familiarize yourself with the hotel property and acclimate to the Cuban environment. Later that evening, enjoy a Welcome Dinner at the Florentine Restaurant on the top floor of the NH Capri Hotel with a spectacular view of the city's landscape. Afterwards, enjoy a good night's rest at the NH Capri Hotel (or similar). Meals Included: Welcome Dinner.



DAY #2: TUESDAY, APRIL 10th – SIGHTSEEING TOUR OF OLD HAVANA. After a refreshing breakfast, enjoy a Sightseeing Tour of Old Havana. The City of Havana is a sprawling metropolis of approximately two million inhabitants. Founded in 1519, Old Havana by the 18th century was the most important port of the region. This UNESCO protected city has many historic sites to visit and your local tour guide will provide you with a wealth of knowledge and all there is to know about Havana's old centre. Havana is a city famous for being looted by pirates, desired by the French, fiercely protected by the Spanish - this tour is a great way to start to discover the treasures that Havana hides in her cobbled streets. Old Havana retains an interesting mix of Baroque and Neoclassical monuments and an ensemble of private houses with arcades, balconies, and wrought iron gates with internal courtyards. Walk through Old Havana and visit “El Temple”, where the City of Havana was founded in 1514 and see the Office of the City Historian as well as many historical Spanish plazas including the Plaza de Armas, Plaza Vieja and Plaza San Francisco. Enjoy a refreshing lunch at the Restaurant Temple. Afterwards, continue with a visit to Havana’s Museo de Bellas Artes and walk the famous Central Park where local Cubans discuss their favorite pastime “baseball”, see the Bacardi Building, famous for its Art Deco architecture, Cathedral Square and the “La Bodeguita del Medio Bar-Restaurant”, Hemingway’s favorite place to enjoy a Mojito Cocktail. Later that evening, enjoy a ride in a Cuban Taxi to visit the Cabana Fortress for the Ceremony of the Cannon. Later that evening, return to the NH Capri Hotel (or similar) and enjoy a relaxing dinner (on your own) and good night’s rest. Meals Included: Breakfast and Lunch.



DAY #3: WEDNESDAY, APRIL 11th – HEMINGWAY’S TRAIL IN HAVANA. After a refreshing breakfast, depart by road to “Finca La Vigia, the former home of Ernest Hemingway where he wrote many of his novels. Learn about the Nobel Prize-winning novelist Ernest Hemingway, who lived in Cuba for over thirty years and left behind an enduring legacy. It is here that he wrote several books, participated in fishing contests, and enjoyed the laid-back ambiance and warmth of the Cuban people. Continue to Cojimar where Hemingway kept his boat “Pilar” and embarked on daily fishing trips to the Caribbean Sea and found the inspiration for his novel, “The Old Man and the Sea”. Afterwards, enjoy a refreshing lunch at “Las Terrazas”, Hemingway’s preferred restaurant where he often sat for lunch and enjoyed a Rum Daiquiri after fishing on “Pilar”. Next, visit a Cuban Cigar Factory in Havana and enjoy an opportunity to engage with tobacco rollers and learn about the importance of tobacco, both culturally and commercially, for Cuba. Later that evening, enjoy a walk along the Melancon “Cuban Boardwalk” to meet the local Cuban people and experience the beautiful scenery. Later that evening, enjoy a Cabaret Show and Dinner at the Hotel Nacional de Cuba. Afterwards, enjoy a good night’s rest at the NH Capri Hotel (or similar). Meals Included: Breakfast, Lunch and Dinner.



DAY #4: THURSDAY, APRIL 12th – TOUR OF CALLEJON DE HAMEL. After a refreshing breakfast, enjoy a visit to Callejon de Hamel, a place that is a small alley and side street of Lazaro Street in Havana Centro, situated three blocks from the Hospital Hermanos Amerijeiras in the poor barrio Cayo Hueso (Cayo Hueso district). The Callejon bears the name of a wealthy trader Fernando Hamel who maintained the entire (poor) district. Callejon de Hammel is celebrated by the local artist and local resident Salvador Gonzáles Escalona who has created an incredible artistic homage to Afro-Cuba and its roots. Today it has become a place where both Afro Cuban art and Cuban traditions are practiced. The surrounding houses and buildings are covered with large murals in vivid colors. The venue has also become a tourist magnet, with tiny shops selling small pieces of Cuban art, hand carved wooden statues, paintings, Santeria art and attributes, etcetera. Afterwards, enjoy a refreshing lunch (on your own) at a local restaurant. If possible, also visit Fusterlandia to see an exhibition of Fuster’s Art. Witness an amazing fantasy of artworks that seem to apparently “spring up from the ground”. Later that evening, if interested, enjoy a relaxing dinner (on your own) featuring traditional Cuban cuisine in one of the many restaurants in Old Havana. Later that evening, return for a good night’s rest at the NH Capri Hotel (or similar). Important Note: Please pack your luggage for a four day excursion to the cities of Trinidad and Santiago de Cuba and check any remaining luggage in storage at the NH Capri Hotel (or similar) until your return to Havana on Day #9. Meals Included: Breakfast.



DAY #5: FRIDAY, APRIL 13th - DEPART HAVANA AND ARRIVE IN TRINIDAD. After a refreshing breakfast, check out of the NH Capri Hotel (or similar) and transfer by road to Trinidad, the crown jewel of Cuba's colonial cities, founded in 1514 and today a UNESCO World Heritage Site. Enjoy a scenic three hour drive and upon arrival, check into the Brisas Trinidad Del Mar Resort Hotel (or similar) and enjoy a refreshing lunch. Later that afternoon, spend time walking the streets of Trinidad, a cobblestone showcase of colonial architecture and pastel-colored houses decorated with wooden shutters and wrought-iron grilles. Caged songbirds outside the home are a Trinidad tradition. Enjoy a stopover at Templo Yemaya to discover the Santeria religion. This religion was first brought to Cuba by African slaves who worked on the sugar plantations and it has connections to Roman Catholicism and the traditions of the indigenous Indians. Afterwards, enjoy an interactive dance lesson and discuss the rhythms and history of Cuba's traditional forms of music. You will hear typical Cuban salsa, rumba, and son (Cuban popular music). Later that evening, enjoy a relaxing dinner at the Brisas Trinidad Del Mar Hotel as you experience a spectacular sunset. Afterwards, if interested enjoy a Cabaret Show by the poolside before a relaxing overnight at the Brisas Trinidad Del Mar Hotel (or similar). Meals Included: Breakfast, Lunch and Dinner.

DAY #6: SATURDAY, APRIL 14th – DAY OF LEISURE IN TRINIDAD. After a refreshing breakfast, enjoy the remainder of the day at your leisure. Enjoy a relaxing time on the beach with plenty of aquatic activities (swimming, snorkeling, windsurfing, etcetera). If interested enjoy an Optional leisurely boat cruise with lunch included along the coast. Later that evening, enjoy a refreshing dinner and relaxing overnight at the Brisas Trinidad Del Mar Hotel (or similar). Meals Included: Breakfast, Lunch and Dinner.



DAY #7: SUNDAY, APRIL 15th – DEPART TRINIDAD AND ARRIVE IN SANTIAGO DE CUBA. After a refreshing breakfast, check out of the Brisas Trinidad Del Mar Hotel (or similar) and transfer by road to Santiago de Cuba located on the southeastern portion of Cuba. Depart Trinidad at (TBD) and upon your arrival in Santiago de Cuba at (TBD) check into the Melia Santiago Hotel (or

similar). Afterwards, enjoy a refreshing lunch at the lovely Cayo Granma – a twenty minute boat ride across the water. Enjoy the remainder of the day at your leisure. Later that evening, enjoy a relaxing dinner (on your own) at the Melia Santiago Hotel (or similar) and overnight. Meals Included: Breakfast and Lunch.



DAY #8: MONDAY, APRIL 16th – SIGHTSEEING TOUR OF SANTIAGO DE CUBA. After a refreshing breakfast, enjoy a presentation by an expert on Afro-Cuban culture and traditions. Afterwards, a local historian will show you around Santiago de Cuba’s Plaza Delores. Enjoy a refreshing lunch while taking in the breathtaking view at El Morro de Castillo, the colonial Spanish Fort. Enjoy the remainder of the day with shopping for local handicrafts in the marketplace. Later that evening, enjoy a relaxing dinner (on your own) and overnight at the Melia Santiago Hotel (or similar) in Havana. Meals Included: Breakfast and Lunch.



DAY #9: TUESDAY, APRIL 17th – DEPART SANTIAGO DE CUBA AND RETURN TO HAVANA. After a refreshing breakfast, check-out of the Melia Santiago Hotel (or similar) and transfer to the local airport. Depart Santiago de Cuba at (TBD) and arrive in Havana at (TBD). Return to the NH Capri Hotel (or similar) and check-in again. Don’t forget to retrieve any stored luggage. Afterwards, enjoy the remainder of the day at your leisure with plenty of shopping opportunities. OR if interested, enjoy an Optional Tour of the Hotel Nacional de Cuba with a refreshing lunch. The Hotel Nacional de Cuba is considered a symbol of history, culture and Cuban identity. The guns that made up the old Santa Clara Battery are on exhibition at the garden, and have been declared part of the UNESCO World Heritage Site. With its privileged location in the middle of Vedado, the center of Havana, it stands on a hill just a few meters from the sea and offers a great view of the Havana Harbor, the seawall and the city. The Hotel Nacional de Cuba stands out due its refined elegance and its ancient splendor, which since the 1930s has attracted a large number of personalities from the arts, science and politics such as British Prime Minister Winston Churchill, artists Frank Sinatra, Ava Gardner, Johnny Weissmuller, Maria Felix, Jorge Negrete and scientist Alexander Fleming. Later that evening, enjoy a relaxing dinner (on your own) and overnight at the NH Capri Hotel (or similar) in Havana. Meals Included: Breakfast.

DAY #10: WEDNESDAY, APRIL 18th – TOUR OF REGLA AND GUANABACOA. After a refreshing breakfast, enjoy a Tour of Regla and Guanabacoa. Enjoy a small ferry boat ride (Lancha) between the waterfront and the Regla district. The brief ferry boat ride takes approximately fifteen to twenty minutes. The Regla district is located across the bay opposite the Old City. This lesser known destination is a quiet and beautiful place with a mainly black population. Here time has stood still. Visit the small and lovely Church with the Black Madonna. Here you will appear to step into another era, a peaceful world far from the hectic city streets. To start your trip, transfer to the terminal Sierra Maestra Terminal in Old Havana, which is opposite the well-known bar Los Dos Hermanos (the Two Brothers Bar) near the Rum Museum. Please Note: You must bring a picnic lunch and drinks with you however, since the place has no bars or shops. This Cuban experience, one that many tourists simply don't experience, occurs when they visit the municipalities of Regla and Guanabacoa which are certainly two fine places to go. Located on "the other side" of Havana Harbor, these municipalities are distinct in many ways but united by the strong Afro-Cuban culture that thrives here. Over the years, this culture has been manifested in literature, dance, music, and visual art — but more than anything else, Regla and Guanabacoa are famous for the unique religions that are practiced in this area, religions that generally speaking fall under the umbrella of Santería. A syncretic mix of West African religious traditions and Roman Catholicism, Santería is still widely practiced throughout much of the Caribbean today. That said, Cuba is a Santería hotbed, and Regla and Guanabacoa are the hotbeds of Santería in Havana. Guanabacoa itself is the home of three distinct Afro-Cuban religions — Regla de Ocha, Palo Monte and Abakuá — and a walk or slow drive through the streets here will provide innumerable glimpses into many "home-temples" containing shrines to different deities representing each of these religious currents and more. Later that evening, return to the NH Capri Hotel (or similar) and enjoy a relaxing dinner (on your own) and overnight. Meals Included: Breakfast and Picnic Lunch.

DAY #11: THURSDAY, APRIL 19th – DAY OF LEISURE IN HAVANA AND FAREWELL DINNER. After a refreshing breakfast, enjoy the morning at your leisure with shopping or just relax by the poolside. Later that evening, join your Cuban Guide for a festive Farewell Dinner with Cultural Entertainment at the Hotel Nacional de Cuba – for the perfect ending of your visit to Cuba! Afterwards, return to the NH Capri Hotel (or similar) for a good night's rest. Meals Included: Breakfast and Farewell Dinner with Cultural Entertainment.



DAY #12: FRIDAY, APRIL 20th – DEPART HAVANA AND RETURN TO THE UNITED STATES. After a refreshing breakfast, complete repacking your luggage, check out of the NH Capri Hotel (or similar) and transfer by road to the Jose Marti International Airport (HAV) for your return

international flight to the United States. Depart from Havana, Cuba at (TBD)pm on JetBlue Airlines Flight Number (TBD). Upon arrival at Washington, D.C. at (TBD)pm process through immigration and customs. Meals Included: Breakfast.

END OF PROGRAM

YOUR DISCOVERY TOUR OF CUBA™ INCLUDES:

- Roundtrip International Airfare between Washington, D.C. and Fort Lauderdale International Airport (FLL) and Jose Marti International Airport (HAV) in Havana, Cuba;
- Roundtrip Airport Transfers at the Jose Marti International Airport in Havana, Cuba;
- Visa for Cuba based on a people-to-people tour program;
- Seven (7) Nights Hotel Accommodations at the NH Capri Hotel (or similar) in Havana;
- Walking Tour of Old Havana with lunch included at the Restaurant Templete;
- Hemingway's Trail in Havana with lunch included at "Las Terrazas";
- Tour of Callejon de Hamel;
- Various historical, educational and cultural attractions of Havana as mentioned in the day-to-day
- Road Transfers (Havana-Trinidad-Santiago de Cuba);
- Two (2) Nights Hotel Accommodation at the Brisas Trinidad Del Mar Resort Hotel (or similar) in Trinidad with breakfast and dinner included;
- Two (2) Nights Hotel Accommodation at the Melia Santiago Hotel (or similar) in Santiago de Cuba with breakfast included;
- Scheduled Tours as described in the Cities of Trinidad and Santiago de Cuba with lunch included;
- One-Way Flight from Santiago de Cuba to Havana;
- Meals (Eleven (11) breakfasts, Seven (7) lunches, Three (3) dinners, One (1) Welcome Dinner and One (1) Farewell Dinner) as indicated in the Day-To-Day Itinerary with one local drink included during lunch outside of the hotel;
- Local transportation in an air-conditioned vehicle;
- English-Speaking Tour Guide/Driver; and
- Mandatory Cuba Health Insurance

YOUR DISCOVERY TOUR OF CUBA™ DOES NOT INCLUDE:

- Tips and Gratuities for drivers, tour guide, wait staff at restaurants and porters at hotels
- Optional Aquatic Activities in Trinidad
- Optional Tour of the Hotel de Nacional de Cuba in Havana with lunch included
- Items of a personal nature (i.e. – long distance telephone calls, laundry services, etc.)

TOTAL COST FOR THE DISCOVERY TOUR OF CUBA™ IS \$4,299.00 PER PERSON BASED ON DOUBLE OCCUPANCY AND AN ADDITIONAL \$700.00 FOR SINGLE OCCUPANCY. OPTIONAL TOUR OF HOTEL NACIONAL DE CUBA IS \$100.00. PLEASE

CONSULT WITH VENUE INTERNATIONAL PROFESSIONALS, INC. FOR SPECIFIC DETAILS ABOUT THE DISCOVERY TOUR OF CUBA™. PRICE BASED ON YOUR TOUR REQUIREMENTS AND ANY OPTIONAL TOUR(S) THAT YOU HAVE SELECTED.

SPECIAL NOTES FOR YOUR DISCOVERY TOUR OF CUBA™:

- **Physical Mobility Competency.** The program requires walking on cobblestone streets and uneven pathways, climbing stairs, and participating in related activities.
- **Requirement for US Citizens to Visit Cuba.** Due to the special requirements to visit Cuba, participants will be required to complete visa application and travel reservation forms and sign an affidavit confirming that they are traveling under a people-to-people tour license and are fully aware of the travel rules to Cuba.
- **Cuba Visa.** You will be given a Cuban Visa card that needs to be completed prior to your arrival in Havana. Be sure to check the "Turista" or "Tourist" box on the card when it asks for the reason you are traveling to Cuba. (The Visa card will be processed for you upon your arrival at Fort Lauderdale International Airport via the airline's departure gate.)
- **Charter Airline Baggage Allowance:** \$25.00 fee for each checked bag up to 50 lbs. per bag. Excess Baggage Weight: \$2.00 per pound over 50 lbs. (including carry-on). Please Note: No checked bag can weigh more than 70 lbs. and each carry-on piece cannot weigh more than 20 lbs.
- **Cuba Immigration and Customs:** Upon your arrival in Cuba you will first go through Immigration and Customs. The immigration officer will ask you to present your passport and Cuban visa. If you're holding a US passport, a Cuban Immigration Officer will then stamp an entry approval on the visa and give it back to you. The visa officially authorizes your entry into Cuba and serves as a "stamp" in your passport (*please note they will not stamp US passports.*) The visa card **must** be surrendered upon your departure from Cuba so be sure to keep it someplace safe during your stay in Cuba. Collect your luggage and proceed through Cuban Customs, which can but rarely does, involve a luggage search and wait for the remainder of the group outside the customs area where your guide is waiting to greet you outside the terminal.
- **Money Exchange.** Please be advised that Cuba only accepts Cash (US currency) and unfortunately credit cards/debit cards will not be permitted.
- **Charter Flight.** Because all flights to Cuba are via charter airlines, detailed information regarding airlines and departure terminal will be forwarded to you once your airline e-tickets are issued.
- In Cuba, tourism attractions that have been scheduled far in advance can sometimes become unavailable for a number of different reasons. The purpose of the trip is to have meaningful interactions with the local citizenry of Cuba and if the planned tourist attraction is not available, rest assured that another planned tourist attraction will be substituted.

Please Do Not Hesitate To Contact Venue International Professionals, Inc. If There Is A Need To Further Clarify The Day-To-Day Itinerary.

NOTE: Scheduled activities and events outlined in the day-to-day itinerary are subject to change by the Cuba Tour Operator and in some instances a substitute may be offered.

B O N V O Y A G E !!!