

DAY-TO-DAY ITINERARY FOR A PROPOSED BEST OF CUBA CRUISE™

WITH TENTATIVE DATES TO BE DETERMINED 2017 OR 2018



OVERVIEW OF BEST OF CUBA CRUISE™: *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. Here, 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.*

As Cuba welcomes travelers by sea for the first time in more than a half-a-century, you will feel the excitement in the air from the moment you step onboard your cruise ship in Miami. Cuban movies, Cuban music, Cuban cuisine – they will all be a part of your time at sea, as you begin to learn more about the remarkable people you are about to meet. During the cruise to Havana, there will be focused activities onboard that will help you orient yourself to the beauty and customs of Cuba, along with the warmth of its friendly people. You will also be focused on building a community with your fellow travelers, as you prepare for your Cuban adventure!

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, 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 perhaps 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 on a Best of Cuba Cruise™ as you experience a variety of educational, cultural and personal encounters that await your personal discovery. The following is an overview of the day-to-day itinerary during your Best of Cuba Cruise™:

DAY #1: SATURDAY - DEPART WASHINGTON, D.C. AND ARRIVE IN MIAMI. Depart from Washington Dulles International (IAD) Airport on American Airlines Flight Number 1441 at 10:35am. Arrive at Miami International (MIA) Airport at 1:15pm and transfer to the Miami International Airport Hotel for check-in. After a refreshing lunch (on your own) if interested visit downtown Miami for some sightseeing and relaxation. Later that evening, enjoy a relaxing dinner (on your own) and overnight at the Miami International Airport Hotel. Meals Included: None.

DAY #2: SUNDAY - DEPART MIAMI AND ENJOY HALF-DAY AT SEA. After a refreshing breakfast, check-out of the Marriott International Airport Hotel and transfer to the Cruise Ship MV Adonia for embarkation. Check-in time is between 10:30am and 1:30pm. Please make sure that your checked luggage is properly tagged with your stateroom and name information before you give it to the porters. If you require special assistance boarding please inform the porter. It is very important that you keep your valuables and medication with your carry-on bags and do not check them in. Once you have completed the check-in process for your travel to Cuba, enjoy a refreshing lunch as your stateroom will not be ready while your luggage is being checked into your stateroom. Attend cruise safety orientation and familiarize yourself with the areas of the cruise ship (i.e. – dining areas, recreational areas, concierge area, etcetera). Cruise Ship MV Adonia departs promptly at 4:30pm. Later that evening, enjoy a relaxing dinner and retire to your comfortable stateroom for a good night's rest as you cruise to Havana, Cuba. Meals Included: Breakfast, Lunch and Dinner.



DAY #3: MONDAY - ARRIVE IN HAVANA, CUBA AND ENJOY A WALKING TOUR OF OLD HAVANA. Arrive at Havana, Cuba at 11:00am. After a refreshing breakfast, process through immigration and customs before disembarking to visit Havana, your first port of call. Enjoy the vibrant capital city of Cuba with a Walking Tour of Old Havana with lunch included. The city of Havana is a sprawling metropolis of 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 guide will provide you with a wealth of knowledge and all there is to know about Havana's old centre. 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 “La Bodeguita del Medio Bar-Restaurant”, Hemingway’s favorite place to enjoy a Mojito Cocktail. Later that evening, visit the Cabana Fortress for the Ceremony of the Cannon. Later that evening, enjoy an exciting Cabaret Show and Dinner (on your own) at the Hotel Nacional. Afterwards, return to the Cruise Ship MV Adonia for a relaxing overnight in your comfortable cabin. Meals Included: Breakfast and Lunch.



DAY #4: TUESDAY – HEMINGWAY’S TRAIL IN HAVANA. After a refreshing breakfast, disembark and 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. Visit the Alamar Community to meet with local leaders in order to discuss the historic “Micro Brigades”, organized in 1965 by local residents to build their own housing. 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”. Enjoy a refreshing lunch at “Las Terrazas”, Hemingway’s preferred restaurant where he often sat for lunch after fishing on “Pilar”. Afterwards, continue on to the monument honoring Hemingway built by local fishermen with their boat anchors. Upon your return to Havana, visit “El Castillo del Morro”, (Morro Castle) and “Fort La Cabana”. The tour continues with a walk up to Obispo Street and a stop at the Ambos Mundos Hotel to see the room, now a museum, where Ernest Hemingway wrote his famous novel “For Whom the Bell Tolls”. The tour concludes with a walk through Havana’s former banking district and on to the “El Floridita”, Hemingway’s favorite bar for his favorite trademark drink, the “Rum Daiquiri”. Later that evening, enjoy an optional evening under the beautiful Cuban sky with a performance unlike any other at the Tropicana Cabaret. Experience Afro-Cuban cuisine, the pulsating music, vibrant colors, and beauty of Cuban and Caribbean folklores as told by some of the best entertainers in the world. Cruise Ship MV Adonia departs

promptly at 8:00pm. Later that evening, enjoy a good night's rest in your comfortable cabin. Meals Included: Breakfast and Lunch.

DAY #5: WEDNESDAY – CULTURAL IMMERSION ON YOUR FULL-DAY CRUISE AT SEA. After a refreshing breakfast, enjoy a relaxing full day at sea. If interested, join your fellow cruise travelers for an interactive session in basic Spanish, or attend one of the core workshops designed to give you a deeper insight into the history and cultural norms of Cuba and help you step more comfortably into a different culture. After a refreshing lunch, learn how to mix some of the most popular cocktails like the Mojito and Daiquiri during an interactive workshop. If interested, learn how to play dominos or join in on a card game, escape to the library or simply enjoy a good book. Later that evening, enjoy a relaxing dinner featuring a taste of Cuba from a varied menu with a diverse cuisine, including local and regional specialties. Afterwards, discover your inner Latin dancer and feel the rhythms of Cuba during Latin dance lessons featuring Live Authentic Cuban Concerts with musicians right from the island. Later that evening enjoy a good night's rest in your comfortable stateroom. Meals Included: Breakfast, Lunch and Dinner.



DAY #6: THURSDAY- HALF-DAY EXCURSION IN CIENFUEGOS. Arrive at Cienfuegos at 7:00am. After a refreshing breakfast, disembark at your second port of call and enjoy a fascinating tour of Cienfuegos. Settled by French immigrants more than 150 years ago, Cienfuegos is often referred to as the “Pearl of the South” because of its impressive beauty and colorful history. During a walking tour, it won't take long to see why the city's historic center marked with its remarkable collection of French-influenced Neoclassical buildings, has been designated a UNESCO World Heritage site. Visit a pharmacy, a market, and a local ration store, meeting local residents and learning about Cuba's country-wide ration and dual currency systems. Your morning exploring Cienfuegos also includes a visit to Teatro Tomas Terry, where a special performance has been planned. Completed in 1889 to honor Venezuelan industrialist Toma Terry, the 950-seat auditorium takes its influence from French and Italian architects and is embellished with Carrera marble, hand-carved Cuban hardwoods, and whimsical ceiling frescoes. Your morning in Cienfuegos will also feature a private performance by the world renowned Cantores de Cienfuegos, with an opportunity afterwards to hear directly from the musicians about their lives, their training and their roles as music professors at area schools. Also, time permitting, enjoy an opportunity to engage with tobacco rollers at a cigar factory and learn about the importance of tobacco, both culturally and commercially, for Cuba. Cruise Ship MV Adonia departs promptly at

1:00pm. Later that evening, enjoy a relaxing dinner and then retire for a good night's rest in your comfortable stateroom. Meals Included: Breakfast, Lunch and Dinner.

DAY #7: FRIDAY - DEPART CIENFUEGOS AND CULTURAL IMMERSION ON YOUR HALF-DAY AT SEA. After a refreshing breakfast, enjoy a relaxing half-day at sea. If interested, join your fellow cruise travelers for an interactive session in basic Spanish, or attend one of the core workshops designed to give you a deeper insight into the history and cultural norms of Cuba and help you step more comfortably into a different culture. After a refreshing lunch, learn how to mix some of the most popular cocktails like the Mojito and Daiquiri during an interactive workshop. If interested, learn how to play dominos or join in on a card game, escape to the library or simply enjoy a good book. Later that evening, enjoy a relaxing dinner featuring a taste of Cuba from a varied menu with a diverse cuisine, including local and regional specialties. Afterwards, discover your inner Latin dancer and feel the rhythms of Cuba during Latin dance lessons featuring Live Authentic Cuban Concerts with musicians right from the island. Later that evening enjoy a good night's rest in your comfortable stateroom. Meals Included: Breakfast, Lunch and Dinner.



DAY #8: SATURDAY – ARRIVE IN SANTIAGO DE CUBA. Arrive at Santiago de Cuba at 9:00am. After a refreshing breakfast, disembark at your third and final port which is Santiago de Cuba, the capital of the Spanish colony of Cuba from 1522 until 1589 and still the island's most important city after Havana. Considered the birthplace of "ron, son and revolucion", the watchtowers and cannons used in the Spanish-American war still protect and guard this port city. Your full day in Santiago de Cuba includes lunch in a local Paladar where the chef and staff will answer questions about the rich and colorful history of their city and their cuisine. After lunch, your tour of Santiago de Cuba continues with panoramic drives that provide views of the city's most famous attractions like San Juan Hill, Antonio Maceo Revolution Square, and the Plaza de Marte. Dive deep into the city's colonial past as you tour the UNESCO World Heritage site of Castillo de San Pedro de la Roca, a coastal fortress constructed in 1637 to protect Santiago de Cuba. Inside the fort, explore the country's most complete and best preserved examples of Spanish-American military architecture and artifacts alongside local history enthusiasts. A short distance away from Castillo de San Pedro de la Roca lies the Santiago city center, with opportunities to see and discuss the Casa de la Trova, Parque Cespedes, or the Cathedral de la Ciudad with local residents, and just a few steps away is the Santa Ifigenia cemetery, where Cuban National Hero Jose Marti was laid to rest and where you can also witness the changing of the

guard that protects his tomb. Before returning to the cruise ship, you'll spend a portion of the day visiting a community arts center dedicated to preserving the identity of Santiago's people. Some travelers will learn about the importance of dance in Santiago at the Cutumba and Macumba, while others will be inspired by the voices of the Coro Madrigalista. Still others will visit one of the famous music clubs of Santiago where they will be welcomed in to learn more about the sounds unique to the eastern side of the island. Cruise Ship Adonia departs promptly at 5:00pm. Later that evening, enjoy a relaxing dinner and retire for a good night's rest in your comfortable stateroom. Meals Included: Breakfast, Lunch and Dinner.



DAY #9: SUNDAY – DEPART SANTIAGO DE CUBA AND CULTURAL IMMERSION ON FULL-DAY AT SEA. After a refreshing breakfast, enjoy a relaxing full-day at sea. If interested, join your fellow cruise travelers for an interactive session in basic Spanish, or attend one of the core workshops designed to give you a deeper insight into the history and cultural norms of Cuba and help you step more comfortably into a different culture. After a refreshing lunch, learn how to mix some of the most popular cocktails like the Mojito and Daiquiri during an interactive workshop. If interested, learn how to play dominos or join in on a card game, escape to the library or simply enjoy a good book. Later that evening, after a relaxing dinner featuring a taste of Cuba from a varied menu with a diverse cuisine, including local and regional specialties. Afterwards, discover your inner Latin dancer and feel the rhythms of Cuba during Latin dance lessons featuring Live Authentic Cuban Concerts with musicians right from the island. Afterwards, enjoy a good night's rest in your comfortable stateroom. Important Note: Please prepare your luggage for check-out and follow the instructions of the MV Adonia staff for directions about leaving your luggage outside of your cabin later that evening. Meals Included: Breakfast, Lunch and Dinner.

DAY #10: MONDAY - ARRIVE IN MIAMI/RETURN TO WASHINGTON, D.C. Arrive at Miami at 7:45am. After a refreshing breakfast, disembark the Cruise Ship Adonia and process through immigration and customs. Afterwards, transfer to Miami International (MIA) Airport for your return flight to Washington, D.C. Depart Miami on American Airlines Flight Number 1486 at 4:07pm and arrive at Washington Dulles International (IAD) Airport at 6:40pm. Meals Included: Breakfast.

END OF PROGRAM

YOUR BEST OF CUBA CRUISE™ INCLUDES:

- Roundtrip Domestic Airfare between Washington Dulles International Airport and Miami International Airport;
- Roundtrip Airport Transfers at Miami International Airport;
- One Night Hotel Accommodation at the Miami International Airport Hotel with breakfast;
- Visa for Cuba based on a people-to-people tour program;
- Eight Nights in a comfortable cabin aboard the MV Adonia with all amenities of a hotel;
- Walking Tour of Old Havana with lunch included at the Restaurant Templete;
- Hemingway's Trail in Havana with lunch included at "Las Terrazas";
- Scheduled Tours as described in the Cities of Cienfuegos and Santiago de Cuba with lunches included;
- English-Speaking Tour Guides; and
- Mandatory Cuba Health Insurance.

YOUR BEST OF CUBA CRUISE™ DOES NOT INCLUDE:

- Tips and Gratuities for tour guides, drivers, and wait staff at restaurants;
- Optional Tours in Havana, Cienfuegos and Santiago de Cuba; and
- Items of a personal nature (i.e. – long distance telephone calls, laundry services, etc.).

TOTAL COST FOR THE BEST OF CUBA CRUISE™ IS **\$3,599.00** PER PERSON BASED ON DOUBLE OCCUPANCY AND AN ADDITIONAL **\$1,749.00** FOR SINGLE OCCUPANCY. PLEASE NOTE THAT THIS PRICE INCLUDES ROUNDTRIP AIRFARE BETWEEN WASHINGTON, D.C. AND MIAMI AS WELL AS AN OVERNIGHT IN MIAMI. PLEASE CONSULT WITH VENUE INTERNATIONAL PROFESSIONALS, INC. FOR SPECIFIC DETAILS ABOUT THE BEST OF CUBA CRUISE™ PRICE BASED ON YOUR CRUISE REQUIREMENTS AND ANY OPTIONAL TOUR(S) THAT YOU HAVE SELECTED.

SPECIAL NOTES FOR YOUR BEST OF CUBA CRUISE™:

- **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 actually be already filled out for you.)

- **Charter Airline Baggage Allowance:** \$20.00 fee for each checked bag. 44 lbs. allowed free. Excess Baggage: \$2.00 per pound over 44 lbs. (including carry-on). No checked bag can weigh more than 70 lbs. 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 card 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 credit cards/debit cards will not be permitted. You might want to consider changing some money into Cuban currency at the Currency Exchange booth inside the terminal before proceeding outside to meet your Cuban guide.
- **Early Arrival in Miami.** We recommend arriving in Miami one day prior to departure. We have been asked to recommend a hotel for those who wish to arrive earlier in the day. The hotel we recommend in Miami for those who will arrive early is the Marriott Airport Hotel which is adjacent to Miami International Airport. It is also very convenient for an early morning check-in time for embarkation on the cruise ship the next day.
- **Tourism Attractions.** 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 any planned tourist attractions are not available, rest assured that another planned tourist attraction will be substituted.

PLEASE NOTE: DO NOT HESITATE TO CONTACT VENUE INTERNATIONAL PROFESSIONALS, INC.

IF THERE IS NEED FOR ANY CLARIFICATION OF THE ABOVE DAY-TO-DAY ITINERARY. THANK YOU.