

Durgan
Travel Service

*Serving our community
since 1969*

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**VALID PASSPORT
REQUIRED!**

Your passport must
be
valid 3 months after
your return date.

**Cuba Educational Travel, in association with
Durgan Travel Service and Cuba Tours and Travel,
*presents...***

9 Days/8 Nights

A PEOPLE-TO- PEOPLE TRIP TO CUBA

**FEATURING HAVANA, VINALES, FOLKLORICO
NACIONAL DE CUBA, AND MEETINGS
WITH LOCAL ARTISTS AND CHEFS!**

~ WITH TWO NIGHTS IN MIAMI ~

Dates available on request

\$TBA* with 20-25 passengers

\$TBA* with 26+ passengers



***Rates are per person, twin occupancy, and INCLUDE \$TBA
in air taxes, fees, Cuban visa, and fuel surcharges
(this portion subject to change).**

Spend 9 days in Miami and Cuba on a cultural program that will allow travelers to engage in a people-to-people exchange with Cubans! By interacting with Cuban citizens, you will learn about their lives and be able to tell them about our country. You'll also learn about the cultural, economic, and practical issues related to the history and future of Cuba!

OUR CUBA ITINERARY:

DAY 1 – BOSTON-MIAMI: Depart from Boston Logan's International Airport for our flight to Miami, Florida. Upon arrival, we will check into our hotel. Dinner is on our own. Overnight at our hotel.

DAY 2 – MIAMI~HAVANA: After breakfast and hotel check-out, we'll depart for Havana. Upon arrival, we'll enjoy a short orientation of the city and our new neighborhood before checking into our hotel. Tonight we'll enjoy our first dinner in a local *paladar* (restaurant), San Cristobal. Rated by The Guardian as the number one *paladar* in Havana, this restaurant is in an eclectic space on the bottom floor of an early 20th-century mansion. Piles of old books are stacked atop beautiful old furniture; black and white photos jostle for space with antique record covers and bullfighting posters, while a selection of clocks, religious artifacts, and even a full-size zebra pelt add to the mix! The food is Cuban-Creole: yucca, *cerdo asado* (roast pork), lobster, fresh fish, and other traditional fare. We will have a chance to speak with the chef and the owner of the establishment to discuss food and new opportunities in the food industry in Cuba. Return to our hotel for overnight. (B, D)

DAY 3 – HAVANA: After breakfast, we will tour Old Havana on foot, walking between the four main plazas that comprise Cuba's first UNESCO World Heritage Site. Start at Plaza de Armas, the site of the oldest Spanish fortress in the Americas, the 1519 locale of the first mass in Cuba, and the massive Baroque seat of government, known as Palacio de los Capitanes Generales. Continue to Plaza de San Francisco de Assis and Plaza Vieja, where we will visit artists' galleries and historic buildings and get a good sense of the structure of the colonial city. Wind through historic streets spanning five centuries of historic architecture and end at Plaza de la Catedral, where we'll see the Baroque cathedral. Then we'll stop for lunch at Doña Eutimia, steps from Cathedral Square. Next we'll visit Taller Experimental de Grafica, established in 1962 by a small group of artists led by Orlando Suárez, a muralist whose initiative also helped found the Superior Art Institute. Mr. Suarez was supported in this effort by the Chilean Poet Pablo Neruda and by Che Guevara who applauded his efforts to create a center where all artists of the City of Havana can go to produce prints. The Taller is more than a workshop. It is a studio, a school and most of all, an art institution that preserves and develops the sophisticated art of print making with relative freedom of spirit and form. While at the center you will see artworks produced there and have a conversation with the artists present about their works, and about life as an artist in Havana. After, we'll visit the Rum Museum, where we'll see an audiovisual presentation about the history and production of Cuban rums, followed by a free sample! Tonight we'll enjoy dinner at Atelier, inside a typically idiosyncratic Vedado mansion. Two balconies have boundless cushions for the outdoor lounge. The food changes every day, hence the hand-written menus. Return to our hotel for overnight. (B, L, D)

DAY 4 – HAVANA: After breakfast, we'll visit Vedado Plaza and some districts in modern Havana. First we'll stop at Plaza de la Revolucion, followed by a visit to the Vedado district, which highlights the architecture of the area. We'll drive by the main monument and the Malecon, Copelia Park, the Havana Libre Hotel, and the Rampa district. Then we'll visit the farmers' market, and other places of interest in Havana

where you'll have the opportunity to interact with Cuban people. Lunch today will be at El Aljibe Criolla Cuisine, an outdoor thatched roof restaurant located in the residential area of Miramar, a few minutes from downtown Havana. The specialty is the El Aljibe Chicken, which combines roast chicken with French fries and fried plantain, delicious black beans, white rice, salad and national sweets for dessert. Next it's off to Folklorico Nacional de Cuba, where we'll attend a private rehearsal. We'll peek behind the scenes and witness this extraordinary ensemble of Afro-Cuban folkloric music and dance that has been in existence for 35 years. We'll end our afternoon at the Fuster Studio, the home and studio of Cuban painter, printmaker, and ceramicist José Fuster. Dinner tonight is at Vista al Mar Paladar, where we'll explore Cuba's experiment with free enterprise and entrepreneurial pursuits by dining at one of Havana's emerging restaurants. These home restaurants, along with other types of small businesses, were established to allow Cubans to create their own economic futures. We'll talk with the waiters and meet the owner to discuss how free enterprise is faring in Cuba. The restaurant is right on the ocean, great for early sunset dinner and mojitos! Return to our hotel for overnight. (B, L, D)



DAY 5 – VINALES: After breakfast, we'll take an all-day excursion to Vinales (photo). Vinales Valley, located in the west, is an UNESCO World Heritage Site. The valley has one of the most beautiful views in Cuba, with its mogotes, limestone mountains that rise up from the valley floor. Take a boat ride through a mogote and then enjoy a typical Cuban lunch while enjoying live country music. Then we'll explore Cueva del Indio, a cave that was discovered in 1920. It was outfitted to be visited in the 1940's, by paving the floors and electrifying it. This cave is 5100 feet long, but only one-third of it can be visited, by combining a short walk and a motorized boat ride through marvelous limestone formations. We'll enjoy an organic lunch at Finca Rojas, a beautiful farm located in the heart of Vinales. Then it's off to visit a tobacco farm. We'll enjoy dinner at a specially selected *paladar* in the area before returning to Havana for overnight. (B, L, D)

DAY 6 – HAVANA: After breakfast, we'll visit Central Park and Prado. Lying on the border of Old Havana and Central Havana, this area is notable for containing numerous architecturally and historically significant buildings that exemplify a mid-19th century urban center. We will begin at Central Park, then walk along the Prado Promenade. We'll see the Moorish-style Inglaterra Hotel, the oldest in the city; the 1929 Capitolio building, which is modeled on the US Capitol; and the Bacardi building, the best example of tropical Art Deco. Next up is a visit to the Museo de Bellas Artes Cuban art collection in this striking modernist building which exemplifies the combination of sculpture with architecture in Cuban mid-century modernism. Then we'll enjoy a private special dance performance by Havana's newest sensation, Compania Irene Rodriguez. This group of 10 dancers and 3 musicians has been performing to rave reviews since their founding in 2011. Then we'll enjoy lunch at NAO Paladar, a combination of good taste, elegance, and service, where we'll enjoy the most delicious lemonade in Havana. Located a few steps from the port and one block from the Plaza of the Captains General, in the historic center of Old Havana, NAO is one of the nicest places to visit in Havana. Tonight's dinner is at La Guarida, a magical place that oozes a cozy atmosphere with soft lights, fine table linen, German silver cutlery, candles, Cuban music, and good jazz. The building, originally known as La Mansión Camagüey, shows its former grandeur, from the magnificent wooden entrance door through the marble staircase up the two flights of stairs to the restaurant itself. Return to our hotel for overnight. (B, L, D)

DAY 7 – HAVANA: After breakfast, we'll take a ferry ride across Havana Bay to visit the historic City of Regla. Here we'll visit Guanabacoa Museum, which comprises objects of the popular Cuban religions of African origins: Regla de Osha, Reglas Congas, and the Abakuá Secret Religious Societies. We'll enjoy lunch at the Ajiaco Café, which serves meals that could easily make you think you are dining at one of the best restaurants in New York or LA. But as soon as you look at the scenic tropical scene and ocean view, you will realize you are eating at one of Havana's best new paladares! This afternoon, we'll take a Morro Cabana tour. El Morro castle dates back from 1630 and was part of the first defensive system put in place by the Spanish crown, while La Cabana resulted from the 2nd defensive system that was made effective in the late 1700's, following the English invasion in 1762. The latter is the largest fort built by the Spanish in the Americas and it is the seat of the popular cannon shot ceremony that reminds visitors of when Havana was a walled city and a cannon shot at dawn and at dusk times signaled the opening and the closing of its gates. The two forts together comprise the largest and most powerful defensive complex built by the Spanish Crown in the American continent. Before dinner, we'll enjoy a 1950s Classic Cars tour of Havana. Tonight's farewell dinner is at Kadir Lopez Studio. Kadir Lopez and his brother, Kelvin Lopez, are graduates of the Instituto Superior de Arte. Their expansive studio and exhibit spaces are located in a 1930's Havana mansion that has been repurposed by the artists for their home-workspace. Here you'll enjoy a great and delicious traditional Cuban home-made dinner cooked by the family of the artists! Then we'll have a chance to talk with Kadir, Kelvin, and other artists who will join us, and besides having a fabulous dinner, we will enjoy warm conversation about everything Cuban. Return to our hotel for overnight. (B, L, D)

DAY 8 – HAVANA~MIAMI: After breakfast and hotel check-out, we'll have the morning at leisure for some last-minute sightseeing or shopping. After lunch (on our own), we'll transfer to the airport for our trip to Miami. Upon arrival, we'll check into our hotel for overnight. Dinner is on our own. (B)

DAY 9 – MIAMI~BOSTON: After breakfast and hotel check-out, we will transfer to the airport for our return flight to Boston. (B)



CUBA EDUCATIONAL TRAVEL

Cuba Educational Travel's mission is to connect the people of the United States and Cuba. This is done through coordinating travel between both countries – in both directions – to facilitate two-way learning, as well as producing studies and publications about issues of mutual concern and organizing events in the United States that deal with issues related to Cuba and U.S.-Cuba relations.

People to People License Number: CT-2013-303986-1

CUBA TOURS AND TRAVEL

Cuba Tours and travel is a full-service agency licensed by the U.S. Government

TSP# 2073790-40. CST number 2073790-40

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For more information on traveling in Cuba, visit <http://www.cubatoursandtravel.com/trip>

OUR CUBA TOUR INCLUDES THE FOLLOWING:

- Round-trip regularly scheduled flights from Boston to Miami and Havana, and return.
- All air taxes, fees, and fuel surcharges (this portion subject to change). Does not include \$TBD departure tax in Havana.
- 2-nights' four-star accommodations in Miami and 6 nights in Havana.
- The Single Supplement is an additional \$TBA per single. *Limited availability – may be unavailable or subject to surcharge.*
- Breakfast daily (B), 5 lunches (L), and 5 dinners (D).
- Portage of luggage at the hotel.
- All hotel transfers and daily sightseeing aboard a deluxe, private, temperature-controlled motorcoach.
- Comprehensive sightseeing package, as described in the itinerary.
- English-speaking guides, as per the itinerary.
- All room and meal taxes and gratuities to bellmen.
- Complimentary Durgan Travel Service flight bag and complete packet of documentation.

A \$350 DEPOSIT IS DUE UPON RECEIPT OF FLYER. THE BALANCE IS DUE 75 DAYS PRIOR TO DEPARTURE.

Travel Protection Insurance: All persons traveling with Durgan Travel Service are offered Travel Protection Insurance through Trip Mate, and are required to accept or decline said offer on their reservation form. Please call Trip Mate if you have questions about your insurance or your eligibility. The plan covers trip cancellation or pre- or post-trip interruption, and tour operator/cruise line/airline bankruptcy up to the cost of the trip and travel delay up to \$750 (max. \$150 per day). Emergency evacuation is covered up to \$50,000. Accident or Sickness Medical Expense is covered up to \$25,000. Lost or stolen baggage/personal effects are covered up to \$2500. Baggage delay (24-hours or more) up to \$250 reimbursement, and death or dismemberment benefit \$25,000 max.. This plan is underwritten by: The United States Fire Insurance Company. This policy is administered by: Trip Mate, Inc. (In CA, dba Trip Mate Insurance Agency), 9225 Ward Parkway, Suite 200, Kansas City, MO 64114, 1-800-888-7292.

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TRIP DEVIATIONS: Any request for tour deviation will be subject to availability at the time of booking. The *maximum* extension permitted is 10 - 14 days, depending on the airline. A deviation form, along with the surcharge fee of \$150 to change the air (additional \$100 for land arrangements), must be submitted at the time of initial payment, but will be accepted up to 120 days prior to departure. After processing the request, any additional deviation expenses (car rental, train, hotel, etc.) must be paid, in full, to the Retail Department of Durgan Travel Service at the time of reservation. Download form from www.durgantravel.com or contact Durgan Travel at Toll Free 1-800-234-9959 to request a deviation form.

RESPONSIBILITY: Durgan Travel Service and their agents, in accepting bookings for this tour, clearly stipulate that they are not liable for faults or defaults of other companies and persons that may be used in the carrying-out of the tour services, also for accidents, baggage losses, delays, or cancellations, strikes, political unrest, riots, and acts of God and war, and changes in schedules. In the event it becomes necessary or advisable, for the comfort or well-being of the passengers, or for any reason whatsoever, to alter the itinerary or arrangements, such alterations may be made without penalty to the operator. Additional expenses, if any, shall be borne by the passengers. The right is reserved to withdraw the tour due to insufficient participation or for any reason whatsoever; also to decline to accept or to retain any person as members of the tour. The airlines and bus lines concerned are not to be held responsible for any acts, omissions, or events during the time the passengers are not onboard. The pass contract in use by the airlines or bus companies concerned constitutes the sole contract between the company and purchase of this tour and/or passengers. The issuance and acceptance of receipt tickets and/or tour membership coupons, along with making the initial deposit, shall be deemed to be consent to and acceptance of the foregoing terms and conditions. Durgan Travel Service is not responsible for any disruption or cancellation of services due to erroneous identification information provided to Durgan Travel Service by clients.

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SPACE IS LIMITED, SO BOOK NOW!!

Licensing Description

Cuba Tours and Travel is a Treasury Department Travel Service Provider (TSP) that is primarily devoted to assisting travel license holders. To accommodate general interest travelers such as board members, major funders Members of your organization and their family members, you will be working with Cuba Educational Travel, an educational travel organization which holds the Specific License number No. CT-2012-294261-1. This license allows an educational exchange program not involving academic study and authorizes the participants to engage in people-to-people contact with the Cuban people that will result in meaningful interactions designed to learn about everyday Cubans and their situation and inform them of our country, its history and future. Here is the link to Cuba Educational Travel: <http://www.cubaeducationaltravel.com>

For more information on OFAC licensing please visit the following document:

http://www.treasury.gov/resource-center/sanctions/Programs/Documents/cuba_tr_app.pdf

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