

CUBAN HIGHLIGHTS

6 Days/5 Nights

FROM \$2,109*

NEW!

GUARANTEED DAILY ARRIVALS



HOSTED GENERAL SUPPORT FOR THE CUBAN PEOPLE PROGRAM

(3) Havana • (2) Cienfuegos



- No. of Overnight Stays

PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

- Join in this cultural and historical immersion to experience the Cuba of yesterday and today in and around Havana and Cienfuegos on this amazing Support for the Cuban People experience
- Get to know the locals in an unparalleled way as you live locally in a high-end private home
- Savor flavorful, authentic Cuban recipes made with fresh farm-to-table local ingredients at privately-owned paladar restaurants
- See up-close how the world's acclaimed Cuban cigars are made from growing and drying tobacco to rolling
- Discover the vibrant mosaic art and the inspired neighborhood project of the "Picasso of Cuba", José Fuster
- Learn about Cuba and its people firsthand via interchanges with Cuban artists, writers, museum curators, musicians, students, and locals
- Delve into Cienfuegos, known for its French architectural influences and its spectacular seaside setting
- Explore the colonial town of Trinidad, a well-preserved UNESCO World Heritage Site founded in 1514

DAY 1 | HAVANA Your Day 1 Havana Arrive in Havana and get ready for the epitome of enriching experiences that start right way with a visit to Finca Yoandra to take part in a cultural and educational exchange about their sustainable agriculture outreach project. Sip on a Cuban cocktail while you tour the medicinal gardens and interact with the representatives from community projects for children and the elderly. Enjoy your first taste of authentic Cuban cuisine for lunch at the finca's privately-owned restaurant or "paladar," Il Divino. Next, visit the community art project, Muraleando "muraling" or mural-making. The goal of Muraleando is to bring children off the streets of Havana and inspire them to collaborate in a community project. Transfer to your Casa Particular for check-in. This evening we will share in a flavorful Cuban dinner at a local paladar where you will have the opportunity to meet the chef. Tonight, you can join in a variety of optional activities such as the nightly Cannon Blast Ceremony held in La Cabaña fort at 9pm showcasing a theatrical demonstration where actors dressed in full 18th-century military regalia reenact the firing of a cannon over Havana harbor - a ritual that used to signify the closing of the city gates. (L,D)

DAY 2 | HAVANA After breakfast join in an enlightening walking tour of Old Havana, a UNESCO World Heritage Site, while participating in open dialogue with locals, artists and musicians. Learn about the challenges of renovating the city's exquisite historic buildings and see some of the area's elegant restorations as you stroll the charming cobblestone streets. Tour the Museum of the Revolution that displays documents and artifacts, weapons, and planes from the 1950s' revolution. The museum is housed in the former presidential palace that was the home to Cuba's leaders from the 1920s until 1959. Enjoy lunch in Old Havana at a paladar. After lunch, you will have a special opportunity to experience a performance by the Habana Compás dance troupe, featuring an exhilarating mix of percussion and dance rooted in flamenco and Afro-Cuban rhythms and moves that is sure to thrill you. The evening is yours to explore this great city at your leisure. (B,L)

DAY 3 | HAVANA Rise and shine, then head out after breakfast to explore an authentic Cuban Cigar Factory where you will learn about the "readers" and meet the "rollers." Visit one of the area's museums such as el Museo National de Bellas Artes – the Museum of Fine Arts, comprised of two buildings exhibiting inspired collections from the colonial times up to contemporary works. Have lunch at Mediteráneo, an artisanal paladar in the Vedado neighborhood for a fresh farm-to-table meal created by the privately-owned restaurant's Italian chef. Take time to shop at the "Almacenes de San Jose" artisans' market. This evening the options for discovery abound with free time to venture out for dinner on your own. Consider joining in an optional excursion such as a visit to Havana's Fabrica de Arte Cubano, an independent project and meeting place where the island's avant-garde arts can be enjoyed, with all kinds of arts – music, painting, dance, and more. (B,L)

DAY 4 | HAVANA | CIENFUEGOS After breakfast at your upscale casa, depart to Cienfuegos. Upon arrival in this seaside city, enjoy lunch at Club Cienfuegos, a monumental work of eclectic Cuban architecture dating from the last century. Explore the historical center of Cienfuegos on a comprehensive city tour with your guide. Here you will walk along the main "bulevar" and stop at art galleries to meet with area artists. Share in the local rhythms at a musical performance before heading to check in to



your Cienfuegos Casa. This evening you will savor dinner at the bayside "El Lagarto" private restaurant, enjoying excellent brochetas (shish kebabs) of lamb and roast pork. After dinner, meet residents as well as members of the Trazos Libres art project in Cienfuegos, featuring murals on the neighborhood homes surrounding the community center. (B,L,D)

DAY 5 | CIENFUEGOS Your first stop on today's enriching Cuban exchange is at the Cienfuegos Botanical Gardens, teeming with towering palm trees, bamboo plants, flowers and lush tropical greenery. Relish lunch at Paladar Dorado, overlooking the entire city and featuring a beautiful vista of the ocean. Next, take an insightful walking tour of colorful Trinidad, a well-preserved UNESCO World Heritage Site founded in 1514. Later, tour Casa del Alfarero, a ceramics workshop where you will learn the secrets to creating some of the beautiful crafts you have seen throughout this adventure. Return to Cienfuegos and get ready to share in a wonderful farewell dinner at your Casa. Keep in mind that "The Pearl of the South" is known as the home to many of some of Cuba's great historic musicians, such as Benny Moré, who was a master of most genres of Cuban music, such as the son montuno, mambo, guaracha, and bolero. Tonight, you can opt for an evening at a community event or musical show. (B,L,D)

DAY 6 | CIENFUEGOS TO USA After breakfast, stop at the Che Memorial and Museum before heading to Santa Clara Airport for your return flight home. (B)

(B) Breakfast, (L) Lunch, (D) Dinner

INCLUDED FEATURES

- U.S. Department of the Treasury authorization under a "General Support for the Cuban People License"
- Accommodations in Cuba in a Casa Particular (Upscale Private Homes-see images on our website)
- Round trip transfers from the airport to your Casa Particular
- Full support for the Cuban People Cultural Exchange Program
- Fresh Bottled Water while touring
- All entrance fees for scheduled activities and events
- 13 included meals consisting of: Breakfast daily, 5 lunches and 3 dinners with a cocktail and wine
- Professional English-speaking Cuban Guide

Not Included: Round trip airfare to Cuba, Visa for Cuba (\$55 per person), meals other than those mentioned in the itinerary, porterage, tips and other items of a purely personal nature

*From Price is per person based on double occupancy in a Casa Particular (Upscale Private Home)

For 5 to 7 people traveling together

Prices from \$1,499



Cuban Musical Trio