



CULTURAL
EXPLORATIONS

CUBA



AUBURN
UNIVERSITY

**Auburn University Cuba Agenda at a Glance
Friday, June 17th – Friday, June 24th 2016**

Enrollment limited to 16 delegates.

Register now: [Register Here](#)



Day 1 - Friday, June 17, 2016

Your Auburn University leaders will arrive in Miami on Friday evening and stay at the Marriott Miami Airport by the Miami International Airport. Your registration fee includes your overnight stay in Miami.

Day 2 - Saturday, June 18, 2016

Check out from the Hotel

11:00 am – Group takes the shuttle to the Miami International Airport. A Cultural Explorations travel manager will meet with you at the terminal G, in front the Dunkin Donuts.

12:30 pm –Check-in at Miami International Airport

3:30 pm – Depart to from Miami to Santa Clara

4:30 pm –Arrive International Airport pf Santa Clara

6:00 pm – Check In at America Hotel (Classic Hotel Without An Elevator) and Exchange Your Currency

Opposite the city's Parque Leoncio Vidal, which often has markets & music events, Hotel America is ideal for visitors who want to experience the sights, sounds & heritage of Santa Clara. This includes two Che Guevara museums, one of which is just 10 minutes' walk away.

8:00 pm – Dinner at Local Paladar Sabor y Arte

Day 3 - Sunday, June 19, 2016

9:00 am – Breakfast at Hotel

10:00 am- Visit Santa Clara University

11:30 am - Memorial Ernesto “Che” Guevara

A solemn place located at the entrance of the so-called “City of Che”, the memorial is the burial site of the heroic guerilla leader and most of his comrades killed in the Bolivian jungles during the second half of the 1960’s.

1:00 pm -Lunch at Local Paladar La Aldaba

2:30 pm - Visit to Remedios City

The city of Remedios was one of the first villages founded by Spanish colonizers in the XVI century. A beautiful quiet little colonial city Remediois has been declared a National Monument with genuine

colonial works that contain relics such as the Parroquia Mayor, the Buen Viaje church, the House of Las Arcadas, that of the Alférez Real and the birthplace of Alejandro García Caturla, today the Museum of Music.

3:00 pm - Depart Remedios to the Sugar Museum in Caibarién,

3:30 pm - Visit the Sugar Mill Museum (Heriberto Duquesne or Chiquitico Fanbregat)/ Slave Trade)

Located in a former sugar mill converted to a museum, housed in the historically significant Marcelo Salado Azucarera (Sugar Mill), where you learn about the role the Sugar industry played in Cuba's history. The museum exhibits the different installations of a sugar mill, the tools and the machinery used in the sugar production.

4:00 pm - Visit Socio Cultural Project "Color Miel"

Continue to Caibarién to the Community Project, Color Miel. Here a resident beekeeper explains his tradition and shares his thoughts as an entrepreneur. Then visit the artist-director of the cultural project in her home. Return to your hostel for dinner.

7:30 pm – Dinner at Hostal Florida Center

You will enjoy a wonderful Cuban style meal (the best "ropa vieja" in Cuba) at this colonial house. This beautiful house was built in 1876 by a rich landlord. Still are well preserved original doors, windows, roofs and floors imported from Turkey at the beginnings of the twentieth century.

Day 4 - Monday, June 20, 2016

8:00 am – Breakfast at Hotel – Check Out

9:00 am – Depart from Santa Clara to Cienfuegos

Cienfuegos is the only city in Cuba that was founded by the French. As a result, it feels a little different than other Cuban cities, with wider streets. There are two main areas of interest to tourists; Pueblo Nuevo, the city center; and Punta Gorda, a peninsula with lots of 1950's homes. The city of Cienfuegos, is a UNESCO World Heritage Site since 2016, and dubbed La Perla del Sur (Pearl of the South). This City has long seduced travelers from around the island with its elegance, enlighten French spirit and feisty Caribbean Panache.

Visit El Nicho Falls

Nestled in the Escambray Mountains, scenic Parque El Nicho is series of freshwater cascades is a highlight for locals and visitors to the region, offering a brief 25 minute hiking trail, beautiful views of Central Cuba and the valley

below, and access to clear, refreshing natural pools that are an excellent escape from the country's sometimes-oppressive heat.

12:00 pm - Visit Castillo de Jagua

This is an 18th-century fortress built to protect Cienfuegos against (English) pirates. There's an abandoned nuclear power plant behind the castle, built by the Soviets but never finished.

1:30 pm – Lunch at Villa Lagarto

2:30 pm –Walking City Tour Cienfuegos

4:30 pm - Check in Hotel Jagua

With its magnificent location in the well-known residential area of Punta Gorda, in the southern city of Cienfuegos, the Jagua is considered one of Cuba's most famous hotels. It rises over the waters of Cienfuegos Bay – take a south-facing room for the panoramic vistas over the bay and the Mughal-style Palacio Del Valle.

7:30 pm –Dinner at Restaurant Hotel Jagua Following Relaxing Stroll Along the Water Front

Day 5 - Tuesday, June 21, 2016

8:00 am – Breakfast at Hotel

9:00 am - Visit University of Cienfuegos

10:30 am- Depart for day excursion to Trinidad

It's easy to see why Trinidad has been called "the museum city of Cuba." The meticulously preserved town offers a window into the past, from its sprawling colonial palaces and plazas to its remnants of sugar mills and slave barracks from another era. Soak up the rich Spanish colonial architecture by taking a stroll through the picturesque cobblestone streets of this very walkable city.

**12:00 pm- Lunch at "Los Conspiradores" paladar
Gallery-studio of the painter and sculptor, Yami Martínez. The name of the house comes from being the base, in 1848, of Cuban patriots fighting against the Spanish government in a conspiracy known as the Conspiración de la Mina de la Rosa Cubana. Enjoy a wonderful "Cuban-Criollo" style meal while enjoy the artsy atmosphere and the music from the streets.**



2:00 pm – Walking City Tour Trinidad

Charming, wonky streets, paved with river cobblestones, and lined with painted one-story homes undulate over ground in the Valley of Santa Rosa. To the north of the tiny city rear the lush green mountains of the Sierra del Escambray, while to the south, roll the waters of the glittering turquoise Caribbean Sea.

5:30 pm -Return to Cienfuegos

7:30 pm -Dinner at Local Paladar in Cienfuegos

Day 6 - Wednesday, June 22, 2016

8:00 am - Breakfast at Hotel and check out

9:00 am – Depart from Cienfuegos to Havana
(3 hours approximately)

12:30 pm- Lunch at Paladar La Guarida

Find an exclusive atmosphere inside this splendid edifice from the early 20th century. La Guarida is considered by many to be one of the best paladars in all of Cuba

- **2:00 pm –Panoramic tour – Plaza de la Revolución – Conceived by French urbanist Jean Claude Forestier in the 1920s, the gigantic Plaza de la Revolución (known as Plaza Cívica until 1959) was part of Havana's 'new city,' which grew up between 1920 and 1959.**
- **University of Havana and the Modern Art School.**

4:00 pm - Check-in at Hotel Nacional

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, they were declared part of the World Heritage Site. The Hotel Nacional de Cuba was declared a National Monument and it was inscribed in the World Memory Register. 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.



6:00 pm - Welcome Cocktail Reception at Hotel Nacional

7:30 pm - Welcome Dinner at HM7

In a comfortable and elegant atmosphere HM7 combines cuisine with the more unusual dishes of international cuisine. The service, decor, atmosphere, food and drinks are carefully chosen in this exclusive site Paseo Street. With a privileged view of the city and the sea you have the opportunity to enjoy the sunset, just splendid that height from Habana Mía 7 is located.

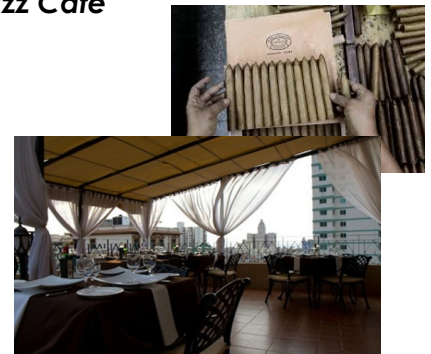
Optional Late Evening

Jazz Night in Havana Jazz Café Club or Zorra y el Cuervo Jazz Café

Day 7 - Thursday, June 23, 2016

9:00 am - Breakfast at Hotel

10:30 am - Visit H. Upmann Cigar Factory – Cuban cigars are well known as the finest in the world. Learn about how the cigars are made and experience them for yourselves.



12:00 pm – Lunch at Café Laurent Paladar

You will sense the echoes of the glamorous Havana of the 50's in this updated art deco penthouse with panoramic views from the El Vedado neighborhood to the sea. Just steps from the iconic Hotel Nacional de Cuba and the Hotel Capri, Café Laurent blends and harmonizes cosmopolitan cuisine with contemporary Cuban fare. Café Laurent puts Havana at your feet.

2:00 pm – Walking & Bus tour of the Old City

- ***Centro Habana – Cárdenas street, the former Cuban Telephone Company, Reina street, Aldama Palace, Golden Scepter, José Crusellas' house, Convent and Church of the Sacred Heart of Jesus, Carlos III Avenue, Grand Masonic.***
- ***Cementerio de Cristóbal Colón – Also known as Christopher Columbus Cemetery, this is one of the great historical cemeteries of the world, and is very important in Latin American history.***
- ***Parque Almendares – This Park runs along the banks of the city's Río Almendares, below the bridge on Calle 23.***

5:00 pm – Return to Hotel

Refresh and unwind before dinner on the beautiful Hotel Terrace Overlooking the Sea

6:30 pm – Depart for Dinner via Classic Car

7:00 pm – Dinner at VIP Havana

Enjoy dinner at VIP Havana, one of the newest paladars in Havana that has become known for its excellent food and service.



Day 8 - Friday, June 24, 2016

9:00 am - Breakfast at Hotel

10:00 am – Depart Hotel for Hemingway Museum – Finca Vigía, Cojímar, La Terrazas Bar and Restaurant:

Take a trip back in time and walk in the shoes of one of the world's greatest writers.

- *Visit Finca Vigía, the former residence of the American writer, where many of his most famous literary works were written.*
- *Visit Cojímar, a fisherman village Hemingway docked his fishing boat, “El Pilar” and source of inspiration for his famous novel, “The Old Man and the Sea”.*
- *Enjoy cocktails at La Terrazas Bar and Restaurant; a place related to the life of the famous writer and to Gregorio Fuentes, the captain of his fishing boat.*



12:30 pm - Departure to Jose Marti International Airport

1:00 pm – Check in at Jose Marti Intl. Airport

4:00 pm – Return Flight to Miami International Airport

Note: Flights out of Cuba are subject to delays. Most delegates are booking flights after 8:00 PM back to their home airports.

Price: Initial registration fee is \$400 per person. This fee holds a delegate seat on the tour. **Deadline April 15, 2016**

Double Occupancy: \$3,995 per person (if you are sharing a room with one other person.)

Single Occupancy: \$4,395 per person (if you are the only person in the hotel room.)

Register: [Register Now by clicking here](#)

Tipping Suggestions

Bathroom Attendants: Use small coins (10 centavos, 25 centavos, etc.)

Bell Hops: \$1 CUC per bag

Housekeeping: \$1 CUC per day. We recommend tipping on a daily basis

Musicians: \$2 CUC, if you have enjoyed the performance

Cuban Bus Driver: \$30 CUC per person

Cuban Guide: \$50 CUC per person

Taxi Driver: 10% of fare

Trip Includes

- Accommodations (one (1) night in Miami and six (6) nights in Cuba)
- Round Trip Airfare from Miami to Cuba
- Medical Insurance while in Cuba (excluding pre-existing conditions)
- Expert English speaking Cuban Guide
- Cultural Explorations Guide
- All tours and entry fees (as listed in the program)
- Photography fees at venue which usually an additional 5 CUC
- Breakfast daily in Cuba
- Meals as identified within program and preselected by Cultural Explorations (including tips)
- Two (2) beverages per meal
- Two (2) bottles of water per day
- Air conditioned transportation while in Cuba (unless listed not included)
- Cuban Departure tax of 25 CUC approx. \$30 USD
- Baggage fee includes up to 44lbs combined of carry-on checked luggage \$25.00

Trip Excludes

- *Additional beverages and snacks*
- *Some tips to misc. service providers*
- *Miscellaneous tips (entertainment, bathroom attendants, etc.) – 1-2 CUC per person/per day*
- *Individualized hotel expenses (Mini bar, room service, laundry fees, etc.)*
- *Meals other than listed on itinerary or described as on your own*
- *Gratuities for guide and driver (see tipping suggestions)*
- *Trip cancellation insurance*
- *Wi-Fi /internet access except where supplied in program*
- *Trip does not included Cuban Guide and Cuban Driver's tips.*

All program tours are subject to change

All rooms are subject to change