



CULTURAL
EXPLORATIONS
CUBA



EDUCATIONAL AND CULTURAL TOURS IN CUBA

October 15th to 20th, 2016

Enrollment limited to 10 delegates. [REGISTER NOW](#) (deadline by August 29th)

Having heard so much about Cuba, today many travelers want to experience the country. That's why you should join the next Auburn University Outreach delegation. You will experience various facets of Cuban life and culture all on one trip! Go now and ride in a classic car like the 1956 Chevy, refurbished with a 1980s Russian engine before Uber arrives. See the decaying colonial architecture before the inevitable facelifts and restoration. In between your interactions with the people of Cuba and educational sessions, visit various universities, community centers, and landmarks and experience a tour of an authentic cigar factory - basically taking in "the real" Cuba.

And yes, things are changing fast but don't worry. There is still time for you. Experience the countryside, where you can see people selling plantains and pineapples at roadside stands, and burros pulling carts along the road. As they say, 'this is Cuba.' You should join us on the next Auburn University Outreach delegation to Cuba from Monday, October 1 through Saturday, October 8, 2016; go now while the country is still frozen in time, still a very unique place in the world

Cultural Explorations people-to-people license is issued by the U.S. Department of the Treasury's, Office of Foreign Asset Control (OFAC). Pursuant to section 31 C.F.R. § 515.565(b)(2) of the Cuban Asset Control Regulations, this license allows U.S. Citizens who book a package with Cuba Explorations the ability to travel to Cuba legally. Cultural Explorations license # CT-2014-313195-1 Seller of Travel # ST-40002





Auburn University Cuba Agenda at a Glance

Saturday to Thursday– October 15 -20, 2016

Day 1- Saturday, October 15th, 2016

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

Day 2- Sunday, October 16th, 2016 (L & D, provided)

Check out from the Hotel

8:30 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

12:00 pm – Depart Miami International Airport (flight # 3143)

1:00 pm – Arrive to José Martí International Airport

2:00 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

4:00 pm - Check-in at the Saratoga Hotel and Welcome Cocktail and Orientation

One of Havana's top hotels - within are spacious rooms boasting chic styling and 21st-century amenities. In fact, it's the only Havana hotel with free Wi-Fi. The rooftop has a spectacular view of the city. The hotel also features a Moorish-themed Anacaona restaurant, where you can experience the taste of a Cuban cigar and have a cocktail in the neon-lit mezzanine bar.

Orientation Meeting with our Cuban guides and Cultural Explorations Travel Manager. Learn about the history, culture, and dynamic legacy of Cuba.

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 3- Monday, October 17th, 2016 (B, L, & D Provided)

7:00 am - 7:45 am – Breakfast at Hotel

Join us for breakfast with a refreshing atmosphere at one of the hotel's restaurants.

8:00 am - 9:30 am – Speakers presentation at Saratoga Meeting's Room

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.*
- ✚ *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.*
- ✚ *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.

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 paladares in Havana that has become known for its excellent food and service.



Day 4- Tuesday, October 18th 2016 (B, L, & D Provided)

7:00 am - 7:45 am – Breakfast at Hotel

Join us for breakfast with a refreshing atmosphere at one of the hotel's restaurants.

8:00 am - 9:30 am – Speakers presentation at Saratoga Meeting's Room

9:45 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".*



12:00 pm – Lunch at La Moraleja

Nestled in the courtyard of a beautiful house of Vedado Style 40s, has a special magnetism that can be seen from its broad, fresh entrance, its open air room as well as its fully air conditioning one, its unique cuisine and excellent services.

1:30 pm – Tour of Havana University

La Universidad de la Havana, is a university located in the Vedado district of Havana, Cuba. Founded on January 5, 1728, the University of Havana is oldest University in Cuba, and one of the first to be founded in Americas. Originally a religious institution, today



the university has 15 faculties (colleges) at its Havana campus and distance learning centers through Cuba.

3:00 pm – Visit to a Rum Museum

Rum has been produced in Cuba for more than four centuries! Learn about the fascinating history and production, while sampling brands of what's believed to be among the best. Visit the most well-known castle fortress in Cuba that guards the bay of Havana.



4:30 pm – Visit to the Flea Market

Enjoy the art and cultural creations of the Cuban people

6:00 pm –Return to Hotel

Refresh and unwind before dinner.

7:00 pm – Depart for Dinner

7:30 pm - 9:00 – Dinner on your own.

The Cultural Explorations' Travel Manager will provide with a list if restaurant for you to visit on your own.

9:00 pm- Show at the Buena vista Social Club (Hotel Nacional)

Optional Late Evening - The Bar Floridita

Opened in the early 19th century and still preserving much of the atmosphere of the 1940s and 1950s, with the red coats of the bartenders matching the regency style decoration that dates from the 1959. The Nobel prize-winning American writer Ernest Hemingway frequented the bar and made it his favorite. The establishment today contains many noticeable memorabilia of the author, and a life-size bronze statue at the end of the bar, sculpted by the Cuban artist Jose Villa Soberon.



Day 5- Wednesday, October 19th 2016 (B, L, & D Provided)

7:00 am - 7:45 am – Breakfast at Hotel

Join us for breakfast with a refreshing atmosphere at one of the hotel's restaurants.

8:00 am - 9:30 am – Speakers presentation at Saratoga Meeting's Room



10:00 am - Havana Mediterraneo Farm-to-Table Excursion

Visit the farm where the restaurant's vegetables are grown and meats are raised. Our DMI travelers will be able to hand pick produce which will be brought back to the restaurant for luncheon preparation. When available, guests can horseback ride through the farm and enjoy the scenery.

12:00 pm - Lunch at Havana Mediterraneo

"Experience one of Cuba's best and most popular restaurants, Mediterraneo Havana. The food is locally sourced at their own farm and incredibly fresh. Mediterraneo Havana is locally and internationally known for its high-quality food, service and atmosphere. Enjoy gourmet pizza, locally caught seafood, and Mediterraneo's world-famous pineapple cheesecake. Guests may dine indoors and watch the chef prepare your meal, or enjoy their entree outdoors on the upstairs terrace or lower patio.

2:00 pm- Visit to the Callejon de Hamel

Visit Callejon de Hamel, a central part of Afro-Cuban gatherings. The tour will be led by the Cuban painter, sculptor and muralist Salvador Gonzalez — a man whose Afro-Cuban expression is known worldwide. Guests will also be able to view a dancing show from the local culture.

3:30 pm Return to the Hotel

Refresh and unwind before dinner

5:00 pm – Depart for community project

5:30 pm- Visit to community project La Colmenita (The Little Beehive)

"La colmenita" began as a Havana community theater project during one of Cuba's most economically desperate times. Everyone pitched in: children, parents, even grandparents. When the lights came on, it was magic! This October — in a rare U.S. appearance — Cuba's internationally acclaimed children's theater, a UNICEF Goodwill ambassador, will bring its high-energy performance to Washington, New York and San Francisco.

7:00 pm – Dinner at Rio Mar

Rio Mar has a whole terrace overlooking where the Rio Almendares flows into the sea. The restaurant's menu has been very well balanced and presents dishes from the Cuban and International cuisine, with specialty in sea food.



Day 6 – Thursday, October 20th, 2016 (B & L Provided)

8:00 am - 8:45 am – Breakfast at Hotel

*Join us for breakfast with a refreshing atmosphere at one of the hotel's restaurants.
Checkout of Hotel Room by 9:00 am*

11:00 am – Transfer to José Martí International Airport

2:00 pm – Return Flight to Miami International Airport

Note: *Flights out of Cuba are subject to delays. Most delegates are booking flights after 5:00 PM back to their home airports.*

Price:

Double Occupancy: \$ 4,599. - per person (if you are sharing a room with one other person.)

Single Occupancy: \$ 5,099.- per person (if you are the only person in the hotel room.)

Space limited to 10 delegates. [REGISTER NOW](#)



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: \$1 CUC, if you have enjoyed the performance

Cuban Bus Driver: \$20 CUC per person

Cuban Guide: \$30 per person...depending on your satisfactions

Taxi Driver: 10% of fare

Trip Includes

- 4 night accommodation at 5 star hotel in Havana
- 1 night accommodation in Miami
- Round Trip Airfare- MIA/HAV/MIA
- Medical Insurance while in Cuba (excluding pre-existing conditions)
- Expert Cuban Guide
- Cultural Explorations Travel Manager that will escort the group the entire time while in Cuba.
- All tours and entry fees (as listed in the program)
- Daily Breakfast 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
- Cuban Visa
- 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
- Photography fees at venue which usually an additional 5 CUC
- Tips to Cuban guide and driver.
- Miscellaneous tips (entertainment, bathroom attendants, etc) – 1-2 CUC per person/per day