







6 Day Cuban Cultural Experience & Endemic Bird Study



Cost: **\$2,750** USD **

Deposit: **\$500** Length of trip: 6 days / 5 nights Group Limit: 6-10 participants **Prices & dates subject to change 2017 / 2018: Mid December February & March-April Includes:

[•]Transportation and Professional driver in Cuba ^eProfessional bilingual acclaimed bird guides *Meeting & lectures with leading Cuban Ornithologists *Any soda/alcoholic beverages in [•]All Lodging @ Casas with Cuban families [•]Meals in Cuba from lunch Day 1 to breakfast Day 6 Meals include: 1 non-alcoholic beverage, 1 cafe, & 1 dessert All Water during entire tour

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Not Included:

*Airfares & domestic airport shuttle *Tips to guides & service providers *Alcoholic beverages personal fridges at Casa Particulares *Single supplement (\$200)*

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Experience Cuba's Culture and its endemic Flora and Fauna with Angel & Mariel Abreu, two Cuban-American guides. Join them for an exciting cultural and endemic bird study tour of Cuba's Western Providences. On this tour we immerse ourselves into the island's culture, traditions, music, and flora & fauna. Let us connect you to Cuba in a way only a Cuban can. We would love to share the passion we have for our culture with you!

This tour of Cuba's western providences is designed to support the island's emerging private sector. After a day of exploring the island, you'll come home to your casa particular. During your visit to Cuba, you will ONLY stay at casa particulares, this is where the real Cuban family lives. When you stay at a casa particular, you are welcomed into the home as part of the family. Imagine yourself at grandma's house; the home cooked meals, the freshly squeezed fruit juices, the family setting, the cultural experiences are second to none! In addition to the wonderful home cooked meals you'll enjoy at the casas, we also dine at private, family owned paladares. These restaurants are owned by Cuban entrepreneurs and is one of Cuba's fastest growing private sectors.

On this tour we will explore the country's capitol, La Habana, a colonial city that dates back to the early 1500's. A city with rich architectural history influenced by Spanish, Italian, Greek, Roman and French cityscapes. This electric mix of architectural styles and vintage cars will transport you back to Cuba's golden age, a time when Havana was the "Pearl of the Caribbean." We will walk along the famed

"Pearl of the Caribbean." We will walk along the famed Malecon, Havana's famous promenade and visit many historical sites such as the Capitolio, Cuba's version of the White House.

Our travels will also take us through two of the country's most diverse and dramatic ranges: Sierra del Rosario, and Sierra de los Organos. A true highlight of the trip we will be the magical, unusually beautiful karst landscape of mogotes– the towering, lushly vegetated, flat-top limestone monoliths that dominate the Organos Mountains. In this region we will have the opportunity to study some of western Cuba's endemic species including Cuban Solitaire, Cuban Oriole, Cuban Green Woodpecker, Cuban Pewee, Cuban Pygmy-Owl, Cuban Tody, Cuban Trogon, Cuban Vireo, Gundlach's Hawk, and Yellowheaded Warbler.

We will also explore the diverse wetland region of the Zapata Peninsula, Cuba's richest and most important ecological destination located in the historic Bay of Pigs. While in the Zapata Peninsula we will target the critically endangered Zapata Wren among the regions specialty species such as its tropical doves and Cuban Parakeets. Although our itinerary is packed with cultural experiences, we will have ample opportunities to see many of Cuba's endemic bird species and subspecies!

Request a full itinerary at <u>www.natureisawesometours.com/contact</u>

<u>Recent Testimonial:</u> If you want to truly experience Cuba, I strongly recommend traveling with Angel and Mariel, Ernesto and Tania. They have so much knowledge, are so attuned to their clients' expectations and situations, and are flexible when plans need to be changed. I'm so glad I went, it was unforgettable! -Pat from VT

Leica Store Miami has kindly consigned Nature is Awesome Tours with Leica Sport Optics for clients to use on our tours in the field. We would like to thank them for their support and amazing birding equipment!



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