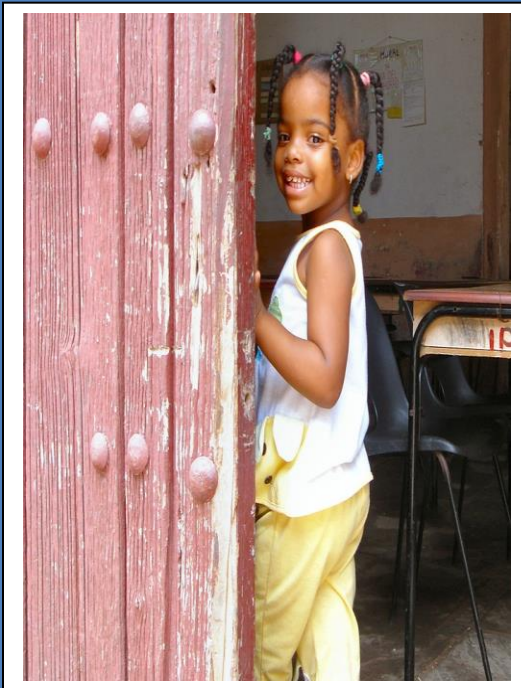


ITINERARY | DAY-BY-DAY



Journey of Purpose and Discovery to Cuba: Culture & Community in Havana

Our Journey of Purpose & Discovery to Cuba draws people closer together but does not whitewash the challenges that the Cuban people face. Experience the real Cuba, filled with culture, creativity, art and loving people. Connect with the Cuban people in their local communities going about their every day lives. It will also will afford you an opportunity to look past politics and into the heart and soul of a culture and its reality. Explore local museums; take part in a cooking class, salsa class, and community block party; and visit the world's largest ballet school, Hemingway's residence and much more!

BOOK NOW 888.747.7501

Cuba Highlights

- ✓ 6 days & 5 nights
- ✓ Explore a **local market** while you learn about production of the handicrafts from local artisans.
- ✓ Visit **Cecilio Avilés Imagen 3**, a project that brings 200 artists focused on music, plastic arts and design together offering free workshops for children and the elderly in the streets of Havana.

Cultural Immersion

- ✓ Visit the **Cuban National Ballet School**, the largest in the world, as well as the lovely **Museum of Fine Art** and **Hemingway Museum**.
- ✓ Take a **salsa class** at one of Havana's best dance schools to learn the rumba, mambo and more!
- ✓ Enjoy a **cooking class** and lunch at the Jardin de los Milagros Private Restaurant where you will learn to make a few traditional Cuban dishes.

Community Connections

- ✓ Chat with local shop owners in **Old Havana** & learn from historians about this World Heritage site.
- ✓ Meet local Cubans of all ages during an evening **neighborhood block party**.
- ✓ Talk to the people you pass on the street. You'll be delighted at how open to conversation the locals are, and you may surprise yourself with the new impressions formed.

What's included?

- 4* accommodations throughout
- Private transportation and activities as outlined in the itinerary
- International air to and from Havana (gateway city tentatively Miami)
- Local English-speaking guide
- Meals as mentioned
- Most tips & visa for entry into Cuba

Not included:

- Personal expenses at the hotels
- Meals not specified
- Passport renewal or issuance
- Domestic flight to gateway city
- National Guide tip, tips to your maid or porters



📍 Miami, Florida

DAY 1

Depart from Miami today and arrive in **Havana, Cuba**. Upon arrival at the Jose Marti International Airport, you will meet your local guide after clearing immigration and customs procedures.

Enjoy some sites of the city in a panoramic bus tour of Havana including a stop to see **Revolution Square** and **Vedado**. The Plaza is the 31st largest city square in the world and notable as being where many political rallies take place. Transfer onward to the Four Points Sheraton Hotel, your home for the next five nights.

Boasting elegant architecture and a unique merger of colonial charm and contemporary style, **Four Points by Sheraton Havana** is in the upscale Miramar district. It's a short ride from Old Havana and the Havana International Airport. Guest rooms have a minibar, individual climate control, coffee & tea amenities and international direct dial (for a fee). Time permitting use their spa, outdoor pool, and other amenities like their fitness center.

Enjoy your first taste of locally sourced food this evening as you join your guide and fellow travelers for a **welcome dinner** at the La Fontana Paladar.

Overnight: Four Points Sheraton
Meals: Dinner



📍 Havana, Cuba

DAY 2

Meet with representatives from the **Cuban Institute of Friendship with People**. This mandatory meeting focuses on Cuban/U.S. relations, and is a required component of all U.S. visits to Cuba.

From there begin your walking tour of the historic center of **Old Havana**, a village founded in 1519 and declared a World Heritage site by UNESCO in 1982. There will be an explanation of the projects carried out by the City Historian's Office for the rehabilitation of Old Havana.

Lunch will be provided at a local restaurant.

This afternoon we are working on finalizing a special visit to the **Cuban National Ballet School** (Escuela Nacional Cubana de Ballet). With 4,350 students, it is the biggest ballet school in the world and the most prestigious ballet school in Cuba and is directed by Ramona de Saa. Continue to the **Centro Cultural Antiguos Almacenes** to visit and talk with private sector owners of more than 300 different booths selling art, handicrafts, clothing, and a variety of Cuban products.

Dinner is on your own this evening. Later this evening, attend a **neighborhood street party** with the residents of the block. It's a great opportunity to interact with the locals!

Overnight: Four Points Sheraton
Included meals: Breakfast & Lunch



📍 Havana, Cuba

DAY 3

After breakfast, visit the **Museo de Bellas Artes** (Fine Arts Museum). Dedicated exclusively to Cuban art collections beginning in the mid-16th century, but spanning the 17th and 19th centuries, the museum has galleries devoted to landscape, religious subjects and the Costumbrismo narrative scenes of Cuban life. Other galleries are devoted to more current work and are recognized for the extensive collection of Hyperrealism and the latest generation of Cuban artists whose works all reflect the strong symbolic imagery prevalent in recent decades.

Lunch will be provided at *Bodega las Brisas*, in the small town of Cojimar, near Ernest Hemingway's beloved Finca Vigia.

This afternoon you will visit the **Hemingway House**. Tour the home and gardens where he penned many of his great novels and short stories.

Dinner is on your own this evening.

Enjoy a performance of "Parisien Cabaret" at the Hotel Nacional this evening.

Overnight: Four Points Sheraton
Included meals: Breakfast & Lunch



📍 Havana, Cuba

DAY 4

Visit the **Cecilio Avilés Imagen 3**, a project that combines music, plastic arts and design. It brings together about 200 artists in the middle of the street and they offer free workshops mainly for children and the elderly while they exhibit and sell their own pieces. Imagen 3 offers three different variants: entertainment so that people have fun learning through culture; learning for developing their own business in the self-employment sector; and learning through self-discovery and improvement of people's artistic gifts.

Lunch will be provided at a local paladar.

After lunch get ready for your **dance class** at one of Havana's best dance schools specializing in salsa lessons. They will also guide you through rumba, chachachá, mambo and more. It's based out of El Salón Chévere, a popular dance club in Parque Almendares.

Return to the hotel where dinner is on your own.

Overnight: Four Points Sheraton
Included meals: Breakfast & Lunch



📍 Havana, Cuba

DAY 5

After breakfast, depart for the city of **Regla**. Visit the church of **Nuestra Señora de Regla**, one of Cuba's most frequented pilgrimage churches. The most impressive is the statute of the Virgin of Regla who is black and cradles a white infant in her arms. She is the patron and protector of sailors. Visit the **Municipal Museum of Regla**, where you may get lucky and see a ritual dance of Santeria, the religion brought to Cuba by African slaves. Enjoy lunch and a **cooking class** at Jardin de los Milagros Private Restaurant this afternoon.

Visit the **Havana Compás Dance Company**, recognized nationally and internationally for combining dance and percussion. It has accumulated more than a decade of work in favor of Cuban culture. The use of batá drums, tumbadoras, drumsticks, castanets, shekerés, heels, flip flops, keys, stools and percussive chairs, mostly made by the maestro Eduardo Córdova, makes this dance company one of the best scenic proposals of Cuba.

This evening's **farewell reception** is at the Santa Isabel Hotel terrace in Old Havana. **The stilt walkers dance group** will entertain you as you follow them dancing in the streets to your farewell dinner at a local restaurant in the historic center.

Overnight: Four Points Sheraton

Included meals: Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner

📍 Havana, Cuba

DAY 6

Say goodbye to your new friends as you transfer to the airport for your flight back to Miami today (flight time pending).

Included meals: Breakfast



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