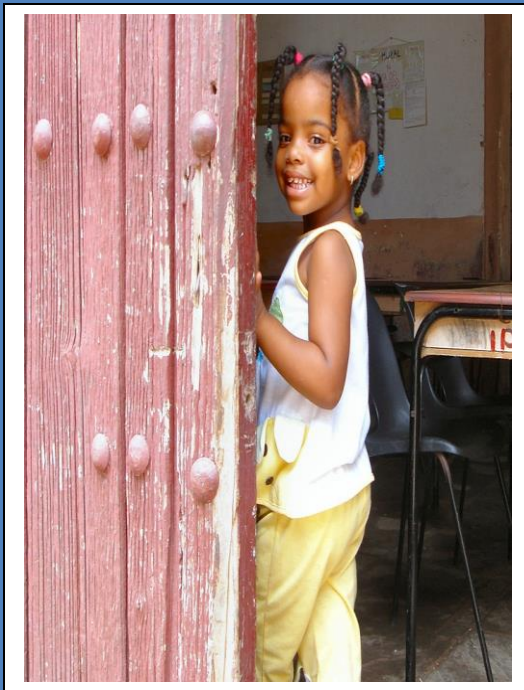


ITINERARY | DAY-BY-DAY



JOURNEY OF PURPOSE & DISCOVERY



Journey of Purpose and Discovery to Cuba: *Havana & Matanzas*

Dates: November 5-11, 2022

\$3,999 (based on double occupancy)

\$999 (single occupancy)

Join us in Cuba for an educational adventure. Meet local families and explore the local art, cuisine, and culture of Havana. *Under current guidelines, this program conforms to OFAC requirements for support of the Cuban People" education license (515.560(c)).*

BOOK NOW 888.747.7501

Cuba Highlights

- ✓ Take a **salsa class** at one of Havana's best dance schools. Learn some steps like the rumba, mambo and more!
- ✓ Enjoy a day trip to **Matanzas** to see some more of the beautiful island. Stop in the **Yumurí Valley** to enjoy the magnificent views from the Bacunayagua lookout.

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**.
- ✓ Explore **local markets** while you learn about production of the handicrafts from local artisans and owners.
- ✓ 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 and a rum cocktail!
- ✓ While in Matanzas learn about how slavery impacted the Cuban people during a visit to the **Slave Route National Museum**.

Community Connections

- ✓ Chat with shop owners in **Old Havana** and learn from local historians about this UNESCO World Heritage site.
- ✓ Meet local Cubans of all ages during an evening **neighborhood block party**.
- ✓ 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 elderly in the streets of Havana.

What's included?

- 4* accommodations (6-nights)
- Private transportation and activities as outlined
- International air to and from Havana (gateway city set at Miami)
- Local English-speaking guide and meals mentioned
- Most tips & visa for entry into Cuba
- Covid test on departure for entry to US

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, Saturday, November 5, 2022

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 Quinta Avenida Hotel, your home for the next six nights. *Lunch will be provided this afternoon.*

Boasting elegant architecture and a unique merger of colonial charm and contemporary style, **Quinta Avenida** 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: Quinta Avenida

Meals: Lunch & Dinner



DISCLAIMER: *Both the gateway city and itinerary flow noted in this program are subject to change if needed.*



📍 Havana, Cuba

DAY 2, Sunday, November 6

This morning you will visit the **Hemingway House**. Tour the home and gardens where he penned many of his great novels and short stories. Travel down the beltway of the city reaching Cojimar, a fisherman's village where Hemingway docked his fishing boat "El Pilar", a source of inspiration for this famous novel "The Old Man and the Sea".

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

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.

Dinner is on your own this evening.

Overnight: Quinta Avenida

Included meals: Breakfast & Lunch

Quinta Avenida Hotel

Quinta Avenida 76-80

Miramar District

Havana, Cuba

Tel Number: 011-53-7-214-1470

<https://www.quintaavenidahabana.com/en/>



📍 Havana, Cuba

DAY 3, Monday, November 7

After breakfast, 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 San Cristobal Paladar.

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: Quinta Avenida

Included meals: Breakfast & Lunch



📍 Havana, Cuba

DAY 4, Tuesday, November 8

Later, 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.

Enjoy lunch and a **cooking class** at Jardin de los Milagros Private Restaurant this afternoon.

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.

Enjoy a dinner performance at El Tabladfo de Pancho this evening.

Overnight: Quinta Avenida

Included meals: Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner



📍 Havana, Cuba

DAY 6, Thursday, November 10

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.

Lunch is by individual arrangement today.

This afternoon the group will visit **Organopónico Vivero** in Alamar. The project's strengths include its ability to aid in ensuring food security from sites within the city. Together the collective activity of managing these gardens and their proximity to housing encourage this physical urban framework to function as rich social center to its neighborhood.

Enjoy an evening **farewell reception** including a demonstration of some local stilt walkers.

Overnight: Quinta Avenida
Included meals: Breakfast & Dinner

📍 Havana, Cuba

DAY 7, Friday, November 11

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

📍 Havana, Cuba

DAY 5, Wednesday, November 9

After breakfast, depart for **Matanzas**, land of poets also known for its many bridges that enrich the urban area. It is also known as the Venice of Cuba. On the way to Matanzas, you will past by the vast Yumurí Valley and stop and enjoy the magnificent **Bacunayagua lookout**.

Lunch is by individual arrangement today in the city center with a variety of options.

Your day will be spent exploring this beautiful part of the island including time to explore local art galleries and other retail shops in support of the local people like the **Narvaez street-art galleries**. Visit the San Carlos Cathedral, Garabatos Gallery, pop into the interesting Pharmaceutical Museum and the newly restored Sauto Theater. Also explore the **Slave Route National Museum** and see the four exhibition rooms with historical artifacts that showcases the horrors of slavery in the Americas.

Return to Havana where dinner will be provided at a local restaurant.

Overnight: Quinta Avenida
Included meals: Breakfast & Dinner