



A Culture of Arts in Cuba
Exploring Eastern Cuba with Ethical Traveler
January 11-21, 2019

— With an optional excursion to Havana, January 21- 24, 2019 —

Eastern Cuba: \$3,460 , single supplement \$900

Havana Excursion: \$1,360 (\$1,160 meet in Havana), single supplement \$420

Round-trip airfare from U.S. to Cuba not included

Friday, January 11 **Holguin** **(D)**

TBA Arrive in Holguin via your US airline carrier. We recommend American Airlines as you can book your flights from your hometown to Holguin and then back from either Camaguey or Havana (if you decide to do an excursion).

Arrival Transfer to hotel and enjoy the beach
5:00pm Welcome Mojito / Ethical Traveler Meet and Greet
7:00pm Welcome Dinner at hotel.

Saturday, January 12 **Santiago** **(B, L)**

8:00am Check out
9:00 Enjoy an presentation on the history of Cuba and its rich hertiage with the **Historian of Santiago**.
10:30 am Meet in the lobby to leave for a **Santiago city tour** with a visit to **Santa ifigenia Cemetary**, the **Cathedral of our Lady of the Assumption**, and **Cespedes Park**. We will enjoy major highlights.
1:00pm Lunch at a local *paladar* or restaurant.
2:30pm Enjoy time visiting **local Cuban artists and galleries**. Visit to the **Moncada Barracks**.
4:00 pm Break time for personal reflection, or interactive arts time.
7:30 pm Dinner Reservation at **Tres Anas Paladar**, a wonderful private restaurant owned my a family of women.

Eve is free for the **Casa de las Tradiciones**

Sunday, January 13 **Santiago** **(B, L)**

11:00am Depart for our **excursion to El Cobre, Our Lady of Charity Church**, to visit, and to understand the power of the patron saint in Cuba and the popular religion of Santeria. We will have lunch here and time to explore, draw, photograph or engage leisurely.
7:30 pm Dinner Reservation. Rest of the evening is free - live salsa.



Monday, January 14 Santiago (B,L)

- 10:00 am Visit to the **Casa De Caribe**. Experience the gallery and a briefing about Cuban culture and ethnicity with **Dr. Raul Miyares, anthropologist of the Casa de Caribe**.
- 12:30pm Lunch
- 2:00pm Meeting with **UNEAC, the Cuban Union of Artists and Writers**, to learn about the promotion of arts in Cuba.
- 4:00pm **Enjoy a rehearsal at the Orpheous Choir**.
- 7:30 pm Dinner Reservation

Tuesday, January 15 Baracoa (B, L)

- 9:00am Depart to make our way leisurely to **Baracoa**, Cuba's eastern most city, with a stop for lunch on the way in **Guantanamo**. Here we might even spy the US base. Upon arrival we will visit the **Galeria Osorio**, check into our hotel and have time self-guided exploration or pursue your writing, photography, etc..
- 7:30 pm Dinner reservation at a local paladar (El Poeta).

Wed, January 16 Baracoa (B, L)

- 9:00am Enjoy a **briefing by the historian of Baracoa**, to learn about the wonderful history and culture of this place (requested Alejandro Hartman) . It is here that Christopher Colon landed on the 27 of November, 1492.
- 11:00 am Salsa Dance lesson and lunch at a local paladar.
- 2:30pm Cultural encounter or service opportunity the **Children's Choir** (requested with Directora Maria Matos) at the Casa de Cultura.
- 4:00pm Our afternoon is free for self-guided exploration and interactive arts time.
- 7 :00 pm Dinner Reservation at a local paladar, Baracoando. Then our evening is free for local music and cultural activities.



Thurs, January 17 Baracoa (B, L)

- 9:00 am Enjoy and **eco-excursion along the Yumari river** with a local expert from CITMA, the Ministry of the Environment on the region.
- 1:00 pm **Lunch at a local paladar.**
- 2:30 pm Afternoon is free to enjoy local beaches and/or self guided exploration and arts time.
- Dinner Reservation at a local paladar La Rosa Nautica, and evening is free for local cultural activities like the **Casa de la Trova**.

Friday, January 18 Baracoa/Camaguey (B)

- Early am Breakfast, then check out to transfer to Camaguey.
- Afternoon We arrive to enjoy lunch at a paladar
Visit the **School of the Arts** to experience fine arts education in Cuba.
- 3:00pm Check into our hotel and then our afternoon is free for self-guided exploration, interactive arts time or beach time.
- Dinner Reservation and evening free for Cuban music at the local Casa de Trova.

Saturday, January 19 Camaguey (B, L)

- 9:30 Let's start today with a **walking tour** so you will understand why this Historic Center is declared a UNESCO World Heritage Site. One of the original seven villages founded by the Spanish, Camaguey is now Cuba's third-largest city, and an important industrial center. Settled in its current location in 1528, the town developed on the basis of an irregular urban pattern that contains a system of large and minor squares. We will visit the **Plaza de Los Trabajadores, Plaza de San Juan de Dios, the Plaza de Carmen**, and have lunch.
- 2:30pm Visit to the **Casa Nicolas Guillen**. This poetry-themed museum is located in the house where Guillén, the former National Poet of Cuba, was born in 1902. Then we will visit the **Fabrica de Violines**, to see how local artisans carve beautiful violins out of hardwood.

Dinner Reservation and evening free for local cultural performances at the Teatro Principal or Galleria Colonial.



Sunday, January 20 Camagüey (B, D)

Morning Explore contemporary arts by visiting: **Estudio Galería de Arte JOVER and the Galería Taller Martha Jiménez Pérez.**
Then our afternoon open for any local activitis at the local **Galleria UNEAC.**
4:00pm Free time to rest and restore.
7:30pm Farewell Dinner

Mon, January 21 Hasta Luego Cuba! (B)

Check out and transfer to airport leaving from Camagüey to your homes.

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Mon, January 21 Excursion to Havana (B, L)

Check out and transfer to Havana. We will have lunch together.

We start our day with an orientation of the City of Havana with a **Walking tour of Old Havana.** This includes a guided tour through Havana's oldest neighborhood to learn about its historic, architectural, and cultural significance. The area was declared a World Heritage Site in 1982 by UNESCO. Since then there have been various efforts to restore Old Havana's buildings, attract tourism and new investment, and improve social services for local residents. We will see buildings and homes in different stages of reconstruction, and meet with some of the neighborhood's residents. One highlight will be an exchange with artists at the **Taller Grafica**, a graphic artists workshop. Back at our hotel, we'll enjoy a presentation by Cuban Architect **Miguel Coyula** to understand the history and development of the Capital.

Today's dinner and evening are free to enjoy the city on your own.

Tuesday January 22 Havana (B,L)

9:00 am Exchange with the community arts project of **Muraleando**, a community-based art programs in Havana, inspired by local neighborhood artists who taught art "in the streets." Outdoor murals and sculptures, depicting fanciful celebrations of Cuban life, were a natural outgrowth of these art classes. In a country where nothing is disposable and everything is useful, broken typewriters, old telephones, tire rims, wrought-iron chair parts - all were fair game to weld and paint and turn into sculpture. The original efforts were made in conjunction with cleaning up trash dumps that had collected throughout the neighborhood. Found art objects, parks and murals now replace piles of trash and serve as gathering places for residents and visitors. We will request to meet with local artist and co-founder of the project, Manuel Díaz Baldrich Manolo. [The Muraleando Community Art Project welcomes international support and aid in the form of art and educational supplies.]



(Havana, January 22nd, cont'd)

- 11:00 am Exchange with the well known **US born, Cuban photographer Roberto Salas in his home**. See his photos first hand and learn of his incredible life documenting the Cuban Revolution.
- 1 pm Enjoy lunch at the **Jardin de los Milagros** paladar.
- 2:30pm Experience the academic space and a rehearsal at **Prodanza ballet school**.
- 4:30-5:30 Learn about "**A Century of Cuban Music**" through an **live musical overview** of diverse genres by Prof. Fayas at the Hotel Nacional.

Free evening & night to explore. Dining at the Hotel Nacional, or Vedado district.

- 10:00pm Enjoy live Cuban Latin jazz at the **Zora ye Cuervo jazz club**. We will have VIP reservations for those that like tonight. It is just a two block walk back to the Nacional.

January 23 Havana (B, D)

- 9:30 am Enjoy a special visit to **the Superior Arts Institute (ISA)** or another arts school to learn about arts education in Cuba.
- 11:00am Now we are off for a docent guided tour of the **Bellas Artes Musuem** to learn about important contemporary arts movement in Cuba since the 1950s.

Lunch is on our own today, but we will have a reservation in the **Beach town of Guanabo**. You can join us here to relax and soak up the beach –or- take time to explore the fabulous city of Havana on your own. We will return around 4 pm for your to shower and rest before we leave for our **farewell dinner at Le Chansonnier**.

Thursday 24 Hasta Luego Cuba! (B)

Departure and check out after your breakfast. We will arrange a transfer at 8 am for flights scheduled 10 am and beyond.

This Journey is Powered by...

