



ETHICAL TRAVELER

**Celebrating Havana's 500th Anniversary, Culture and Arts in Cuba
with Ethical Traveler**

November 12 - 20, 2019

Tuesday, November 12: **(D)**

TBA. Arrival in Jose Marti International Airport..

3:00 p.m. Bus transfer and check in to the **Hotel Nacional** where we will enjoy our welcome mojito and some downtime to rest or explore the historic hotel and its ocean breezes.

6:00 p.m. Meet and Greet Orientation meeting with your Ethical Traveler leader Jeff Greenwald, the local guide, and Altruistas program coordinator Cicely Sanchez on general Cuba travel information and logistics, as well as an overview of the program.

7:30 p.m. Welcome Dinner at **San Cristobal Paladar**.

Wednesday, November 13: **(B, L)**

9:00 a.m. Meet with **Cuban Architect Miguel Coyula** for an overview of the history and development of the Capital.

11:00am Enjoy a **guided walking tour of Old Havana**. Learn about the Master Plan for Restoration of Old Havana. This includes the use of tourism revenue to restore neglected buildings and provide social services to Havana residents, the importance of UNESCO World Heritage Sites, national patrimony, and urban planning.

1:00pm Lunch at **Bodeguita del Medio**, right off Cathedral Square.

3:00pm [Visit to local artist studios in old Havana and then we end our day at the **Convento de Belen**, a senior care project, and return to the hotel for free time.

Dinner is on our own but we will make a reservation for those who wish.

10:00pm Enjoy live **Cuban jazz at the La Zora y el Cuervo** just 2 blocks away from our hotel.

Thursday, November 14:

(B, D)

9:00 a.m. After breakfast enjoy a **walking tour of Centro Havana**, to experience everyday life and diverse architecture with Cuban photographer *Nestor Marti*.

11:30 am Visit the **Museo de Bellas Artes**, the Cuban Fine Arts Museum, for an overview of Cuban contemporary arts.

1:00 p.m. Free time to explore, and lunch on your own.

2:30 p.m. After lunch we will visit the **Taller Grafica** printmakers' workshop in the old city's Cathedral Square to meet a variety of Cuban artists. We may also visit other local galleries.

4:00 p.m. Enjoy a special visit to **the Superior Arts Institute (ISA)** to learn about arts education in Cuba.

7:30 p.m. Dinner tonight is at El Aljibe, where we will have a family style Cuban meal together. We will then be dropped off at the lively **Fabrica de Arte**, where many contemporary Cuban art forms are on rotation—from architecture to fashion to theater—and live music (of course).

Friday, November 15:

(B, L)

9:00 a. m **Optional Salsa Dance** Lesson at our hotel for those interested.

10:30 a.m. Exchange with the award-winning and inspirational **Muralleando Community Art Project**, where artists and teachers have rejuvenated their neighborhood by celebrating and continuing the traditional Cuban love of art. (Donations in the form of art and educational supplies are welcome.)

1:00 p.m. Lunch at a local paladar

2:30pm Meet with **UNEAC , the National Union for Writers and Artists** in Cuba, for a discussion on the promotion of the arts in Cuba.

4:30pm Home visit to the well known Cuban Revolution photographer, **Roberto Salas** for his remarkable historic overview of the country's history. We then continue our City Tour of modern Havana—including the Jose Marti Revolution Square and Playa municipality. Optional drop-off at the remarkable and photogenic Colon Cemetery.

6:00pm Dinner and evening are free for your own interests. For those that would like, at 8:00pm we will visit la **Forteleza de La Cabaña**, where construction began in 1763. We'll learn about the history of conflict between the Spanish and English Empires as they struggled for control of the New World. At 9:00pm we will experience the nightly Canon firing ceremony.

Saturday, November 16:

(B,L)

9:00 a. m Learn about “**A century of Cuban Music**” through an live **musical overview** of diverse genres by Prof. Fayas at the Hotel Nacional.

11:00 a. m Guided visit through the newly renovated **Capitolio and the Gran Teatro**.

Lunch – location TBD

Our afternoon and evening are dedicated to the **500th Birthday Celebration of the City of Havana!**

Sunday, November 17:

(B,D)

9:00 a. m. Optional time to enjoy the beauty of Cuba's coast and have a beach day at the Playas del Este, about 45 minutes from Havana.

1:00 pm. Lunch is on our own.

3:00 p.m. Visit the inspiring **Prodanza** ballet school, directed by Alicia Alonso—the daughter of the famous Cuban prima ballerina. Donations are welcome.

5:00 p. m Street Exchange in the popular Havana neighborhood of **Jesus Maria**, where we will meet resident artists and professionals. Afterwards we will enjoy a home-cooked dinner.

Monday, November 18:

(B,L)

8:00 a.m. This morning we head out to a UNESCO Bioserve to visit the **Las Terrazas** community, where we'll have a guided visit of this ecological experiment and environmental education center. We'll meet with reserve officials and volunteers for an overview of the project's history before walking through it to meet artists like Lester Campa, Ariel Pinelli, Henry Alamo, and Jorge Duporte.

1:00 p.m. Lunch at **El Romero**, and we continue our day at Las Terrazas, visiting the community's local school and polyclinic.

Dinner and Evening are back in Havana.

Tuesday, November 19:**(B,L,D)**

9:30 a.m. Visit the **Callejon de Hamel** for whatever face of Cuba's Afro-Cuban Santeria culture and art the residents of this unique neighborhood choose to show that day! We will spend an hour with Elias Aseff Alfonso, who works closely with Salvador Gonzales Escalona, the Callejon community's founder. Elias will share the history and day-to-day realities of art, culture, and traditional religion in Cuba.

11:00 a.m. Free time to shop at the **San Jose de Almancenes** arts and crafts faire or to visit the **Museum of the Revolution**.

1:00 p.m. Lunch at **Jardin de los Milagros** paladar with invited guest **Glorio Rolando**, who will share her short documentary " Dialogues with my Grandmother." You can ask her your questions about race and gender in Cuba.

3:30 p.m. We end our day with a fun exchange with **Havana Compass Dance**.

5:30 p.m. Break to rest and enjoy the patio of the hotel.

8:00 p.m. **Farewell Dinner with an invited guest.**

Wednesday, November 20**(B)**

AM (TBA) Breakfast and Check out of hotel, bus transfer to airport for return flight to Miami.

If you can please, stay an extra day or two enjoy the beauty of the beaches of Playas de Este, to support local entrepreneurs, or to explore on your own!

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