



Havana & the Viñales Valley, Cuba Art, Architecture and More March 25 - 31, 2016 Program Features

\$5375, double occupancy until Jan. 31.
\$6,250, double occupancy after after Jan. 31
Single occupancy will incur an additional charge.

Flights

March 25 Friday MIA-HAV EA3149 Departs Miami at 7:15 PM

March 31 Thursday HAV-MIA EA3144 Depart Havana at 2:00 PM (this is a change from the original)

There is flexibility for individuals to return to Havana on a different flight

i-SUSTAIN tours and delegations are always customized to the people who sign up. Based on the interests of the group there may be changes to the program.

This program includes the following:

- Roundtrip airfare, Miami-Havana-Miami (Typically \$650)
- 6 nights at Hotel Parque Central, considered the finest hotel in Havana and perfectly located in the central part of Havana.
- Breakfast and most other meals, including dining at some of Cuba's best **paladars and restaurants.**
- Site visits including:
 - Our signature **bike tour** of Havana

- Private **studio and artist coop** tours and a visit to the **Museum of Cuban Art and the Cuban Art Factory**. Visits to the art districts of **Muraleando, Jaimanitas (Fusterlandia), the Callejon de Hamel alley** and more community and street art.
- Visit with a **classic car cooperative**
- The **Escuela de Taller** where we will learn about the Restoration Project that is underway in Havana Vieja. This urban rehabilitation project is preserving the architectural history and cultural heritage of this beautiful city. We will visit a construction site and meet with engineers, builders, woodworkers and other craftsman utilizing traditional handcrafting methods to preserve the authenticity of these once – and soon to be once again - resplendent structures.
- **Instituto Superior de Arte (ISA)**. One of the few major architectural projects completed in Cuba in the early 1960s. It has a very interesting story. **The Christopher Colon Cemetery**, an elaborate necropolis covering nearly 8% of the city.
- **The Plaza Vieja**. This plaza is the oldest plaza in Havana, dating from the 16th century. Learn about the massive historic preservation program which began in this Plaza under the leadership of City Historian, Eusebio Leal. **The Plaza de San Francisco**, a cobbled plaza surrounded by buildings dating from the 18th century, dominated by the baroque **Iglesia and Convento de San Francisco** dating from 1719. **The Plaza de Armas**, a scenic tree-lined plaza formerly at the center of influence in Cuba. It is surrounded by many of the most historic structures in Havana as well as important monuments. **Obispo Street**, a pedestrian promenade with significant buildings such as the Art Deco Style La Moderna Poesia, the Ambos Mundos Hotel, and the banks of the former Havana Wall Street.
- **Callejon de Hamel**, a street full of shrines, diverse sculptural pieces, and colorful murals. It has been considered a public temple to Santería and African influences in Cuban culture. A visit to the **Arts and Crafts Market**.
- The **Taller de Grafica Experimental**. The Taller is more than Havana's printmaking workshop. It is a studio, a school and most of all, an art institution that preserves and develops the sophisticated art of print making.
- **The fishing village of Cojímar**. Ernest Hemingway loved this little town. He kept his boat, El Pilar, in harbor of Cojímar, and he used this village setting for his story The Old Man and the Sea, which won him the Nobel Prize for Literature in 1954. **La Finca Vigía**. Formerly the home of Ernest Hemingway, today it still houses his expansive collection of books. It was here where he wrote two of his most celebrated novels: For Whom the Bell Tolls and The Old Man and the Sea. **Finca Yoandra**, a farm located in the neighborhood of Mantilla that produces more than a 100 varieties of organic fruits, vegetables, and medicinal plants. The farm also serves as a community center, providing social programs and leisurely activities for the local elderly.

- **Viñales Valley.** Considered by many to be the most beautiful place in Cuba, the Viñales Valley National Monument holds stunning landscapes and jaw dropping vistas. The area is also famous for being the premier tobacco growing area in the world.
- **Piñar del Rio** to visit Proyecto Grabadown. The Grabadown Project was started ten years ago by Jesus Carrete and his daughter Linianna, who was born with Down Syndrome. What began as way for Jesus to share his love of art with his daughter has grown into a well respected community project supported by many other families who have discovered the benefits of engaging their special needs children with art and music.
- **Finca Confianza** in the valley with stunning views of the mogotes where a multitude of organic fruits, vegetables, grain and tobacco are produced Lunch will be a community event on the farm. **Viñales Valley** on foot for an easy stroll with our local guide Yaniel. We will visit with rural farmers and sample some of their fresh produce. We will visit the tobacco farms and drying barns that produce the world's finest cigars and enjoy a cigar rolling demonstration
- Private **music and dance** performances and a dance lesson at **La Casa del Son.** We will be partnered with experienced dancers who will guide us through our dance lesson.
- Private **studio and artist coop** tours and a visit to the **Museum of Cuban Art**
- Visit with a **classic car cooperative**

Cost Includes

Compliance with US Treasury Department regulations

Itinerary design and coordination

Round trip airfare Miami-Havana-Miami (Typically \$650)

Hotel Parque Central (5 stars), standard room, double occupancy. Additional fee for single occupancy.

All in-country transportation

Full time private tour escort

Breakfast every morning.

Lunch and dinner as included in itinerary

Entrance fees and speaker fees

Cuban tourist visa / Departure tax

Private dance and music performances

Bottled water on bus and in room

Cuban Insurance (health and evacuation)

Gratuities for restaurants, porters

Cost Excludes

Airline baggage fees (\$20 per bag, \$2.00 per pound over 44 lbs)

Accommodations in Miami

Airfare to/from place of origin

Tips for drivers and local guide (recommended amount is 5-7CUC per person, per day for guide and 3-5 CUC per person per day for driver)

Meals other than listed on itinerary

Individual hotel expenses (mini bar, room service, laundry fees, etc)

Trip cancellation insurance

Costs associated with bars and nightclubs, including the famous Tropicana.