

CUBA: Purim in Havana February 25 – March 4, 2018 (As of 3/10/17)



Day 1 Sunday February 25, 2018: WELCOME TO CUBA!

- Depart the United States on our flight to Cuba.
- Arrive at the Cienfuegos Airport and meet our local guide and driver.
- Check into our hotel and enjoy a welcome drink and orientation.
- Listen to a moving performance by **Cantores de Cienfuegos at Museo Provincial de Cienfuegos**, welcoming us to Cuba!
- We enjoy a **welcome dinner** together at Villa Lagarto.

Overnight in Cienfuegos

Day 2 Monday February 26, 2018: HISTORIC TRINIDAD AND CIENFUEGOS

- Breakfast at our hotel.
- Depart to the beautiful colonial town of **Trinidad**, a charming city settled in 1514, which was declared a UNESCO World Heritage Site in 1988.
- Upon arrival, we enjoy a **walking tour of historic Trinidad**, a 500 year old city with Spanish colonial architecture. Only a few square blocks in size, historic Trinidad is famous for its lovely cobblestone streets, pastel houses with wrought iron grills, as well as beautiful palaces and plazas. You will learn about the efforts to preserve the city's heritage.
- Enjoy **lunch** at El Dorado paladar.
- Meet with the famous **Santander family**, well-known local potters. Visit their workshop and gallery. These artists have been making handmade pottery for over 100 years.
- We return to Cienfuegos and enjoy a tour of **Parque Marti** and the **Thomas Terry Theater**. Learn about this UNESCO World Heritage Site, founded by French immigrants in 1819.
- Meet with **Rebecca Langus** and learn about the local Jewish community with time to deliver gifts and aid.
- **Dinner** at Los Laureles.

Overnight in Cienfuegos



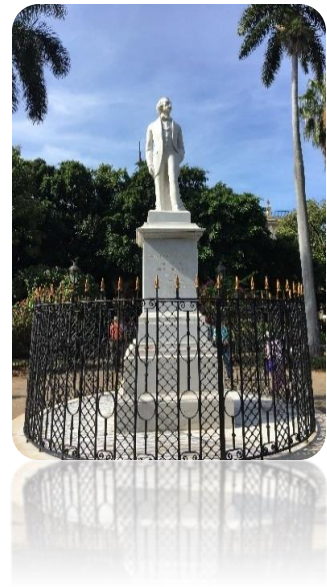
Day 3 Tuesday February 27, 2018: SANTA CLARA TO HAVANA

- Breakfast and check out of our hotel.
- We depart for **Santa Clara**, an important city founded in the 1600's, where Che Guevara won a significant battle, leading to the triumph of the revolution in 1959.
- Stop at the **Che Guevara memorial** for a photo opportunity in the square, and a visit to the small museum dedicated to Che Guevara underneath the monument.
- Meet with **David Tacher**, a leading representative of the Santa Clara Jewish community, where we will learn about the local community and deliver our gifts and aid.
- **Lunch** at Santa Rosalia paladar.
- We depart for **Havana**.
- Check in to our hotel and have time to relax and refresh.
- We meet for **dinner** at El Ajibe restaurant.

Overnight in Havana

Day 4 Wednesday February 28, 2018: PURIM IN HAVANA

- Breakfast at our hotel.
- We take in a panoramic overview of the city and stop at **Revolution Square**. The square is dominated by the **José Martí Memorial**. This famous square is where Fidel Castro delivered the majority of his lengthy political addresses.
- Next, we stop at **Hotel Conde de Villanueva**. Here we learn about the **history of tobacco** and the tradition of cigar rolling in Cuba. Interact with some of the local rollers.
- Enjoy a **walking tour of Old Havana** (Havana Vieja), a UNESCO World Heritage Site. We learn about the history of Havana as we visit highlights of the city and the colonial plazas. Visit Jewish points of interest such as the **Raquel Hotel**, a Jewish-themed hotel.
- **Lunch** at Café Del Oriente.
- Free time this afternoon.
- Early this evening, visit the **Sephardic Center** and meet with **Mayra Levy**, president of the congregation. In 2011, the Sephardic Center opened the first exhibit displayed in Cuba about the Holocaust. Deliver aid to the community and have the opportunity to interact with some of the seniors served by the synagogue.
- We stay at the Sephardic Center for Purim services, hear the Megillah, twirl our groggers and enjoy **Purim dinner** together. Hag Sameach!



Overnight in Havana



Day 5 Thursday March 1, 2018: EXPLORING HAVANA

- Breakfast at our hotel.
- Today we visit **Patronato**, where we meet with President Adela Dworin, and other community leaders. Tour the center and learn about the Sunday school, and have time to deliver our gifts and aid. We also visit the pharmacy at Patronato.
- Continue with visits to the **Rosenberg Memorial, Lenin Park**, and pass by **Havana University**.
- **Lunch** at Il Palio.
- Stop at the impressive **Fuster house/studio** to see this unique mosaic masterpiece. Learn about the artist's project to beautify and help the community he lives in.
- **Dinner** at La Casa paladar.

Overnight in Havana

Day 6 Friday March 2, 2018: HISTORY OF HAVANA

- Breakfast at our hotel.
- We begin the day with a visit to **Finca Vigia**, the villa that Hemingway called home for 21 years. His home is now a museum with many of his personal belongings. Learn how Cuba influenced his writing.
- **Lunch** at Finca Yoandra /Il Divino. Take a glimpse into this organic urban farm and community project with a private restaurant in the outskirts of Havana.
- Continue to the **Jewish cemetery in Guanabacoa**, including a special memorial service at the site of the Holocaust Memorial.
- As the sun sets, we participate in **Shabbat** services at Patronato.
- This evening, we enjoy **Shabbat dinner** at our hotel.



Overnight in Havana



Day 7 Saturday March 3, 2018: SHABBAT SHALOM!

- Breakfast at our hotel.
- This morning we stop at **Almacenes de San Jose market**, where we stroll through the stalls of arts and crafts made by the locals.
- **Lunch** at Café Laurent.
- Visit the **Cuban Art Collection at the Fine Arts Museum**.
- Visit the **Museum of the Revolution**, where we gain an understanding of the momentous change that has occurred in Cuba due to the Revolution over 50 years ago.
- We enjoy a **classic car ride** from our hotel to our **farewell dinner** at La California paladar as we recall all that we have experienced together.

Overnight in Havana

Day 8 Sunday March 4, 2018: DEPARTURE

- Breakfast and check out of our hotel.
- We have the morning at leisure for last minute shopping on our own.
- Transfer to the airport for our flight back to the United States.

The Memories Last Forever!

**Itinerary subject to change*

