

Traveling University Humanitarian Mission to Cuba With Professor Stephen Berk March 17-24, 2017

Day 1, Friday March 17, 2017

- Depart Miami on our very early morning flight to Havana.
- Arrive at the Jose Marti Airport
- Meet your English speaking guide and driver
- Panoramic overview of the city. 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. Continue with visits to the Rosenberg Memorial, Lennon Park, Havana University
- Lunch at Il Palio
- Check into our hotel with time to relax and freshen up with a welcome drink
- Short orientation meeting to review program with Professor Stephen Berk
- Continue to Patronato, where we meet with Adela Dworin, the President and other community leaders. Tour the center with time to deliver our gifts and aid
- We stay to enjoy Shabbat services and dinner with community members

Overnight in Havana

Day 2, Saturday March 18, 2017

- Breakfast at the hotel
- This morning we stop at Almacenes de San Jose handicraft and artists' market
- Lunch at Café Laurent
- Afternoon at leisure to explore this amazing city on own
- Enjoy a Classical car ride from our hotel to the restaurant
- Dinner at La California paladar
- Later this evening we have the option to enjoy drinks and a show at the famous **Buena Vista Social Club** adjacent to the Melia Cohiba Hotel (on own).

Overnight Havana

Day 3, Sunday March 19, 2017

- Breakfast at the hotel
- Morning lecture with Professor Stephen Berk
- Depart for a walking tour of Old Havana (Havana Vieja), a UNESCO World Heritage Site. 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
- Visit the hotel Conde de Villanueva. Learn about the history of tobacco and the tradition of cigar rolling in Cuba. Interact with roller and locals



- Lunch at The Templete paladar
- Continue with a visit to the Sephardic Center. Meet with Mayra Levy, president of the congregation, who discusses the role of Sephardic Jews in the resurgence of Jewish life in Cuba. Deliver gifts and aid to the community.
- In 2011, the Sephardic Center opened the first exhibit displayed in Cuba about the Holocaust.
- Return to our hotel
- Dinner together at Café Orient

Overnight Havana

Day 4, Monday March 20, 2017

- Breakfast at the hotel and check out
- Morning lecture with Professor Stephen Berk on the bus on the way to Santa Clara, an important city founded in the 1600's, where Che Guevara won a significant battle which led to the triumph of the revolution in 1959
- Stop at Che Guevara Memorial with a photo opportunity at the Square
- 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
- Continue to the beautiful port city of Cienfuegos, Cuba's "Pearl of the South"
- Tour of Cienfuegos land-marks including Parque Marti and Thomas Terry theater. Learn about this UNESCO World Heritage Site, founded by French immigrants in 1819
- Check-in at the Jagua hotel with time to freshen up
- Dinner at Los Laureles Jagua paladar

Overnight in Cienfuegos

Day 5, Tuesday March 21, 2017

- Breakfast at the hotel
- This morning we meet with Rebecca Langus and learn about the local Jewish community, with time to deliver our gifts and aid
- Enjoy a performance by Cantores de Cienfuegos at Museo Provincial de Cienfuegos
- Depart to the beautiful colonial town of Trinidad, a charming city settled in 1514 which is a UNESCO heritage site since 1988. Lecture on the bus with Professor Stephen Berk
- Arrive in Trinidad
- Lunch at El Dorado paladar
- Enjoy a walking tour of historic Trinidad which is 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'll learn about the efforts to preserve the city's heritage
- Meet with the famous family Santander, well-known local potters. Visit their workshop and gallery. These artists have been making handmade pottery for over 100 years
- Return to Cienfuegos for dinner at Villa Lagarto paladar

Overnight in Cienfuegos



Day 6, Wednesday March 22, 2017

- Breakfast at the hotel and check out
- Depart for Havana city. On the way, lecture by Professor Stephen Berk, discussing the impacts of the US embargo on Cuba and the history of US/Cuban relations
- Lunch on the way (on our own)
- 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
- Arrive in Havana
- Check into your hotel
- Dinner at Starbien paladar

Overnight in Havana

Day 7, Thursday March 23, 2017

- Breakfast at the hotel
- Morning lecture with Professor Stephen Berk
- We begin the day with a visit to the Jewish cemeteries in Guanabacoa, including a special memorial service at the site of the Holocaust Memorial
- Continue 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
- Visit the Cuban Art Collection at the Fine Arts Museum
- Return to hotel
- Farewell dinner together at Esparanza paladar

Overnight Havana

Day 8, Friday March 24, 2017

- Breakfast and check out of hotel
- Transfer to the airport for our flight back to Miami
- Departure back to Miami from Havana

The Memories Last Forever!

Itinerary subject to change

