

## American Conference of Cantors (ACC) Humanitarian Mission to Cuba

January 7 – 14, 2019

(As of 4/9/18)



### Day1: Monday, January 7, 2019: WELCOME TO CUBA!

- Depart from your home city to connect on our flight to Cuba.
- Arrive at Cienfuegos Airport and meet our local guide & driver.
- Check into our hotel and enjoy a welcome drink and orientation.
- Enjoy a performance by **Cantores de Cienfuegos at Museo Provincial de Cienfuegos**.
- **Welcome dinner** together at Villa Lagarto.

### Overnight Cienfuegos

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### Day 2: Tuesday, January 8, 2019: HISTORIC TRINIDAD & CIENFUEGOS

- Breakfast at the hotel
- Meet with **Rebecca Langus** and learn about the local Jewish community with time to deliver gifts.
- Depart to the beautiful colonial town of **Trinidad**, a charming city settled in 1514 which is a UNESCO heritage site since 1988. Arrive in Trinidad.
- Upon arrival, we enjoy **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.
- We return to Cienfuegos.
- **Dinner** at Los Laureles.



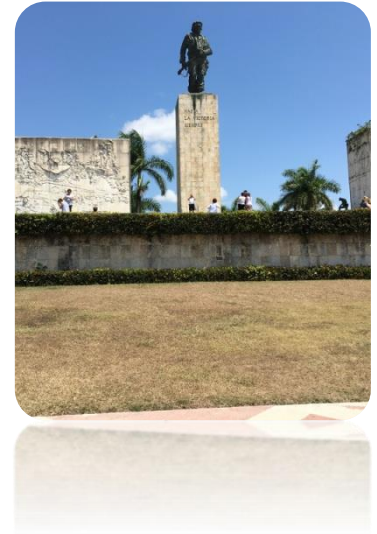
### Overnight Cienfuegos

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### Day 3: Wednesday, January 9, 2019: SANTA CLARA TO HAVANA

- Breakfast and check out of our hotel.
- This morning we tour Cienfuegos including **Parque Marti** and the **Thomas Terry Theater**. Learn about this UNESCO World Heritage Site, founded by French immigrants in 1819.
- Depart for **Santa Clara**, an important city founded in the 1600's. Here, in late December 1958, Che Guevara and his troops won a crucial battle in securing victory for the Cuban Revolution.
- Stop at the **Che Guevara memorial** for a photo opportunity in 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.
- We depart for Havana. Lunch (on own) enroute to Havana.
- Check into our hotel and have time to relax and refresh.
- We meet for **dinner** at La Casa restaurant.



### Overnight Havana

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### Day 4: Thursday, January 10, 2019: JEWISH HAVANA

- Breakfast at our hotel.
- We begin with a visit to **Patronato**, where we meet with **Adela Dworin, the President of Beth Shalom**. Tour the center and learn about the Pharmacy and Sunday school, with time to deliver our gifts and aid.
- We take in a 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.
- **Lunch** at Café Del Oriente.
- Next, we stop at **Casa de la Artesania**. Here we learn about the **history of tobacco** and the tradition of cigar rolling in Cuba. Interact with some of the roller and locals.
- Next we enjoy 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.
- **Tonight, at the Patronato, the Cantors give a concert for the community of Havana.**
- **Dinner** together at El Mediterraneo paladar.

### Overnight Havana

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## Day 5: Friday, January 11, 2019: EXPLORING HAVANA

- Breakfast at the hotel
- Visit to the **Rosenberg Memorial, Lennon Park**, and pass by **Havana University**.
- 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.
- **Lunch** at El Templete.
- Visit 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 aid to the community and interact with locals.
- We visit the **Holocaust exhibit**, opened in 2011, at the Sephardic Center.
- As the sun sets, we participate in **leading Shabbat services** at the **Sephardic Center**.
- **Shabbat dinner** together at the Sephardic Center with members of the congregation.



### Overnight Havana

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## Day 6: Saturday, January 12, 2019: SHABBAT SHALOM!

- Breakfast at our hotel.
- We participate in **leading Shabbat services at Patronato**.
- Following services, 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** or 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.
- Enjoy the remainder of the evening at leisure.

### Overnight Havana

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## Day 7: Sunday, January 13, 2019: 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.
- We continue with a visit to the **Jewish cemetery in Guanabacoa**, including a special visit to the site of the Holocaust exhibit.
- We enjoy a **classic car ride** from our hotel.
- **Farewell dinner** together at La California paladar as we recall all that we have experienced together.



## Overnight Havana

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## Day 8: Monday, January 14, 2019: 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 flights home.

## The Memories Last Forever!

*\*Itinerary subject to change*

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