

## Best-Day Adventures & Beyond

*Tours for all adults: couples, singles, married and beyond!*

# Cuba

**February 17-24, 2020**

**Optional Pre-Tour/Early Arrival in Fort  
Lauderdale**

**February 16-17, 2020**

(As of 1/9/20)



## OPTIONAL PRE-TOUR ARRIVAL

### Sunday, February 16, 2020: PRE-TOUR BEGINS

- Arrive in Ft. Lauderdale throughout the day.
- Late afternoon meet and greet.
- Group “follow the leader” dinner will be arranged (cost on own).

### Overnight in Ft. Lauderdale

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## MAIN TOUR

### Day 2: Monday, February 17, 2020: WELCOME TO CUBA!

- We depart on our flights to **Havana, Cuba**.
- Upon arrival, we meet our guide and driver.
- We begin our tour with a panoramic overview of the city including **Revolution Square**, which is dominated by the José Martí Memorial. This famous square is where Fidel Castro delivered the majority of his lengthy political addresses.
- We stop at the **Rosenberg Memorial** and **John Lennon Park**.
- This evening, we join together for a **welcome dinner** at Café del Oriente.
- After dinner, we gather at the hotel for our **private welcome program**, orientation and “gift drop”.

### Overnight in Havana

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### Day 3: Tuesday, February 18, 2020: SIGHTS & SOUNDS OF HAVANA

- Breakfast at our hotel.
- This morning we visit the **Patronato**, where we meet with community leaders – likely either **Adela Dworin**, the President of Beth Shalom or **David Prinstein**, Vice President of the community. We tour the synagogue and learn about the Pharmacy with time to deliver our gifts and aid.
- We stop for **lunch** at San Cristobal.
- After Lunch, we set out on a **walking tour of Old Havana (Havana Vieja)**, a UNESCO World Heritage site. Along the way, we learn about the history of Havana as we visit highlights of the city and the colonial plazas, as well as Jewish points of interest such as the Jewish themed **Raquel Hotel**.
- We visit the **Habana Compas Dance** headquarters to enjoy a dynamic musical performance and interact with the dancers and instructors.
- We return to our hotel for time to refresh before our evening out.
- Tonight, we enjoy **dinner** together at El Mediterraneo paladar.
- After dinner, we have the option to be dropped off at the famous **Hotel Nacional**, where we can explore this historic hotel and enjoy a drink in a world-famous bar surrounded by history. Cover charge required (not included). Return to hotel on own by taxi.

### Overnight in Havana

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### Day 4: Wednesday, February 19, 2020: HAVANA TO SANTA CLARA

- Breakfast and check out of our hotel.
- We depart Havana by bus and travel 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.
- We stop at **Che Guevara Memorial** for a photo opportunity at the Square.
- Next, we meet with **David Tacher**, a leading representative of the Santa Clara Jewish community to learn about the local community and deliver our gifts.
- Enjoy **lunch** together with members of the community on their rooftop deck.
- We continue for the beautiful port city of **Cienfuegos**, Cuba's "Pearl of the South".
- Upon arrival, we stop for a brief orientation of Cienfuegos' central landmarks, including **Parque Marti** and the **Thomas Terry theater**, and learn about this UNESCO World Heritage site founded by French immigrants in 1819.
- We enjoy a moving performance by **Cantores de Cienfuegos** at **Museo Provincial de Cienfuegos**.
- We check into our hotel and refresh before **dinner** together at the lovely seaside Finca del Mar.



### Overnight in Cienfuegos

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## Day 5: Thursday, February 20, 2020: HISTORIC TRINIDAD & CIENFUEGOS

- Breakfast at our hotel.
- Today, we meet with **Rebecca Langus** and learn about the local Jewish community with time to deliver gifts.
- We depart for the beautiful colonial town of **Trinidad**, a charming city settled in 1514 and a UNESCO Heritage site since 1988
- Upon arrival, we enjoy **lunch** at San Jose paladar.
- After lunch, 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. Along the way, we'll learn about the efforts to preserve the city's heritage.
- Next, we meet with the famous **Santander family**, well-known local potters, and visit their workshop and gallery. These artists have been making handmade pottery for over 100 years.
- We return to Cienfuegos for **dinner** at D'Carmelina paladar.

### Overnight in Cienfuegos

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## Day 6: Friday, February 21, 2020: SHABBAT SHALOM!

- Breakfast and check out of our hotel.
- This morning, we depart for Havana, stopping for lunch on our own en route.
- Upon arriving in Havana, we 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 check into our hotel for a chance to refresh.
- Late this afternoon, we visit the **Sephardic Center** and meet with **Mayra Levy**, President of the congregation, who discusses the role of Sephardic Jews in the resurgence of Jewish life in Cuba. We also have the opportunity to visit the only **Holocaust exhibit** in Cuba, opened in 2011. We will also deliver our gifts to the community.
- As the sun sets, we join together to participate in **Shabbat services** with the local community at the **Sephardic Center**, followed by **Shabbat dinner** together with members of the congregation.



### Overnight in Havana

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## Day 7: Saturday, February 22, 2020: HAVANA & HEMINGWAY

- Breakfast at our hotel.
- We begin our day at the **Jewish cemetery in Guanabacoa**, including a chance to view the **Holocaust Memorial**.
- We 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, and we learn about how Cuba influenced his writing.
- Enjoy the popularity of a local pastime by visiting a **Cuban little league baseball practice**.
- We return to our hotel for a chance to refresh.
- Dinner on our own this evening ("Follow the Leader" option will be available).



- Later tonight, we enjoy **Cuba Libres** and a show at **The Tropicana**, a world-renowned cabaret and club in Havana, Cuba. It was launched in 1939 at Villa Mina, a six-acre suburban estate with lush tropical gardens in Havana's Marianao neighborhood.

### Overnight in Havana

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#### Day 8: Sunday, February 23, 2020: CLASSIC CAR RIDE

- Breakfast at our hotel
- This morning, we learn about the art and tradition of **cigar rolling** in Cuba on a tour of the **Partagas Cigar Factory** and see the process from leaf to finished product and ultimately distribution.
- Next, we visit the impressive **Fuster house/studio** to see this unique mosaic masterpiece and learn about the artist's project to beautify the community he lives in. This artists' colony is a perfect place to acquire an array of crafts, paintings and sculptures.
- **Lunch** together at Mambo.
- This afternoon, we visit **Vocal Clave del Sol**, a musical education program for children founded in 2009, where we have the chance to interact with some of the students and teachers and learn about the importance of this program.
- This evening, we enjoy a **classic car ride** from our hotel to our **farewell dinner** at Vista del Mar as we reminisce all that we have experienced together.

### Overnight in Havana

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#### Day 9: Monday, February 24, 2020: DEPARTURE

- Breakfast at our hotel
- This morning, we have the option to return to **Old Havana** for some time on our own to explore and visit the many cafes, stores, and museums. Enjoy lunch on your own while here, OR
- We can be dropped off to the **Almacenes de San Jose market**, Cuba's largest open market chock full of local crafts and artwork for time to browse the different stalls.
- We return to our hotel to pick up luggage.
- We transfer to the airport for our flights home.

## The Memories Last Forever!!

*\*Itinerary subject to change*

