

Best-Day Adventures & Beyond

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

People-to-People Mission to Cuba

February 17-24, 2020

Optional Pre-Tour/Early Arrival in Fort
Lauderdale

February 16-17, 2020

(As of 3/11/19)



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

MAIN TOUR

Day 1: Monday, February 17, 2020: WELCOME TO CUBA!

- We depart on our flights to **Santa Clara, Cuba**.
- Upon arrival, we meet our guide and driver.
- We begin our tour in **Santa Clara**, an important city founded in the 1600’s, where Che Guevara won a significant battle, leading to the success of the revolution in 1959.
- We stop for **lunch** at Santa Rosalia paladar.
- We continue to the **Che Guevara Memorial** for a photo opportunity as we learn about this well-known figure of the Cuban Revolution who worked with Fidel Castro.
- Next, we 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.
- We transfer to **Cienfuegos** to check into our hotel, enjoy a welcome drink and have a chance to refresh.
- This evening, we join together for a **welcome dinner** at Finca Del Mar overlooking the water.
- After dinner, we gather at the hotel for our **private welcome program**, orientation and “gift drop”.

Overnight in Cienfuegos



Day 2: Tuesday, February 18, 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 Villa Lagarto.



Overnight in Cienfuegos

Day 3: Wednesday, February 19, 2020: SANTA CLARA TO HAVANA

- Breakfast and check out of our hotel.
- This morning, we tour Cienfuegos, including **Parque Marti**, where we 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 stop for **lunch** at a local paladar.
- This afternoon, we travel to **Havana** and check into our hotel with time to relax and refresh.
- This evening, we join together for **dinner** at Café del Oriente.

Overnight in Havana

Day 4: Thursday, February 20, 2020: SIGHTS & SOUNDS OF HAVANA

- Breakfast at our hotel.
- This morning, we set pit 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 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.
- We stop for **lunch** at San Cristobal.
- After lunch, we visit the **Habana Compas Dance** headquarters to enjoy a dynamic musical performance and interact with the dancers and instructors.
- We take in 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 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

Day 5: Friday, February 21, 2020: REACHING OUT IN HAVANA

- Breakfast at our hotel.
- We begin our day at 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.
- Next, 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.
- **Lunch** together at Mambo.
- After lunch, we stop at the **Rosenberg Memorial** and **John Lennon Park**.
- We return to 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

Day 6: Saturday, February 22, 2020: SHABBAT SHALOM!

- Breakfast at our hotel
- This morning, we visit **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**.
- This afternoon, we have the opportunity to return to **Old Havana** for some time on own to explore and visit the many cafés, stores, and museums. Enjoy lunch on your own while here.
- We continue 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.
- Dinner on own this evening ("Follow the Leader" option will be available).
- **Optional (based on opening dates):** After dinner, choose to visit to the artists of **Fabrica D'la Arte**, a former cooking oil factory, which comes alive on weekend nights and features the best avant-garde art in the country (pay your way for taxi).

Overnight in Havana



Day 7: Sunday, February 23, 2020: HISTORY OF HAVANA

- Breakfast at our hotel.
- We begin our day with a visit to 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 and visit the Sunday school with time to deliver our gifts and aid.
- Next, we stop at the **Jewish cemetery in Guanabacoa**, including a chance to view the **Holocaust Memorial**.
- **Lunch** at Ajiaco Café.
- This afternoon, 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.
- 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.
- 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

Day 8: Monday, February 24, 2020: DEPARTURE

- Breakfast and check out of our hotel.
- We transfer to the airport for our flights home.

The Memories Last Forever!!

**Itinerary subject to change*

