



CUBA CULTURAL TOUR

This is an opportunity to interact with local people via a 100% legally approved by U.S. government, educational, "Support for the Cuban People" cultural tour.

ITINERARY Cuba Cultural Tour

Day 1. Welcome to Havana.

Arrive at Jose Marti International Airport. Your local representative will meet your flight. Transfer from airport to Habana Vieja (Old Havana) to your "casa particular," or Cuban guest house/B&B.

6:30PM. Evening welcome cocktail. Please arrange to arrive in time for the welcome cocktail at your casa (B&B). It is about 30 minutes from the airport to your casa. Dinner on your own at any of the area restaurants.

Casa in Havana: View of Plaza Vieja



Convento Santa Brigida



CONVENTO SANTA BRIGIDA



Day 2. Habana Vieja – UNESCO World Heritage Site



Breakfast every day at all casas (included).

8:00 AM Breakfast

9:00AM Visit Cuban establishments to distribute donations.

These can be senior citizen centers, schools, or complexes in needy neighborhoods.

Explore “Cuban Daily Life Today.” Visit food markets, distribution centers and shops.

Lunch at local “paladar”, a private enterprise restaurant in Old Havana (included.)

Afternoon Panoramic guided tour of Havana by classic American Car

Dinner on your own at any of the many local restaurants and bars.

Optional: Evening Buena Vista Social Club musical performance in Old Havana.

Casa: Convento Santa Brigida, Habana Vieja.

Day 3. Havana and the F.A.C (Cuban Art Factory)



8:00AM Breakfast

9:00AM Private walking tour of Old Havana and architecture walk. Experience an educational opportunity to see and understand the unique history, music, art and architecture of Old Havana.

Continue Old Havana walking tour. Visit the major plazas of Old Havana.

Lunch on Your own.

Rest of afternoon, free time.

Meet for dinner (included.)

8:00PM Leave for the F.A.C., (Cuban Art Factory), a performance and exhibition venue for Cuban artists.

Evening on your own at the F.A.C. (Cuban Art Factory.)

Casa: Convento Santa Brigida.

Day 4. Las Terrazas and Valley of Viñales – UNESCO World Heritage site



7:30AM Breakfast

8:30AM Transfer in airconditioned microbus with guide from Havana to Viñales via Las Terrazas.

Lunch in La Terrazas artist community (included.)

Visit to Los Jazmines scenic overlook in Viñales.

Visit the Sitio del Infierno (Hell's site) 8 km from town to see various crops and wild pigs that live in the area. Travel to Lookout of the Aquatic, sacred place for people who believe water cures all and never visit doctors.

Finish walk at a tobacco farm to see farmers roll cigars and try it together with a good Cuban coffee.

Transfer to your casa in Viñales.

Evening free to explore Viñales main street, restaurants and music venues.

Casa: Casa Nevada or similar in Viñales

Day 5. Valley of Viñales



8:00AM Breakfast

9:00AM Hiking in Viñales. Visit to local sugarcane and coffee plantation. Educational opportunity to meet with farmers and understand the growing process some unchanged since pre-colonial times. Enjoy a typical Cuban country town.

Pass through farmland in the UNESCO site of Viñales Valley.

Lunch at local farm-to-table paladar, organic farm Finca Ecologica El Paraiso (included.)

Visit the Indigenous Cave (Cueva del Indio) and underground river cruise.

Return to town via oxcart.

Evening free.

Casa: Casa Nevada or similar.

Day 6. Valley of Vinales– UNESCO World Heritage site

9:00AM Tradition and nature tour in Viñales.

Lunch in a local farm-to-table restaurant in Viñales.

Afternoon return to Havana.

Evening free.

Casa: Convento de Santa Brigida

Day 7. Trinidad – UNESCO World Heritage Site

7:30AM Breakfast

8:30AM Transfer in microbus with guide to Trinidad via Cienfuegos, the only Cuban city founded by French settlers with the prettiest plaza in Cuba.



Walking tour of Cienfuegos including Teatro Terry

Lunch in Punta Gorda (included.)

Transfer to Trinidad

Dinner on your own.

Evening on your own to enjoy outdoor music venues and the city's nightlife.

Optional: One-hour massages while in Trinidad.

Casa: Casa Osmary y Alberto or similar in Trinidad

Day 8. Trinidad – UNESCO World Heritage site



8:00AM Breakfast

9:00AM Walking tour of the city of Trinidad, the most perfectly preserved colonial city in the Americas and a UNESCO World Heritage site.

Cocktails in Canchanchara.

Lunch on your own

Salsa lessons.

Santeria religion performance.

Cooking lessons and dinner at local restaurant (included) with music.

Casa: Casa Osmary y Alberto or similar in Trinidad.

Day 9 Trinidad and the Sugar Mills Valley – UNESCO World Heritage site



8:00AM Breakfast.

9:00AM Visit to the Sugar Mills Valley

San Isidro Archaeological site.

Lunch by the beach in Ancon Peninsula (included.)

Optional: Snorkeling in Playa Ancon.

Afternoon by the beach.

Return to Trinidad

Dinner on your own.

Evening on your own to enjoy outdoor music venues and the city's nightlife.

Casa: Casa Osmar y Alberto or similar in Trinidad

Day 10. Transfer from Trinidad to Havana



7:30AM Breakfast.

8:30AM Transfer via microbus with guide Trinidad to Havana.

Lunch on the way.

Afternoon to further explore Havana.

Farewell dinner (included)

Optional Le Parisien floorshow at the Hotel Nacional.

Casa: Conde de Ricla - Havana Vieja, Convento Santa Brigida or similar

Day 11. Return to home country.

Transfer in taxi from your casa in Old Havana to the international airport.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS REGARDING YOUR VISIT TO CUBA

Preparing for travel

You will be traveling to Cuba under the “Support for the Cuban People” category consistent with U.S. government regulations.

The trip will be an opportunity for learning and interacting with the Cuban people. You will also have an outrageous amount of fun and take outstanding photos.

What to bring

- Valid passport – with 6 months validity remaining.
- Tourist card, also called “Cuban visa.”

If you are a U.S. citizen born outside of Cuba* and traveling to Cuba from the U.S. you can purchase your pink tourist card (sometimes called a Cuban visa) for Cuba at the counter of the airline you are flying with or [online](#). The price of a tourist card varies from \$50 to \$100. If you are traveling to Cuba from anywhere other than the U.S., you will need a green tourist card.

- If your credit card is issued on a U.S. bank, you must bring cash. Credit cards and bank cards issued on U.S. banks won't work in Cuba. You must bring enough cash to last the length of your trip. If your accommodation, all breakfasts, most meals and transportation are already paid for, factor that in when you decide how much cash to bring.

Additional travel requirements

You will need to purchase travel insurance separately. **Travel insurance for this tour is a requirement.** [Here is a site](#) that compares travel insurance companies and policies.

You will need a health certificate to enter Cuba. You can request the form [here](#). Click on the English version on the upper right. Once you submit the form you will receive a QR code. Show the QR code on your phone or print it out and hand it in on arrival in Havana.

***For Cuban-born travelers**

If you were born in Cuba, you will need a special visa which takes about 5 to 6 weeks to process and for you to receive. Travel agencies that offer flights to Cuba can provide this service.

What to pack for Cuba

- Wide-brim hat.
- Sunglasses.
- Loose breathable material: T-shirts, shorts, sundress.
- Products not readily available in Cuba like, sunscreen, feminine hygiene products, toiletries, over-the-counter-medications, insect repellent.
- Cuba is extremely informal. You should try to dress down.

You will visit charities and are encouraged, but not required, to bring donations. These include:

- Used clothing.
- School supplies such as pens, pencils, notebooks, crayons.
- Soap, aspirin, toiletries, batteries, plastic containers.

Round-trip airline ticket prices change frequently. Check with your airline.

What's included:

Private, fully dedicated bilingual guide throughout. Airport transfers.

“Casa particular” accommodation.

All breakfasts, most other meals.

In-country transportation. Most of Old Havana is walkable.

Classes and exhibitions where applicable.

Entrance fees to venues on the schedule.

What's not included.

- International flights.
- International airport departure tax if applicable.
- Any visa required.
- Services and activities not mentioned in the itinerary.
- Meals and drinks not mentioned in the itinerary.
- Expenditure of a personal nature.
- Personal travel insurance.
- Optional activities.

How much money will you need?

Generally, people feel \$30 to \$80/day is ample since most expenses are included.

Optional tips to fully dedicated guide, \$5 to \$10/day/person.

Optional tips to bus driver, \$3 to \$6/day/person. He is with the tour 5 days.

Optional entrance to Buena Vista Social Club show and drinks, \$45/person.

Optional Vegas style floor show with drinks at the Cabaret Parisien, \$25/person.

Payments

- Deposit \$400. Pay deposit [here](#).

Single Supplement, \$550.00. Pay single supplement [here](#). Every effort will be made to match solo travelers with other same-gender solo travelers, if requested, based on availability on a first come, first served basis.

- Deposit is refundable, minus \$50 processing fee, until 90 days before the start of the tour.
- You will receive a link to make the final payment due 60 days before the start of the tour.

Other information

Travels with Talek reserves the right to make changes to this itinerary at any time as necessary.

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