

Cuba in Agriculture
“Special Interest Program”
People to People Exchange



Friday

Departure for Miami

Day 1

Delegates will independently depart today for Miami, Florida. The program officially begins at the briefing in Cuba so note that no event or official gathering will take place in the U.S. this evening.

Upon arrival in Miami, please make your way to the **Miami International Airport Hotel (located in concourse E within the airport itself)**. The hotel is just a short walk from luggage claim (2nd floor). Check-in begins at 3:00 pm so access to rooms prior to that is subject to availability.

For questions, you can call the hotel directly after arrival. They can be reached at:

Miami International Airport Hotel

Central Terminal Concourse E

2nd floor

Miami, Florida 33266

Telephone: 1-305-871-4100

Lunch and dinner are by individual arrangement today for those arriving earlier in the day time.

Saturday

Departure

Day 2

This morning please plan to meet by 4:45 am in the hotel lobby to meet your delegation leader. Check in will be in concourse G adjacent to the Dunkin Donuts. Lines queue up according to the flight, not just those flying with the charter company, so make sure you get in the correct line!

Due to the early hour of our departure from the hotel, breakfast could not be provided by the hotel. However, there are many dining options at the airport after you check in, but before you clear security and head to your gate.

Departure is scheduled this morning on XAEL Charter service (operated by World Atlantic) at approximately 9:00 am (check-in begins as early as 5:00).

Arrival in Cuba is approximately 45 minutes later as it is a short flight. Delays are common as it takes quite some time to load the excess luggage that many visitors are bringing with them for their families and friends in Cuba. It is common to see car parts, bicycles, flat screen televisions as well as men wearing three or four hats to avoid having to pay any additional baggage fees at the counter. Quite a fun sight and an experience in itself!

WELCOME TO CUBA!!

Upon arrival at the Havana International Airport, you will need to make your way through passport control where they will take your photo (be prepared to remove any hats, scarves or glasses) and check your paperwork for entry into Cuba. Make your way to baggage claim and from there exit through customs to where your national guide will be waiting for the delegation.

Enjoy some sites of the city in a panoramic bus tour of Havana en-route to lunch. Lunch will be provided at a local restaurant.

Early this afternoon the delegation will transfer to your hotel for check in at the **Quinta Avenida Hotel** in Miramar. Check in and settle into your rooms before meeting in the hotel conference center for your welcome briefing.

Your delegation leader will have some time to address the delegation and facilitate group introductions

Enjoy a welcome dinner at Paladar La California, known as one of Havana's best. The owner will give a brief explanation of the new private enterprise now available in Cuba's economic changes.

Sunday

Havana

Day 3

Please Note: Breakfast will be provided daily during your stay in Cuba.

This morning enjoy a walking tour of the historic center of **Old Havana**, a village founded in 1519 and declared a World Heritage site by UNESCO in 1982. There will be an explanation of the projects carried out by the City Historian's Office for the rehabilitation of Old Havana.

Lunch will be provided at a local restaurant.

Visit a local Farmer's Market, (Mercados Agropecuarios) mingle with the local Cuban people shopping. A great opportunity to talk to the local farmers.

Dinner is by individual arrangement (own expense).

Monday

Havana

Day 4

This morning the delegation will have a welcome orientation to Cuba on behalf of the staff at the **Cuban Institute of Friendship with People** in conjunction with our local team at the Casa de la Amistad. This mandatory meeting focuses on Cuban/U.S. relations, and is a required component of all visits to Cuba.

This morning, visit **Organopónico Vivero Alamar** (organic farm). Located in Alamar, just outside of Havana, this cooperative farm was started as a way to feed the surrounding neighborhood and has evolved into a 25 acre vegetable garden with animals, fruits, and herbs, employing 160 people. Today the farm yields 300 tons of harvested vegetables annually and the produce is sold to nearly 50,000 people every year. Talk with employees and hear about the impact that this farm has not only in Cuba but globally, while taking in the beauty of the area.

Lunch will be provided at a local restaurant.

Afternoon lecture with Dr. Fernando Funes, key founder and visionary of the Agro-Ecological Movement in Cuba.

Dinner is by individual arrangement (own expense).

Tuesday

Havana

Day 5

Depart Havana for the approximate two hour ride toward Pinar del Rio. Visit "**El Patio de Pelegrin**" located in the Puerta de Golpe town. Visit the diverse children's arts, drawings, handicrafts workshops. Join the children and parents in some of their music and dance activities. Visit the city orchard and meet the workers that provide food for the community.

Lunch will be provided at the project with the workers.

Donations: The project is in desperate need of art supplies (especially paints of any quality and brushes of all sizes). They also can use fabrics for sewing and seeds for their garden. They do **not** need school supplies like crayons/colored pencils.

Enjoy dinner at a local restaurant this evening before experiencing the **Cannon Blast Ceremony** at the 18th-century **San Carlos de La Cabaña** fortress. Dating back centuries, this tradition announces the closing of the city gates of the channel at the entrance of the bay.

Evening performance at Havana's Jazz Café.

Wednesday

Havana

Day 6

Morning departure to visit the Hemingway Museum located in the Finca Vigia, former residence of the American writer located in the San Francisco de Paula neighborhood on the outskirts of the city. We will tour along the beltway of the city reaching Cojimar, a fisherman's village where Hemingway docked his fishing boat "El Pilar", a source of inspiration for this famous novel "The Old Man and the Sea"

Lunch will be provided at Las Brisas Paladar.

This afternoon visit the **Museo de Bellas Artes** (Fine Arts Museum). The Fine Arts Museum is dedicated exclusively to Cuban art collections beginning in the mid-16th century. Spanning the 17th and 19th centuries, it has galleries devoted to landscape, religious subjects and the Costumbrismo narrative scenes of Cuban life. Other galleries are devoted to more current work, and are recognized for the extensive collection of Hyperrealism and the latest generation of Cuban artists whose works all reflect the strong symbolic imagery prevalent in recent decades.

Dinner is by individual arrangement (own expense).

Thursday

Havana

Day 7

Morning meeting and lecture with ANAP – Association of Small Farmers of Cuba.

(Discussion topics will be finalized as the delegation forms.)

Some of the most prominent institutional players in the Cuban agro ecology movement have been the National Association of Small Farmers (ANAP) and the Cuban Association of Agriculture and Forestry Workers (ACTAF). Both of these NGOs focus on education and extension of sustainable agriculture techniques.

Lunch will be provided at Artechef Restaurant & Culinary School

Afternoon visit to the **Artechef Restaurant & Culinary School** in Vedado, which is a combination culinary school and restaurant.

The chef/instructor will demonstrated the proper preparation for ropa vieja which you will be able to sample; so simple, but so good. Learn how to make the real "Cuban Mojitos"

Friday

Havana

Day 8

Morning meeting and lecture with ACAO – Cuban Association for Organic Agriculture.

(Discussion topics will be finalized as the delegation forms.)

Lunch will be provided at a local restaurant.

Afternoon visit Centro Cultural Antiguos Almacenes market to visit and talk with private sector owners of more than 300 different booths selling art, handicrafts, clothing, and a variety of Cuban products.

Share your memories of Cuba with other delegates at a farewell dinner at Café Del Oriente Restaurant in the historic center.

Saturday

Depart

Day 9

DEPARTURE DAY

Prepare luggage for check out. Please settle all incidental expenses incurred during your stay. Delegates will transit to the airport for their flights home this morning.



IMPORTANT NOTE: *We work diligently to ensure that the activities described here are available on your program, however on our unique delegations to Cuba we will also be working around restrictions enforced by the Cuban government. **Unanticipated changes, scheduling conflicts, delays, weather, or circumstances beyond our control could result in program adjustments.** If substitution for a scheduled program activity is required, we will make every effort to feature comparable events to retain the content and quality of the program.*