



Havana- Cayo Santa Maria - Santa Clara - Remedios

SEE WHY EVERYONE WANTS TO GO TO CUBA

Dance the salsa on a rooftop in Havana, rub shoulders with locals walking along the faded elegance of the Malecon seawall, eat in private home restaurants called paladares, visit The National Ballet of Cuba, watch Cubans of all ages soften when the strains of “Guantanamera” float into the streets, visit the museums, cafes ...

LEARN HOW THE SOCIETY FUNCTIONS

Have you wanted to explore the unique island nation of Cuba? Now is your chance! Dance Place is offering you an unforgettable cultural immersion focusing on the arts, education, health and Cuba’s distinctive culture, you’ll experience lectures, museums, schools and arts communities, along with Cuba’s unique cuisine, music and architecture. A true Dancer's paradise!



Contact us:
Dance Place | 202.269.1601 | individual@danceplace.org



Day 1 - Washington-Havana

Departure:

American Airlines #1838 – Washington-Charlotte 5:25am-6:46am

American Airlines #801 – Charlotte-Havana 9:33am-12:15pm

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 El Templete Restaurant.**

This afternoon 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.

Transfer to your hotel for check in at the Hotel Capri or similar. Check in and settle into your rooms before meeting in the hotel conference center for your welcome briefing.

Enjoy a welcome dinner at La Casa Paladar.

Day 2 - Havana

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

Morning attend a rehearsal at MalPaso Dance Company.

Lunch at Café Laurent

This afternoon depart for a visit to the city of Regla. Visit the church of Nuestra Señora de Regla, one of Cuba's most frequented pilgrimage churches. The most impressive is the statute of the Virgin of Regla who is black and cradles a white infant in her arms. She is the patron and protector of sailors. She is considered the equivalent of Yemaya, the goddess of the sea in the Yoruba religion. Visit the Municipal Museum of Regla. There will be a ritual dance of Santería with Los Ivellys, the religion brought to Cuba by African slaves.

Dinner: On your own

This evening enjoy a musical performance by Buena Vista Social Club musicians at Café Taberna



Day 3 - Havana

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 US visits to Cuba. (Duration 45 minutes)

Continue on a visit to 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

Lunch: Paladar La Fontana



This afternoon we have made arrangements for a special visit to The Cuban National Ballet School (Escuela Nacional Cubana de Ballet). With 4,350 students, it is the biggest ballet school in the world and the most prestigious ballet school in Cuba, and is directed by Ramona de Saa. The school was expanded in 2002, and of the 52,000 students who applied to join the school, 4,050 were selected.

Most of the school's graduates are now eminent dance professionals, recognized for their superb training, technique and style, in Cuba and around the world. Many are members of the National Ballet of Cuba, one of the most important ballet companies in the world, as well as well as many worldwide ballet companies, including in the United States of America. We have specially arranged to meet with directors and dancers to have an opportunity to learn about this great institution.

Then to the Fuster Project in Jaimanitas, a small coastal neighborhood west of Havana, led by famous Cuban painter and ceramist Jose Fuster.

Dinner: On your own.



Day 4 - Havana-Santa Clara

4 hours – Havana-Santa Clara

1 hour – Santa Clara-Cayo Santa Maria

After breakfast, prepare luggage for check out. Please settle all incidental expenses incurred during your stay. Board your motor coach for your 5 hour trip to Santa Clara.

Lunch at Los Caneyes Restaurant in Santa Clara.

A special visit to the “Che Guevara Memorial” has been arranged.

Continue your journey to Cayo Santamaria (Key Santa Maria) & upon arrival transfer to your hotel Cayo Playa Santa Maria. Check in and settle into your rooms. There is some time for swimming in the hotel's 4 pools. This is a five star all-inclusive resort located at the Santa Maria Beach.

Welcome dinner.

Day 5 - Santa Clara-Remedios

Morning departure for the city of Remedios. Tour the city with one of the city's historians who will discuss the town's history. Visit the San Juan Bautista Church and the Alejandro Garcia Caturla Museum which is located in the home of this famous Cuban composer.

Remedios, a charming town boasting colonial architecture and cobble stoned streets. Established in 1514 and now with a population of 18,000 inhabitants, Remedios is considered a national monument and will be celebrating its 500 year anniversary in 2014.

Remedios is also known for its Parrandas Festival, an annual carnival-like celebration that takes place at the end of December. You'll see some of the floats and costumes in various stages of creation and construction and speak with the volunteers and festival officials.

Lunch at Hotel Barcelona.

Return to hotel.

Dinner at your hotel.

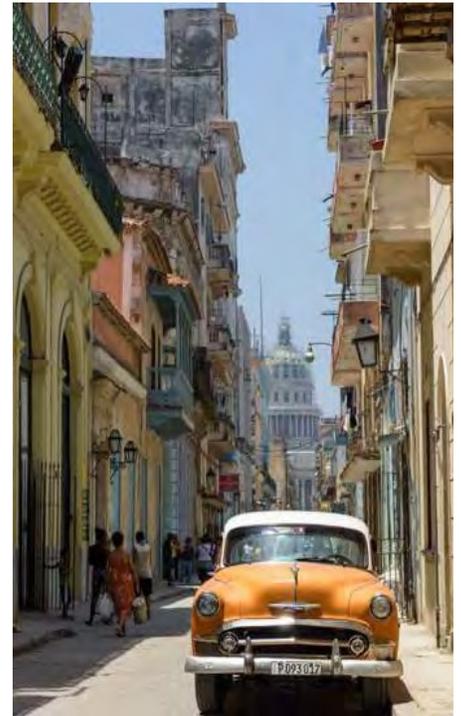
Day 6 - Santa Clara

Your morning city tour starts at Parque Leoncio Vidal, the Museo de Artes Decorativas occupies a magnificent colonial house built around 1740. Transformed over the centuries, it was restored in 1820 and again in 1980. The memory of Che Guevara permeates the town of Santa Clara. Walk around the Plaza de la Revolución dedicated to the famous Argentine guerrilla who fought fiercely alongside Fidel Castro to overthrow Batista.

Lunch at Santa Rosalia Restaurant

Return to hotel.

Farewell dinner at your hotel.





Day 7- Depart

DEPARTURE DAY

Today you bid farewell to Cuba, “The Pearl of the Antilles”. Transfer to the airport for departure. Our guide and local airport representative will be available to assist you with the check-in procedures.

Departure:

American Airlines #2750 - Santa Clara-Miami 6:00pm-7:20pm

American Airlines #1227 – Miami-Washington-9:20pm-11:57pm

Notice:

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.



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