



Danza Contemporánea de Cuba

## Dance & Culture

“A People to People Exchange”

Saturday

Departure

Day 1

**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).

***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 Paladar La Guarida.

Early this afternoon the delegation will transfer to your hotel for check in at the **Santiago de Bejucal** Hotel located in Old Havana. Check in and settle into your rooms before meeting in the hotel conference center for your welcome briefing.

Enjoy a welcome dinner at Paladar La California, this paladar is known as one of Havana's best.

Evening entertainment: Havana Jazz Café

Sunday	Havana	Day 2
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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: Paladar 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 Santeria, 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 El Tablao de Pancho.

Monday	Havana	Day 3
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This morning 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.

Lunch: Paladar La Fontana

Afternoon visit Danza Contemporanea de Cuba. A uniquely Cuban blend of modern theater, Afro Caribbean dance styles and classical European ballet.

Under the direction of Miguel Iglesias, DCC presents its dancers with exceptional opportunities and with exceptional challenges as well. Along with the physical discipline required by a grueling training regimen, Iglesias places a premium on a dancer's spontaneity and intellect. "The grammar of dance, the words of dance, is movement," Iglesias explains, "but choreography must have a central idea, an intention. We must provide a dancer with the intellectual means to turn all this sophisticated technique into the language of dance."Time for Q & A with the company members.

Dinner: On your own.

Evening show at Cabaret Parisien Hotel Nacional

Tuesday

Havana

Day 4

This morning 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.

Lunch: Paladar La Moraleja

Continue your visit to two cultural community projects: Hammel Alley in Centro Habana, led by the Cuban painter and muralist Salvador Gonzalez where he recreates religious syncretism and Santeria. Then to the Fuster Project in Jaimanitas, a small coastal neighborhood west if Havana, led by famous Cuban painter and ceramist Jose Fuster.

Dinner: On your own.

Evening: Dos Gardenias Club Bolero Show

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 at La Terraza Restaurant, a place related to the life of the famous writer and to Gregorio Fuentes, the captain of his fishing boat.

Afternoon visit to MalPaso Dance Company. Founded in 2013 under the artistic direction of Osnel Delgado, MalPaso Dance Company expresses the passion and uncertainties that define Cuban life and are embodied in the country's rich dance tradition. .Time for Q & A with the company members.



**MalPaso Dance Company**

Share your memories of Cuba with your traveling colleagues at a farewell dinner at Café Del Oriente Restaurant in the historic center of Old Havana.

**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.



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