



Jewish Heritage Study Program

Friday

Miami-Havana

Day 1

Upon arrival in Havana you will be met by our ground representative who will help you with immigration and customs formalities. Meet your local English speaking guide and board your motor coach for transfer to your hotel.

Welcome dinner at **Raquel's elegant Restaurant** serving typical Jewish cuisine.

Saturday

Havana

Day 2

Morning lecture on the history of the Jewish Community in Cuba will be conducted by a historian.

Continue to a visit of the scale model of the historic center for orientation and location of the former Jewish quarter to be visited during the tour.

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 by the City's Historian's Office for its integral rehabilitation.

Lunch at **La Imprenta Restaurant** located in the historic center.

Continue your tour through the main squares and streets. Visit the Adath Israel Hebrew community on Acosta Street, where the United Hebrew Congregation is located.

Sunday

Havana

Day 3

Visit the Jewish cemetery of Guanabacoa, an aboriginal settlement that became an independent village and later a suburb of the city. American Jews bought plots in 1906 and found the first Hebrew cemetery in this city. The words "Centro Macabeo de Cuba" are seen above the main entrance.

In 1942, the Sephardic who had founded the Chevet Ahim Society bought the grounds for their own cemetery, almost next to the other. Tour the former Las Murallas neighborhood, Central Park and Prado Promenade.

Lunch at **La Mina Restaurant** located in the historic center. Invited guest from the Jewish community will join us.

After lunch there is time to visit the Crafts Market in the old San Jose warehouse on Port Avenue.

Evening dinner at **La Divina Pastora Restaurant**. You will enjoy a beautiful view of the Havana water front.

Nearby you will join the Cannon Blast ceremony, a tradition evoking the announcement of the closing of the gates of the city and of the channel at the entrance of the bay, which takes place every evening at the 18th century San Carlos de La Cabaña fortress. It includes a visit to the weapons museum and the chapel.

Monday

Havana

Day 4

Morning visit and meeting with leaders of the Synagogue of the Cuban Hebrew Community on the corner of I and 13th in the Vedado district.

Visit and meeting with leaders of the Sephardic Hebrew Center – Iehuda Halevi Synagogue on the corner of 17th and E also in the Vedado residential district.

Panoramic bus tour through Vedado neighborhood with a stop at Revolution Square. Continue to the Christopher Columbus cemetery.

Lunch at El Aljibe Restaurant for a typical Cuban chicken lunch. Invited guest from the Jewish community will join us.

Continue on your tour through the Miramar and Cubanacan neighborhoods.

Tuesday

Havana

Day 5

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.

After lunch return to Havana and visit the museum room in the Ambos Mundos Hotel where the writer often stayed and wrote part of his novels. Continue to the two bars associated with his life in Havana. The Floridita where he enjoyed the best Daiquiris and La Bodeguita del Medio where he enjoyed the best "Mojitos".

Wednesday

Havana

Day 6

After breakfast, depart for a visit to **Las Terrazas** eco-resort, a rural experience of a sustainable development in the mountain area located within the Sierra del Rosario biosphere reserve in the new Artemisa province. Tour of the area with an explanation of the community project. You will meet the local people involved in the project.

Lunch will be served at **El Romero Eco-Restaurant**.

Return to Havana.

Thursday

Havana-Santa Clara-Trinidad

Day 7

Morning depart for Trinidad via Santa Clara. Visit to the Che Guevara Memorial with an explanation of the historical events related to the battle of Santa Clara.

Lunch at **1878 Restaurant**. Members of the local Jewish community will join us for lunch.

After lunch visit the local Jewish Cemetery. Continue your journey to Trinidad. Upon arrival transfer to your hotel

Friday

Havana

Day 8

This morning we will visit Trinidad; the third village founded by the Spaniards in Cuba and declared a World Heritage Site in 1988. Walk around the main square and other smaller streets in the historic center. Visit the Municipal and Romantic museums and former stately houses.

Lunch at your hotel.

Continue for a visit of the Valley of the Sugar Mills with a stop at the lookout and the Manacas-Iznaga farm, an area also part of the UNESCO World Heritage site.

Saturday

Trinidad-Cienfuegos-Havana

Day 9

Morning departure for Cienfuegos, a Caribbean city founded by French immigrants in 1819, declared World Heritage Site in 2005 and a fine example of neoclassical town planning in Latin America.

Meeting with members of the local Jewish community. Tour the historic center, walk around the main square of the city visiting the Terry Theater and the cathedral and stroll along the pedestrian area. Panoramic tour along Prado and Malecon on the way to Punta Gorda to appreciate the local architecture.

Lunch at Palacio Valle Restaurant, an eclectic building having a remarkable architectural value, was the former residence of a Spanish millionaire. Members of the local Jewish community will join us for lunch

Continue your journey back to Havana. Upon arrival transfer to your hotel.

Sunday

Havana

Day 10

This morning we depart for a visit to the Cuban National Museum of Fine Arts.

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 of Havana, led by the famous Cuban painter and ceramist Jose Fuster.

You will be the guests for lunch at **Fuster's Paladar**.

Monday

Havana-Regla-Havana

Day 11

Morning depart for 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 sailor's. 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.

Lunch will be served at the **Templete Restaurant**.

This afternoon we'll meet with the professors and students of **La Escuela Taller Gaspar Melchor de Jovellanos** (Gaspar Melchor de Jovellanos Workshop School). This unique institution was established in 1992 in a heroic effort to train youth in the arts, crafts and theoretical knowledge to rehabilitate and preserve their architectural heritage. The school teaches young people archeological and restoration skills necessary to sustain the physical heritage and cultural patrimony of Old Havana.

Farewell dinner at **Conde de Villanueva Restaurant** in the historic center.

Tuesday

Havana-Miami

Day 12

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 help you with the check-in procedures.



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