



Cuba: Explore the World's Best-Kept Secret

DURATION | 9 Days

TRIP LEVEL | Moderate

Trip Overview

Cuba welcomes you with vibrant art, architecture, and Afro-Latin rhythms! Explore three UNESCO World Heritage cities, each rich in artistic expression. Stay in stylish accommodations, savor meals in family-run paladares, and immerse yourself in daily Cuban life. Begin in Camagüey with salsa lessons and pottery classes, visit Trinidad's coffee growers, and hike to a waterfall. Continue to Cienfuegos Bay for kayaking, then explore Havana's culture with classic car rides, cooking lessons, and art market strolls. End your journey with a toast to Cuba and newfound friendships!

Trip Highlights

- Experience Cuba's vibrant culture in Camagüey, Trinidad, and Havana, enjoying live music, local art, and charming accommodations with traditional meals.
- Engage with local businesswomen and artists, learning about Cuba's rich cultural heritage and entrepreneurial spirit through personal stories and insightful exchanges.
- Unleash your inner salsa diva, kayak through Cienfuegos Bay, and explore Havana with a classic car cruise, cooking lessons, and historic neighborhood strolls.

Map View



Trip Itinerary



Day 1

Welcome to Camagüey: Your Cuban Adventure Begins!

With its dazzling art, architecture, Afro-Latin rhythms, and iconic postcard scenes, Cuba welcomes you! Embrace the future-forward vision of its entrepreneurial people and the spirited energy of this legendary island as soon as you arrive. Your expert national Cuban guide will immerse you in the culture, history, and local lore, while you'll meet incredible individuals who will make your experience fun and fulfilling, cheering you on as you embrace new challenges. You'll be picked up at Camagüey airport (CMW) and transferred to your hotel. Enjoy a lively welcome dinner at a family-owned paladar, where you'll get to know your fellow travelers, share stories, and learn what excites each woman about exploring Cuba!

Meals: dinner | Overnight: Local Bed and Breakfast



Local Bed and Breakfast

Guests will be organized into two groups and accommodated in separate hotels: the Hostal San Rafael and Apodaca.

Guests of the Hostal San Rafael, a charming bed and breakfast on Plaza San Juan de Dios in Camagüey, can enjoy the bar's expert mixology, the restaurant's inventive cuisine, and the staff's undying devotion to Cuban coffee in the mornings. The rooms are unpretentious but warm, and they all feature beautiful Cuban landscape paintings over the beds.

Amenities: private baths, hair dryer, safe, air conditioning, Wi-Fi



Trip Itinerary



Day 2

Discover the Charm of Camagüey

Begin your day with a walking tour of Camagüey, navigating its abstract, tangled alleyways that reveal endless surprises beyond the popular squares. Visit a local artist's gallery to explore the vibrant Cuban art scene, then try your hand at pottery in a workshop, crafting your own Camagüey clay pot. Enjoy lunch at a nearby paladar before relaxing and exploring the plazas near your accommodations. Embrace Cuba's rhythm with a professionally led salsa class, then head out with your group for a late dinner and a night of music and dancing at Camagüey's Casa de la Trova.

Meals: breakfast, lunch, dinner | Overnight: Local Bed and Breakfast

Trip Itinerary



Day 3

Journey from Camagüey to Trinidad via Santa Clara

Depart Camagüey's charming streets before 8:00 AM for a four-hour drive to Santa Clara, with planned breaks along the way. Visit the Che Guevara Mausoleum, commemorating the decisive Battle of Santa Clara, where Guevara's troops secured victory on December 31, 1958, leading to the exile of dictator Fulgencio Batista. Enjoy a city tour with a local guide followed by lunch at his favorite paladar, then continue your two-hour journey to Trinidad, Cuba's colonial gem. Settle into your all-inclusive hotel for the next two nights and enjoy dinner with your group.

Meals: breakfast, lunch, dinner | Overnight: Melia Trinidad Peninsula



Melia Trinidad Peninsula

Accompanied by the warm waters of the Caribbean Sea, views of the stunning Sierra del Escambray mountains and all the charms of the colonial city of Trinidad, this modern hotel promises a stay full of exceptional experiences. The Meliá Trinidad Peninsula's prime location offers both spaces for relaxation in the heart of nature and proximity to several of the top historical and cultural attractions. Spacious rooms, a wide range of dining options, infinity and swim-up pools, are just some of the features on offer in this attractive destination.

Amenities: soap, shampoo, hair dryer, minibar, cable/satellite TV, safe, air conditioning, Wi-Fi



Trip Itinerary



Day 4

Explore Trinidad's Natural and Cultural Treasures

Visit a local coffee grower in Topes, sample his internationally renowned coffee, and learn about his life in Cuba. Enjoy a hike through Topes' tropical forest to a stunning waterfall, with an option to swim in the pool below, followed by a homemade lunch in the coffee grower's garden. Spend the early afternoon exploring Trinidad on your own or relaxing, then join a walking tour of this historic town, once the center of the world's sugar production. Conclude your day with a sunset cocktail on a rooftop, dinner at a paladar, and optional evening entertainment at Trinidad's Casa de La Música.

Meals: breakfast, lunch, dinner | Overnight: Melia Trinidad Peninsula



Trip Itinerary



Day 5

Trinidad to Havana: Coastal Adventure and French-Colonial Charm

Begin your morning with a kayaking trip along Cienfuegos Bay, enjoying a rare glimpse of Cuba's stunning coastline from double and single kayaks. Have lunch at a paladar in Cienfuegos, offering breathtaking views of the bay and Escambray Mountains. Explore Cienfuegos' city center on foot with your guide, admiring its unique French-colonial architecture. Upon arrival in Havana, check into your hotel, relax after a long day of travel, and enjoy dinner at a nearby paladar.

Meals: breakfast, lunch, dinner | Overnight: INNSide Habana Catedral by Melia



INNSide Habana Catedral by Melia

Nestled in a prime location, INNSide Habana Catedral is a delightful place to stay to visit the city rich of history and tradition. The hotel also features bright and comfortable rooms, with unique design and modern decoration. The rooftop allows visitors to admire Havana from above. The swimming pool has breathtaking views of the lighthouse and the sea.

Amenities: soap, shampoo, hair dryer, safe, coffee/tea, air conditioning, Wi-Fi



Trip Itinerary



Day 6

Discover the Allure of Havana

Stroll through La Habana Vieja with your guide, exploring its four main plazas and learning about the rich history, culture, and architecture. Visit female cuentapropistas who specialize in fashion design and participate in a printing workshop at Cuba's largest arts and crafts market. Enjoy tapas at a paladar owned by a former physicist turned restaurateur. Cruise through Havana's diverse neighborhoods in a classic car, ending at the iconic 1930 Hotel Nacional, where you'll tour the grand lobby and Hall of History, and sip cocktails in the gardens overlooking the Malecon at sunset. Conclude your day with dinner at an Italian restaurant featuring live Latin jazz.

Meals: breakfast, lunch, dinner | Overnight: INNSide Habana Cathedral by Melia



Trip Itinerary



Day 7

Unveiling Havana's Artistic Soul

Begin your day with an art curator at Bellas Artes, Havana's fine arts museum, exploring its uniquely curated Cuban art collection divided into pre- and post-revolutionary periods. Visit a contemporary studio to meet a local artist and learn about the challenges facing Cuban artists today. Enjoy lunch at a local paladar before touring a local dance company's studio and watching a short performance. After some downtime, head to a local bar for a cocktail lesson with a professional Cuban mixologist, where you'll learn to make Cuba's signature cocktails, including non-alcoholic options. Dinner reservations will be made for you at a paladar inside the famed Fabrica de Arte Cubano, offering dishes from all over the Latin world. Conclude your evening by exploring the vibrant mix of art, music, and dancing at Fabrica de Arte Cubano.

Meals: breakfast, lunch | Overnight: INNSide Habana Cathedral by Melia



Trip Itinerary



Day 8

Havana and the Fishing Village of Cojímar

Visit Cojímar, a charming fishing village 20 minutes east of Havana, which inspired Ernest Hemingway's *The Old Man and The Sea*, and see the bust commemorating the author, fondly remembered by locals. Tour an organopónico (urban garden) that supplies vegetables to a paladar where you'll enjoy a cooking lesson, learning to make mojitos and a traditional Cuban stew, ajiaco. Spend the afternoon relaxing or shopping for souvenirs before heading to a farewell dinner at one of Cuba's finest paladars. You'll have time to catch a show or explore Havana's nightlife before your departure.

Meals: breakfast, lunch, dinner | Overnight: INNSide Habana Cathedral by Melia

Trip Itinerary



Day 9

Depart Havana

Enjoy a leisurely morning after your late night, with your driver and guide available for any last-minute sightseeing or shopping. Bid farewell to your AdventureWomen friends as you transfer to the airport for your flight home.

What's Included

What's Included

- Accommodations as per itinerary based on double occupancy
- All meals as listed in the itinerary
- All ground transportation
- Airport transfers on the scheduled arrival and departure days
- Guided sightseeing and activities as indicated in the itinerary
- English-speaking guide(s) throughout the trip
- Two non-alcoholic drinks (water or soda) per person with included meals at paladares
- Bottled water in the vehicles
- Gratuities for local guides and waitstaff

Not Included

- International airfare to and from Cuba
- Mandatory Cuban Tourist Card (arranged through the airline)
- Enrollment in Cuba medical emergency insurance (required by Cuban government and provided through US airlines)
- Optional activities
- Meals not specified in the itinerary
- Alcoholic beverages (unless otherwise specified)
- Fees for passport, visas, immunizations, or travel insurance
- Cost of hospitalization or evacuation
- Items of a personal nature
- Gratuities for head guide and drivers

Please note: AdventureWomen will attempt to adhere to the itinerary as much as possible. However, certain conditions (political, climatic, environmental, and cultural) may necessitate changes in the itinerary. AdventureWomen reserves the right to alter any itinerary at any time if necessary. We will attempt to notify participants of changes as far in advance as possible. Costs incurred by such changes will be the responsibility of the participants.

