



Cuba: Art, Culture & History

March 30th - April 5th, 2023

Though just 90-miles from the United States, Cuba remains a mystery to most Americans. Now, on our in-depth program, travelers will experience this enigmatic island through the eyes of its people. Discover Havana during specially arranged meetings. Explore captivating Cuba, with privileged access to the country's arts community and experts. Savor Cuban cuisine en vogue *paladares* and get to know our warm and hospitable neighbors to the south!

Program Highlights

- Engage with Cuba's leading creators in exclusive gatherings, with intimate discussions at the homes and studios of artists, a private rehearsal at a famous dance company, and a phenomenal evening of art and music at Havana's *Fábrica de Arte Cubano*
- Celebrate and mingle with fellow travelers at exclusive receptions, including a cocktail reception with a sumptuous dinner in the company of the President of The Ludwig Foundation of Cuba and an after-tours tour and reception at the dazzling *Ceramics Museum*
- Meet the thought leaders who are shaping Cuban society, including the former Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs, who will share profound insights on Cuban politics
- Spend a day in the western province of Pinar del Río, known for its lush tobacco plantations. In the Viñales Valley, we will encounter spectacular caves, underground rivers, and the famous *Mogotes*, the iconic hillocks of the region.

SCHEDULE BY DAY

March 30 Thursday	DEPARTURE/ HAVANA CUBA	D
	Arrive independently in Havana. You will be met upon arrival at the José Martí International Airport and transferred to Paseo 206 boutique hotel. Our welcome dinner this evening is at a <i>paladar</i> , a privately owned restaurant that is located in the proprietor's home and largely staffed by family members. Accommodations: Paseo 206	
March 31 Friday	HAVANA	B / L / D
	Join a local architectural historian for a lecture on the history of Havana's remarkably well-preserved buildings. Afterwards, depart on a walking tour of Old Havana focusing on the four main squares: the Plaza de Armas, Plaza de San Francisco de Asís, Plaza Vieja, and Plaza de la Catedral. Following lunch at a <i>paladar</i> , take a private tour of the splendidly renovated Gran Teatro de La Habana Alicia Alonso. Explore the homes and studios of some of Havana's leading artists, where there may be an opportunity to purchase paintings and drawings. Dinner is at El Cocinero, followed by an evening of entertainment next door at Fábrica de Arte Cubano (FAC), the city's liveliest multi-disciplinary performing and visual arts space. Accommodations: Paseo 206	
April 1 Saturday	HAVANA / VIÑALES	B / L
	Take a morning drive through the countryside to the western province of Pinar del Río, known for its lush tobacco plantations. Explore the unique topography and natural beauty of the Viñales Valley, where you'll encounter spectacular caves, underground rivers, and the famous mogotes, the iconic hillocks of the region. Meet with farmers for a private tour of their tobacco plantation to learn about the drying and rolling processes. Lunch is at a privately owned organic farm. Visit a local artists' studio before returning to Havana. Tonight, enjoy dinner on your own. Accommodations: Paseo 206	
April 2 Sunday	HAVANA	B / L / R / D
	On an early visit to a cigar factory, watch as Cuba's prized export travels down the production line and have a chance to chat with workers. At the National Museum of Fine Arts of Havana, take a private tour with an independent curator, and trace Cuba's history through the works of its greatest artists. After lunch, walk down Calle Obispo, Havana's main shopping street; explore a local design shop; and speak to the owners about small business practices in Cuba. In the early evening, drive to The Ludwig Foundation of Cuba, one of only a few Cuban NGOs, for a presentation on Cuban art. The Foundation's President will host a cocktail reception and buffet dinner on the penthouse terrace, where invited guests include local Cuban artists. This evening, you may opt to attend a performance at one of Havana's famed music venues, including the legendary Tropicana. Accommodations: Paseo 206	

Accommodations

PASEO 206 <http://www.paseo206.com/>



A member of the Small Luxury Hotels of the World collection, Paseo 206 boutique hotel is a romantic jewel nestled among the tree-lined streets, art galleries, art deco buildings and modern skyscrapers of Vedado, the economic and cultural heart of La Havana.

In this family home dating back to 1933, the atmosphere is light, chic and romantic. The building has been restored to its original splendor thanks to a careful renovation that has maintained the soul of the structure, preserving the original architectural elements.

10 cozy and comfortable rooms and suites are offered. All accommodations feature free wi-fi, 24-hour room service, Hermes bathroom amenities, Marshall speakers, and hypoallergenic king-sized bed with luxurious Frette linen.

Program Details

PROGRAM RATE

- \$5,999 per person, double rate in Deluxe room
- \$6,999 per person, double rate in Suite room
- \$7,499 single rate in Deluxe room
- \$8,750 single rate in Suite room

RATES INCLUDE

- Six nights' accommodations as per itinerary
- Meals as indicated in the itinerary
- Bottled water and coffee/tea with all meals, house wine at welcome and farewell dinners
- Escorted sightseeing, transportation and entrance fees for all included visits
- Enrichment program of lectures and talks
- Airport / hotel / airport transfers for all travelers
- Gratuities to local guides and drivers
- Executive Tour Director from Arrangements Abroad
- Taxes, service charges, baggage handling
- Pre-departure materials and reading list

NOT INCLUDED

International airfare; Cuban visa; Cuban Departure tax; limited Cuban health insurance policy (required for all foreign travelers to Cuba under age 80); passport fees; alcoholic beverages other than noted in inclusions; personal items and expenses; travel insurance; airport transfers other than for those on suggested flights; trip insurance; any other items not specifically mentioned as included.

A NOTE ON SUGGESTED FLIGHTS

Group flights will be selected to work best with the proposed program's logistics. Airport / hotel / airport transfers, including baggage handling, are provided for all travelers.

Suggested Group Flight: **TBD**