



National Trust *for* Historic Preservation

National Trust Tours



Cuba: Art, Culture & History In Support of the Cuban People with Jennifer Dasal, Lecturer

March 22 – 28, 2026

TRIP HIGHLIGHTS

SUPPORT Cuba's **emerging private sector** during your stay, savoring meals at privately owned *paladares* (restaurants) and relaxing at a charming boutique hotel in the heart of Havana

HEAR the **fascinating stories of Cuba's entrepreneurs**, including the co-founder of a growing lifestyle brand

JOIN a curator for a private tour of what *Time* magazine calls one of "the world's greatest places"—Havana's **Fábrica de Arte Cubano** (FAC), a spellbinding, multilevel showcase of contemporary Cuban art

DELIGHT in a private, curator-led tour at the **Museo Nacional de Bellas Artes de La Habana**, with its impressive collection of Cuban artworks

CELEBRATE at **exclusive receptions**, including a private event and dinner with the President of the Ludwig Foundation of Cuba and the young artists supported by the organization

MEET the thought leaders who are shaping Cuban society, including the **former Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs**

GAIN behind-the-scenes access to **an exciting rehearsal of a leading dance company**

VENTURE to the picturesque Cuban countryside for **a behind-the-scenes tour of a tobacco hacienda led by its farmers**

EXPERIENCE Ernest Hemingway's Cuba at **Finca Vigía**, the house where he lived for 20 years and wrote some of his most important work

Vinales Valley



National Trust for Historic Preservation National Trust Tours

Dear National Trust Traveler,

From **March 22 to 28, 2026**, join the National Trust and our friends at the Museum Travel Alliance in Havana for an insider's look at contemporary Cuban life—one that few visitors ever encounter. An emerging private sector now offers Cubans opportunities that were once thought impossible.

This behind-the-scenes journey, based in **Havana**, brings you inside the country's leading museums and architectural treasures. Accompanied by Cuban scholars, unpeel the layers of African, Indigenous, Spanish, and French influences that have shaped the island's history for over four centuries. Walk through Havana's UNESCO-listed historical center with an architectural historian, navigating its cobblestone streets and uncovering the story of a city founded in 1519.

Beyond its past, you will experience Cuba's present and observe hints of its potential future. Meet **entrepreneurs** navigating the country's evolving private sector. Take part in conversations with **cultural leaders**, including a former ambassador. Visit artists as they share their creative process in their homes and studios. You will be joined by lecturer **Jennifer Dasal**, an art historian and museum curator known for her acclaimed *ArtCurious* podcast. Her insights into Cuban contemporary art will deepen your understanding of this fascinating cultural landscape.

Step outside the capital for a day in Cuba's UNESCO-listed **Viñales Valley**, where limestone *mogotes* rise dramatically from fertile farmland. Enjoy an exclusive visit with **local farmers** who will reveal the craft behind Cuba's most storied crop: tobacco. You will also explore **Ernest Hemingway's** Cuba at his beloved home, Finca Vigía, where he wrote such classics as *The Old Man and the Sea*.

Travel under the "In Support of the Cuban People" license with accommodations at a privately owned boutique hotel. **To reserve your place, please call National Trust Tours at 888-484-8785.** We hope you will savor this rare opportunity to experience Cuba's history and culture through the perspectives of those shaping its future.

TRAVELING WITH YOU



Jennifer Dasal is an art historian and the creator and host of the acclaimed *ArtCurious* podcast (2016–23), which introduced listeners worldwide to "the unexpected, the slightly odd, and the strangely wonderful in art history." In September 2020, Dasal's first book, *ArtCurious: Stories of the Unexpected, Slightly Odd, and Strangely Wonderful in Art History*, was released by Penguin Books. Dasal is the former curator of modern and contemporary art at the North Carolina Museum of Art (NCMA), where she worked for 13 years. She earned a B.A. from the University of California, Davis, and an M.A. from the University of Notre Dame, both in art history. She also completed Ph.D. coursework in art history at Pennsylvania State University.

Sincerely,

Meg Annacone-Perez
Director, National Trust Tours

Activity Level:



Pace Level:



Visit Arrangements Abroad's website for more information about Activity and Pace Levels at www.arrangementsabroad.com/faqs.

The National Trust for Historic Preservation is a private, nonprofit membership organization dedicated to saving historic places and revitalizing America's communities. For more information, visit the Trust's website at www.savingplaces.org or phone (800) 944-6847 or (202) 588-6000.

Cuba: Art, Culture & History In Support of the Cuban People

March 22 – 28, 2026



SUNDAY, MARCH 22: DEPARTURE / HAVANA, CUBA

Welcome to Havana! You will be met upon arrival at the José Martí International Airport and transferred to **La Reserva Vedado**, a historic mansion-turned-boutique hotel and our home for six nights. This evening, gather for our welcome dinner at a *paladar*, a privately owned restaurant in the proprietor's home, largely staffed by family members.

D

MONDAY, MARCH 23: HAVANA

Founded in 1519, Havana stands as one of the Caribbean's most historically significant cities. Join **a morning discussion with a local historian** on Havana's architectural evolution and the complexities of Cuban home ownership.

Then walk through **Old Havana's** UNESCO-listed streets, visiting four of its grand plazas and the 18th-century **Havana Cathedral** (Catedral de San Cristóbal), one of the oldest cathedrals in the Americas.

Following lunch at a *paladar*, take a private tour of the splendidly renovated **Gran Teatro de La Habana Alicia Alonso**, home to the Cuban National Ballet. Afterwards, explore the homes and studios of some of Havana's leading artists, where there may be an opportunity to purchase paintings and drawings.

Later, gather for a rooftop dinner at **El Cocinero**, a former cooking oil factory transformed into a chic restaurant and bar with delicious food and world-class daiquiris. Next door, join a curator for a private tour of what *Time* magazine calls one of "the world's greatest places," the **Fábrica de Arte Cubano** (FAC). Housing performance venues and an art gallery, this spellbinding, multilevel space defies categorization.

B,L,D

TUESDAY, MARCH 24: HAVANA / VIÑALES / HAVANA

Set forth on a morning ride through the countryside, arriving in the western province of **Pinar del Río**, known for its lush tobacco *haciendas*. Amid the beauty of the Viñales Valley, admire the region's distinctive *mogotes*, hills towering as high as 1,000 feet, with steep, almost vertical sides.

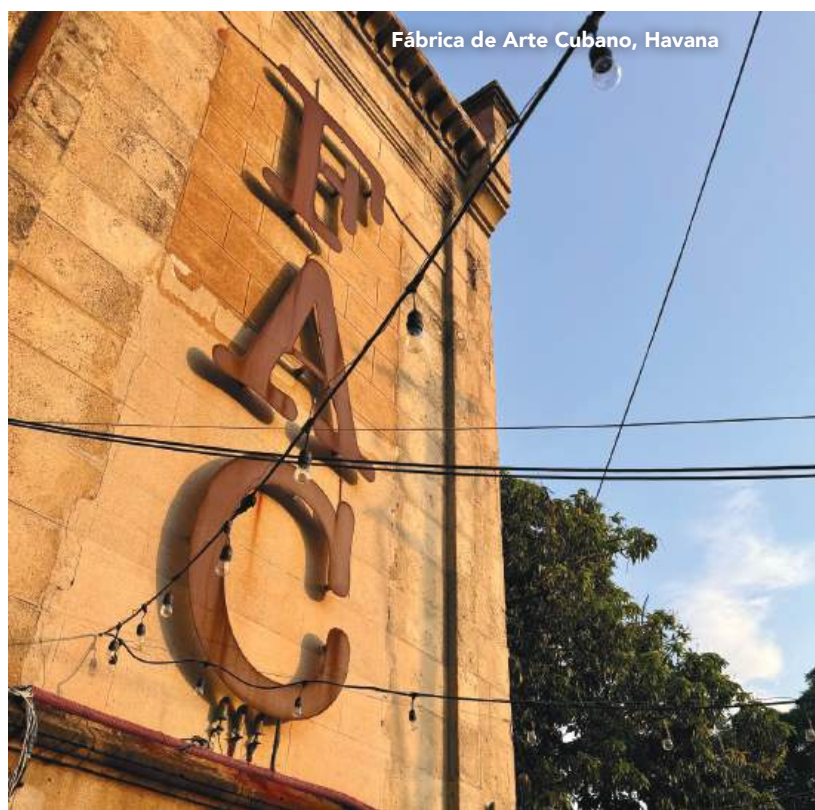
Meet with a local farmer for **a private tour of a tobacco hacienda** and enjoy an engaging private demonstration of the drying and rolling processes. Then share **lunch at a nearby privately owned organic farm** with panoramic valley views, tasting traditional Cuban dishes crafted from locally sourced ingredients.

Before returning to Havana, visit **the studio of a local painter** who has charted the history of his community through his work. Tonight, enjoy dinner on your own. Your tour director or local guide can share recommendations for privately owned restaurants near the hotel.

B,L

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 25: HAVANA

An independent curator will guide you on a private tour of the **Museo Nacional de Bellas Artes de La Habana** (National Museum of Fine Arts of Havana), Cuba's largest museum. Explore its collection of works by leading modern and contemporary Cuban artists, including the revered Afro-Cuban surrealist **Wifredo Lam**, an acolyte of Picasso.



After lunch, stroll along Calle Obispo, Havana's main shopping street, and visit **Dador**, a privately owned boutique where designers craft and sell handmade clothing. Meet one of the shop's owners to discuss the realities of running an independent business in Cuba's shifting economic climate.

In the early evening, visit the **Ludwig Foundation of Cuba**, one of the nation's few NGOs, to learn how the organization supports emerging Cuban artists. The Foundation's President will host a cocktail reception and buffet dinner on the penthouse terrace, where guests include emerging Cuban artists. Later, consider attending a performance at one of Havana's legendary music venues. B,L,R,D

THURSDAY, MARCH 26: HAVANA / SAN FRANCISCO DE PAULA / HAVANA

Head outside the capital to the small, hilltop village of San Francisco de Paula. Visit **Finca Vigía** (Lookout Farm), Hemingway's longtime Cuban retreat, where he lived for two decades.

Hemingway wrote *For Whom the Bell Tolls* and *The Old Man and the Sea* in the villa's breezy rooms and shady porticos. View the beautifully preserved rooms through open windows from the surrounding terraces. While exploring the property, see *Pilar*, Hemingway's famous, 38-foot fishing boat.

Finca Vigía, San Francisco de Paula



Hotel Nacional de Cuba, Havana



After lunch, return to Havana and gather for a lecture on the island's current realities by a **former ambassador** who was once Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs. In the early evening, attend a private after-hours tour at the **Museo Nacional de la Cerámica Contemporánea Cubana**, followed by dinner at a local *paladar*. B,L,D

FRIDAY, MARCH 27: HAVANA

Attend a private rehearsal with the **Rosario Cárdenas Dance Company**, where some of Cuba's top contemporary dancers train and perform. You will have an opportunity to chat and perhaps even have an impromptu dance lesson with the performers.

After lunch at leisure, continue to the 122-acre **Colón Cemetery**, an exceptional repository of Cuban history and artistry. Often described as an open-air museum, Colón Cemetery is home to more than 500 elaborate mausoleums, chapels, and family vaults. Admire intricate funerary sculptures and grand mausoleums that blend Classical Revival, Art Deco, and eclectic architectural styles.

This evening, explore the renowned 1930 **Hotel Nacional de Cuba**, designed by the acclaimed New York architecture firm McKim, Mead & White. Stop in its storied Hall of Fame to see tributes to its many famous guests, including Nat King Cole, Sir Winston Churchill, Jean-Paul Sartre, Simone de Beauvoir, and Gabriel García Márquez.

Enjoy the hotel's signature *mojito* on a terrace overlooking Havana's harbor before a festive farewell dinner at an excellent *paladar*. B,D

SATURDAY, MARCH 28: HAVANA / RETURN

Depart the hotel this morning for the flight home. B

DISCLAIMER: The itinerary is subject to change at the discretion of National Trust Tours and Arrangements Abroad. For complete details, please carefully read the terms and conditions at www.arrangementsabroad.com/terms.

ACCOMMODATIONS

LA RESERVA VEDADO, HAVANA

Experience Havana's rich heritage at this privately owned boutique hotel. Set in a meticulously restored historic residence, La Reserva Vedado blends Old Havana's architectural elegance with contemporary Cuban art and modern design. Stay connected with complimentary Wi-Fi and unwind with expertly crafted *mojitos* and traditional Cuban cuisine at the hotel's bar and restaurant.



La Reserva Vedado, Havana

PROGRAM RATES

\$5,499 per person, double rate in Standard Room

\$6,899 single rate in Standard Room

\$6,299 per person, double rate in Junior Suite

\$8,899 single rate in Junior Suite

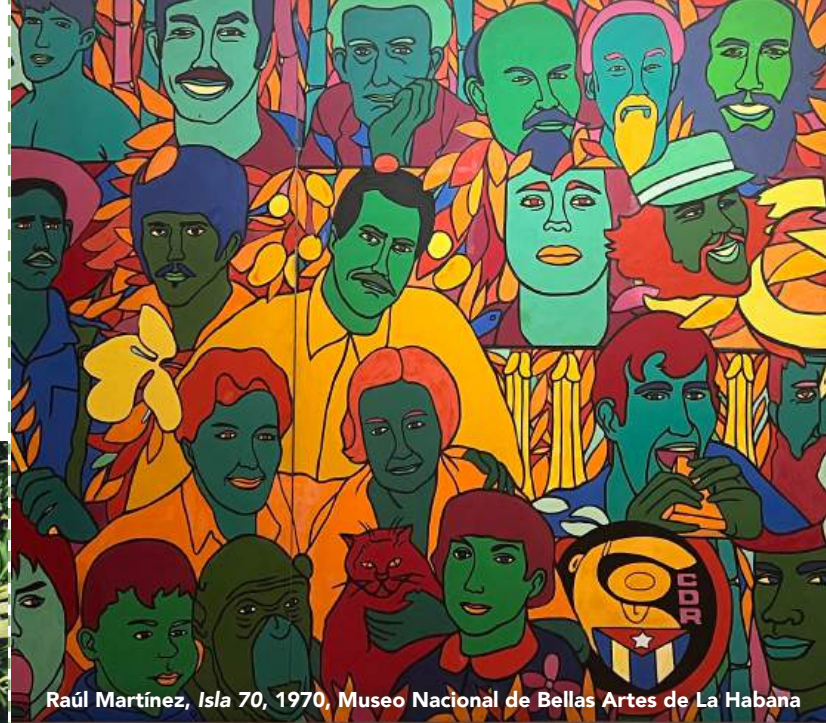
\$6,599 per person, double rate in Deluxe Suite

\$9,299 single rate in Deluxe Suite

RATES INCLUDE

- Six nights hotel accommodations as per itinerary
- Meals as indicated in the itinerary (B=Breakfast, L=Lunch, R=Reception, D=Dinner). Bottled water, soft drinks, juices, and coffee/tea with all meals; house wine at welcome and farewell dinners
- Airport/hotel/airport transfers for all travelers
- Enrichment program of lectures and talks
- Escorted sightseeing, transportation and entrance fees for all included visits
- Taxes, service, and portorage charges; gratuities to local guides and drivers

NOT INCLUDED IN RATES: 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; trip insurance; any other items not specifically mentioned as included.



Raúl Martínez, *Isla 70, 1970*, Museo Nacional de Bellas Artes de La Habana

RESERVATION INFORMATION

To secure your cabin, please call National Trust Tours at
888-484-8785.

A deposit of \$2,000 per person
(of which \$1,000 is non-refundable for administrative fees) is required.

**You will be traveling to Cuba and agree to fully participate in
this program under the general license category of travel
"In Support of the Cuban People"**



Gran Teatro de La Habana Alicia Alonso, Havana