Discover CUBA

Highlights of Havana & Varadero

February 3-10, 2016

Transylvania University Alumni Association presents

Booking Discount
Save $200 per couple/$100 pp!
See inside for details!
**DISCOVER CUBA - Highlights of Havana & Varadero**

**Day 1: Arrive Miami**
Arrive in Miami and transfer on your own to your Miami airport hotel. This evening an Informational Briefing will be held at the hotel about tomorrow’s charter flight to Havana and the start of your *people to people experience* in Cuba. The evening is at leisure.

*Overnight: Marriott Miami Airport*

**Day 2: Miami - Bienvenidos La Havana Cuba - Varadero**
This morning transfer to the Miami Airport and check in for your short flight to Havana, Cuba. Upon arrival at the Jose Marti International Airport, and clearing customs, we’ll meet your local bilingual Cuban Guide outside the baggage terminal. Your drive from the airport orients you with Cuba’s enigmatic capital city, whose nearly 500-year Old Havana is home to the largest collections of Spanish-Colonial architecture in the Americas. Make a photo stop and learn more about the *Plaza de la Revolucion*, the center of Cuban political life and Havana’s largest plaza where huge rallies are held. Your Cuban guide speaks below the grandiose portraits of national heroes Che Guevara and Camilo Cienfuegos, and gives you time to reflect on the fact that you’re standing where millions of Cubans have stood while listening to speeches of Fidel Castro. Enjoy lunch at a La Torre Restaurant offering incredible panoramic views high above Havana and the ocean. Depart Havana on a scenic drive that takes you past rural landscapes, small towns to the beautiful turquoise Caribbean Sea. Stop at the Bacunayagua Bridge overlook for photos. Check into your all inclusive resort located directly on a pristine white sand beach offering beautiful views of the Caribbean and Varadero Peninsula. Enjoy a welcome drink before unpacking and exploring the resort. Dinner is included this evening.

*Overnight: Melia Varadero Resort (L,D)*

**Day 3: Varadero - Matanzas - Varadero**
This morning following breakfast we head to the town of Matanzas, founded in 1693 and known as the “Athens of Cuba”. Enjoy a brief walking tour of the town square and see the Sauto Theater (a national monument of Cuba and opened in 1863), the San Carlos Cathedral, the Pharmaceutical Museum and more. Next visit the Ediciones Vigia (book making shop) to see books being hand made and learn about this craft. Also meet with a famous local Cuban artist and sculptor in his studio and art gallery. Visit the Matanzas School of Art and Music, a high school for talented children from different provinces throughout Cuba. An opportunity to talk with and interact with the teachers and students to learn about their work and aspirations. Lunch is included at a local restaurant. Next travel back to Varadero and visit an arts & crafts market with an opportunity purchase art and items and to meet and interact with local artists and craft workers. Later enjoy a fun filled *Salsa Lesson Class* with the locals. Salsa represents a mix of Latin musical genres, but its primary component is Cuban dance music. The roots of salsa originated in Eastern Cuba (Santiago de Cuba & Guantanamo) about 1920 and Afro-Cuban dance such as the Rumba. Dinner is included this evening at the resort.

*Overnight: Melia Varadero Resort (B,L,D)*

**Day 4: Varadero - Havana**
After breakfast this morning we travel to Havana. Religion has always played an important role in Cuban society that continues today, enjoy a walking tour with a local historian of the fascinating Colon Cemetery (Cemeterio de Cristobal Colon), founded in 1876 and named for Christopher Columbus. The cemetery is noted for its many elaborate sculpted memorials and contains more than 500 major mausoleums, chapels and family vaults and is considered by many to be the most ornate necropolis in the world and is the final resting place for noted Cubans including artists, writers, musicians and ball-players. Next enjoy a performance by the amazing Habana Compas Dance Group. Interact with the students and teachers to learn more about the Cuban dance culture. Today visit the famous the **Nacional Hotel**, once Havana’s flagship hotel that has hosted celebrities and world leaders during its heyday, such as Winston Churchill and Frank Sinatra, to name a few. Enjoy a tour of this historic property housing pictures and nostalgia from a by gone era. Meet a former famous professional Cuban baseball player and join in a discussion regarding the history and love of this game in Cuba and the U.S. Enjoy dinner this evening at a local Paladar (privately owned restaurant) with an opportunity to talk with the owners about the challenges of running a private business in Cuba. Check into your hotel for a three night stay. Dinner is included this evening at a local Paladar.

*Overnight: Melia Havana (B,L,D)*

**Day 5: Old Havana (UNESCO)- Museum of the Revolution - Casa Fuster**
This morning enjoy a guided walking tour of pedestrian only Old Havana, a **UNESCO World Heritage Site**. See the beautiful Cathedral of la Havana, built in baroque style in 1748 and learn about its preservation and continuous restoration. Visit the Marqueta Vieja Havana Museum that houses the scale model of the City of Havana and to meet with an expert on the city’s architecture and restoration efforts. Begin with a presentation and lecture from a local architect who discusses Havana’s unique architecture, the current challenges of restoring the city’s historic buildings and the future of the city’s restoration effort. Following lunch in Old Havana we visit the famous Museum of the Revolution that displays documents and artifacts, weapons and planes from the revolution. See artifacts & learn more about the Bay of Pigs, the 1961 historic clash between the CIA trained Cuban exiles & rebel forces, the event that defined US-Cuba relations for decades. The museum is housed in the former Presidential Palace which was the home to Cuba’s leaders from the 1920’s until 1959. This building offers beautiful architecture as well as an interior that was designed by Tiffany’s. Next head to the charming fishing village of Jaimanitas to visit the incredible Home and Work Shop of world famous artist, painter and ceramicist Jose Fuster, often called the “Picasso of Cuba”. He has adorned a neighborhood with colorful ornate murals and domes. Here we spend time with the Fuster family and staff to discuss the influence of the artist’s work and their lives and community. Dinner is on your own this evening allowing you to experience the restaurants, cuisine and...
jazz clubs of Havana. Perhaps even take in the world famous Tropicana Cabaret Show on your own. The Tropicana Cabaret opened in 1939 and is an extravagant spectacle with a revue of glamour and nostalgia. Before the revolution, the Tropicana was a casino owned by gangsters and visited by the Rich and Famous. An evening of music and history that is not to be missed at this famous nightclub show that presents song-and-dance performances reminiscent of 1950's Cuba.

Overnight: Melia Havana (B,L)

Day 6: Havana - Vinales Valley (UNESCO) - Pinar Del Rio - Havana

Today we travel out of Havana and into the rural Cuban countryside to the Vinales Valley located in the western most mountainous range in Cuba and declared a UNESCO World Heritage Site. This region, the western province of Pinar del Rio is known for its stunning scenery, a landscape of prehistoric looking flat-top mountains or “mogotes”, tobacco plantations, caves and rivers. Stop at the Francisco Donatien Cigar Factory for a guided visit to learn about the manufacturing of fine Cuban cigars and interact with the factory workers about the history and process. The factory specializes in Cohiba & Monte Cristo cigars.

Next, visit a traditional Tobacco Farm and Farmhouse to meet with the farmer to learn about tobacco cultivation, the drying process and experience a cigar rolling demonstration inside the drying hut. Enjoy a visit inside his farmhose, meeting and interacting with his family while enjoying some Cuban coffee. A great opportunity to witness up close, how Cuban families live in a rural setting. Later stop at the Los Jazmines viewpoint on the way back to Havana for incredible panoramic views of the Vinales Valley and an opportunity to enjoy the spectacular scenery and take photos of this beautiful and unique region. Return to Havana and the evening is free to explore on your own.

Overnight: Melia Havana (B, L)

Day 7: Havana - Hemingway Farm - Old U.S. Classic Car Club - Farewell Paladar Dinner

Next enter the world of Ernest Hemingway with a visit to Hemingway’s Farm, Finca La Vigia (meaning ‘lookout house’). This beautiful property hosts the house where the Nobel Prize winner lived with his wife Martha for 21 years. View the perfectly preserved home where many of the Hemingway personal belongings remain intact. View his yacht on display, the Pilar in which he used to patrol for Nazis in the Caribbean waters and featured in his novel “Islands in the Stream”. A photo stop is made at the Morro Castle, built in 1589, to protect the mouth of the Havana Harbor. “Morro” in Spanish means a rock which is very visible from the sea and therefore serves as a navigational landmark. Perched on the headland on the opposite side of the harbor from Old Havana it can be viewed from miles around as it dominates the port entrance.

Next visit the San Jose Craft Market and Art Center or similar to meet and interact with the local artists to discuss and learn of the importance of their art in Cuban culture. Learn from the artists who share their experiences of pursuing the arts with limited access to materials and funding. Before dinner, meet with the local Old Style Car Club owners. A chance to interact and talk with the owners and learn why Havana’s streets are filled with vintage American automobiles and understand what it takes to keep them on the road. Enjoy a drive through the streets of Havana in a vintage car to your Farewell Dinner at a local Paladar (a privately owned restaurant). After dinner you have an opportunity to meet and discuss with the owners how this private enterprise works in Cuba.

Overnight: Melia Havana (B,L,D)

Day 8: Depart Havana - USA

Following breakfast, transfer to the airport for our return flight home with incredible memories of the culture and people of Cuba and your Highlights of Havana & Varadero - Discover Cuba Tour. (B)

Highlights & Experiences

- Melia Varadero All-Inclusive Resort
- Varadero & Matansas
- Matansas School of Art & Music
- Havana & Museum of the Revolution
- Old Havana Walking Tour (UNESCO)
- Home & Studio of Artist Jose Fuster
- Walking Tour of the Colon Cemetery
- Hemingway’s Farm - Finca La Vigia
- Habana Compas Dance Group Performance
- Old Style Classic Car Club Discussion
- Nacional Hotel
- Former Cuban Baseball Player Discussion
- Pinar Del Rio & Vinales Valley (UNESCO)
- Francisco Donatien Cigar Factory Visit
- Tobacco Farm & Farmhouse Visit

Inclusions

- Round Trip Airfare from Miami (MIA)
- U.S. Air Departure Taxes & Fees
- Havana Airport Departure Taxes
- Hotel & Airport Transfers In Cuba
- 7 Nights First Class Hotel Accommodations
- Professional Bilingual Cuban Guide
- U.S. Tour Manager
- Cuban Visa & Cuban Health Insurance
- 16 Meals - (6B, 6L, 4D)
- Daily Bottled Water
- Interactions & Admissions per Itinerary.
- Baggage Handling - (1 Checked Bag pp)
- Deluxe Air Conditioned Motorcoach
- Gratuities for Hotel Porters, Wait Staff at included Meals, Step on Guides and All People to People Visits & Interactions

Accommodations

- 1 Night Airport Miami Marriott (www.marriott.com/miami)
- 2 Nights Melia Varadero Resort, Varadero (www.meliacuba.com) - All Inclusive Resort
- 4 Nights Melia Havana Hotel, Havana (www.meliacuba.com)

*BOOKING DISCOUNT *$4395 pp dbl

Regular Rate $4495 pp dbl

$600 single supplement

*$200 per couple / $100 pp booking discount. See flyer back for booking discount details.

Hotels, itinerary, inclusions and people to people visits are all subject to change.
OPTIONAL CUBA CANCELLATION WAIVER is HIGHLY RECOMMENDED. The Cuba Cancellation Waiver must be paid with deposit OR with Final Payment and is non-refundable. Payment of the per person Cuba Cancellation Waiver (waiver fee) guarantees a refund for the Unused Services. The waiver fee does not cover any single supplement charges which arise from an individual’s traveling companion, member of the immediate family (official documentation required), payment of the return early due to personal illness (medical documentation required) or death of a passenger’s personal illness (medical documentation required) or death of a member of the immediate family (official documentation required), payment of the waiver fee guarantees a refund for the Unused Services. The waiver fee does not cover any single supplement charges which arise from an individual’s traveling companion electing to cancel for any reason prior to departure. The waiver is non-transferable and valid for each applicant only. The waiver does not cover any services not purchased through Chamber Explorations / PWD. Full policy details available. Please note that your cancelled check or credit card statement will serve as your receipt.

CUBA CANCELLATION WAIVER - $280 per person

CANCELLATION FEES: Cancellations not covered by the Cuba Cancellation Waiver OR if the Cuba Cancellation Waiver is Not purchased, are subject to the following per-person penalties per fees:

- Cancel up to 75 days prior to departure - Deposit is retained or the Cuba Cancellation Waiver is retained.
- Cancel 74-45 days prior to departure - 25% of total price is retained.
- Cancel 44-31 days prior to departure - 50% of total price is retained.
- Cancel 30 days or less prior to departure/no shows - No refunds.

RESPONSIBILITY: Premier World Tours LLC dba Premier World Discovery (hereafter "PWD"), whose vouchers are used by respective agents for the passenger in all matters pertaining to hotel accommodations, sightseeing tours and transportation, hold themselves free of responsibility for any damages or inconvenience caused by late arrivals, departures and change of schedule or other conditions nor will they be responsible for any act, omission, or event during the time the passenger is not on board their conveyance. The passage contract in use by the airline concerned, when issued, shall constitute the sole contract between the airline and the purchaser of this cruise constitutes acceptance of these terms and conditions. CST #2048841-40 This program is operated by Premier World Discovery.

IMPORTANT NOTES:

- PASSPORT INFORMATION: A valid U.S. passport is required for this program and is the responsibility of each passenger. Passports should be valid for a minimum of six (6) months beyond the travel dates. All names must be submitted on reservation form above must be exactly as they appear on passenger passports.
- INCLUDED CUBAN TRAVEL VISA: ($80 pp) A Visa is required for travel to Cuba and applies to United States citizens only and is included in the tour rates. Cuban born passengers require a different Visa process which can take from 2-5 months to complete. (additional charges apply)
- INCLUDED U.S. AIR DEPARTURE TAXES/FEES are $58 per person.
- INCLUDED CUBAN MEDICAL INSURANCE: Since 2010, the Cuban government requires that all travelers to Cuba must have medical insurance under an approved plan. This medical insurance is included in the program price. Some pre-existing conditions are excluded.
- INCLUDED CUBAN AIRPORT DEPARTURE TAXES are $25 U.S. per person.
- CHARTER FLIGHT BAGGAGE FEES are NOT INCLUDED and can only be paid in cash at the airport in Miami. At time of printing, Miami - Havana bag fee was $25 pp (up to 44lbs.) and there was currently no bag fee from Havana to Miami. (subject to change)
- CHARTER AIRPORT DEPARTURE TAXES are $25 U.S. per person.

DEPOSIT, FINAL PAYMENT & BOOKING DISCOUNT

Deposit of $500 per person is due with Reservation Form to secure reservations. Final Payment is due by November 20, 2015.

*BOOKING DISCOUNT - Deposit by October 31, 2015 by check or credit card and make your Final Payment by check & receive $200 per couple/$100 per person Booking Discount!

Reserve Form

Discover Cuba
February 3-10, 2016
Booking #94487 (Transylvania University Alumni Assoc.)

Make Checks Payable to: Premier World Discovery

Enclosed please find a deposit in the amount of $______________ ($500 per person) to secure reservations for __________# of people.

I (We) wish to purchase Cancellation Waiver & Post Departure Plan at this time

Yes ☐ No ☐

Enclosed please find payment in the amount of $______________ ($280 per person) to secure the Cuba Cancellation Waiver.

Total Payment $______________

RT AIR GATEWAY ________________________ ROOMMATE’S RT AIR GATEWAY _________________________

see flyer page 1 for included group RT air gateway/departure city, additional charges apply for other RT air gateways

To avoid change fees, submit full Passport names (first/mid/last) exactly as they appear on Passports

Passport Name ____________________________ DOB (MM/DD/YY) ____________________________ Gender ☐ M ☐ F
Roommate’s Passport Name __________________ DOB (MM/DD/YY) ____________________________ Gender ☐ M ☐ F

Passport #: ____________________________ ____________________________ Exp Date (MM/DD/YY) ____________ Country of Issuance ____________
Roommate’s Passport #: ____________________________ Exp Date (MM/DD/YY) ____________ Country of Issuance ____________

Your Address ____________________________ City ____________________________ State ______ ZIP ______ Tel #
Email Address ____________________________ Mbl # ____________________________

Cardholder Name (If paying by credit card) ____________________________ Card number ____________________________ Exp. Date:

Amount to be charged $______________ Credit card #: ____________________________ Exp. Date:

Cardholder Billing Address: ☐ Check if address is the same as above

Signature Required (for credit card use & acceptance of terms *): ____________________________ Today’s Date: ____________

* I (We) agree to pay according to the credit card issuer agreement. I understand and accept the cancellation fees/policy and other terms.