

GO next



Traveling Aggies

A PROGRAM OF
The Association of Former Students



CUBAN
DISCOVERY

January 28 – February 5, 2017

Havana

Gulf of Mexico

Santa Clara

Sancti Spiritus

Trinidad

Cienfuegos

AUTHENTIC CUBA AWAITS!

NOW IS THE TIME TO DISCOVER THIS ISLAND'S RICH HISTORY & CULTURE



Traveling Aggies

A PROGRAM OF
The Association of Former Students



505 George Bush Dr.
College Station, TX 77840-2918

Cover Image:
Classic cars in Havana

Mailing Panel Image:
Coco Taxis

282-1 Cuban Discovery V3

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HOWDY, AGS!

We invite you to join us on an eye-opening adventure, specially designed to cast a spotlight on the fascinating past, present, and future of a Caribbean nation—off-limits to most Americans for over half a century. Just as our president stepped into history with a landmark visit to Cuba, you, too, will be a part of this unique chapter in U.S.-Cuba relations.

At a pivotal moment in time, connect with the authentic Cuba—an island of captivating heritage and lush natural beauty, of rich artistic tradition and architectural magnificence—through its heart and soul: the people. Accompanied by expert guides, go beyond the tourist surface and engage in meaningful interactions with local musicians, entrepreneurs, students, historians, artists, and more. One extraordinary experience after another awaits you, from strolling through Cuban artist José Fuster's neighborhood, a wonderland of colorful tiles and turrets, to watching the country's flourishing art scene come alive during studio tours and student performances.

This intimate, small-group journey features interludes in lively Havana, charming Santa Clara, and the wonderfully preserved towns of Cienfuegos, Trinidad, and Sancti Spiritus. Space is limited, so reserve your spot now. Don't miss the chance to explore Cuba's ever-changing cultural landscape with fellow Aggies.

Gig 'em!

Jennifer Bohac

Jennifer Bohac '87, Ph.D.

Director of Travel Programs

Traveling Aggies

The Association of Former Students

SPACE IS LIMITED! UP TO 25 PARTICIPANTS

CALL THE TRAVELING AGGIES: 800-633-7514

OR GO NEXT: 800-842-9023

FOR MORE INFORMATION, VISIT AGGIENETWORK.COM/TRAVEL

BOOK BY SEPTEMBER 9, 2016

Go Next operates this people-to-people program to Cuba under a general license issued by the U.S. Department of the Treasury's Office of Foreign Assets Control.

TRAVEL INSURANCE

We strongly suggest purchasing travel insurance. Travel insurance information will be sent to you by The Association of Former Students with your confirmation letter.

OPERATOR/PARTICIPANT AGREEMENT

Go Next, Inc. (hereinafter GN), located at 8000 West 78th Street, Suite 345, Minneapolis, Minnesota 55439-2538, in return for full payment by you of the amounts specified, is responsible to arrange for the transportation, accommodations and other services specified as included in this brochure as and to the extent you have selected them, and subject to the following terms and conditions. Unless expressly specified as included by this brochure, services, taxes and fees are not included.

RESPONSIBILITY: GN is responsible to you for arranging all included transportation, accommodations and other services. However, in the absence of negligence on its part, GN and the affinity group (hereinafter AG) for which this program was developed are not responsible for personal injury, property damage, or any other loss, claim or damage arising out of or related to goods or services offered or included. GN and the AG for which this program was developed are not responsible for personal injury, property damage or any other loss, claim or damage related to or arising out of, in whole or in part, the acts or omissions of any direct air carrier, hotel, ground operator, or other person not its direct employee or not under its exclusive control supplying any services or providing any goods offered or included. GN and the AG for which this program was developed are not responsible for personal injury, property damage or any other loss, claim or damage arising out of, either in whole or in part, acts of God, weather, labor strife, government actions, mechanical breakdowns, war-like acts, terrorist activities or other causes reasonably beyond the respective control of GN and the AG for which this program was developed. GN and the AG for which this program was developed are not responsible for incidental or consequential losses or damages.

Neither GN nor the AG for which this program was developed are responsible for any penalty, loss or inconvenience resulting from air or land arrangements made independently by travelers, including non-refundable conditions, restricted travel or frequent flyer tickets.

TRAVELER RESPONSIBILITY: GN has been issued a specific license by the U.S. Department of the Treasury's Office of Foreign Assets Control (hereinafter OFAC) to organize and conduct a program consisting of a full-time schedule of educational exchange activities that will result in meaningful interaction between the travelers and individuals in Cuba. U.S. law requires that all participants adhere to this full-time schedule of activities, and imposes on GN the obligation to ensure such adherence. By registering, I/we confirm and agree to adhere (without deviation) to the itinerary submitted by GN and approved by OFAC. In the event any traveler does not adhere to this full-time schedule, GN will require the traveler to leave the travel program and may result in legal penalties for the traveler. OFAC may require the submission of a report from each participant concerning the activities undertaken pursuant to GN's license. Each participant is required to keep a record of all transactions undertaken pursuant to GN's license for a period of at least five years from the date of travel.

PAYMENT: A deposit in the amount shown on the reservation form and a signed agreement for each person is required to secure reservations. Final payment is due as shown on the reservation form. If space is fully booked, your payment will be returned or, with your authorization, your name placed on a waiting list. ALL CHECKS AND MONEY ORDERS ARE TO BE MADE PAYABLE AS INDICATED ON THE RESERVATION FORM. CONFIRMATION IS SUBJECT TO RECEIPT BY GN OF DEPOSIT AND A SIGNED AGREEMENT.

PRICES: GN RESERVES THE RIGHT TO INCREASE PRICES IN THE EVENT OF ANY INCREASED SECURITY OR FUEL RELATED SURCHARGES, OR AIRFARE INCREASES IMPOSED BY THE AIRLINE THAT MAY BE IN PLACE AT THE TIME OF TICKETING OR TRAVEL, FOREIGN OR DOMESTIC TAX INCREASES, OR ADVERSE CURRENCY EXCHANGE FLUCTUATIONS, AFTER JANUARY 01, 2016. GN RESERVES THE RIGHT, IF NECESSARY OR ADVISABLE, TO SUBSTITUTE HOTELS BUT IS NOT OBLIGED TO DO SO.

The price is based on tariffs in effect for estimated 2017 prices as of January 01, 2016. Prices increase every year, and it is therefore possible that increases could occur after the printing of this brochure and in advance of your departure.

AIR TRANSPORTATION: Airfares are capacity controlled and may have restrictive terms and conditions. Participants who make their domestic airline reservations with Go Next will be responsible for any airline fees or penalties incurred as a result of program cancellation and/or change in travel dates, or airline schedule(s). After tickets are issued, penalties up to 100% of the ticket may be assessed by the airlines if reservations are changed or canceled after ticketing. Travel participants who choose to make their own domestic airline reservations independent of Go Next, will be wholly responsible for any airline fees or penalties incurred as a result of program cancellation and/or change in travel dates, or airline schedule(s). GN reserves the right to specify the international charter air carrier and routing. Some airline-imposed fees may be additional, including but not limited to baggage, priority boarding, and special seating.

BAGGAGE: GN CANNOT BE HELD RESPONSIBLE FOR LOST OR DAMAGED LUGGAGE. YOU SHOULD GIVE IMMEDIATE NOTICE OF ANY LOST OR DAMAGED LUGGAGE TO THE INVOLVED AIR CARRIER, HOTEL, AND TO YOUR OWN INSURANCE COMPANY. AIRLINE BAGGAGE FEES WILL BE ADDITIONAL. ALL FLIGHTS HAVE LUGGAGE RESTRICTIONS.

AIRCRAFT BOARDING: The air carrier reserves the right to substitute equipment but is not obliged to do so. GN reserves the right to substitute air carriers but is not obliged to do so. GN CANNOT BE HELD RESPONSIBLE FOR AIRLINE DELAYS.

Aircraft boarding privileges are limited to persons whose full payment and signed agreement have been received by GN and whose names are on the manifest given to the carrier before departure. All persons must also present a passport with at least six months validity beyond their return date and a Cuba visa when boarding. Improper documentation, inadequate proof of identity, inadequate proof of age for children under 2, or any other reason may result in denial of boarding privileges. The air carrier reserves the right to decline, accept or retain any person on the flight at any time within their sole discretion. If you are denied boarding privileges, you forfeit all monies paid and will be assessed any non-recoverable costs.

VISAS: A visa is required for U.S. citizens traveling to Cuba. GN's OFAC authorized travel service provider will endeavor to assist travelers in applying for the necessary visa subject to the following. A signed, valid passport is required for each person and it is suggested that if you do not already have your passport that you apply for it immediately. If you currently have a valid passport, it must be valid a minimum of 6 months after your scheduled date of return to meet the requirements for your visa. Visa assistance will only be provided for those travelers paid in full 45 days prior to departure.

HOSTS AND LECTURERS: Advertised hosts and lecturers (if applicable) are subject to availability and may be contingent on a minimum number of travelers; therefore, they cannot be guaranteed.

NOTICES: Any complaints or claims against GN must be made in writing and received by GN within 90 days after scheduled termination of the trip. Any action or suit against GN must be commenced within 1 (one) year after scheduled termination of the trip or be forever barred.

The rights and remedies relating to cancellations made available under this agreement are in addition to any other rights or remedies available under applicable law. However, we offer any refunds under this agreement with the express understanding that the receipt of that refund by you waives all other remedies.

While Go Next makes every effort to adhere to the specifics shown in this brochure, all information contained herein is subject to change. Go Next is not responsible or liable for typographical errors, omissions or misprints.

INSURANCE: Travel insurance is available and can provide coverage for unforeseen circumstances that could disrupt your trip. See panel above.

INTERNATIONAL FLIGHTS ONLY: International travel involves stringent identification and documentation requirements. Be sure you are familiar with them sufficiently in advance and early in your planning.

ADVISORY: When you are traveling outside of the United States, please be aware that significantly different health, safety and legal standards may prevail. You should plan and act accordingly and exercise good personal judgment for your own health and safety at all times when abroad. If you have special medical or physical requirements, you should investigate your destination(s) beforehand and ensure the care and conditions you need will be available.

IF YOU CHANGE PLANS OR CANCEL, YOUR RIGHTS TO A REFUND ARE LIMITED: The following charges will be assessed for cancellations.

If you cancel or change plans more than 104 days in advance of initial flight, a full refund less a \$200 per person administrative fee is provided. Any refunds are provided only in accordance with the following schedule. Any requests for cancellation must be communicated to GN in writing. Applicable refunds, if any, will be made within 14 days after the cancellation.

CANCELLATIONS: Upon receipt of written cancellation from you, the following service fees will apply in addition to any applicable airline cancellation fees: Cancellations received 105 days or more before initial flight departure, \$200 per person; 104-96 days before departure, \$950 per person; 95-61 days before departure, \$3,000 per person; 60 days or less, no refund.

HEALTH: Any physical or mental condition requiring special medical attention or equipment must be disclosed in writing to GN at the time the participant makes a reservation. GN may reject the reservation of any person who, in the opinion of GN, is unfit for travel or might be a danger to themselves or incompatible with others on the trip. Participants requiring special assistance, including without limitation those who permanently or periodically use a wheelchair, must be accompanied by someone who agrees to provide the required assistance and participate in the program. GN reserves the right in its sole discretion to terminate the authority of any participant to remain in Cuba under GN's license.

THERE ARE NO EXCEPTIONS OF ANY KIND (INCLUDING MEDICAL EXCEPTIONS) TO THESE POLICIES. No refunds will be made for any portion of the arrangements we have made for you that are not actually utilized by you. There is no variance from these policies for the services we arrange as described in this brochure.

California Seller of Travel Registration No. 2077280-40, Washington Seller of Travel Registration No. 602-900-725, Iowa Seller of Travel Registration No. 477

Go Next, Inc. is a qualified people-to-people sponsoring organization allowed to conduct educational exchanges in Cuba. Designed to promote cross-cultural connections, this program includes a full-time schedule of educational exchanges and does not involve tourist-oriented or self-directed activities.

PARTICIPANTS SHOULD BE IN GOOD PHYSICAL CONDITION. This program involves motor coach and walking tours with more than a moderate amount of walking on cobblestone streets, stairs, and uneven ground. The daily tours can include moderate to strenuous walking, primarily over natural and uneven surfaces. There are numerous steps and inclines to negotiate and many sites do not have elevators.

RESERVE YOUR CUBAN DISCOVERY TRIP TODAY!

SEND TO:

The Association of Former Students
Attn: Traveling Aggies
505 George Bush Dr.
College Station, TX 77840
979-845-7514 • 800-633-7514
Fax: 979-845-9263
AggieNetwork.com/Travel

ORGANIZED & OPERATED BY: 

DEVELOPED FOR: Texas A&M University (282-1)

January 28 – February 5, 2017

CUBAN DISCOVERY \$5,999 per person, double occupancy; Single occupancy, add \$900

Hotel bed request:

Check one: Twin (2 beds) Double (1 bed) Accommodation requests are subject to hotel availability.

PLEASE MAKE YOUR ARRANGEMENTS TO ARRIVE IN MIAMI ON JANUARY 28.

You may contact Go Next to arrange domestic Miami flights (a \$35 administrative fee per reservation will apply).

All passengers must travel with a passport that is valid at least six months beyond their return date.

GUEST 1: Full Name (as it appears on your passport)

M F
Title First Middle Last

Preferred name Main Phone ()

Alternate Phone () Email Address

Class Year Mailing Address

City State ZIP

Birth Date (MM/DD/YYYY) / / Country of Birth Citizenship

GUEST 2: Full Name (as it appears on your passport)

M F
Title First Middle Last

Preferred name Main Phone ()

Alternate Phone () Email Address

Class Year Mailing Address

City State ZIP

Birth Date (MM/DD/YYYY) / / Country of Birth Citizenship

SIGNATURES REQUIRED BY EACH PERSON TRAVELING INCLUDING PARENT/GUARDIAN FOR MINOR CHILDREN: I/We have read, received a copy of, understand, and accept the terms and conditions stated in the Operator/Participant Agreement. By signing this, I/we also agree to participate in all scheduled educational exchange activities approved by OFAC and I/we understand that there is no deviating from the daily schedule.

SIGN HERE X _____

SIGN HERE X _____

DEPOSIT AND FINAL PAYMENT: A deposit of \$950 per person is due with your reservation application. Make checks payable to **Go Next**. Full payment is required by October 10, 2016. Reservations received after this date must be accompanied with full payment.

Please reserve _____ space(s). Enclosed is my/our deposit for \$ _____. Deposits may be made by credit card; however, **all FINAL payments are required to be made by check or cash.**

I/We authorize Go Next, Inc. to charge my/our deposit for \$ _____ to: Visa MasterCard
Name (as it appears on your credit card) _____
SIGN HERE X _____ Billing address same as above
Billing Address (if different from above) _____
Card Number _____ Security Code _____ Exp. Date _____

Making a deposit or acceptance or use of any vouchers, tickets, goods, or services shall be deemed consent to and acceptance of the terms and conditions stated in the applicable Operator/Participant Agreement, including limitations on responsibility and liability.

No funds donated to The Association of Former Students or to Texas A&M University have been used in the production or mailing of this travel brochure; all such costs are covered by the tour supplier.



A NEW ERA

From Havana's colonial core, a jewel box of grand churches and mansions, to Trinidad's terracotta rooftops set against a backdrop of rolling green hills, it's easy to fall under Cuba's spell. And now, as U.S.-Cuba relations continue to evolve, there's never been a more exciting time to experience this breathtaking island firsthand. With insider access to premier guides, intimate connections, and off-the-beaten-path sites, our signature journey brings you closer to the authentic Cuba—more complex and inspiring than you ever imagined—with memories to treasure for a lifetime.



HAVANA: Dynamic and captivating, Cuba's capital city is an impressive cultural and architectural feast pulsating with Spanish, African, and Caribbean flavors.

Highlights: Old Havana, a UNESCO World Heritage Site • Museum of the Revolution • National Museum of Fine Arts • NostalgicCar Garage • Fusterlandia • Finca Vigía, Ernest Hemingway's mansion • University of Havana • Cojimar, fishing village and setting for Hemingway's *The Old Man and the Sea* • Cemetery of Christopher Columbus • District of Alamar • Angeles del Futuro Community Program For Children • Artist studios • Community projects • Cigar experience • Dinners in private homes (paladares)



CIENFUEGOS: The only Cuban city founded by French settlers, Cienfuegos spreads around a lovely natural bay and offers a superb model of 19th-century urban planning in Latin America.

Highlights: French-inspired architecture • Punta Gorda peninsula • UNESCO-protected historic center • Parque Martí • Cathedral of Our Lady of the Immaculate Conception • Ferrer Palace • Teatro de Cienfuegos • Musical performance by the Choir or Orchestra of Cienfuegos

Letter Panel: Trinidad

Left: Mandolin player

Center: Architectural detail, Plaza Vieja

Next: Cuban woman, Morro Castle Lighthouse

Right: Cuban flag on door



TRINIDAD: Spanish colonial beauty reaches a pinnacle in wonderfully preserved Trinidad, a UNESCO World Heritage Site and timeless town where 500 years of rich history and architectural majesty take center stage.

Highlights: Plaza Mayor • Convento de San Francisco de Asis • Architecture Museum • Iglesia Parroquial de la Santísima • Casa particular (bed-and-breakfast)

SANCTI SPIRITUS: A serene provincial capital with understated charm, Sancti Spiritus lies in the heart of Cuba and boasts one of the best-preserved colonial churches in the country.

Highlights: Plaza de Jesús (Honorato Park) • Iglesia Mayor (Main Church) • Ration store

SANTA CLARA: The capital of Villa Clara province, Santa Clara holds an eventful past as the site of the last battle in the Cuban Revolution, and an exciting present with its thriving cultural scene.

Highlights: Dance, theater, and music performances by students of the Santa Clara Music and Performing Arts School • Che Guevara Monument (photo stop)

The highlights listed are sample activities and sights. You will receive a final day-by-day itinerary approximately 14 days prior to departure.



INCLUSIONS

\$5,999

per person, double occupancy

MIAMI INCLUDED FEATURES:

- **1 night** at the Crowne Plaza Miami International Airport hotel or similar accommodations
- Orientation meeting in the evening
- Exclusive local representative

CUBA INCLUDED FEATURES:

- Round-trip charter flight between Miami and Havana
- **7 nights'** accommodations: **5 nights** in **Havana**, **2 nights** in **Sancti Spiritus**
- 19 meals: 7 breakfasts, 7 lunches, 5 dinners, including a welcome and farewell dinner in Havana (1 local beverage is included with each meal)
- Transportation via private, A/C motor coach
- 2 bottles of water per person on touring days
- Full schedule of educational activities that result in meaningful interaction with the locals
- Smaller group size, allowing for a more rewarding, intimate tour experience

- Certification of travel to Cuba under the U.S. Department of the Treasury general license
- All entrance fees to scheduled tour sites
- Pre-trip assistance and information including an orientation guide, a book and film list, and more
- Private English-speaking Cuban national guide
- Private Cuban driver
- Go Next Program Manager
- Gratuities for restaurant staff, guides onsite at local people-to-people venues, and hotel porters
- Presentation led by a Cuban expert, providing unique commentary on the nation's economy and culture
- Cuban travel insurance covering medical repatriation expenses only, as required by the Cuban government, valid only during your stay in Cuba

NOT INCLUDED:

\$85 Cuban visa, \$25 Cuban departure tax, gratuities for Cuban national guide and coach driver, airfare between home and Miami, passport fees, beverages other than those included with meals as indicated, personal expenses, optional travel insurance, baggage fees, and other items not specifically mentioned as included. *The fees above are approximate and subject to change.*



HOTELS

MELIÁ COHIBA

Located in Havana's colorful Vedado neighborhood, the modern Meliá Cohiba hotel is just a short drive from Old Havana. Stroll along the Malecón, the city's famous promenade, explore the Plaza de la Revolución, or enjoy the hotel's outdoor pool, whirlpool, solarium, gym, restaurants, and bars.

HOTEL PLAZA

Standing in the old quarter of Sancti Spiritus is the charming Hotel Plaza, offering a memorable and authentic Cuban hotel experience. Originally built in the 19th century as a family mansion, this quaint hotel has been completely renovated to reflect its former colonial style. Take in views of the main square from the rooftop terrace, or visit the on-site bar and restaurant.