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for details

# CUBA

## & its People

**SMALL GROUP**

Limited to only  
12 Guests!

SPONSORED BY

**AIR INCLUSIVE**  
from Miami, FL



**Traveling Aggies**

A PROGRAM OF  
The Association of Former Students



**Nov. 16-23, 2022**



## Inspiring Moments

- ▶ **Uncover Cuba's heart and soul** alongside its charismatic people.
- ▶ Learn about the lives and experiences of Cubans during meaningful **encounters and conversations.**
- ▶ **Interact with Cuba's varied arts community** during visits with artists, dancers, craftsmen and musicians.
- ▶ Talk with **small business owners and local artists,** learning about the path toward entrepreneurship in Cuba.
- ▶ Ride in an independently owned **1950s convertible** through Habana Vieja.
- ▶ Visit a farm in **Caimito,** and learn about the owner's vision to help Cuban farmers make a living from their land.
- ▶ Enjoy a journey to **Matanzas** for insight into the island's remarkable Afro-Cuban culture.
- ▶ Experience Old Havana and its Fortification System, a **UNESCO World Heritage site.**

## Howdy, Ags!

From vintage cars to culture-soaked streets, infectious music to welcoming smiles, Cuba is a scintillating feast for the senses! Stay for seven nights in a privately owned boutique hotel located in Havana's vibrant Vedado neighborhood. With your intimately sized group, limited to 12 travelers, experience authentic connections to Cuba's community and witness firsthand the rapid changes occurring across the island.

Our thoughtfully designed Support for the Cuban People travel program delivers a full schedule of activities that provide meaningful interactions between our travelers and Cuban residents while benefiting civil society. Meet and support independent, small business owners, community leaders, artists, dancers and other residents who share their personal stories and perspectives into the island's ever-changing landscape. Local experts share professional insights to their country and expert-led excursions offer genuine exposure to Cuba's fascinating history, heritage and culture. From historic Havana to Caimito and Matanzas, get ready to engage with the real Cuba!

Our extensive network of guides and locals are ready to share their passion for their country with you. Space is limited so we encourage you to make your reservations today!

This exclusive program, developed by AHI Travel, is operated in accordance with a Support for the Cuban People general license established by the Treasury Department's Office of Foreign Assets Control.

Gig 'em!

Marisa Liles

Marisa Liles  
Manager of Traveling Aggies  
The Association of Former Students

**800-633-7514**

**[AggieNetwork.com/Travel](https://aggienetwork.com/travel)**

### UNESCO World Heritage

#### 1. Old Havana and its Fortification System







Vintage car ride, Havana

## Day 1 | Miami, Florida | Havana, Cuba

Depart Miami for Havana. Upon arrival, check in to the ARTe Hotel Calle 2.

Tonight, gather for a Welcome Dinner at a local *paladar*, a privately owned and operated restaurant. Meet and mingle with locals on your first night in Cuba while supporting Cuban entrepreneurialism.

## Day 2 | Havana

**Enrichment: Havana's Urban Planning and Architectural Challenges.** Gather with a local architect who examines contemporary city planning in Havana.

### **Discovery: Enigmatic Old Havana.**

Enjoy your first look at this UNESCO World Heritage destination and its four main squares: Plaza de Armas, Plaza de San Francisco, Plaza de la Catedral and Plaza Vieja. These vibrant plazas teem with local life, from men playing dominos to colorful flea markets and children playing soccer. Chat with *habaneros*, local vendors, before continuing to Dador, an independently owned clothing store founded by Cuban women. Talk with the entrepreneurs, learning about their experiences with starting and owning a female-led business in Cuba.

**Discovery: La Casa de la Cultura.** This community center promotes art, culture and literature within Cuba and offers workshops on music, dancer, theater and other artistic areas. Enjoy engaging with the staff and children.

Tonight, gather for a Cuban jazz show at Paseo 206. After, enjoy a delicious Caribbean dinner prepared with artisanal ingredients at the on-site restaurant, Eclectico.

## Day 3 | Havana

**Discovery: In-Depth Havana.** Climb aboard a classic convertible for a ride through Havana's historic quarter. Peek beneath the

hood and learn how these well-preserved cars are maintained, including the challenges of getting access to necessities. Continue to the Sephardic Hebrew Center where a member of Havana's Jewish Community invites us for a tour. Next, explore the charismatic Callejón de Hamel. This paint-splashed, music-filled alley is a central part of Afro-Cuban culture, a fusion of African and European religious practices. After lunch, see the towering Christ of Havana monument made from white marble.

**Discovery: La Finca Vigia.** See Ernest Hemingway's home. The famous author wrote "For Whom the Bell Tolls" and "The Old Man and the Sea" in this modest house.

### **Enrichment: U.S. and Cuban Relations.**

Join a university professor to explore the U.S., Cuba and the Cuban economy.

## Day 4 | Havana

### **Enrichment: Empowering Cuban Women.**

A local sociologist gives an insightful talk about gender relations and the role of women in Cuba. Also discuss the challenges that women still need to overcome in order to achieve gender equality on the island.

### **Discovery: Contemporary Art in Cuba.**

Wilfredo Benítez of the Ludwig Foundation



Designers/owners of Dador clothing store, Havana



Finca Marta

explores local artists and their work. Continue to the National Museum of Fine Arts in central Havana to see a collection featuring Cuban artists from the 17th century until today.

**Discovery: Inside an Art Studio.** Cuba's art scene reflects a menagerie of African, North and South American, and European cultures and influences. Tour Casa Fuster, the studio of Cuban painter and sculptor Jose Fuster, and talk with an artist about his work and the opportunities for local artists.

**Enrichment: Cuba's Justice System.** A professor from the University of Havana shares his perspective and experiences with working alongside Cuba's justice system.

#### Day 5 | Matanzas | Havana

**Discovery: Matanzas - The Slaves' Route.** Delve into the cultural riches of Matanzas. Cuba underwent a long period of slavery from 1511 until 1886. Today, Afro-Cuban roots remain profound across the island, especially in Matanzas. Tour the San Severino Museum, a castle built by slave labor to protect the city against attacks. This symbolic museum has many objects and photos illustrating slavery times. Learn about the history of the slave trade and how Afro-Cuban culture is celebrated through art, religion, music, language and other forms of expression.

**Enrichment: Race and the Cuban Revolution.** Discuss the effect of the Cuban



Contemporary dance studio, Havana

Revolution on racism across the island.

#### Day 6 | Havana

**Discovery: Norma Guillard.** This Cuban social psychologist and adjunct lecturer at the University of Havana shares stories about her work. Watch "Maestra," a documentary about female volunteers who taught more than 700,000 Cubans to read and write during the Cuban Literacy Campaign.

**Discovery: Cuban Dance.** Visit a contemporary dance studio for a look into Cuba's infectious dance scene, and meet some dancers. During a discussion with these specialists, learn about their experiences and commitments to their art and training.

This afternoon, visit the Ludwig Foundation, a non-profit cultural institution that is dedicated to protecting and promoting Cuban artists. Meet independent local artists and learn about their desires to pursue artistic ventures.

Relax over dinner at a nearby *paladar*, an example of Cuba's gradual shift to a more free-market economy.

#### Day 7 | Caimito | Havana

**Discovery: Caimito.** Visit an *agromercado*, a street market selling vegetables, fruits and



Casa Fuster, Havana



varieties of meats and beans. Continue through the country to Finca Marta, a farm started by agronomist Fernando Funes. He shares his vision for transforming the Cuban farming model by using resource-efficient artisanal farming methods and his goals for helping farmers make a living from their land. Relax with your fellow travelers over a lunch of locally sourced produce.

### Enrichment: *Rhythms of Cuban Music.*

Join a Cuban ethnomusicologist to talk about Cuba's enthralling music scene, which has its roots in rhythms from Spain and West Africa.

Raise a toast to your Cuban adventure during a Farewell Dinner at a family-owned *paladar*.

### Day 8 | Havana | Miami, Florida

After breakfast, transfer to the airport for the return flight to Miami, Florida.

**Note:** *This itinerary is subject to change. If an event must be canceled, it will be replaced with another Support for the Cuban People event.*

Explore Cuban culture through interaction with local Cuban residents, artists and artisans, musicians, writers and entrepreneurs, which will directly benefit and support the Cuban people. This exclusive program, developed by AHI Travel, is operated in accordance with a Support for the Cuban People general license established by the Treasury Department's Office of Foreign Assets Control pursuant to 31 CFR section 515.574.



Agromercado

## INCLUDED FEATURES

### Accommodations (with baggage handling)

- **7 nights** in Havana, Cuba, at the first-class ARTe Hotel Calle 2, a privately owned boutique hotel.

### Flights & Transfers (with baggage handling)

- Round-trip flights between Miami and Cuba and all deluxe motor coach transfers during the Land Program.

### Extensive Meal Program

- 7 breakfasts, 6 lunches and 4 dinners, including Welcome and Farewell Dinners; tea or coffee with all meals, plus a local beverage with dinner.
- Opportunities to sample authentic cuisine and local flavors.

### Your One-of-a-Kind Journey

- **AHI Travel Assurance** plan that covers Accident and Sickness Medical Expense, Trip Delay and Emergency Evacuation for U.S. residents.
- Expert-led **Enrichment programs** enhance your insight into Cuba's history, heritage and culture.
- **Discovery excursions** provide meaningful connections with small business owners and individual Cuban residents who share their personal stories and unique perspectives.
- **AHI Sustainability Promise:** Striving for a positive, purposeful impact on the destinations we visit: preserving the environment, supporting local communities and giving back to the places we travel.
- A personal VOX headset to hear your English-speaking guide clearly.
- Tipping of local guides and drivers.
- Cuban visa.
- Complimentary travel mementos.

### A Note About Activity Levels

We want you to have a comfortable and enjoyable experience. That's why we have rated all of our excursions with activity levels to help you assess this program's physical expectations. Depending on the excursion, more leisurely alternatives may be available. Please call or visit our website to review the itinerary for full details about our activity levels.

#### Excursions on this program require:

- walking on cobblestones, unpaved paths or uneven surfaces
- getting on and off motor coaches



## AHI Travel Expertise

From your reservation to your return home, we're here to ensure you have the adventure of a lifetime.

### *Before you go:*

- **Travel Consultants** | These experts stand ready to answer your questions about activities, meals, accommodations and more as they guide you through the reservation process.
- **Passenger Service Representative** | After reserving your spot, enjoy personalized assistance from this specialist, your one point of contact who helps with everything from arranging flights to booking elective activities to fulfilling special requests.
- **Travel Information** | Before your journey, our team closely monitors travel conditions, shares pre-departure details and provides information and enrichment about your destination.

### *Once you arrive:*

Our top-notch, dedicated team takes your adventure to the next level! Share a laugh, learn where to find the best café and enjoy their unique perspectives on the local scene.

- **Travel Director** | Our multilingual Travel Director manages all the details so that you can simply relax and soak up the ambience. In the care of this seasoned travel professional who is attuned to your personal safety, you'll enjoy a seamless, unforgettable travel experience.
- **Expert Guides** | Who better to show you around than the people who live there? We've specially selected informed, enthusiastic local guides who understand the needs of our educated and curious travelers. Warm and genuine, they're ready to share their passion for their country with you.
- **Lecturers** | Coming from all walks of life, our entertaining local lecturers open your eyes to history, culture and current events. The breadth of their knowledge deepens your appreciation for the region and its heritage.



## ARTe Hotel Calle 2 | Havana



Nestled in the cultural heart of Havana, this renovated mansion welcomes guests with a relaxing terrace beneath shade trees and an exhibition space to showcase local artists. Unique, individually designed rooms are dedicated to different art mediums: painting, music, poetry, cinema and dance. Discerning guests will enjoy the property's modern touches and classic Cuban style.

# Cuba and its People

Trip #:19-27284W

Call our travel experts at to reserve your place!  
(Preferred registration method.)

**Please have the information outlined below available to share with our AHI Travel Experts.**

**If you prefer,** you may also complete this Reservation Request and submit it to our office. Once this request is received in our office, an AHI Travel Expert will contact you within one business day to discuss deposit payment. Your reservation is not confirmed until your deposit is paid and processed.

**Send to** The Association of Former Students

Attn: Traveling Aggies

505 George Bush Drive

College Station, TX 77840-2918



Phone: **979-845-7514** Fax: **979-845-9263** Toll Free: **800-633-7514**

AHI Travel has assumed all costs for the printing and distribution of this promotion. This program is exclusively arranged by AHI Travel, 8550 W. Bryn Mawr Ave., Suite 600, Chicago, IL 60631. 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.

**I/we would like to request \_\_\_\_\_ place(s).**

Deposit amount is \$600 per person.

**Full Legal Name** *(exactly as it appears on your passport)*

1) \_\_\_\_\_  
Title First Middle Last  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Date of Birth Class Year  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Email Name you would like on your name badge

2) \_\_\_\_\_  
Title First Middle Last  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Date of Birth Class Year  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Email Name you would like on your name badge

Street Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

Home (\_\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ Cell (\_\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

Sharing with \_\_\_\_\_

Name (Reservation Request sent separately)

## Single Accommodations

Single accommodations are not available.

**This is an air-inclusive program between Miami, FL, and Cuba.**

☐ Yes, I/we are requesting the round-trip flight(s) to and from Miami, FL, to depart from: \_\_\_\_\_

Departure City

☐ Please contact me regarding air options.

Reservations are subject to availability and are processed on a first-come, first-served basis. Reservations are to be paid in full by **Sept. 2, 2022** (75 days prior to departure). Reservations received after this date must be accompanied by payment in full. Final payment may be made by personal check, MasterCard, Visa, Discover or Amex. Make checks payable to AHI Travel.

**Please note: Program-specific terms and conditions are available on our website on the trip page. You can also request a copy from our travel experts. Any payment to AHI Travel constitutes your acceptance of the terms and conditions set out therein, including but not limited to the cancellation terms.**



# LAND & AIR PROGRAM

Nov. 16-23, 2022

Full Price	Special Savings	Special Price*
\$5,045	\$250	\$4,795

\*Special Price valid if booked by the date found on the address panel.

All prices quoted are in USD, per person, based on double occupancy and include round-trip air service between Miami and Cuba.

Suite upgrades are available at an additional cost (limited availability).

**Single accommodations are not available on this program.**



Callejón de Hamel



Artist's studio

## TRAVEL WITH CONFIDENCE

For more than half a century, our dedicated team has helped travelers explore the world safely and securely.

**To offer you added peace of mind, we've fine-tuned all facets of your travel experience:**

- ✓ **Included AHI Travel Assurance** covers travel- and health-related contingencies. Available for U.S. residents only.
- ✓ Increased booking flexibility and relaxed cancellation penalties.
- ✓ **Home support staff and ground team** communicating 24/7 to ensure a seamless and safe journey.
- ✓ Travel Directors specially trained to the highest standard in accordance with AHI's health and safety protocols.
- ✓ A global network of partners rigorously following new procedures and protocols.
- ✓ **Enhanced sanitization practices** for river ships, hotels, trains and motor coaches.
- ✓ Tour operations modified for smaller groups and greater physical distancing.
- ✓ Hand sanitizer available for guest use.



Hemingway's house

800-633-7514

**AggieNetwork.com/Travel**



## Traveling Aggies

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The Association of Former Students



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**TRAVEL**  
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See pricing panel  
for details

Plaza de la Catedral, Old Havana

## Discover the temptation, passion and spirit of Cuba!

**Please call or refer to our  
website for the most current  
program information,  
discounts and pricing.**

**AHI Travel's** mission is to deliver  
inspirational educational and cultural  
travel programs that delight travelers.

**With AHI you can rely on:**

- Experienced Travel Directors who attend to every detail of your journey.
- An exceptional travel value.
- Unique access to local sites.
- Flexibility and customization.
- Safety and security.



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