

# Cuba

Art, culture, music, history and politics in Commonwealth Club style. Meet experts, writers, artists and musicians and witness the vibrant intellectual and artistic talent for which Cuba is known.

## Havana, Trinidad & Cienfuegos

April 3-10, 2016







## Itinerary

### Day 1 U.S./Havana

Depart Miami on our charter flight for Havana. (Travelers arrive into Miami the prior evening, independently.) Arrive Havana in the afternoon and go immediately to lunch. Visit the Plaza de la Revolución, before checking into the Hotel Parque Central, perfectly located in the central part of the city. Tonight enjoy a welcome drink and introductions, followed by our welcome dinner. (L,D)

### Day 2 Havana

After a morning lecture by a Cuban journalist, we embark on a walking tour. Havana is a treasure trove of architectural styles spanning six centuries. Explore Old Havana, including the Plaza de Armas, Plaza de la Catedral, Plaza de San Francisco (with buildings dating from the 18th century) and the Plaza Vieja, the oldest plaza in Havana, dating from the 16th century. Meet artists at the Taller de Grafica Experimental. More than Havana's printmaking workshop, it is a studio and a school. In the early evening join a lively and musical lecture about the history of Cuban Music by a professor and musicologist. Dinner is at La Guarida. Housed on the third floor of a large old town house, this *paladar* carries the charming ambience of the 1920s. (B,L,D)

### Day 3 Havana

Attend a briefing by our foreign service staff at the newly reinstated U.S. Embassy. Take an architect-led tour of Western Havana, including the University of Havana, the Havana Libre, the Riviera Hotel and the Christopher Colon Cemetery. Lunch is at the whimsical home of artist Jose Fuster, who has made a major contribution to rebuilding and decorating the fishing town of Jaimanitas. Pending ministerial approval, visit Instituto Superior de Arte (ISA) the premier school in Cuba for students studying music, visual and performing arts. Finally, relax in the beautiful home of collector and art dealer, Milagros Borges. Dinner is in Miramar. (B,L,D)

### Day 4 Havana

Attend a private dance performance of the Compañía Irene Rodríguez (flamenco). Meet Irene and the company, considered by many to be the finest flamenco dancers in Cuba. Continue exploring more of Havana's architecture – Central Park, the Bacardi Building, and the Hotel Nacional. After lunch on the Malecon,

we continue to Callejon de Hamel, a street in Havana known for its lively murals, and an area popular with followers of the Santeria religion. Learn about Santeria and visit the home of a *babalao*, a Yoruba priestess. Schedule permitting you have the option to attend a baseball game, or explore the Fabrica de Arte Cuba, the most collaborative art project in Havana. (B,L)

### Day 5 Havana

Attend a lecture by a prominent economist about Cuba's current transition. Enjoy a curator-led tour of the Museum of Cuban Art which is dedicated exclusively to Cuban Art. Enjoy lunch on your own, then later gather for a dance demonstration and salsa lesson at Casa del Son. Dinner tonight is at a unique Cuban-Creole *paladar*. (B,D)

### Day 6 Cienfuegos/Bay of Pigs

Depart Havana early this morning for the Bay of Pigs and Zapata National Park, Cuba's most important wetland area. Visit the Playa Giron Museum with displays about the failed invasion of Cuba by Cuban exiles and the CIA. Continue to Cienfuegos for lunch. Cienfuegos is a UNESCO World Heritage Site as it contains six buildings from 1819–50, 327 buildings from 1851–1900, and 1,188 buildings from the 20th century. There is no other place in the Caribbean that contains such a remarkable cluster of Neoclassical structures. See the architecture, visit with artists, and experience a concert and discussion with the highly respected Cienfuegos choir. Check into the Hotel Jagua, before dinner at the Palacio Del Valle. (B,L,D)

### Day 7 Trinidad

Depart for Trinidad and the Valle de los Ingenios (valley of the sugar mills) the most important sugar producing region during colonial times and a UNESCO Cultural Heritage Site. Explore this charming town of cobblestone, Spanish colonial style architecture, museums, and galleries. Pay a visit to a local maternity home and meet with local artists, before returning to Cienfuegos. Tonight celebrate your Cuban journey at our farewell dinner. (B,L,D)

### Day 8 Havana/U.S.

Check out of the hotel and depart for the airport for our flight to Miami. (B)

\*Itinerary is subject to change

# What to Expect

Travelers must be in overall good health and with good mobility in order to enjoy this program fully. There is considerable walking over uneven terrain and old city streets throughout the tour. Many places have stairs without handrails. In addition, many buildings do not have elevators, or the elevators may not be functioning. Restaurants in private homes often require walking up several flights of stairs. This is a busy program, with many activities. We are sure you will enjoy the trip, but want you to be aware of the physical requirements and pace.

## Trip Details

### Dates:

April 3–10, 2016 (independent arrivals to Miami on April 2)

### Group Size:

Pricing is based on a minimum of 15 travelers and a maximum of 25.

### Cost:

\$5,095, per person, based on double occupancy; \$500 Single room supplement (limited), includes all land and charter flight from Miami.

### Included:

5 nights accommodation at 4–5 Star Hotel Parque Central Havana; 2 nights at Hotel Jagua or similar; round trip airfare MIA-HAV-CFG-MIA; Cuban departure tax; meals as listed in itinerary (B=Breakfast L=Lunch and D=dinner. Includes at least one beverage: water, beer, mojito, or soft drink. Wine with welcome and farewell dinners.); bottled water; air conditioned bus throughout the trip equipped with water; admission to all museums and public buildings listed in itinerary; speaker fees and conference room rentals; gratuities for all group activities – including meals, baggage handling, bus driver, and local Cuban guide; Commonwealth Club representative and Cuban tour manager; Cuban Tourist Visa; Cuban Medical Insurance (health and evacuation); Compliance with US Treasury Department.

### Not included:

Airfare to Miami; hotel in Miami; airline baggage fees; meals and beverages other than listed on itinerary; individualized hotel expenses (mini bar, room service, laundry fees, internet); personal activities and additional gratuities.



## Terms and Conditions:

**Reservations:** A \$1,000 per person deposit, along with a completed and signed Reservation Form, will reserve a place for participants on this program. The balance of the trip is due 90 days prior to departure and *must be paid by check*.

**Cancellation and Refund Policy:** Notification of cancellation must be received in writing. At the time we receive your written cancellation, the following penalties will apply:

- 91 days or more prior to departure: \$500 per person
- 90-60 days to departure: \$1,000 deposit
- 59-1 days prior to departure: 100% fare

Tour can also be cancelled due to low enrollment. CWC does not accept liability for cancellation penalties related to domestic or international airline tickets purchased in conjunction with the tour.

**Trip Cancellation and Interruption Insurance:** We strongly advise that all travelers purchase trip cancellation and interruption insurance as coverage against a covered unforeseen emergency that may force you to cancel or leave trip while it is in progress. A brochure describing coverage will be sent to you

upon receipt of your reservation.

**Medical Information:** Participation in this program requires that you be in good health. It is essential that persons with any medical problems and related dietary restrictions make them known to us well before departure.

**Itinerary Changes & Trip Delay:** Itinerary is based on information available at the time of printing and is subject to change. We reserve the right to change a program's dates, staff, itineraries, or accommodations as conditions warrant. If a trip must be delayed, or the itinerary changed, due to bad weather, road conditions, transportation delays, airline schedules, government intervention, sickness or other contingency for which CWC or its agents cannot make provision, the cost of delays or changes is not included.

**Limitations of Liability:** CWC and Owners, Agents, and Employees act only as the agent for any transportation carrier, hotel, ground operator, or other suppliers of services connected with this program ("other providers"), and the other providers are solely responsible and liable for providing their respective services. CWC shall not be held liable for (A) any damage to, or loss of, property or injury to, or death of, persons occasioned

directly or indirectly by an act or omission of any other provider, including but not limited to any defect in any aircraft, or vehicle operated or provided by such other provider, and (B) any loss or damage due to delay, cancellation, or disruption in any manner caused by the laws, regulations, acts or failures to act, demands, orders, or interpositions of any government or any subdivision or agent thereof, or by acts of God, strikes, fire, flood, war, rebellion, terrorism, insurrection, sickness, quarantine, epidemics, theft, or any other cause(s) beyond their control. The participant waives any claim against CWC for any such loss, damage, injury, or death. By registering for the trip, the participant certifies that he/she does not have any mental, physical, or other condition or disability that would create a hazard for him/herself or other participants. CWC shall not be liable for any air carrier's cancellation penalty incurred by the purchase of a nonrefundable ticket to or from the departure city. Baggage and personal effects are at all times the sole responsibility of the traveler. Reasonable changes in the itinerary may be made where deemed advisable for the comfort and well-being of the passengers.



## RESERVATION FORM APRIL 3–10, 2016

NAME 1

NAME 2

ADDRESS

CITY/STATE/ZIP

HOME PHONE

CELL

E-MAIL ADDRESS

**PAYMENT:**

Here is my deposit of \$\_\_\_\_\_ (\$1,000 per person) for \_\_\_\_ place(s).

\_\_\_\_ Enclosed is my check (make payable to *Commonwealth Club*). OR \_\_\_\_ Charge my deposit to my \_\_\_\_ Visa \_\_\_\_ MasterCard \_\_\_\_ AMEX

CARD#

EXPIRES

SECURITY CODE

AUTHORIZED CARDHOLDER SIGNATURE

DATE

**After receipt of your deposit, a confirmation packet will be sent with several forms for you to complete. Final payment must be paid by check and is due 90 days prior to departure.**

**Tour Conditions: (It is required that you initial in following three spaces and sign below)**

\_\_\_\_ Travel to Cuba under the General License category requires that everyone must participate in our scheduled activities. Therefore, I intend to comply with this Office of Foreign Assets Control requirement and attend the scheduled activities.

\_\_\_\_ I certify that I have not recently been treated for, nor am I aware of any physical or other condition or disability that would create a hazard to myself or other members of this tour.

\_\_\_\_ I understand that the Commonwealth Club is unable to accept or retain any person as a tour passenger who may require special physical assistance, a wheelchair, or special attention because of a medical condition unless personal arrangements have been made.

\_\_\_\_ I/We have read the Terms and Conditions for this program and agree to them.

SIGNATURE

**PLEASE RETURN THIS FORM ALONG WITH YOUR DEPOSIT TO:**

**The Commonwealth Club  
Attn: Travel Department  
555 Post Street  
San Francisco, CA 94102**

**You may also fax the form to 415.597.6729**

# You've always wanted to go. Now is the time.