From Revolution to Evolution

CUBA

THE WASHINGTON AND LEE TRAVELLER
OFFICE OF LIFELONG LEARNING

FEATURING Jim Casey, Ph.D. Economics
Dear World Traveller,

Through a relaxation in U.S. State Department travel restrictions, it is again possible for Americans to visit Cuba, one of the most intriguing destinations in our hemisphere. Although several companies again offer visits to Cuba, almost all of their itineraries are confined to Havana. Our itinerary includes fascinating sites in Trinidad - a UNESCO World Heritage site - Cienfuegos, the scenic beauty of the Artemisa Province, as well as sites in and around Havana.

In an effort to promote improved understanding between the citizens of Cuba and the United States, our program will focus especially on the history, art, architecture, and culture of Cuba. Serving as W&L's faculty host will be Jim Casey, Professor of Economics, an experienced Cuba traveller. In addition to Cuba's cultural treasures, we'll consider the impact of Cuba's agrarian economy on the social and political climate of modern Cuba and, inevitably, the status of Cuba's relations within the Latin American community of nations and prospects for improved relations with her huge neighbor to the north.

In Havana, we'll stay at the elegant Grand Packard Hotel, located in charming “Old Havana,” with views overlooking the Caribbean. Among the many highlights of our itinerary will be a visit to Finca Vigia, Ernest Hemingway’s house, where he lived for 20 years and wrote *The Old Man and the Sea*. In addition to many of the Havana's celebrated sites, we’ll also enjoy a day’s excursion to the lush UNESCO province of LasTerrazas for the Buena Vista Coffee Plantation and the home and studio of renowned modern artist Lester Campa. Our evenings will be enriched by delectable dishes at local “paladars” and the rhythms of Cuban music. No visit to Cuba is complete without a panoramic tour of the famed Malecon and Vedado in a classic American car with a dinner at La Guarida, Havana’s most famous paladar.

With the inclusion of most meals, superb accommodations, and cultural expertise throughout, this educational tour is an excellent value. Jim Casey ’91, Professor of economics with a special interest in Latin America, will serve as our faculty host.

Warmest regards,

Robert Fure, Director
Office of Lifelong Learning

Featuring Jim Casey, Ph.D. Economics

Jim Casey ’91 received his Ph.D. in economics in 2001 from the College of Natural Resources at North Carolina State University, Raleigh. His teaching and research interests lie at the intersection of coastal development and environmental change. During the past two+ decades, Professor Casey has designed and implemented valuation surveys in Mexico, Cuba, Belize, Barbados, Honduras, and Brazil. He is very grateful to have met and worked with such a diverse group of environmental scientists and local stakeholders and plans to continue this work for decades to come. His most recent visit to Cuba was in the fall of 2022.
WASHINGTON AND LEE UNIVERSITY / CUBA  JANUARY 20-27, 2024

SATURDAY, JANUARY 20: USA / SANTA CLARA / TRINIDAD  IBEROSTAR GRAND HOTEL TRINIDAD
Fly from USA (Miami) to Santa Clara, Cuba. Clear immigration formalities and transfer to the museum and mausoleum of Cuban revolutionary Che Guevarra. After lunch at a local paladar (privately owned restaurant), continue to Trinidad, a UNESCO World Heritage site, where you have time to stroll through the vibrant local market. This evening is your welcome to Cuba dinner. (L,D)

SUNDAY, JANUARY 21: TRINIDAD  IBEROSTAR GRAND HOTEL TRINIDAD
Visit the Casa del Alfarero, a pottery house founded and managed by the Santander family for generations. Stop by the Templo de Yemaya where a Santeria Practitioner along with some of the religion's devotees explain the basic principles of this unique Afro-Cuban religion. Later, explore the main plaza of Trinidad, including a visit to the Architecture Museum and the Casa Cantero. After dinner, enjoy wonderful Cuban music at Casa de la Musica. Put on your dancing shoes for a salsa or rumba with the locals! (B,L,D)

MONDAY, JANUARY 22: TRINIDAD / CIENFUEGOS / HAVANA  IBEROSTAR GRAND PACKARD
Depart this morning for French colonial Cienfuegos, considered the crown jewel of Cuban architecture in the 19th century. Known as “The Pearl of the Caribbean,” explore Cienfuegos’ main square and the Punta Gorda Peninsula. The piece de resistance is the Italian-style Teatro Terry, replete with magnificent wood-paneling and hand-carved seats. Drive to Havana arriving in the late afternoon. (B,L,D)

TUESDAY, JANUARY 23: HABANA VIEJA / MUSEO DE BELLAS ARTES  IBEROSTAR GRAND PACKARD
All explorations of Havana must start with the Plaza de la Revolucion! Continue with a walking tour of Old Havana including the Plaza de Armas, the Used Booksellers Market, and the Plaza de la Catedral – soak in the sights and sounds of Habana Vieja! After lunch at a local paladar, visit the Museo de Bellas Artes. End your day with a no-host mojito or daiquiri at the famed El Floridita Bar where, they say the daiquiri was discovered by Papa Hemingway! (B,L)

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 24: HAVANA / FINCA VIGÍA / COJIMAR  IBEROSTAR GRAND PACKARD
Explore Christopher Columbus Cemetery, renowned for its monumental architecture. Visit Hemingway’s former home, Finca Vigia, where he lived from 1939 to 1960. His 9,000-book library, hunting trophies and famous fishing boat, Pilar, are all on display. See the village of Cojimar, setting for the novel The Old Man and the Sea. After lunch at Ajiaco, enjoy a free afternoon at the Artisans Market. (B,L)
Evening suggestion: La Zorra y El Cuervo Jazz Club – best jazz in all of Havana!

THURSDAY, JANUARY 25: HAVANA / CALLEJON DE HAMEL  IBEROSTAR GRAND PACKARD
Start today at the former residence of the Governors of Havana, a Baroque mansion showcasing colonial-era art. Stop at the Callejon de Hamel, one of the shortest but most interesting and colorful streets in Havana. Here you’ll find brilliant mural paintings and music everywhere! Appreciate the art of Salvador Gonzalez Escalonza reflecting the area’s culture and religious beliefs. (B,L)
Evening suggestion: Buena Vista Social Club

FRIDAY, JANUARY 26: LAS TERRAZAS / FUSTERLANDIA / CLASSIC CARS  IBEROSTAR GRAND PACKARD
Drive to Las Terrazas in Artemisa Province, famous for its magnificent scenic beauty. Stop at a local Clinica to learn about medical services in rural Cuba. Visit the private studio of artist Lester Campa. At the Buena Vista Coffee Plantation sip a cup of java at Café Maria...“best coffee in the country!” Country-style Cuban lunch at a local farmhouse. End your day at Fusterlandia, the home and surrounding neighborhood of “The Picasso of the Caribbean,” Jose Fuster. This evening ride in a classic American car along the Malecon to La Guarida, Havana’s most famous paladar! (B,LD)

SATURDAY, JANUARY 27: DEPART HAVANA / USA  EN ROUTE
Transfer to Havana’s Jose Marti International Airport for your flight to the USA. Welcome Home! (B)
PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS
Stay at Cuba’s finest 5-star hotels in Havana and Trinidad
Stroll through Old Havana’s Plaza de Armas and the Used Booksellers Market
Dine at the finest paladares (private restaurants) in Trinidad, Cienfuegos and Havana
Stop at the generations-old ceramic studio of the Santander Family
Have an intimate tour of Hemingway’s Cuban paradise, Finca Vigia
Drive through Cojimar, the charming village from *The Old Man and the Sea*
Spend an afternoon exploring Havana’s extensive Artisan’s Market
Enjoy a personalized tour and tasting at the Buena Vista Coffee Planation
Cruise along Havana’s famous seaside Malecon in a vintage American convertible
Exclusive visit to famed modern artist Lester Campa’s home and studio

**Cost of Adventure:**

**CUBA PROGRAM:** $6,475 per person double occupancy
**SINGLE SUPPLEMENT:** $1,495 **CUBA VISA:** $85 per person

**EARLY BOOKING DISCOUNT BY MAY 1, 2023:** $6,275 per person double occupancy

*AIRFARE NOT INCLUDED “GUIDANCE PROVIDED”*

**Included in your program:**
- Hotel accommodation as detailed above including buffet breakfast daily
- All touring on a private basis including entrance fees and professional English-speaking guide
- Meet & greet services at all Cuban airports for arrivals and departures
- All transportation in modern air conditioned motor coaches
- Meals as indicated by *(B), (B,L), (B,L,D):* B=Breakfast, L=Lunch, D=Dinner 7 breakfasts, 7 lunches, 5 dinners
- One drink per included meal: bottle of water, coffee, glass of wine, beer, mojito, soft drink, etc.
- Additional drinks can be ordered and paid individually
- Two bottles of mineral water per person per day (except transfer days)
- Cuban travel insurance covering medical repatriation expenses only (required by the Cuban government)
- Authorization documentation allowing travelers to clear US immigrations upon returning to the United States provided by a Licensed Cuba Travel Service Provider and the USA Office of Foreign Assets Control
- Gratuities for guides, drivers, hotel porters, restaurant waiters

**Not Included:**
- Flights USA/Santa Clara & Havana/USA as required by the program
- More than one drink at meals which are included in the program
- Items of a personal nature such as laundry, WiFi / internet, telephone calls, both alcoholic and non-alcoholic drinks, incidental expenses at hotels, etc

**Payment Schedule:**
- A $1500 per person deposit is required to confirm services
  - Final payment is due 90 days prior to departure
- Payment is accepted by personal check, wire transfer and all major credit cards

**Rates & Fares:**
- All rates shown are accurate at the time of publication and are subject to change
- Prices are based on foreign exchange rates the company feels will be in effect at the time of departure.

**Refunds & Cancellations:**
All cancellations must be in writing. The per person cancellation charges are:
- More than 90 days prior to departure: 50% of deposit
- 89-60 days prior to departure: 50% of tour price
- 59-30 days prior to departure: 75% of tour price
- Less than 30 days prior to departure: 100% of tour price
- There is no refund for a partially completed tour or for unused services of any kind
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