



Viva: Cuba Highlights

****NOTE: All visitors to Cuba require a Tourist Card to visit. This MUST be obtained before travel. Please ask your Travel Advisor for more details****

Day 1: - Arrival in Havana

Cuba's capital Havana is a vibrant city teeming with beautiful if sometimes shabby colonial buildings, once the most heavily fortified city in the Americas. The city was founded by the Spanish in the 16th century and it is now a diverse and fascinating mix of castles, fortresses and Spanish colonial buildings intermingled with modern high rises. The Old City (Habana Vieja), with its narrow streets and overhanging balconies is a UNESCO World Heritage Site and the centre of the original city. Soak up the atmosphere as you sip on a Mojito, a refreshing blend of rum, lime, sugar, mint leaves, soda water and ice or maybe sample a Cuba Libre, made with rum, coke and lime.



On arrival into Havana's international airport, you will be met and transferred to your hotel.

Overnight in a Standard Room at Beltrán de Santa Cruz Hotel including breakfast (Standard Category Accommodation).

Day 2: - Walking City Tour & Panoramic Tour in a Vintage Car

Explore Old Havana through its World Heritage's colonial architecture and cobblestoned streets. The excursion will bring you to Plaza de Armas, Plaza de San Francisco de Asis, Plaza Vieja and Plaza de la Catedral. Wander through the small gift shops selling handmade souvenirs and photograph the magnificent buildings.

Lunch is included at a local restaurant



Enjoy a panoramic city tour through modern Havana, riding in a vintage car. Travel through neighborhoods such as Central Havana, Vedado and Miramar. You will ride past the Capitol Building, Revolution Square, Hotel Nacional and the University of Havana among others. Entrance to one Museum is included as well as a complimentary drink in one of the private restaurants at the suburbs.



Your tour ends with a visit to La Cabana Fortress. This 18th-century colossus was built between 1763 and 1774 on a long, exposed ridge on the east side of Havana harbour to fill a weakness in the city's defences. In 1762 the British had taken Havana by gaining control of this strategically important ridge, and it was from here that they shelled the city mercilessly into submission. In order to prevent a repeat performance, the Spanish King Carlos III ordered the construction of a massive fort that would repel future invaders. Return to your hotel. Evening at leisure

Overnight in a Standard Room at Beltrán de Santa Cruz Hotel including breakfast (Standard Category Accommodation).

Day 3: - Havana: Vinales Valley

Today your local guide will take you on a tour of the Vinales Valley in Pinar del Rio in the Sierra de los Organos Mountains - where the world's best tobacco is grown. En-route visit a Cigar Factory to see how the famous Cuban cigars are made. Your guide will take you to visit the valley's famous Mogotes, including the Pre-Historic Mural, which reflects the geological history of the Sierra de los Organos, and the Indian Cave, where you can take a boat along the underground river.



After lunch you will have some free time to explore Vinales. On the way back to Havana you will stop at the Los Jazmines lookout point to enjoy the incredible view of the valley. The evening is yours to relax or enjoy a night of Cuban music. Why not visit the Casa de La Musica in Miramar?

Overnight in a Standard Room at Beltrán de Santa Cruz Hotel including breakfast (Standard Category Accommodation).

Day 4: - Havana - Cienfuegos - Trinidad

As we depart Havana heading south to Trinidad, we will make a stop in Cienfuegos en-route

Spend half a day unveiling the secrets of Cienfuegos city, the so called Pearl of the South. Enjoy a panoramic tour through the National Monument (La Punta), El Palacio de Valle and El Paseo del Prado.

Stroll along the boulevard to visit the monument to one of Cuba's most treasured musicians, Beny Moré. Make the most of your time in the city's heart by visiting the Cathedral as well as the Thomas Terry Theatre, one of Cuba's oldest and most beautiful theatres.



Lunch is included at a local restaurant.

After lunch your journey will continue to Trinidad.

Day 7 continued...

Trinidad is another UNESCO World Heritage Site. It is a beautifully preserved Spanish colonial settlement built on the back of the sugar and slave trade. At the peak of the sugar industry there were 56 sugar mills in the region. Wander the cobble-stoned streets, see the mansions adorned with Italian frescoes, listen to the troubadours strumming their guitars and watch the salsa dancing in the square at night. Just outside the town are the picturesque Topes de Collantes waterfalls.



Overnight in a Standard Room at Hotel Casa Maydi including breakfast.

Day 5: - Special Trinidad with Sugar Mill Valley

Be the protagonist of a spectacular journey to UNESCO World Heritage Sites Valle de los Ingenios and Trinidad. Climb to the top of the Manaca-Iznaga tower and rejoice with the jaw-dropping landscape. Continue to Trinidad for lunch at a local restaurant and afterwards, wander through the historical centre of the city to admire its remarkable colonial architecture. Stroll through La Plaza Mayor; visit the Romantic Museum and stop at La Canchanchara bar and a ceramic workshop.

Lunch Included with a complimentary drink at a local restaurant.

Overnight in a Standard Room at Hotel Casa Maydi including breakfast.

Day 6: 06) - Trinidad: Cayo Blanco

After breakfast you will be transferred to the marina for a Seafari catamaran excursion to Cayo Blanco. Once at the Cayo Blanco, the time is yours to snorkel, swim or relax on the beach. A full lunch and open bar is included in the tour.



Overnight in a Standard Room at Hotel Casa Maydi including breakfast.

Day 7: - Trinidad - Santa Clara - Havana

As re start to head back up to Havana we will make a stop in Santa Clara

Explore the historical past of Santa Clara through its revolutionary legacy. Situated in Central Cuba, Santa Clara is steeped in history as a result of the battles that took place during the Cuban revolution. Visit the Ernesto "Che" Guevara Mausoleum, the Armoured Train Park-Museum, Leoncio Vidal Park and the Boulevard.



Lunch is included at a local restaurant.

After lunch you journey will continue back to Havana

Overnight in a Standard Room at Beltrán de Santa Cruz Hotel including breakfast (Standard Category)

Day 8: - Depart Havana

Transfer to the airport for your outward flight from la Havana.

Additional nights, day or evening activities and customised itineraries can be arranged. Please ask your travel advisor for more details

Included: Accommodation, daily breakfast, other meals where stated, tours with professional English speaking guide on a shared service basis unless otherwise stated, airport transfers where stated, most entrance fees and local taxes (some exclusions apply).

Excluded: Any meals not mentioned in the above itinerary. Travel Insurance and tips. Any flights or services not mentioned in this itinerary.

Please Note: This itinerary and/or hotels quoted within this itinerary may change due to local operating conditions or availability at the time of booking. Please see our terms and conditions for more details. Please note that all flights are non refundable and non changeable unless advised otherwise. Viva Expeditions accepts no responsibility for flight delays and subsequent delays on tours.

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Final payment on bookings are generally due 95 days prior to departure

Hotel Information

Beltrán de Santa Cruz Hotel

Standard Category Accommodation

Located on San Ignacio Street, near the beautiful Plaza Viejas, Hotel Beltrán de Santa Cruz once belonged to the descendants of one of Havana's famous residents, Marquis of Cárdenas de Monte Hermoso. The hotel's colonial structure, excellent location and interesting history, makes it a favourite of history and architecture lovers alike.

The beautifully decorated en-suite rooms are air-conditioned and come equipped with in-room safe, satellite TV and mini-bar. Guests can also enjoy a meal at the hotel's on-site bar and restaurant.



Hotel Casa Maydi

The house has four rooms with private bathrooms – 2 of them on ground floor and the other two, on first floor with balconies. These rooms are equipped with air conditioner, hot-cold water, stocked minibar. The house also has open spaces like a patio and a terrace on top of the rooms.



Pre-booking Advice

Please click on the below link which includes some detailed information on common destinations. Please read this information prior to approving your quote with your sales consultant as the items mentioned in this document can be difficult (and/or expensive) to change after your booking is confirmed.

[Itinerary Planning Advice](#)

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