



Viva Discover Cuba

****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: - Havana City Tour

Take a walking tour around Old Havana historical centre to discover the architectural beauty of this city. Your guide will take you to the main squares of the colonial area: Plaza de Armas, Plaza de San Francisco de Asis, Plaza Vieja and Plaza de la Catedral. Continue by taxi around the modern part of the city with various stops at some of their best attractions: The Capitol building, the Revolution square and the Hotel Nacional de Cuba. Drive along former residential neighbourhoods Vedado and Miramar to appreciate different architectural styles. Entrance to one Museum is included.



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

Day 3: - Vinales Valley

Travel by road from your hotel to Pinar del Río Province through the spectacular Sierra del Rosario and stop for a short while at Cafetería Las Barrigonas to visit a small tobacco plantation. Visit a cigar factory in the city of Pinar del Rio and learn about the manufacturing process. Discover the beauty of Viñales and take in the spectacular views from Los Jazmines lookout. Spend some time touring the town of Viñales and Dos Hermanas Valley. Amuse your eyes with the Prehistoric mural and board a boat that will take you along the underground river in the Indian cave.



A typical Cuban lunch at a local restaurant is included

Return to the hotel . The remainder of the evening is at leisure.

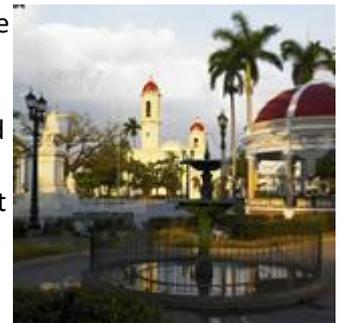
Overnight in a Standard Room at Beltrán de Santa Cruz Hotel including breakfast (Standard Category Accommodation).

Day 4: - Havana -Cienfuegos - Trinidad

Today we depart Havana and make our way to Trinidad via Cienfuegos

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.

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: 05 - Trinidad Colonial Tour

Wander through the historical centre of Trinidad, a city full of stunning colonial architecture. Visit Plaza Mayor and one of the fabulous museums of the city. Stop at La Canchanchara bar. Continue to visit a ceramic workshop. There will be some time to shop at the craft markets.

Lunch is included at a local restaurant as well as a complimentary drink at a local bar.



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

Day 6: - Trinidad - Camaguey

After breakfast we head to Camaguey.

Travel to Valle de los Ingenios (Sugar Mill Valley). This region treasures a number of architectural landmarks testifying to the area's economic flourishing during the 18th and 19th centuries. Visit Casa de Manaca-Iznaga and Guachinango, where the plantation house remains. Climb to the top of the Manaca-Iznaga tower and enjoy some of the best views in Cuba. Take a look at La Casa del Alfarero, a ceramic workshop.

Lunch is included

Camaguey was amongst the first seven villages founded by the Spaniards in Cuba and is now Cuba's third largest city. Legend has it that the warren-like layout of winding streets was designed to confuse invaders and protect its inhabitants, but the locals dispute this! The city of tinajones (clay pots) as it is known, has many hidden plazas lined with baroque churches, galleries, bars and restaurants.



Overnight at Casa Italia - Camaguey Homestay including breakfast.

Day 7: - Camaguey - Santiago de Cuba

After breakfast enjoy a tour of Camaguey with lunch before heading to Santiago de Cuba .

Enjoy a pleasant stroll along the rich colonial-style UNESCO heritage centre of Camaguey city. Discover its irregular, intricate street network while admiring the architectural beauty of San Juan de Dios Square, Ignacio Agramonte Park and the Worker's Square among other local attractions.

Lunch included at a local restaurant



Day 7 Continued...

En route to Santiago de Cuba we will stop in Bayamo for a tour.

Discover the rebellious spirit of Bayamo on a walking tour featuring the city's highlights. Wander around the town centre and whereabouts to learn about interesting episodes in the history of Cuba. Daily life here revolves around Céspedes Park, the Hymn Square and Céspedes birthplace (museum and monument). The tour includes a visit to Wax Museum and a drink.

Santiago de Cuba lies in eastern Cuba, closer to Haiti and the Dominican Republic than to Havana. The coastal city has its own distinct identity with a vibrant Afro-Caribbean culture and colourful mix of people. It is Cuba's second city and the place where Fidel Castro and Che Guevara launched their revolutionary movement. A great place to hear live music, the city was also the birthplace of Bacardi Rum!



Overnight at Hotel Rex including breakfast.

Day 8: - Santiago de Cuba City Tour with Cobra Sanctuary

Tour the heroic city in an air-conditioned bus with a number of stops at places of interest such as La Loma de San Juan, the Revolution Square, the Santa Ifigenia graveyard where clients will witness the changing of the guard, and the Moncada Barracks. Continue to El Cobre Sanctuary, the shrine to the patron Saint of Cuba. Visit the Caney Rum bar to taste a locally brewed rum. Learn about pirates and naval defenses at the World Heritage Castle, San Pedro de la Roca with lunch at a local restaurant. A stopover at the Céspedes Park for 50 minutes will give you the opportunity to share with locals or simply check on the stores and take pictures.



Overnight at Hotel Rex including breakfast.

Day 9: - Santiago de Cuba - Baracoa

After breakfast depart for Baracoa. On the way we make a short stop at Guantanamo City before continuing on to Baracoa.

Lunch will be in a local restaurant.



Wander around Cuba's first village, embracing the legacy of Spanish settlers. This lively city is one of the most charming places to visit, with a waterfront lining the coast and considered by many as one of the finest ocean drives in the world. Admire the town's iconic fortresses, visible as you walk through the beautiful streets and the picturesque church. Soak up the friendly atmosphere, colourful history and spectacular architecture.



Overnight at Casa Maria Elena Y Sabino - Homestay including breakfast.

Day 10: - Cocoa Route and Finca Duaba Visit with Lunch

Follow the Cocoa route to discover the secrets of the unique way of processing this plant in the region. The indigenous people used cocoa originally and referred to it as "the elixir of Gods". You will have the opportunity to learn step-by-step how chocolate is obtained and marketed, from seed planting, harvesting, processing, storage and actual selling.

Lunch is booked at a local restaurant

Overnight at Casa Maria Elena Y Sabino - Homestay including breakfast.

Day 11: - Depart Baracoa & Fly to Havana. Services End

This morning you will be collected from your hotel and transferred to the airport for your departing flight back to Havana.

Services end upon arrival in to Havana. Additional nights can be arranged

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.

Please be aware that many of our products are operated in US Dollars and therefore subject to currency fluctuations. Viva Expeditions will do its utmost to avoid passing on any additional charges however if there is a significant change in exchange rates then we will be required to add a currency surcharge without warning. If you would like to remove this currency risk you do have the option of paying in full at the time of booking.

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.

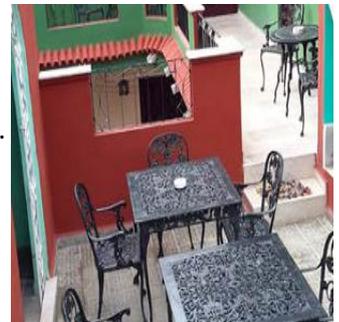
The beautifully decorated en-suite rooms are air-conditioned and come equipped with in-room safe, satellite TV and mini-bar. Guests can also enjoy a meal at the hotel's on-site bar and restaurant.



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.



Casa Italia - Camaguey Homestay

A colonial house in a very centric location in Camaguey. The owners have built 4 modern rooms with private bathrooms on the first floor. There is also a terrace where customers could seat and relax.

Breakfast is served on the restaurant which is on ground floor and serves Italian food prepared by an Italian chef.

Hotel Rex

This historical place that sheltered 15 soontobe-assaulters to the Moncada Barracks is to be found a few meters away from the Marte Square, a privileged location for visitors who want to explore the main attractions of the city. Room 36, where Abel Santamaría Cuadrado lodged, remains as a Museum.

Air Conditioning, Telephone, Safe Deposit Box, Satellite TV, Internet (Wi-Fi) service, 1 room-museum, restaurant, bar, snack bar.

Casa Maria Elena Y Sabino - Homestay

This is a 2 –storey modern house, they rent on the second level a small apartment with balcony, living room, private bathroom, patio and a terrace on the third floor with a lovely view of the city, the mountains and the sea. Clients can have breakfast and dinner on the terrace if they wish. The house is located just 300 meters from the historic center in a very quiet and pleasant neighborhood; the room has large glass windows with lots of natural ventilation. The owners live on the first floor of the house. They offer massage services at home

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](#)

Important Information on Facebook and Twitter

For more inspiration, great images and interesting Latin America and Antarctic updates, follow us on [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#) or [Instagram](#).