

SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION'S TRAVEL PROGRAM



Smithsonian JOURNEYS



Cover by Jia Han Dong

Cuba:

Its Culture & Its People

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January 10-18, 2014
February 7-15, 2014
March 7-15, 2014
April 4-12, 2014

THE SMITHSONIAN JOURNEYS EXPERIENCE
Travel with
EXPERTS!

Cuban artist painting by Jia Han Dong



HIGHLIGHTS

- Enjoy an overnight stay in Miami with a reception and a special panel discussion before departure.
- Explore Old Havana and charming Trinidad, both World Heritage sites, and learn about preservation efforts from Cubans who are passionate about their architectural heritage.
- Discover Cuba's sophisticated art traditions during visits with painters, sculptors, art book makers, and printmakers in their studios.
- Learn about the African origins of Cuba's Santeria religions as you engage with practitioners at a local museum.
- Hear the complex rhythms of Cuban music, from son to rumba and jazz, and learn about these uniquely Cuban music styles.
- Enjoy lectures and informal commentary from your Smithsonian Expert who will add depth and insight throughout your stay.



Photography this page by Jia Han Dong



TRAVEL WITH EXPERTS



January 10-18, 2014

Cynthia Vidaurri is the curator for the Center for Folklife and Cultural Heritage's project, *Cuba: Confluence, Creativity, and Color*. This project explores the richness and diversity of Cuban traditional cultural expressions including community-based arts, music, dance, crafts, ritual practices, medicinal traditions, and food, among others. She is developing a research project on the presence of Cuban indigenous culture found in iconography and tourism. Cynthia is currently a Folklorist at the National Museum of the American Indian's Office for Latin America (Museum Scholarship Group) and is currently working on the Caribbean Indigenous Legacy Project. She holds a B.A. from the University of Texas at Austin and an M.A. from Texas A&I University.



February 7-15, 2014

Alexander M. Correa is currently an investment consultant with McCombie Group in Miami. Alex was formerly an international economist at the U.S. Department of the Treasury—where he covered the Andes and Cuba desk—and a consultant to the World Bank Group. His experience includes assignments at the U.S. Embassy Quito, the Office of the U.S. Executive Director at the Inter-American Development Bank, and the International Finance Corporation's offices in Mumbai. Alex graduated from the Woodrow Wilson School at Princeton University with a master's degree in economics and public policy. He holds bachelor's degrees in economics and international studies from the University of Miami.



March 7-15, 2014

Michael J. Bustamante is a Ph.D. Candidate in Latin American and Caribbean History at Yale University, where his dissertation focuses on the politics of collective memory among Cubans on and off the island since 1959. He is the recipient of fellowships from the Cuban Heritage Collection at the University of Miami and has presented portions of his work at Casa de las Américas in Havana. His writings on Cuban and Latin American affairs have appeared in *Annals of the American Academy of Political and Social Science*, *Current History*, and the *Milken Institute Review*. He has served as a Research Associate for Latin America Studies at the Council on Foreign Relations in Washington, D.C. He is a graduate of Yale College.



April 4-12, 2014

Emilio Cueto is currently researching various aspects of Cuban culture, particularly music and colonial prints. An avid collector of Cuban memorabilia, he has exhibited portions of his collection in Miami's Historical Museum of Southern Florida and prepared the three catalogs accompanying those exhibitions (*Mialhe's Colonial Cuba* (1994), *Cuba in old maps* (1999) and *Illustrating Cuba's flora and fauna* (2002)). He has organized several concerts of Cuba-related music at Florida International University in Miami. He is a retired attorney (Fordham University), last employed by the Inter-American Development Bank in Washington, D.C.

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ITINERARY

Day 1 — Miami, US

Arrive in Miami and check into the Sofitel Miami airport hotel. This evening, begin your people-to-people program in Miami with a welcome reception and lively, thought-provoking panel discussion on the most vital issues facing Cuba today. Your study leader joins with two other Cuba experts to share insights into the Cuban economy, political structure, and culture. A lively question and answer session concludes each panel, preparing you for the week ahead. This valuable meeting with a range of Cuba scholars is an exclusive feature of Smithsonian Journeys' Cuba programs. (R)

Day 2 — U.S., Havana, Cuba

Depart Miami this morning on a charter flight to Havana. Take a short orientation bus tour of the city, including Revolutionary Square and Morro Castle. Enjoy lunch at a local restaurant before transferring to our hotel. This evening, enjoy a welcome reception, introductory talk by your study leader, and dinner. (L,R,D)

Day 3 — Havana

Enjoy a walking tour of Old Havana (a World Heritage site) with an architectural expert and discover the four main plazas of the 18th-

century grid. Visit the restoration workshops and converse with artisans as you learn how the skills necessary to restore Old Havana are taught. In the Flores district enjoy a special visit to Casa-Estudio de Fuster, the studio and home of José Fuster, a world-renowned painter and ceramist commonly called the "Picasso of the Caribbean." Discuss contemporary art trends with Fuster and his colleagues. (B,L,D)

Day 4 — Havana

This morning, discover Ernest Hemingway's La Finca Vigía, the hilltop estate where he lived and worked for over twenty years, now kept as a museum containing original furniture, artwork, and personal memorabilia that was collected by the author. Meet with a curator to discuss the author's enduring legacy in Cuba. After returning to Havana, meet with a representative from the U.S. Interests Section and learn of the role they play in Cuba. (B,L)

Day 5 — Havana, Varadero

Today, visit the University of Havana, one of the oldest in the Americas. Meet with professors and students for a forum discussion. Then visit the Casa de Africa, to learn of the continent's influence on Cuba and the Afro-Caribbean religion, Santería. Enjoy a musical performance dedicated to the various deities of the religion. Take the opportunity to discuss the importance



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of the arts with the performers. Continue to Varadero Beach and check into your hotel. After dinner tonight, visit Santa Marta and mingle with local residents at a community block party. (B,L,D)

Day 6 — Matanzas

Explore Matanzas' old town. Begin at the Plaza de la Libertad for a visit the Pharmaceutical Museum, once a 19th-century French-run pharmacy located in an exquisite building. See the original herbs, potions, and a lab complete with copper tools and utensils. Visit Ediciones Vigía, an independent art book publisher which produces limited editions of magnificent handmade books. Speak with administrators about the organization's mission, tour the workshops, and exchange views with book artists. Continue to the "Pearl of the South," Cienfuegos, and check into your hotel. (B,L,D)

Day 7 - Trinidad

En route to Trinidad (a World Heritage site), stop at the Cienfuegos Botanical Gardens, the largest of its kind in Cuba, and learn of their efforts to maintain their rich biodiversity and extraordinary plant life. Continue to Trinidad and discover its pastel-colored Colonial buildings, cobblestone streets and beautiful plazas. Meet with a representative from the Office

of the City Historian to discuss the achievements and the challenges of preserving this 16th-century city. During your exploration of Trinidad, meet with shopkeepers, owners of Casas Particulares, or privately owned Bed and Breakfasts, and other members of the community. (B,L,D)

Day 8 — Cienfuegos and Havana

This morning, visit a community art project showcasing contemporary Afro-Cuban art. Meet with the director and several artists to learn of their work and how they are spreading contemporary art to small communities. Afterward, explore the French-influenced city center of Cienfuegos. Walk down the Paseo del Prado, a pedestrian-only boulevard lined with various stores, to Parque Martí. Some of Cienfuegos' most prominent architecture frames this central square. This afternoon, return to Havana and check into your hotel. Tonight, celebrate your journey at a farewell dinner (B,L, D)

Day 9 — Depart for the U.S.

Transfer to the airport today for your return charter flight to Miami. (B)



ALL-INCLUSIVE ACCOMMODATIONS!

Conveniently located near the Miami International Airport, the **Sofitel Miami** features two restaurants, a swimming pool and fitness center in contemporary French ambiance. **The Melia Cohiba** is located in the Vedado district of Havana, facing the Havana coastline and the renowned Malecón. The hotel has modern rooms with panoramic windows and wireless Wi-Fi Internet connection in the lobby. **The Melia Varadero** is located right on the famed Varadero Beach offering scenic seaviews. The rooms are appointed with modern furnishings, decorated with authentic artwork and frescos and feature a walk out balcony. Located in the Punta Gorda neighborhood of Cienfuegos, the **Hotel Jagua** overlooks the Cienfuegos bay and features spacious modern rooms with large sliding-glass doors and balconies.

City	Nights	Hotel
Miami	1	Miami Sofitel
Havana	4	Melia Cohiba
Varadero	1	Melia Varadero
Cienfuegos	2	Hotel Jagua

TOUR PRICES

Price based on double occupancy: \$5,495

Price based on single occupancy: \$6,045

Round trip charter airfare between Miami and Havana: \$525 per person

Deposit of \$500 per person, per program, payable by check to the program operator or by major credit card is required to reserve a space on a program. Deposits are applied to payment of the program price.

Round-trip charter airfare, \$525 per person, between Miami and Havana, is additional and must be purchased with your tour.





Photography (left & right) by Jia Han Dorig



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