

TRAVELDESTINEE

TRAVEL EXPERTS

Full Itinerary & Trip Details

Tour of the Year 2017 Latin America

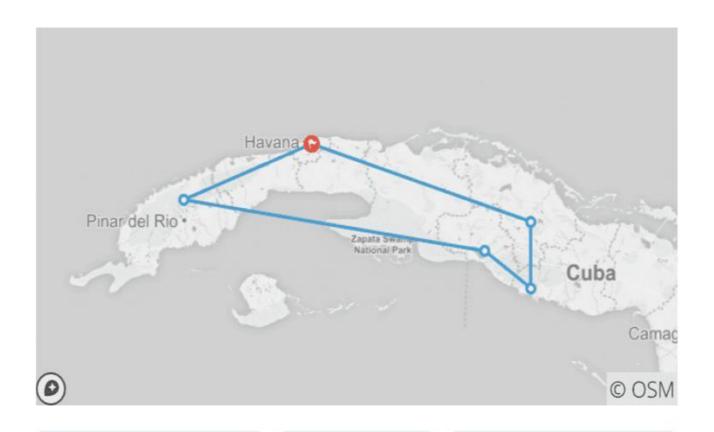


8 Day Original

- Join a guided tour of Havana's historic centre
- Meet the locals and admire Cuba's scenery
- Experience the vibrant nightlife of colourful Vinales
- Learn the history of the failed Bay of Pigs Invasion
- See Trinidad, a pretty colonial town with cobbled streets
- Soak up the sun, savour empanadas and sample rum



Trip Overview



PRICE STARTING FROM

₹2,99,665

DURATION

8 days

IDEAL AGE

18 to 99 year olds

STARTS IN → ENDS IN

Havana → Havana

STYLE

In-depth Cultural

OPERATOR

Cuban Adventures

TOUR CODE

#59791













Itinerary

Introduction

U.S. TRAVELER WARNING: The traveler is solely responsible for complying with general license requirements for travel to Cuba, our staff cannot provide special assistance. This tour is appropriate under Support for Cuban People (515.574) and many of the other categories of general license. Please indicate at the time of booking which category you intend to travel under. We also offer two specially designed Support for the Cuban People tours which include general license assistance, a 9 Day http://www.Travel Destinee.com/t/81577 or 15 day http://www.Travel Destinee.com/t/79547

If your time is limited, and you are more interested in Cuba's culture and its people than beach resorts, then we highly recommend this 8 day tour of Cuba. In one short week, its an optimised way to sample some of the most interesting areas of Cuba within a day's drive from Havana. The tour takes your from the bustling and vibrant Havana, to the historic Santa Clara, and gives you the chance to experience the more traditional and rural sides of Cuba, with stays in Trinidad, Cienfuegos and Viñales. These places are common favourites for travellers who have come to Cuba seeking authentic cultural experiences. While Trinidad presents us with beautiful white sand beaches, colonial architecture, waterfalls, and a charming village atmosphere, Viñales offers stunning mountainous scenery, sprawling tobacco fields and friendly locals. A local Cuban tour guide accompanies the group throughout, and accommodation is in the homes of Cuban families.

Summary of Travel Times
Havana to Viñales - 3 hours
Viñales to Cienfuegos via Bay of Pigs - 8 hours
Cienfuegos to Trinidad - 3 hours
Trinidad to Havana via Santa Clara - 7 hours















Day 1 - Arrive Havana



Havana has to be one of the most exciting cities in the world. Its definitely intriguing and unique. Your base in Havana during the tour is in one of our guesthouses, centrally located in Old Havana. Central Havana or Vedado. Havana is Cuba at its most intense - narrow streets with old crumbling buildings and full of locals who are not placed there for the tourists but rather because this is their home. You will see them working, going to school, socialising, and going about their daily lives. Simply wandering the streets will give you a new experience and fill you with many questions about how the country functions.

The tour package itself does not include much time in Havana, so we recommend that you book an extra night or two in Havana, either before or after the tour. After the tour is probably preferable, as by then, you will have learnt a bit about how things work in Cuba and how to get around. Plus you'll have the chance to talk to your tour guide and get some recommendations of what to do and see in Havana. When you book the tour you can request these extra nights on your booking form.

The tour package includes an airport arrival transfer. This is a private car that will take you directly from the airport to your guesthouse accommodation in Havana for the first night of the tour. Today is programmed as and arrival day so we haven't included any activities until tomorrow morning. You tour guide however will be in touch with you at your guesthouse, and communicate any group meeting times. For those who arrive early enough, the tour guide will arrange to get together and go out for dinner to explore Havana at night.

Day 2,3 - Viñales

Before departing Havana, we have a guided walking tour of the historic centre of Havana (approx 2 hours).

From Havana to Viñales its about a 3 hour drive, and on the way we usually stop for lunch. There are quite a few attractions around this heavily forested area including a short trek to a waterfall, a steep walk to a lookout, a very impressive orchid garden.













We then make our way on to Pinar del Rio and the town of Viñales. Surrounded by picturesque limestone pincushion hills ("mogotes"), Viñales is a small and culturally rich village, with friendly and welcoming residents and wide variety of outdoor activities available. This is where you will get your first experience staying in the house of a Cuban family. Exploring caves, hiking, biking, horseback riding or simply enjoying the views of the valley and sprawling tobacco fields below are all options. Viñales is one of the more agriculturally productive areas, so an abundance of local seasonal fruit and vegetables is always on offer such as enormous avocados and mangoes, pineapples, papaya, guava, and a several varieties of sweet potatoes. Its one of the cooler areas of Cuba, so its also a nice escape from the hotter parts of the country. The nightlife is very active in this village with the local residents more than willing participants in dancing to the local live music.

Day 4 - Bay of Pigs / Cienfuegos

We head back past Havana to the French founded city of Cienfuegos through the densely vegetated Peninsula de Zapata swamp-lands, and along the beautiful Bay of Pigs. This is where the landing of counter-revolutionary exile militia occured in 1961. There is a musuem here that recounts the events of this conflict which resulted in the first defeat of a U.S backed take-over in Latin America. We will also make stops at a beautiful swimming hole (cenote) which resembles a huge natural tropical fish tank, and if the conditions are favourable, at beach for snorkelling.

Cienfuegos appeal lies partly in the European flavour of its colonial hub, with a wide Parisian-style boulevard and elegant colonnades, and there is an ambience to inspire Cuba's most celebrated Son singer to write the words "Cienfuegos is the city I like best".

Day 5,6 - Trinidad

For most visitors to Cuba, Trinidad is their standout favourite destination (well, for the ones that make it this far anyway). No other colonial city in Cuba is so well preserved, and the local residents are extremely friendly and festive. Trinidad is steeped in religiosity, none the least of which is Santeria, which is one of several Afro-Cuban religions.

The thing however that visitors most love about Trinidad is the nightlife. There are no less than 10 live music venues all within a short walking distance. Many of these have lovely outdoor settings, in courtyards, and within the walls of old colonial ruins.

We are near the lovely Valle de los Ingenios (Valley of Sugarmills) and Playa Ancón - where you can enjoy long stretches of unspoiled, white sand beaches. Scuba diving, snorkeling, swimming in waterfalls and horse-riding are other optional activities.











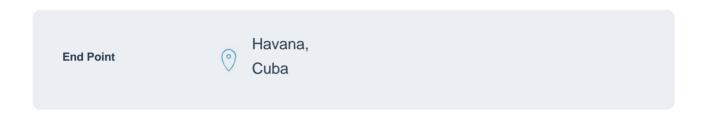


Day 7 - Havana

On the way back to Havana we stop in at the town of Santa Clara, a key city in the Cuban Revolution. Upon entering Santa Clara, there is a huge statue of Ernesto Ché Guevara, to commemorate his death and that of the revolutionaries who died along with him in Bolivia. There is also a museum here dedicated to his amazing life

Its one final night of the tour in Havana, and your tour guide will have some suggestions for a farewell dinner and fun night out.

Day 8 - Depart Havana



Today you are free to depart at anytime.

What's Included

Accommodation

Cuban Guesthouses throughout. Twinshare

Guide

Local guide throughout

Meals

7 breakfasts













Transport

- Private transport throughout: mini-bus, micro-bus, or taxi depending on group
- size Airport arrival transfer

Others

Walking tour of Old Havana, Che Guevara Museum













Departure Dates

starting in Havana	Havana
25 March 2019	01 April 2019
28 March 2019	04 April 2019
04 April 2019	11 April 2019
08 April 2019	15 April 2019
11 April 2019	18 April 2019
18 April 2019	25 April 2019
22 April 2019	29 April 2019
25 April 2019	02 May 2019
02 May 2019	09 May 2019
09 May 2019	16 May 2019
16 May 2019	23 May 2019
23 May 2019	30 May 2019
30 May 2019	06 June 2019
06 June 2019	13 June 2019
13 June 2019	20 June 2019
20 June 2019	27 June 2019













27 June 2019	04 July 2019
04July 2019	11 July 2019
11 July 2019	18 July 2019
18July 2019	25 July 2019
25 July 2019	01 August 2019
01 August 2019	08 August 2019
08 August 2019	15 August 2019
15 August 2019	22 August 2019
22 August 2019	29 August 2019
-	3 - 1 3 - 1 - 1
29 August 2019	05 September 2019
29 August 2019 05 September 2019	•
	05 September 2019
05 September 2019	05 September 2019 12 September 2019
05 September 2019 12 September 2019	05 September 2019 12 September 2019 19 September 2019
05 September 2019 12 September 2019 19 September 2019	05 September 2019 12 September 2019 19 September 2019 26 September 2019
05 September 2019 12 September 2019 19 September 2019 26 September 2019	05 September 2019 12 September 2019 19 September 2019 26 September 2019 03 October 2019

See all departures at www.traveldestinee.com/tour-packages













159 Reviews

Meals ★★★★ Value for money ★★★★



Samantha Rourke

Review on March 11th, 2019



Our 8 day tour of Cuba wit His cuban Adventures was amazing. We had such a fantastic time seeing such a wonderful country with a tour group who became like family. Camilo our guide was just the best and our driver Louis was a total gent. Thank so much for creating such a brilliant tour of Cuba. I look forward to coming back and seeing some more of this incredible country. Just a shame I couldn't bring all my tour group back too - by the end of the trip we were all like family. Couldn't rate any better



Dieter Illig

Review on March 10th, 2019



Our tour guide Adrian was friendly, patient, knowledgeable and seemed to enjoy his job. Couldn't have had a better guide or driver















Nils Alve Olsson

Review on March 9th, 2019



Really good, nice to have time to explore by yourself but to have help IF you want



Shawn Mcclean

Review on March 8th, 2019



Adrian was a great tour guide. It exceeded my expectations and great price and accommodations. Would recommend to a friend.



Letetia Coleman

Review on March 6th, 2019



Camilo's love for his country and delight in sharing it with strangers was evident every moment of the trip. He went out of his way to ensure each of us was comfortable and enjoying ourselves, not an easy task when a group has varied tastes and needs. The wealth of information Camilo provided regarding Cuba's history and culture was absolutely invaluable to my understanding of the country. Our bus driver, Luis, was quietly friendly and highly professional. My daughter and I had the pleasure of conversing with him during a group dinner one evening, which added to our already favorable impression of him. If I am fortunate enough to visit Cuba again, I will definitely ask for Camilo to be our tour guide!













Question & Answers

?

Are meals included?

7 breakfasts are included on the tour. All other meals are at your own expense, however, your tour guide will give you plenty of options of where the best places are to eat!

?

What is the age range?

This tour has a minimum age limit of 18 so no children are able to participate however there is no upper age limit as you are only as young as you feel!

?

What are the optional excursions?

On the tour, you will have time to participate in optional activities the available options are as below: Please note all prices are per person, in CUC (Cuban Pesos Convertibles) and are subject to change. Havana Tourist Bus day pass \$10 Tourist Bus to the beach (return) \$5 Tropicana show \$70-\$100 Parisien cabaret show \$35 Buena Vista Social Club show \$30 (\$50 with dinner) Museum entrances \$2-\$8 each Cigar Factory Tour \$12 Baseball game attendance \$3 Theatre, music, or ballet performance \$5-\$25 La Cabaña Fortress canon blast ceremony \$10 Hershey train ride \$3 Viñales Bicycle rental \$5 full day Beach excursion \$20 to \$35 Horseback riding \$5/hr Vinales valley trek \$10 Indian Cave \$5 Santo Tomas caving excursion \$12 [+ \$25 transport (per taxi)] Day bus pass \$5 Relaxing by the pool Free Live music venues up to \$2 Salsa dance lesson (individual) \$10 Cooking class \$3 Cienfuegos Botanical Gardens \$4 Palacio del Valle \$2 Cabaret Guarnaroca \$5 Excursion to El Nicho Waterfall \$25 Trinidad Bicycle rental \$5 full day Bus to the beach \$2 per person (taxi \$8) Horseback riding \$25 Moped rental \$24 Trek to Waterfall \$18 to \$55 Snorkelling trip \$15 Diving \$60 (2-tank dive) Cayo Blanco day trip on catamaran \$45 Steam Train ride through the Sugar Mill Valley \$10 Live music venues up to \$3 Salsa dance lesson (group) \$5 per person Salsa dance lesson (individual) \$10 Musical instrument lesson \$10 Massage \$25

(?)

Do you arrange airport transfers?

An arrival transfer from Havana airport is included in the tour price. A departure transfer can be purchased for an additional cost, or you can catch your own taxi back to the airport which is very safe and simple.















Are Americans allowed to take this tour?

Yes, Americans are welcome on any of our tours! This tour is a great option for US travellers who want lots of freedom to plan their own activities and are comfortable with meeting the general license requirements on their own. On this tour neither our reservations staff nor our guides can provide you any special advice or assistance for your general license. To confirm your tour you just have to tell us which category of general license you are choosing, and then once you are booked on the tour we will email you an affidavit to fill out and email back to us. If you prefer a more structured tour where you don't have to worry about developing a compliant itinerary, you can join one of the 2 specialty tours we offer: our 9 day http://www.Travel Destinee.com/t/81577 and 15 day http://www.Travel Destinee.com/t/79547. Both of these tours have the full itinerary to meet the requirements and we provide additional support and documentation for a hassle-free experience.

?

Is there a hotel list available?

Unfortunately, there is no list of accommodations available for this tour, as all accommodations are subject to change until 4-6 weeks before the departure date. After the booking is made you will be issued your final trip documents with your specific accommodation details. The tour operator has advised that you will be staying 7 nights in casa particulares, which are equivalent to B&B's. The accommodations will be twinshare, however, an optional single supplement is available for this tour. The casas are consistently rated by travellers, as more enjoyable and about the same comfort level as a 3 star Cuban hotel. However, the level of service and personal attention in the casas are generally far superior to the hotels in Cuba. This is because the casas are privately run, profit-making enterprises that rely on word-of-mouth recommendations among travellers, so the owners and staff are highly motivated to provide the best service they possibly can. They take pride in their work!

?

Can you assist with booking additional accommodation?

Of course, we can! Once you have a confirmed booking on this tour, we can request additional accommodation for you with the tour operator. The pre and post accommodation is in one of the tour operator's guesthouses including breakfast.















I'm a solo traveller, is there a single supplement?

If you are a solo traveller you have the option of either sharing a room with another passenger on the tour of the same gender or for an additional cost you can pay a single supplement which ensures you have a private room for the duration of the tour. To add a private room please choose this rooming option on the booking page after you have clicked 'Book Now' on the departure date you are interested in.

?

Is this a People to People tour?

No, this is not a people to people tour but it provides an excellent foundation for your general license travel in Support for the Cuban People or any of the other categories of travel here http://www.Travel Destinee.com/days-to-come/can-americans-travel-to-cuba/. Since the tour doesn't include many activities you are responsible for ensuring that you are maintaining and documenting a full schedule as required by the regulations for the general license you have selected, you can view the requirements on the OFAC website. If you prefer a more structured tour where you don't have to worry about developing a compliant itinerary, you can join one of the 2 specialty tours we offer: our 9 dayhttp://www.Travel Destinee.com/t/81577 and 15 day http://www.Travel Destinee.com/t/79547. Both of these tours have the full itinerary to meet the requirements and we provide additional support and documentation for a hassle-free experience.

?

Do I need a visa?

As a tour booking website, Travel Destinee cannot organise visas for you on your behalf as the visa requirements are regularly being updated and vary for the nationality of one traveller to the next. It is for this reason that we recommend checking with your local embassy or consulate website for the latest up to date information.















Why Book with us?

No Booking Fees

We charge 0% booking fees and 0% credit card fees. You won't find any hidden fees. #BoycottBookingFees

Flexible Payment Options

You can pay with a credit card or PayPal account to ensure that your booking are always easy.











Earn Unlimited Travel Credits

You can use Travel Credit towards your next tour booking on Travel Destinee. Travel Destinee Credits do not expire.

Safely book online

All your details are safetly protected by a secure connection.



24/7 Customer Support

We are a team of experienced tour specialists who have travelled to hundreds of countries around the globe. Our online Customer Support team brings years of professional expertise in the travel industry, and can assist with all of your tour-related questions.

www.traveldestinee.com/contact











Policies

Location

Start and end in Havana.

Trusted

Your money is safe with Travel Destinee, as we only pay the tour operator after your tour has departed.

Deposit

Travel Destinee only requires a deposit of ₹9,999 to confirm this Cuban Adventures booking. The remaining balance is then payable 60 days prior to the departure date. For any tour departing before 11 May 2019 the full payment of ₹29,665 is necessary.

Cancellation policy

No additional cancellation fees! You can cancel the tour up to 60 days prior to the departure date and you will not need to pay the full amount of ₹29665 for 8 Day Original, but the deposit of ₹9,999 is non-refundable. If you cancel via Travel Destinee the standard cancellation policy applies.

Availability

Some departure dates and prices may vary and Cuban Adventures will contact you with any discrepancies before your booking is confirmed.

Credit Cards

The following cards are accepted for Cuban Adventures tours: Visa - Master Card - American Express

Why book with Travel Destinee

Best Price Guarantee

If you book with Travel Destinee and within 24 hours you find a better price than ₹29,665 for the same tour, Travel Destinee will pay you the difference

Safely book online

All your details are safely protected by a secure connection

4,448 tours in Latin America

covered by 209 different operators in Latin America

No Cancellation Fee

Travel Destinee does not charge any additional cancellation fees. You can cancel the tour up to 60 days prior to the departure date. If you cancel your booking for 8 Day Original via Travel Destinee the <u>standard cancellation</u> policy applies.

151 Genuine Reviews

All reviews are verified from travellers who went on 8 Day Original

About the countries

Useful things to know before you go

Currencies



PESC

Cuba

Plugs & Adapters



Visa

Here is an indication for which countries you might need a visa. Please contact the local embassy for help applying for visas to these places.