



Referred by:

Irwindale Chamber of Commerce
June 21, 2013



World Famous Tropicana
Show Included in Havana!





DISCOVER CUBA



Day 1: Arrive Miami

Arrive in Miami and transfer to your Miami airport hotel. This evening an Informational meeting will be held at the hotel to brief you about the day 2 charter flight to Havana and the start of your people to people experience to Cuba. The evening is at leisure.

Overnight: Miami

Day 2: Miami - Bienvenidos a La Havana Cuba (L,D)

This morning transfer to the Miami International Airport and check in for your flight to **Havana, Cuba**. Upon arrival at the **Jose Marti International Airport** and clearing customs, we'll meet our local bilingual Cuban Guide outside the baggage terminal. Your drive from the airport orients you with Cuba's enigmatic capital city, whose nearly 500-year old **Habana Vieja (Old Havana)**, is home to the largest collections of Spanish-Colonial architecture in the Americas. Make a photo stop and learn more about the **Plaza of the Revolution**, the center of Cuban political life and Havana's largest plaza where huge rallies are held. Your guide speaks below the grandiose portraits of national heroes Che Guevara and Camilo Cienfuegos, and gives you time to reflect on the fact that you're standing where millions of Cubans have stood while listening to speeches of Fidel Castro. Next enjoy lunch at a local restaurant before checking into your hotel and unpacking for a 6-night stay. Dinner is included this evening.

Overnight: Havana

Day 3: Havana - Old Havana (UNESCO) - Casa Fuster - Tropicana Show (B,L,D)

Today we start with a visit to the **Bocoy Rum Factory** established in 1878. Here we interact with a docent to learn about this true working museum dedicated to the rum making process and rum industry in Cuba. Afterwards, enjoy a sample of the rum produced in the factory. Next enjoy a guided **walking tour** of pedestrian only **Old Havana**, a **UNESCO World Heritage Site**. See the beautiful **Cathedral de la Havana**, built in baroque style in 1748 and learn about its preservation and continuous restoration. Cuban writer Alejo Carpentier described the building as "music turned to stone." Next visit the **Marqueta Vieja Habana Museum** that houses the **scale model of the City of Havana** and to meet with an expert on the city's architecture and restoration efforts. Following lunch in Old Havana, we head to the charming fishing village of Jaimanitas to visit the incredible home and work shop of world famous artist, painter and ceramicist **Jose Fuster**, often called the "**Picasso of Cuba**". He has adorned more than 80 houses with colorful ornate murals and domes. Here we spend time with the Fuster family and meet Fuster himself (if home) as well as the local residents of the town to discuss the influence of the artist's work and their lives and community. This evening, after dinner in a local restaurant we head to the world famous **Tropicana Cabaret Show**. The Tropicana Cabaret opened in 1939 and is an extravagant spectacle with a revue of glamour and nostalgia. Before the revolution, the **Tropicana** was a casino owned by gangsters and visited by the Rich and Famous. An evening of music and history that is not to be missed at this famous nightclub show that presents song-and-dance performances reminiscent of 1950's Cuba.

Overnight: Havana

Day 4: Havana - Colon Cemetery - Museum of the Revolution (B,L)

Religion has always played an important role in Cuban society that continues today. This morning enjoy a walking tour with a local historian of the fascinating **Colon Cemetery (Cementerio de Cristobal Colon)**, founded in 1876 and named for Christopher Columbus. The cemetery is noted for its many elaborate sculpted memorials and contains more than 500 major mausoleums, chapels and family vaults and is considered by many to be the most ornate necropolis in the world and is the final resting place for noted Cubans including artists, writers, musicians and ballplayers. Next tour the famous **Museum of the Revolution** that displays documents and artifacts, weapons and planes from the revolution. See artifacts & learn more about the Bay of Pigs, the 1961 historic clash between the CIA trained Cuban exiles & rebel forces, the event that defined US-Cuba relations for decades. The museum is housed in the former Presidential Palace which was the home to Cuba's leaders from the 1920s until 1959. This building offers beautiful architecture as well as an interior that was designed by Tiffany's. Next visit the **San Jose Craft Market and Art Center** to meet and interact with the local artists to discuss and learn of the importance of their art in Cuban culture. Learn from the artists who share their experiences of pursuing the arts with limited access to materials and funding.

Overnight: Havana



Premier World Discovery / Chamber Explorations has been issued a specific license by The Department of the Treasury, Office of Foreign Assets Control (OFAC), which authorizes registered guests of our programs to visit Cuba legally. There are no applications to complete, and your travel with us is fully authorized. Prior to departure, you will receive a copy of our Specific License and a Letter of Authorization which legalizes your travel to Cuba.

This itinerary provides a full time schedule of activities that result in meaningful exchanges through people-to-people contact. U.S. law requires all travelers joining this program adhere to the full time schedule and imposes on Premier World Discovery / Chamber Explorations the responsibility to ensure such observance.

Day 5: Havana (B,L)

Visit the **Cuban Literacy Museum** where we'll learn about a national effort to educate rural farmers and families. The two things of which Cuba is most proud, and which it most emphasizes, are health care and education. The campaign to make all illiterate Cubans literate within one year was announced by Fidel Castro in his speech to the United Nations in 1960. By 1961 the campaign had largely succeeded. This small museum's treasures include uniforms worn by literacy campaign participants, books, manuals and more. Following lunch at a local restaurant we will visit the **Lizt Affonso Dance Studio**. She is considered one of the finest Flamenco dancers in Cuba. Enjoy a performance and learn about the importance of Flamenco dancing with an opportunity to meet and interact with the dancers. Next tour the **National Museum of Fine Arts**, opened in 1954 and offering an extensive art collection of the works from the painters of the earliest colonizers of Cuba. Here we meet with a Cuban art expert and local historian for a presentation on the importance of Cuban art housed in this magnificent museum.

Overnight: Havana

Day 6: Havana - Vinales Valley (UNESCO) - Pinar Del Rio - Havana (B,L,D)

Today we travel out of Havana and into the rural Cuban countryside to the **Vinales Valley** located in the western most mountainous range in Cuba and declared a **UNESCO World Heritage Site**. This region, the western province of **Pinar del Rio** is known for its stunning scenery, a landscape of prehistoric looking flat-top mountains or "mogotes", tobacco plantations, caves and rivers. Stop at the **Francisco Donatien Cigar Factory** for a guided visit to learn about the manufacturing of fine Cuban cigars and interact with the factory workers about the history and process. The factory specializes in Cohiba & Monte Cristo cigars. Next, visit a traditional **Tobacco Farm and Farmhouse** to meet with the farmer to learn about tobacco cultivation, the drying process and experience a cigar rolling demonstration inside the drying hut. Enjoy a visit inside his farmhouse, meeting and interacting with his family while enjoying some Cuban coffee. A great opportunity to witness up close, how Cuban families live in a rural setting. Later stop at the **Los Jasmines viewpoint** for incredible views of the **Vinales Valley** and an opportunity to enjoy the spectacular scenery and take panoramic pictures of this beautiful region.

Overnight: Havana

Day 7: Havana - Guanabacoa - Hemingway Farm (B,L,D)

This morning we'll venture to **Guanabacoa**, with its rich religious diversity. This town has some of the finest colonial churches where locals worship both Catholic and Santeria Saints. Santeria is a dynamic example of the perseverance and inventiveness of the West African slaves who were brought to Cuba to work on the sugar plantations. We'll visit the interesting and eclectic **Museo de Guanabacoa of Santeria Ori-shas** and see exhibits on the Santeria Afro-Cuban culture, a sugarcane machine and an early 1900's Cadillac. Also enjoy a **Santeria dance and music performance** by locals with a chance to interact with them. Next enter the world of Ernest Hemingway with a visit to **Hemingway's Farm, Finca La Vigia** (meaning 'lookout house'). This beautiful property hosts the house where the Nobel Prize winner lived with his wife Martha for 21 years. View the perfectly preserved home where many of the Hemingway personal belongings remain intact. View his yacht on display, the **Pilar** in which he used to patrol for Nazis in the Caribbean waters and featured in his novel "Islands in the Stream". Next enjoy lunch at a local restaurant in Havana before a visit to the **Morro Castle**, built in 1589, to protect the mouth of the Havana Harbor. In this case "Morro" in Spanish means a rock which is very visible from the sea and therefore serves as a navigational landmark. Perched on the headland on the opposite side of the harbor from Old Havana it can be viewed from miles around as it dominates the port entrance. Continue to the **University of Arts of Cuba (Instituto Superior de Arte)**, the premier school in Cuba for music, visual arts and performing arts. Its housed in a collection of eye popping buildings, a major architectural project completed in the early 1960's. Enjoy a tour of the school and its studio space offering insight into their experience as artists and Cubans. Enjoy a **Farewell Dinner** at a local restaurant this evening.

Overnight: Havana

Day 8: Depart Havana - USA (B)

Following breakfast at the hotel, we'll transfer to the airport for our return flights home with incredible memories the people, music and culture of **Cuba**.

Highlights/Experiences:

- Plaza of the Revolution
- Old Havana Walking Tour (UNESCO)
- Hemingway's Farm - Finca La Vigia
- Tour Home & Studio of Artist Jose Fuster
- Walking Tour of the Colon Cemetery
- Museum of the Revolution
- Tour of the Bocoym Rum Factory
- San Jose Craft Market and Art Center
- Tropicana Show
- Lizt Affonso Dance Studio
- National Museum of Fine Arts
- Santeria Music Performance
- Vinales Valley (UNESCO)
- Francisco Donatien Cigar Factory Visit
- Tobacco Farm & Family Farmhouse Visit

Inclusions:

- Round Trip Airfare from Los Angeles (LAX)
- U.S. Air Departure Taxes/Fees (\$133 pp)
- Hotel & Airport Transfers
- 7 Nights First Class Hotel
- Professional Bilingual Cuban Guide
- Tour Manager
- Cuban Travel Visa (\$75 pp)
- Cuban Health Insurance
- 16 Meals - (6B, 6L, 4D)
- Interactions & Admissions per Itinerary.
- Baggage Handling - (1 Checked Bag per person)
- Transportation by Deluxe Air Conditioned Motorcoach
- Daily Bottled Water
- Gratuities for Hotel Porters, Wait Staff at included Meals, Step on Guides and All People to People Visits & Interactions

Accommodations:

- 1 Night Miami Airport Hilton
www.hiltonmiamiairport.com
or
Sheraton Miami Airport Hotel
www.sheraton.com/miami
- 6 Nights Melia Habana Hotel, Havana
www.meliacuba.com

Program Rates:

\$3,999 per person/double

(Chamber Member Rate)

\$4,099 per person/double

(Non-Member Rate)

\$450 single supplement

Hotels, itinerary, inclusions and people to people visits are subject to change.

DISCOVER CUBA RESERVATION FORM:

JUNE 21, 2013 / BOOKING #72675

Please submit names exactly as they appear on passports:

TSA SECURE FLIGHT REQUIREMENT

Passport Name: _____ Date of Birth: _____ Gender: _____
 (MM/DD/YY) _____ M F

Passport Number: _____ Date of Issuance: _____ Expiration Date: _____

Roommate's Passport Name: _____ Date of Birth: _____ Gender: _____
 (MM/DD/YY) _____ M F

Passport Number: _____ Date of Issuance: _____ Expiration Date: _____

Your Address _____

City _____ State _____ ZIP _____ Email Address: _____

CONTACT PHONE # _____ EMERGENCY CONTACT: (Name/Phone #) _____

PAYMENT INFORMATION:**A Passport copy is due with payment and this reservation form.**

ENCLOSED PLEASE FIND A DEPOSIT IN THE AMOUNT OF \$ _____ (\$500 PER PERSON) TO SECURE RESERVATIONS FOR _____ # OF PEOPLE. RESERVATIONS ARE ON A FIRST COME, FIRST SERVED BASIS. PLEASE SIGN UP EARLY TO SECURE YOUR SEAT.

I (WE) WISH TO PURCHASE THE CUBA CANCELLATION WAIVER AT THIS TIME: YES NO

I (WE) ARE MEMBERS OF THE IRWINDALE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE: YES NO

ENCLOSED PLEASE FIND PAYMENT IN THE AMOUNT OF \$ _____ (\$250 PER PERSON) TO SECURE THE CUBA CANCELLATION WAIVER.

TOTAL AMOUNT ENCLOSED: _____ **MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO: PREMIER WORLD DISCOVERY / CHAMBER EXPLORATIONS**

(FOR PAYMENT BY CREDIT CARD CHECK ONE:) VISA _____ MASTERCARD _____ DISCOVER _____

CREDIT CARD # _____ EXP. DATE _____

AMOUNT \$ _____ SIGNATURE _____ TODAY'S DATE _____

REFERRED BY - CONTACT INFORMATION:

Mail or Fax Completed Reservation Form to:

Irwindale Chamber of Commerce/ATTN: Lisa Bailey

ph: (626) 960-6606

fax: (626) 960-3868

16102 Arrow Hwy

Irwindale, CA 91706

email: lisa@irwindalechamber.org

PASSPORT INFORMATION: A valid U.S. passport is required for this program and is the responsibility of each passenger. Passports should be valid for up to six (6) months beyond the travel dates. All names must be submitted on reservation form above must be exactly as they appear on passenger passports.

STANDARD CUBAN TRAVEL VISA IS INCLUDED (\$75 per person) and is required for travel to Cuba and applies to United States citizens only. In order to process your Standard Cuban Travel Visa & Air Charter Service, several forms will be required with or prior to your final payment deadline. These forms include Charter Air Reservation Form & Travel Affidavit and will be sent to you prior to Final Payment Deadline. Cuban born passengers require a different Visa process which can take from 2-3 months to complete. (additional charges apply)

INCLUDED U.S. AIR DEPARTURE TAXES/FEES are approximately \$133 per person and are **INCLUDED** in the price of your program.(subject to change)

CHARTER FLIGHT BAGGAGE FEES are not included and must be paid in cash at the airport. At time of printing, MIA-HAV bag fee was \$25 (up to 44lbs.) and there was currently no bag fee from Havana to Miami. (subject to change)

INCLUDED CUBAN MEDICAL INSURANCE: Since 2010, the Cuban government requires that all travelers to Cuba must have medical insurance under an approved plan. This medical insurance is **INCLUDED** in the program price. Some pre-existing conditions are excluded.

CUBAN AIRPORT DEPARTURE TAXES are approximately \$35 U.S. (25 CUC-local currency) and **NOT INCLUDED** and can only be paid in cash at the airport in Cuba upon departure.

OPTIONAL CUBA CANCELLATION WAIVER is \$250 per person and HIGHLY RECOMMENDED. The Cuba Cancellation Waiver must be paid with deposit OR with Final Payment and is non-refundable. Payment of the per person Cuba Cancellation Waiver (waiver fee) guarantees full refund on all payments (including deposit), except the waiver fee itself, made for program rates in case of cancellation up to the time & date of departure due to passenger's personal illness (medical documentation required) or death of a member of the immediate family (official

documentation required). The waiver does not cover unused program services. The waiver fee does not cover any single supplement charges which arise from an individual's traveling companion electing to cancel for any reason prior to departure. The waiver is non-transferable and valid for each applicant only. The waiver does not cover any services not purchased through Chamber Explorations. Full policy details available. Please note that your cancelled check or credit card statement will serve as your receipt for the policy.

CANCELLATION FEES: Cancellations not covered by the Cuba Cancellation Waiver OR if the Cuba Cancellation Waiver is not purchased, are subject to the following per person penalties / fees:

Cancel up to 75 days prior to departure - \$250 per person is retained OR the \$250 Cuba Cancellation Waiver is retained.

Cancel 74-45 days prior to departure - 25% of total price is retained.

Cancel 44-31 days prior to departure - 50% of total price is retained.

Cancel 30 days or less prior to departure/no shows - No refunds.

RESPONSIBILITY: Premier World Tours LLC dba Chamber Explorations (hereafter CE) and dba Premier World Discovery (hereafter PWD), whose vouchers are used by respective agents for the passenger in all matters pertaining to hotel accommodations, interactions and transportation, hold themselves free of responsibility for any damages occasioned from any cause whatsoever. (CE)(PWD) will not be responsible for any damages or inconvenience caused by late arrivals, departures and change of schedule or other conditions nor will they be responsible for any act, omission, or event during the time the passenger is not on board their conveyance. The passage contract in use by the airline concerned, when issued, shall constitute the sole contract between the airline and the purchaser of this program, and/or passenger. (CE) (PWD) does not hold any responsibility for the conduct of any of its members, hotel, motorcoach, train, airline or other personnel. (CE) (PWD) reserves the right to decline to accept or retain any person as a member of this program at its discretion. (CE) (PWD)&/or its program host / guide retain the right to require any participant to withdraw from the tour at any time, if determined to be in the best interests of health, safety & general welfare of the group or of the individual participant. Arbitration - I/We agree, any and all disputes concerning this contract or any other material concerning the trip, or the trip itself must be resolved exclusively pursuant to binding arbitration in the state of California, pursuant to the then current rules of the American Arbitration Association. Payment of the deposit for this program constitutes acceptance of these terms and conditions. Itinerary and hotels are subject to change. CST #2048841-40. This program is operated by Premier World Discovery /Chamber Explorations.

2013 Cuba Accommodations



Miami Airport Hilton - Miami, Florida

Spend a night at the first class **Hilton Miami Airport Hotel** set on a private peninsula. The Hilton Miami Airport is a premier full-service hotel conveniently located just minutes from the airport. Guest rooms feature Hilton Serenity beds by Serta, in-room movies, minibar, coffee maker and more to ensure a comfortable stay. Enjoy a dip in the outdoor swimming pool or some leisure time strolling South Beach and all that Miami has to offer. Serving international cuisine, the Coral Café offers breakfast, lunch and dinner in a casual atmosphere while the poolside Blue Lagoon Saloon features drinks and casual dining. www.hiltonmiamiairport.com



Meliá Havana Hotel - Havana, Cuba

Unpack once and spend 6 nights at the first class **Meliá Havana Hotel**, one of Havana's premier full-service hotels. An impressive lobby decorated with tropical flora welcomes you to the Meliá Havana in the heart of Miramar located on the ocean. Beautiful guest rooms welcome you with a private balcony, satellite TV, hair dryer and air conditioning. After a busy day, cool off in the outdoor swimming pool, Havana's largest, with its swim-up bar, or work out in the gym. Dining choices range from oriental fusion cuisine at La Bella Cubana to La Scala's Italian menu, the Brazilian-influenced La Terraza Sabor do Brazil, or the Miramar buffet, where dining is enlivened by traditional Cuban music – or, stop in at Bosque de La Habana for a wide variety of sandwiches, something from the Salad Bar and fresh juices. Watch the cigar roller at the Robaina Cigar Bar and perhaps enjoy one accompanied by Cuban coffee or rum... or choose Quinta Avenida in the lobby for a nightcap accompanied by live piano music. A complimentary shuttle also offers transportation into Old Havana from the hotel. www.meliacuba.com



Hotels are subject to change.

