BEST OF CUBA TOUR

MY TRAVEL EXPERIENCE

www.mytravelxp.com

hello@mytravelxp.com

1300 168 910

15 Days Best of Cuba Small Group Tour

Duration: 15 days

Departs: November 2021 to December 2023

Stay: 14 nights local Casa B&B

Travel style: Escorted small group tour – max. 12 people

Booking code: CUBAB15M

Call 1300 168 910 to speak to experts at My Travel Experience

Email hello@mytravelxp.com

15 Days Cuba Escorted Small Group Tour

About the holiday

This small group tour helps you discover the real Cuba, with local accommodation and uniquely Cuban experiences!

Your 15-day Cuba group tour will take you all over this enchanting island, allowing you to get to know the country's inhabitants and find out what makes this remarkable place tick.

From the highlights of Havana and Trinidad, to colonial Camaguey and Baracoa, you will enjoy all that the island nation has to offer. The only difficult part of the tour is when it comes to an end and it's time to say goodbye.

Why you'll love this trip…

Experience Cuban hospitality at a Casa Particular
A Local English-speaking Cuban guide accompanies our Cuba group tours
Lose yourself in the winding colonial streets of Camaguey
Dance the night away in Santiago de Cuba
Get curious exploring the spell-binding Havana Veija
Soak up the picturesque underwater landscape at the Bay of Pigs
Visit the final resting place of the immortalised Che Guevara
Take in the historic French-influenced architecture of Cienfuegos

Travel dates

Departs Havana

2021 – Mondays in November & December
2022 & 2023 – Sundays in February, March, April, October, November & December

Departures are subject to confirmation at time of booking. Price may vary depending on your travel date.

Want to stay longer or add international flights?

Call our office on 1300 168 910 for current rates & travel deals.

Escorted tour includes:

Accommodation

- 14 nights local Casa Particulars (Cuban B&B)

Meals

- 14 breakfasts

Transport

- Private minivan
- Local Viazul bus & taxi
- Internal flight

Small group tour

- Minimum 2 & maximum 12 passengers
- English-speaking tour guides

Package excludes:

International flights – please request airfare quotes
Meals & sightseeing not specified in the inclusions or itinerary
Optional tours & activities
Video & camera permits
Personal items, such as drinks, snacks, laundry etc.
Gratuities for guides, representatives & drivers
Travel insurance is essential
Prices are based on twin share, please contact us for single rates

Subject to confirmation by hotels, tour company & local operators.
Booking conditions & cancellation fees apply.

For more information phone 1300 168 910

visit www.mytravelxp.com or email help@mytravelxp.com

Flexible Tour Bookings!

Pay 21 Days Before Departure
To offer more flexibility and greater peace of mind, the due date for the final balance of payment is now reduced to 21 days prior to the departure date. This reduces risk and means you won't lose your money by locking in a great deal early.

Pay Less Up Front
Pay only $210 per person deposit to lock in a great deal for the tour of your dreams.

No Change Fees
There will be no penalties or fees to alter your tour booking up to 21 days prior to your departure date. This includes changes to: the tour, departure date, destination and/or passenger name.

If you need to change your tour booking:

- Notify us in writing at least 21 days before your departure if you are unsure about travelling and you will be given the option to keep any monies paid toward the original booking as Future Travel Credit, usable on a tour departing until 31 December 2022.

- If you change to a trip or departure that is more expensive than your original booking, you will need to cover the difference in price. If the trip or departure is less expensive than the original, a Future Travel Credit will be issued for the difference.

- If you wish to make a change with less than 21 days to your departure date, standard Terms & Conditions apply.

Visit www.mytravelxp.com for more information

Call our office on 1300 168 910 - we're here to help!

Tour Overview:

Want to see the very best Cuba has to offer? Engage in the lively culture, enthralling history and breathtaking beauty of this evocative and vibrant Caribbean island on our 15 Day Cuba Group Tour – Majestic. Current economic and political transformations in Cuba suggest that there is no better time to take one of our tours in Cuba.

Saunter down Trinidad's cobble-stoned streets, discover Havana's secrets through the windows of degenerate colonial buildings and let yourself move to the cool beat of Santiago de Cuba. Pristine beaches, pirates, salsa and Che are all on the agenda on a tour that aims to constantly excite, enthuse and enlighten.

15 DAY CUBA TOUR ITINERARY SNAPSHOT

Day One: Tour arrival Day in Havana

Day Two: Cienfuegos via Day of Pigs

Day Three: Trinidad via Santa Clara

Day Four and Five: Trinidad

Day Six and Seven: Camaguey

Day Eight and Nine: Santiago de Cuba

Day Ten, Eleven and Twelve: Baracoa

Day Thirteen and Fourteen: Havana

Day Fifteen: Departure Day

Itinerary:

DAY ONE: HAVANA
Known as the capital of fun during the 40's and 50's, this spellbinding city immediately captures the curiosity of her many visitors. But where do you start? We recommend those booked on our 15 Day Cuba Group Tour put on your walking shoes and take in Havana's rich history, grand monuments, world famous cigars and scrumptious cocktails. You can easily get lost in Havana Vieja (old Havana), the old city of cobble stoned alleyways and colonial buildings, ancient squares and noted churches. The perfect day to get your bearings and meet your guide and group for an optional evening meal.

Please note that the first day of the tour is a joining day with no formal activities planned. We do organise your accommodation for this evening and a optional dinner with your guide and group.

DAY TWO: CIENFUEGOS
Stop off at Playa Girón/ Bay of Pigs, long associated with the USA's first military failure in Latin America. The natural beauty of this area is stunning, with cave systems, coral formations and an abundance of sea life making it a must for snorkelers, divers and ocean lovers alike.

If Cuba had a Paris then it would probably be Cienfuegos, which stands out for its rich French-influenced architecture. A harbour city by location, the 'Pearl of the Caribbean' has seduced Cuban travellers for years due to its elegance and beauty. Founded in 1819 by Don Luis de Clouet, Cienfuegos luckily managed to remain free of pirate attacks, allowing this popular city to prosper. Explore the wide streets and promenades or enjoy a walk by the Malecon, the longest promenade on the island."Cienfuegos is the city I like the best", wrote Beni More, one of Cuba's most important musicians in the first half of the 20th century. Check it out for yourself and see what you think.

DAY THREE, FOUR AND FIVE: TRINIDAD
Stop at the Che Guevara mausoleum and memorial in Santa Clara, where Che's remains are immortalized following their discovery in Bolivia in 1997. Santa Clara holds a special place in Cuban history, where in December 1958, Commander Ernesto Che Guevara led his revolutionary rebels in the derailment of the armoured train carrying the ammunition Batista had sent to defeat Fidel – the revolution was won. Then it's on to the favourite destination of many a traveller to Cuba. Trinidad was founded in 1514 by Diego Velázquez and is considered a jewel in Cuban colonial architecture. For some, Trinidad is a living museum, stuck in the time of Cuba's first War of Independence when local sugar plantations were devastated by fire. The vibrant colours and soulful music littered along cobbled streets will simply take your breath away.

Take the opportunity to visit a local waterfall, historic sugar mill or one of Cuba's best beaches – Playa Ancon. An evening at one of Trinidad's effervescent music venues is a must!

DAY SIX AND SEVEN: CAMAGUEY
Don't get lost in "La Ciudad Confusa" (the maze)! The labyrinth of winding streets and alleys of Cuba's third largest city shouldn't be enough to put you off visiting the beguiling city of Camaguey – a city built to confuse pirates.

With its large number of squares and parks, colonial architecture and enriched spiritual persona, Camaguey is a mecca for Cuban arts and culture. Plan a visit to a famous historical landmark or explore a myriad of art galleries and handicraft exhibits – it's entirely up to you! There are also some of Cuba's best beaches close by at Playa Santa Lucia.

A guided tour on the back of a bicycle taxi is our gift to you!

DAY EIGHT AND NINE: SANTIAGO DE CUBA
The second largest city in Cuba is surely its most dynamic. With a myriad of ethnicities calling Santiago home, it's hard not to get swept away in its joyous and prepossessing surroundings. Plus its music and dance scene is quite possible the best in Cuba.

As the most Caribbean of Cuban destinations with a backdrop of mountains and rugged terrain, Santiago de Cuba has many things to show off and be proud of. It is the hub of most of the music genres in Cuba and the locals are hospitable, resourceful and virtuous. Make sure you visit one of Santiago de Cuba's famous tobacco factories when in town and take in a famous music venue or two in the evening on your 15 Day Cuba Group Tour.

DAY TEN, ELEVEN AND TWELVE: BARACOA
Cuba's first colonial capital, Baracoa is set amongst a mixture of palm, chocolate and banana trees. It is a land blessed with many rivers and a healthy annual rain fall, that has worked to create some of the most lush vegetation and rainforest you will ever encounter. The town has remained relatively unchanged over the years, with several houses dating back to the 19th century and a system of colonial fortifications that includes Matachin Fort and La Punta Fort.

From Baracoa there are many outdoor excursions to go on, each making use of its beautiful surroundings. Explore the bountiful rivers in the area or go boating between the tall cliffs at the mouth of Yumuri River. You can also see over 900 species of endemic flora, including around 360 that are found only in this area. Baracoa's cuisine is world famous in Cuba and a BBQ group lunch is the best way to sample the delicious local produce.

DAY THIRTEEN, FOURTEEN AND FIFTEEN: HAVANA
Back in Havana you have the opportunity to explore some more and experience Cuban nightlife one last time. A full day tour of the city including time in a classic American car is included as part of your 15 Day Cuba Group Tour – enjoy!

Please note that Day Fifteen is the tour departure day with no activities planned, meaning you are free to depart at any time.

Please note: The day by day descriptions are intended as an indicative guide only. Travel by nature is unpredictable. Weather patterns, road conditions, public holidays, travel restrictions and many other factors may necessitate itinerary changes that are ultimately for the client's benefit. It is essential that clients are flexible in this regard.

Have any questions about the itinerary? Call us on 1300 168 910.

Is this tour for me?

Our group tours are perfect for those who want the freedom and flexibility to travel at their own pace, along with the security, camaraderie and cultural insight that comes from travelling with a local English-speaking guide and small group.

Accommodation

A Casa Particular is a Cuban Homestay or B&B. Staying in a Casa Particular is a brilliant way of immersing yourself in the life and culture of fascinating Cuba. When you choose a Casa Particular for your accommodation, you will meet the local people on a one-to-one basis and get a rare glimpse into the everyday life of ordinary people in Cuba. In addition, your host or hostess will be able to advise you on all things Cuban – the best restaurants, the best music and Salsa venues and any seasonal attractions that are only known to the locals!

At the end of your stay in Havana we like to use Casa Particular accommodation in Havana Centro or Havana Vieja. Please note that a lot of the best Casa's in these areas are up several flights of stairs. If these stairs are likely to cause you problems, just let us know ahead of time and we will source a suitable alternative.

You are welcome to request extra pre or post tour accommodation on any of our Cuba group tours. Please let us know at the time of booking and we can advise rates.

Airport transfers

We include an airport transfer on arrival for all of our Cuba group tours. On departure, your local Cuban guide will help organise your transfer at market rates (no commission).

Transportation

On our Cuba group tours, we use a mixture of private transportation, local Viazul bus, taxi and an internal flights (Baracoa to Havana). Please note that on occasions, due to flight availability, the group might need to be transported to Santiago de Cuba or Holguin to fly from there.

Estimated travel times

Below are the estimated travel times between destinations on this 15 Day Cuba Group Tour. For the longer journeys on all of our tours in Cuba, our guides like to break-up the journey by stopping for lunch and at various points of interest along the way.

Havana to Cienfuegos via Bay of Pigs: 5 hours
Cienfuegos to Trinidad via Santa Clara: 4 hours
Trinidad to Camaguey: 6 hours
Camaguey to Santiago de Cuba: 7 hours
Santiago de Cuba to Baracoa: 5-6 hours

Spending money on tour

Everyone is different in the amount of money they will spend on one of our Cuba group tours. Your main expenses will be food, drinks, airport departure transportation, souvenirs, optional activities, and tips. We estimate that you will need to allow USD$40 – USD$55 per day on average for expenses.

My Travel Experience is a full-service travel agency

Want flights, car hire, escorted tours, airport transfers, travel insurance & more? My Travel Experience offers personalised service and unlike other online booking companies, we are not a one-size-fits-all travel agency. Our experienced travel consultants can design an itinerary or provide a quote for wherever you want to travel and include whatever travel services that you want to pre-book.

Plus, we are with you all the way – from your first enquiry, until your departure and when you safely return home. You will always be able to reach us. Email us today on reservations@mytravelxp.com with your preferences for any of our travel packages!

Email any questions to help@mytravelxp.com or call 1300 168 910.

Book with Confidence!

New safety measures, more flexibility and greater peace of mind.
The wellbeing and safety of our passengers and staff is always a priority, especially as we adjust to a new world for travellers. My Travel Experience is committed to ensuring your peace of mind with customer-friendly booking practices and enhanced health & safety standards on our trips. We work closely with tour operators that have received the Safe Travels stamp by the World Travel and Tourism Council (WTTC), which enables travellers to recognise companies around the world that have adopted health and hygiene global standardised protocols. We are also able to offer our clients as much flexibility as possible when making bookings, will let you know of all travel operator conditions and will help you if any unexpected situations arise.

Affordable Holidays – How do we do it?

With over 30 years' in the business, we know the travel industry better than anyone and have tracked down the best experiences around the world. We go directly to local suppliers to source the best price and holiday for you. Dealing directly with local operators is why our holidays are more affordable. We work with reputable travel professionals that offer exceptional service and safe travel policies. If you think you are paying too much for your travel arrangements, please give us a call, we will work hard to find the ideal holiday for you – that's My Travel Experience!

Call 1300 168 910 to speak to us about planning your next holiday.

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MY TRAVEL EXPERIENCE BOOKING CONDITIONS

Please read the following information prior to making your reservation

Our full set of terms and conditions can be viewed and downloaded on our website, or supplied on request from our office. We highly recommend you read My Travel Experience booking conditions prior to making your holiday reservations. This is the contract under which both parties enter, therefore we request that you only make a booking if you agree with these conditions.

This is a summary in brief for our customers:

1. Upon making a reservation with My Travel Experience you will receive a booking form, which needs to be filled out and signed to confirm that you agree to the terms and conditions.

2. Your booking will then be confirmed to you in writing and you will be required to pay a deposit to hold your reservation.

3. At this time, you must take out travel insurance for your holiday to protect you against any unforeseen circumstances.

4. Between 21-90 days prior to departure you will be asked to make the balance payment for your trip (the exact due date for your travel supplier will be advised at the time of booking).

5. 14 days prior to departure you will be sent your travel documents electronically or via Express post.

My Travel Experience operates a Client Trust bank account. This means that we do not hold your money. We pay the ultimate travel providers (Suppliers) of your travel services the funds for your holiday. The Suppliers include airlines, tour operators, cruise lines, transport companies, hotels etc. We are required to pay the Suppliers deposits and final payments to secure your booking and in some instances these items are non-refundable.

If you wish to cancel you must notify us of your cancellation in writing. We will then write to the Suppliers to cancel your booking and request a refund (if applicable) for any elements of your holiday that are refundable. You will need to make an insurance claim for any travel arrangements that are non-refundable. If you have any issues during the refund or cancellation process, you have 30 days to contact our office in writing to lodge a complaint so an immediate resolution can be found for you.

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