

TASTE OF CUBA TOUR



MY TRAVEL EXPERIENCE

www.mytravelxp.com

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1300 168 910



8 Days Taste of Cuba Small Group Tour

Duration: 8 days

Departs: November 2021 to December 2023

Stay: 7 nights local Casa B&B

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

Booking code: CUBAT8M

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

Email hello@mytravelxp.com

8 Days Cuba Escorted Small Group Tour

About the holiday

This 8-day Cuba small group tour will indulge all of your senses and is the best way to begin your love affair with this captivating destination.

While Cuba is known for producing cigars, rum, and revolutionaries, there will also be a countless number of cherished cultural memories created during your holiday. Local guides will show you the best places to try out some salsa steps and dance the night away. Lose yourself in the magnificent Old Town of Havana, immerse yourself in azure Caribbean waters and you haven't experienced a true Cuban cocktail until you've had one in Cuba.

From the highlights of Havana and Cienfuegos, to Trinidad and vibrant Vinales, you will enjoy all that the island nation has to offer. There's so much to see and experience, but in eight days you will be both stimulated and soothed.

Why you'll love this trip...

Experience Cuban hospitality at a Casa Particular

An English-speaking Cuban guide accompanies our small group tours

Get curious exploring spellbinding Havana Veija, the magnificent old town

Visit the final resting place of the immortalised Che Guevara

Take in the historic French-influenced architecture of Cienfuegos

Travel dates

Departs Havana

2021 - Sundays 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

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

Meals

- 7 breakfasts

Transport

- Private minivan
- Local Viazul bus & taxi

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:

Our 8-day Cuba small group tour will indulge all of your senses and leave you feeling both stimulated and soothed. Cuba's rich history and culture will come to life over 8 magical days, and we are quite sure that you won't want to leave.

Imagine yourself ambling along the cobblestoned streets of gorgeous Trinidad and discovering the magic of Havana. Another highlight is the Karst Valley in the achingly beautiful town of Viñales. The air is fresh and sweet, filled with rich aroma of tobacco and pulsating Salsa beats. Even the noise of those stunning 1850's cars will be music to your ears!

Itinerary:

DAY ONE: HAVANA

There's so much life in Havana, and yet this bustling city never feels overwhelming. The only difficult thing about the city is knowing where to start exploring. The best way for those on our 8 day Cuba group tour to get started is with a pair of comfortable walking shoes. The entire city is fascinating, but fortunately many of the main points of interest are within a fairly compact area. Take a leisurely stroll through Havana's Old Town, with pauses for coffee (and Cuban coffee is amongst the best in the world), or for a magical mojito. The architecture of this part of the city is an attraction in itself. The first day of our 8 day Cuba group tours is the perfect way to ease yourself into Cuban life. You can even join your guide and fellow tour group members for dinner if you arrive in time.

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.

This tour does not spend a lot of time in Havana, so we do recommend booking an extra night or two here if you have the time (or book our 10 Day Cuba Group Tour). Our team would be more than happy to provide any recommendations or advice as to the best sights, excursions and activities to focus on. We can also arrange half and full days tours in Havana and its surrounding regions.

DAY TWO: CIENFUEGOS

We'll show you Playa Girón, which is otherwise known as the Bay of Pigs. This was the site of the infamous failed invasion of Cuba. Its brutal history is nowhere to be seen, and it's now an area of profound natural beauty. You'll want to dive straight into that beautiful ocean, and don't worry - there will be time.

While most of Cuba was settled by the Spanish, it was actually the French who made Cienfuegos into the city it is today. French migrants flocked to the area in the 1800's and their architectural influence on the city is obvious. On some streets you might think you're walking through Paris (although with infinitely better weather). At the entrance to the harbour you'll see the Castillo de Jagua, an ancient fort that allowed the city to withstand the pirate attacks that were once common in Cuba. Many buildings in the town have been given UNESCO world heritage status, and you might think you've never seen such a beautiful town... until we show you some other places.

A harbour city by location, the 'Pearl of the Caribbean' has seduced Cuban travellers for years due to its elegance and beauty. 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 Cubas most important musicians in the first half of the 20th century.

DAY THREE AND FOUR: TRINIDAD

While Che Guevara is synonymous with Cuba, his final days were actually spent in Bolivia. Cuba felt he needed a hero's burial and memorial, and this is located in Santa Clara, to where his body was returned. Our 8 day Cuba group tours will take you to this remarkable spot near Trinidad. It was in Santa Clara that Guevara and his rebels successfully derailed a military train carrying weapons and ammunition to be used against Fidel Castro. This act was credited with winning the revolution.

After Santa Clara we'll take you to remarkable Trinidad. Founded in 1514, the central parts of the city have been lovingly maintained, and you might wonder if you've been transported back in time. Many buildings are painted in sensational shades of colour, making Trinidad a true treat for the eyes. Trinidad was once the heart of Cuba's sugar industry (and a lot of sugar cane is still processed here). You simply have to take a visit to the sugar district, where many of the old mills can be found. For a fairly small city, there's an amazing amount of nightlife as well.

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 FIVE AND SIX: VINALES

Viñales is reasonably close to Havana, and has been popular with visitors for generations. In the heart of the Pinar del Rio valley, most of Cuba's tobacco production takes place in and around Viñales. This is the place to see where those world-famous cigars come from, and to get some for yourself.

The geography in the area is stunning, and the town is ringed by stark mogotes - small hills with sheer rock faces. All of our Cuba group tours offer you the chance to take salsa lessons, and Viñales is the best place to do this.

The nightlife is lively, but not as crowded as larger cities - just in case you don't want to have an audience!

DAY SEVEN AND EIGHT: HAVANA

We'll welcome you back to heavenly Havana for the last days of your tour. Your guides will be able to tell you about some amazing places to see that you might not have considered. A tour of the city by classic car is included in your 8 Day Cuba Group Tour, so you'll get to see Havana as a local would. Then it will be time to say goodbye, but we are sure you'll come back to see us as soon as you can...

Please note that Day Eight is the tours departure day, 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 and this tour uses only the best Casa Particulares. These Cuban Bed and Breakfast establishments offer a taste of authentic life on the island. You will be staying as a guest of a family in private accommodation. You'll have privacy while still being able to interact with the locals as much as you want. It's a stark difference to most types of accommodation, and you will truly be made to feel welcome - you might forget that you're a paying guest and not a long-lost family friend!

A number of accommodation options are in older buildings without an elevator. If you have issues with mobility and will be unable to comfortably climb several flights of stairs, please let us know. We can happily find you a wonderful alternative to suit your needs. We've got you covered if you want to spend a few extra days in Havana before or after your Cuba group tour. Just let us know when you make your booking.

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 minivan, local Viazul bus and taxi.

Estimated travel times

How long does it take to travel between destinations on this 8-Day Cuba Group Tour? It's not as though we're going to whisk you from town to town as fast as possible. A leisurely pace of life is something the Cuban people pride themselves on, so on a longer journey we will of course stop for lunch, a chance to stretch your legs, and to take a closer look at the beautiful countryside.

From Havana to Cienfuegos (via Bay of Pigs): 5 hours

From Cienfuegos to Trinidad (via Santa Clara): 4 hours

From Trinidad to Viñales: 7 to 8 hours

From Viñales to Havana: 3 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.

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

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!

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.



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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