



Discover Corps

Unforgettable Vacations With Purpose



CUBA: CELEBRATION OF ARTS & CULTURE



MEMORABLE MOMENTS

- **Uncover Cuba's vibrant art & music scene**
- **Walk along the colonial boulevards of Cienfuegos**
- **Witness a private performance by a traditional Cuban guitar ensemble**
- **Experience a Havana neighborhood transformed by the art of José Fuster**
- **Soak in the beauty of Trinidad, a UNESCO World Heritage Site**

Enjoy Private Music Performances and Meet Cuban Artists on this Cultural Exploration

TRIP AT A GLANCE

8 Days / 7 Nights

PHYSICAL DEMAND

Easy

GROUP SIZE

Average 8, Maximum 16

LODGING

Standard



SIGNATURE JOURNEY

CUBA: CELEBRATION OF ARTS & CULTURE

OUR PURPOSE

You'll dive in to Cuba's thriving arts scene, meeting artists and enjoying exclusive music and dance performances and visits to community art projects. Along the way, you'll get to know the gracious Cuban people who are willing to share their lives and culture with us. This is a special opportunity to see the real Cuba and uncover the most beautiful corners of the island. Whether it's in the atmospheric streets of Havana or along the cobblestone roads of colonial Trinidad, you'll have the chance to experience Cuba at a time when it could be about to change forever.

Our journey begins in the capital of Havana, then sweeps southwest through the cobble streets and pastel-colored buildings of Trinidad and the French colonial town of Cienfuegos. Our unique exploration focuses on meeting artists and musicians, and visiting inspirational community-based collectives that are empowering ordinary Cubans. You'll be immersed in Cuban culture, savoring the local cuisine at paladares and staying at casas particulares (family-run bed & breakfasts). Along the way, you'll be surrounded by the joie de vivre that characterizes Cuba, with artwork on every corner and jazz and salsa spilling out of cafés onto the lively streets.

Havana

DAY 1 - Arrive and settle in to your casa particular for a welcome dinner

DAY 2 - Enjoy a performance from a Cuban dance troupe and visit art galleries

DAY 3 - Visit the Havana Rum Museum and the Muraleando arts organization

Trinidad & Cienfuegos

DAY 4 - Visit the Bay of Pigs and French colonial Cienfuegos en route to Trinidad

DAY 5 - Take a tour of Trinidad and enjoy a salsa dancing class

Havana

DAY 6 - Experience a traditional Cienfuegos guitar performance and return to Havana

DAY 7 - Explore Ernest Hemingway's former home, Finca Vigía

DAY 8 - Return home

Optional Post-Trip Extension: Natural Cuba

DAY 8 - Head West to Las Terrazas, a UNESCO World Biosphere Reserve, for a coffee plantation tour

DAY 9 - Discover ecological farming in the gorgeous Viñales Valley

DAY 10 - Return home



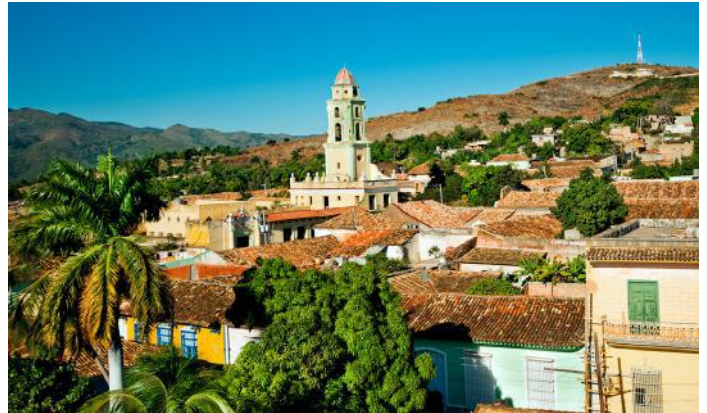


HIGHLIGHTS



MURALEANDO

During your time in Havana you'll visit Muraleando, an inspiring community art project in the barrio of Lawton. This was once a deprived area, hit hard by the economic difficulties of the 1990s. Then, out of an old water tank, was born this forward-thinking art project, which inspired local kids to get off the streets and get creating art, learning techniques like painting and printmaking and traditional Cuban arts like salsa dancing.



CIENFUEGOS & TRINIDAD

The colonial Spanish architecture of Trinidad, in central Cuba, has earned the city a UNESCO World Heritage Site listing and ranks it among the island's best attractions. The city's wealth and significance was built upon the sugarcane industry, and the nearby Valle de los Ingenios – Valley of the Sugar Mills – is home to several evocative ruins. For an overview of Trinidad's history, head to the Museo Histórico Municipal, or just soak up the peaceful atmosphere of the Plaza Mayor.



HAVANA RUM MUSEUM

Cuba is famous for its cocktails, from daiquiris to mojitos, and we owe them all to the island's most popular spirit, rum. At the Museo del Ron (Rum Museum), you'll get a feel for the whole production process, from sugarcane to distilling. The museum is housed in an evocative 18th-century townhouse, and is full of period features such as wooden fermentation casks and gleaming copper pipes. At the end of the tour comes the part you've been waiting for – an extensive tasting at the Havana Club Bar.



FINCA VIGIA

For American visitors, the life of Ernest Hemingway is inextricably linked with Cuba. He made his home here, on and off, between 1939 and 1960, at the hilltop property of Finca Vigía in the Havana neighborhood of San Francisco de Paula. The house has been kept more or less as he left it, allowing for a fascinating glimpse not only into times gone by, but into the life of a literary legend.



ITINERARY

DAY 1: Arrive, Meet Your Group and Explore Old Havana

Arriving in Havana, we'll settle into our casa and set out to explore the colonial streets and plazas of Old Havana. On the first evening, we'll enjoy a welcome dinner together before soaking up some Cuban culture during a jazz performance. (L,D)

DAY 2: Enjoy a Cuban Dance Show and Visit the Museum of Fine Arts

After breakfast, we'll enjoy an introduction to Cuban art and music with a visit to a globally recognized Cuban dance troupe. Then we'll take a walk through Cuban artist José Fuster's neighborhood, transformed by public art, before lunch at the iconic Sloppy Joe's. We'll also visit the renowned National Museum of Fine Arts, before dinner at a private paladar. (B,L,D)

DAY 3: Visit a Community Arts Project and the Havana Rum Museum

This morning we'll tour the University of Havana Campus before visiting the community-based arts organization Muraleando for live music and lunch; here you can purchase unique art created by talented local artists. In the afternoon, head to the Havana Rum Museum for a tour and sampling of Cuba's most famous export, before we visit the Fabrica de Arte, an old factory transformed into a thriving center of creativity and nightlife (or similar if the factory is closed for events). (B,L,D)

DAY 4: Depart Havana for Cienfuegos and Trinidad

Heading out of Havana, we'll hit the road to Trinidad, visiting the historic site of the Bay of Pigs invasion along the way. In the French colonial town of Cienfuegos we'll enjoy lunch and a tour of its historic streets, before we meet with a local artist. We'll arrive in Trinidad for an evening at your leisure. (B,L,D)

"Traveling in Cuba, I quickly discovered that art & music are around every corner. Whether it's walking through the vibrant streets of Old Havana or discovering the cafes of Trinidad, Cuba is a truly the most colorful place I have ever visited." - Jeff C.





DAY 5: Guided Tour of Trinidad and Salsa Dancing Class

A guided tour takes us through the colorful alleyways of Trinidad, where the sound of horses' hooves drifts through the air and Spanish buildings line tropical plazas. We'll learn a few steps at a private salsa class, before dinner on your own in the Plaza Mayor, which comes to life each evening with live music and dance. (B,L)

DAY 6: Head Back to Havana and Enjoy a Cuban Guitar Performance

This morning we head back to Havana, stopping again in Cienfuegos for a private performance from a traditional Cuban guitar ensemble. After lunch by the sea we'll continue our journey, arriving in Havana just in time for dinner at a *paladar* near the world famous Malecón. (B,L,D)



DAY 7: Visit Hemingway's House and Enjoy a Farewell Dinner

Today we'll visit Finca Vigía, the former home of iconic author Ernest Hemingway. We'll then continue to the small fishing village of Cojimar for lunch, followed by some last-minute souvenir shopping at a popular market. Tonight we'll savor a farewell dinner together, reflecting on the week's highlights. (B,L,D)

DAY 8: Return Home

Today sadly sees the end of your Cuban adventure. After enjoying breakfast at your casa, we'll say our goodbyes and transfer you back to the airport, for your flight home. (B)



Standard Lodging

You will have the unique opportunity to stay in *casas particulares*, or private homes, while in Cuba. *Casas* are similar to family-run bed & breakfasts (think Airbnb with breakfast in the morning) and all include jack-and-jill style bathrooms, air condition, and security. On this trip, stay in the business center of Havana before heading out to Trinidad where you'll stay in a quaint home surrounded by beautiful cobblestone streets, colorful buildings, and old colonial architecture.



OPTIONAL EXTENSION: NATURAL CUBA



DAY 8: Depart for Las Terrazas for a Coffee Plantation Tour

Hit the road and head West to Las Terrazas, a UNESCO Biosphere Reserve in the heart of the Cuban countryside. Enjoy freshly prepared coffee and vegetarian food sourced directly from the valley for lunch before visiting one of Cuba's first coffee plantations for a tour from local farmers. In the afternoon, meet with artisans from the small eco-village that continues to thrive here. Visit the famous San Juan River to soak in the waterfalls and natural swimming pools before heading back to your *casa particular* for dinner (L,D).

DAY 9: Discover Ecological Farming in the Gorgeous Viñales Valley

Today we discover what is possibly the most enchanting region of Cuba – the Viñales Valley. Huge rocky cliffs line the lush valley, dotted with small farms and traditional villages. Spend the morning at one of the largest orchid gardens in Cuba followed by a visit to an agro-ecological farm where you will see Cuba's organic farming heritage in practice. Our visit will culminate with a delicious lunch overlooking the valley alongside the staff of the farm, before a guided tour of the town. (B,L,D)

DAY 10: Return Home

Today sees the end of your Cuban adventure. We'll say our goodbyes before heading back to Havana to catch our flights home. (B)



Understanding Legal Travel to Cuba

Everything You Need To Know

Discover Corps has always remained a legal way to travel to Cuba because we operate under the *support for the Cuban people* license. On June 4, 2019 the Treasury Department released their updated policy ([read it here](#)), which caused many companies to panic.

In short, the new regulations stopped the use of the *People to People* license as a way to legally travel to Cuba, which was one of the top two most popular licenses utilized in the travel industry. This meant:

- Many cruise lines and companies who were operating under the people to people license will no longer be able to visit Cuba
- Cruise ships can no longer dock in Cuba
- Commercial flights will continue as always to the island, you just need to make sure you are traveling with a company who operate under a legal license.

The *people to people* license allowed these companies to hire government agencies to help plan activities, hire guides, and stay in government-run hotels. Because of Discover Corps unique focus, this was never the way we approached travel to Cuba.



Support for the Cuban People - How Does it Work?

This license truly ensures that you are traveling with the intention and itinerary planned that will help support Cuban micro-entrepreneurs. Discover Corps has always operated under the belief that travel should be an exchange, where we leave the destination a little bit better than we left it. For this reason, our five Cuba itineraries have always been operated responsibly with the intention to make the world a better place – in Cuba, for us that means supporting individual Cuban individuals and businesses, and help grow the private sector in the country.

- **Stay at *casas particulares***, or privately owned bed and breakfasts.
- **Eat at local *paladars***, or privately owned restaurants
- **Spend 8 hours per day engaging in activities that support the people of Cuba.** For Discover Corps, this includes hands-on learning at a local music and arts center, visiting local artist studios, volunteering at a center for special needs children, connecting with local farmers in Viñales Valley, supporting local dance troupes, and more
- **Hire guides and drivers who do not work for a government agency.**

You still need to travel with a tour company in order to travel to Cuba legally, and it is important that you have your paperwork organized. Discover Corps will be able to keep the proper paperwork (receipts and your itinerary) on file for you and help you obtain the correct Cuban visa so you can travel to Cuba stress-free.

If you ever have any questions, don't hesitate to let us know! Also check out our [Cuba FAQs webpage](#) for more information.



CUBA: CELEBRATION OF ARTS & CULTURE

7 DAYS / 6 NIGHTS

| DATE | ADULT | CHILD |
|-------------------------|----------------|----------------|
| November 11-18, 2023 | \$3,895 | \$3,695 |
| January 20-27, 2024 STS | \$3,895 | \$3,695 |
| March 9-16, 2024 | \$3,895 | \$3,695 |
| March 30-April 6, 2024 | \$3,895 | \$3,695 |
| June 22-29, 2024 STS | \$3,895 | \$3,695 |
| August 10-17, 2024 | \$3,895 | \$3,695 |
| September 7-14, 2024 | \$3,895 | \$3,695 |
| November 9-16, 2024 | \$3,895 | \$3,695 |

| | | |
|---------------------------|---------------|---------------|
| OPTIONAL EXTENSION | \$1295 | \$1195 |
|---------------------------|---------------|---------------|

The above prices reflect the price of double occupancy. Single Room Supplements are \$500 per person and \$295 per person for the extensions.

WHAT'S INCLUDED

- 7 nights lodging in casas particulares
- All meals throughout the trip (except one dinner), including drinks
- Pure bottled water while touring
- Bilingual Cuban guides that are there to support, guide, and inform you throughout the trip
- Reliable in-country transportation with experienced drivers
- Admissions and entrance fees to national parks, historic sites and other scheduled events throughout the trip
- \$50,000 emergency medical evacuation insurance
- Trip literature
- Turnkey customer support from preparing for your trip to arrival back home

WHAT'S NOT INCLUDED

- International airfare
- Cuban Visa
- Tips for Discover Corps guide and driver
- One dinner
- Laundry services, room-service, or phone calls

RESERVE YOUR TRIP TODAY

Trips are limited to 12 travelers and do fill. Reserving a trip with Discover Corps is easy. Simply visit our website and fill out the online registration form and pay a \$365 deposit and \$30 non-refundable booking fee per person. If you have any questions or would like to speak to a Travel Specialist, call/text us at (619) 758-3030 or e-mail us at info@discovercorps.com

RETURNING ALUMNI?

We like to reward those who travel with us again and again. Enjoy a \$250 discount off our trip if you are a returning Discover Corps traveler.

CUSTOM GROUPS?

Have a group of 6 or more? We can operate a trip for your group. Whether it's a family reunion, corporate group, alumni association or a professional or student organization, we'll make it easy and turnkey for your group to have an incredible experience.

MONTHLY PAYMENT PLANS AVAILABLE

Discover Corps offers monthly payment plan options for all of our trips. Contact us anytime, before or after booking, to sign up for a monthly payment plan or with any questions:

Call/Text: 619-758-3030 Email: info@discovercorps.com

THE FINE PRINT

Child prices apply to those 16 years younger sharing a room with an adult.

Although unlikely, prices, dates, and accommodations subject to change with a 60 day notice from Discover Corps.

(B, L, D): Breakfast, Lunch Dinner

Dates don't work? Contact us about adding a new date for the trip.



Our Mission

The mission of Discover Corps is to inspire travelers to become advocates for our planet's natural wonders, cultural treasures, and local communities through immersive and sustainable travel experiences.

OUR DESTINATIONS

| | |
|--------------------|--------------|
| ALASKA | JAPAN |
| AUSTRALIA | KENYA |
| BELIZE | MEXICO |
| BHUTAN | PERU |
| COSTA RICA | SOUTH AFRICA |
| CUBA | TANZANIA |
| DOMINICAN REPUBLIC | THAILAND |
| EGYPT | UGANDA |
| GALÁPAGOS ISLANDS | |



FAMILY FRIENDLY • SMALL GROUPS • POSITIVE LOCAL IMPACT • DISTINCTIVE LODGING • HANDPICKED GUIDES



Discover Corps
Unforgettable Vacations With Purpose

Visit discovercorps.com/register to place a \$395 deposit down to hold your space, or reach out to us at the contact information below with questions.

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