



Global Interdependence Center
January 2023



Havana, Cuba has long been heralded as the forbidden fruit of the West. Once upon a time it was the vacation destination for playboys, mafiosos, American sunseekers and party goers. Folks from all over the world flocked to the island to find refuge and make new homes, while others came for sun, music, gambling, and soaking up its colorful culture. With a tumultuous relationship with the United States in the second half of the 20th century, the country all but froze in time. It's geopolitical importance, extraordinary culture, warm spirit and the ingenuity of the Cuban people have all remained. It's a case study in communism, foreign policy and economic shortcomings, and countries in transition.

The Global Interdependence Center and CET are proud to explore all of this. The history, mystique, culture, and polarizing relationship with the U.S. make it intellectually stimulating and a unique exploration site – perfect for any company looking to deliver a dynamic incentive/team building trip.

Our visit to the island will include site visits, conversations and informal engagement with Cubans to get a sense of where the country is headed. We can analyze firsthand U.S. policy toward the island, economic changes taking place, and enjoy getting to know our neighbors. We'll have a behind-the-scenes look at 21st century Cuba and explore the issues firsthand, delving deep into the culture and the people along the way.





Day 1

Sunday, January 8, 2023

Arrivals into Jose Marti International Airport. VIP arrival and airport transfers.

Check-into your accommodations. We've selected a series of privately owned, boutique hotel properties that boast old world charm and top-notch service.

Cuba at the Crossroads: Roundtable discussion with Cuban economist(s) and entrepreneur(s) about the state of the Cuban economy.

Sunset ride in American classic convertibles from the 1950s. Havana cars are iconic and classic. They are so recognizable that they have become cultural symbols in Cuban cities.

Welcome Dinner at Fabrica de Arte, a multipurpose art space listed by Time Magazine as the Top 100 Coolest Places on Earth.





Day 2

Monday, January 9, 2023

U.S. – Cuba Relations and Cuba’s Foreign Policy. Discussion with senior official from Cuba’s Ministry of Foreign Relations (MINREX)

Meeting with Ministry of Foreign Trade and Investment (MINCEX)

Enjoy a traditional Cuban meal overlooking the Straits of Florida at the famous Hotel Nacional. The setting brings many back to the 1950s, when the mafia held its annual meetings at the hotel.

Meeting with the Central Bank of Cuba.

Private performance by the Litz Alfonso Dance Company. Litz Alfonso established her dance company in 1991, during the Special Period in Cuba. Her concept has evolved into an integral institution in Cuba, with a school that teaches over 1000 students each year and a professional dance company that performed at the Latin Grammy’s in 2016. Litz was named a top 100 Influential Women for the BBC in 2018 and serves as a UN Goodwill Ambassador.

Enjoy a group dinner at Paladar Vistamar. Set on the water in the beautiful neighborhood of Miramar – the only thing better than the menu is its sunsets over the Straits of Florida.



Day 3

Tuesday, January 10, 2023

Meeting with European Ambassador(s) regarding Cuba-EU relations.

Entrepreneurship in Cuba. In small groups, visit Cuban startups for informal discussions about the politics and economics of Cuba's private sector.

Enjoy lunch with entrepreneurs in small groups at different paladares.

Agriculture in Cuba. Take part in a roundtable discussion exploring Cuban agriculture. Uncover the challenges, while celebrating Cuba's strengths.

Go behind the scenes for authentic Jam sessions. Rub elbows and sip Cuban rum with locals in the living rooms and rooftops of Cuban musicians, jamming out with them and their friends.

Dinner with Cuban guests at La Guarida. La Guarida's story begins in 1913 as the Camagüey mansion, a place known for its opulent parties. Today, the winding staircase ushers you into a mansion-turned-restaurant that showcases Cuba's love affair between antiquity and modernity. Enjoy contemporary Cuban cuisine and 360-degree views from the rooftop.





Day 4

Wednesday, January 11, 2023

Conversation with Miguel Coyula, Cuba’s “Explainer in Chief.” Urban planner and professor Miguel Coyula lays a foundation of knowledge for you, with his account of the last 500 years of Cuba and Havana’s evolution. As an architect and urban planner, his perspective will provide your group with the base to begin your inquiry into how Cuba looks and why.

Walking tour of the Old City. Explore the main plazas of Old Havana—Plaza de Armas, de San Francisco, Vieja, and de la Catedral—and see the imprints of foreign powers over the centuries in Cuba. Peek, too, into the side-streets and homes and stores, for a view into the micro-realities of daily Habanero living.

Lunch at Old Havana’s *paladares*, intimate and innovative restaurants run by Cuban entrepreneurs.

Roundtable discussion with professionals from the medical community regarding topics such as healthcare, COVID, and pharmaceuticals in Cuba.

Behind the scenes art tour: Visit different homes and neighborhoods to tour the studios and galleries of established and up-and-coming Cuban artists.

Farewell dinner at Galeria Taller Gorria. Opening remarks, dinner under the stars, fresh cigars (and cigar rollers) and live music. Galeria Taller Gorria is an art gallery and socio-cultural project that has become a confluence space for the best of the national and international artistic avant-garde.



Day 5
Thursday, January 12, 2023

Breakfast at your accommodations.

Depart for Jose Marti International Airport



PRICING

\$4,580 per person – Double Occupancy

\$5,080 per person – Single Occupancy

**Based on a minimum of 12 travelers*

**Based on standard rooms. Upgraded rooms based on availability and subject to price increase.*

INCLUDED

- 4-nights' accommodations in Havana, Cuba at upscale boutiques (Casa Brava or similar)
- Daily breakfast
- Meals (as specified on the itinerary)
- Professional, bilingual guide for listed activities
- Local ground transportation for listed activities
- Compliance with U.S. Treasury Department regulations
- Coordination and execution of all listed activities
- Cuban Visas

NOT INCLUDED

- Round-trip airfare
- Meals and activities other than listed on itinerary
- Individual house or hotel expenses (*mini bar, room service, laundry fees, etc.*)
- Tips for local guides, drivers, restaurant service, etc.

