

Splendors of Cuba ***August 18 - 25, 2018***

Approximate Time	Educational Activities That Result in Meaningful Contact With the Cuban People
DAY 1: HAVANA	
	Arrive in Havana.
	Arrive at the Melia Habana hotel for check-in.
	dinner at Destinos paladar (depending on flight arrival time)

DAY 2: BAY OF PIGS/CIENFUEGOS/TRINIDAD	
07:00-08:30am	Breakfast
08:30-10:30am	Transfer to the Bay of Pigs. As we drive, we will discuss the early post-Revolution period, how the daily lives of Cubans were affected, for better and for worse.
10:30am-12:30pm	At the Bay of Pigs (Playa Giron), visit the museum and discuss the U.S. government response to the Cuban Revolution and the failed U.S. invasion of Cuba in April, 1961.
12:30-1:30pm	Transfer to Cienfuegos. As we drive, we will broaden our conversation to include international reactions to the Cuban Revolution, beyond that of the U.S.
1:30-3:00pm	Lunch is at Villa Lagarto paladar.
3:00-5:00pm	In Jose Marti Park, the historic center of Cienfuegos, we'll have a conversation about the influence of U.S. trade and investment in Cuba in the early 20 th century. The surrounding buildings will also spur a discussion of the architectural heritage of the beautifully preserved city.
5:00-6:30pm	Drive about 1½ hours on to Trinidad and the Iberostar Grand Hotel for overnight. As we drive, we will begin a discussion about the economic effects of the U.S. embargo, how the Cuban economy and individual Cubans adapted over the years.
7:00pm -	Dinner is at Guitarra Mia paladar.

DAY 3: TRINIDAD	
07:00-09:00am	Breakfast
09:00am-12:00pm	Our Cuban guide will lead us through an exchange of ideas about Trinidad's booming, slave-based sugar economy of the late 18 th and 19 th centuries, as we take a walking tour of the old city, a living-museum of Spanish colonialism.
12:00-1:30pm	lunch at Sol Ananda Paladar
1:30-6:30pm	After lunch, we'll continue our exchange about Cuba's prosperous colonial past and slave-based economy as we visit the Valle de los Ingenios (Valley of the Sugar Mills), a series of three interconnected valleys about 7.5 miles outside of Trinidad. The valleys were a center for sugar production from the late 18th century until the late 19th century. At the peak of the industry in Cuba there were over fifty cane sugar mills in operation in the three valleys with over 30,000 slaves working in the mills and the sugar cane plantations that surrounded them.
6:30pm -	Dinner is on your own.

DAY 4: SANTA CLARA/HAVANA	
07:00-08:30am	Breakfast
8:30-11:30am	Drive about 3 hours to the city of Santa Clara. During the drive, our Cuban tour guide will share his experience growing up in Cuba, talking about family background, his education, etc. and answer questions from a personal perspective about life in Cuba.
11:30am-1:00pm	In Santa Clara, visit the Ernesto (Che) Guevara Mausoleum for an exchange about the role Che Guevara played in the Cuban Revolution and his continued veneration throughout the country.
1:00-2:30pm	Lunch is at Finca Ta paladar.
2:30-3:30pm	Our discussion of Che Guevara will continue with a visit to the Armored Train Battle Monument, the site where guerrilla forces commanded by Che Guevara defeated reinforcements sent in an armored train (tren blindado) by Batista's army in 1958.

3:30-4:30pm	At Leoncio Vidal Park in the heart of Santa Clara, we'll have a conversation about the unique traditional culture of provincial Cuba and admire representative Colonial and Neo-classical buildings around the park.
4:30-7:30pm	Continue driving back to Havana for check-in at the Melia Habana hotel. During our drive, we will expand on our conversation about provincial Cuba with a look at the economics and culture of rural Cuba as compared to life in the cities.
7:30pm -	Dinner is on your own.

DAY 5: HAVANA	
07:00-08:30am	Breakfast
8:30-10:00am	Visit Guarderia Padre Usera, a day care for children ages 2 to 5 years old, for a discussion about child day care and teen pregnancy in Cuba.
10:00am-12:00pm	As we take a walking tour around the historical center of Old Havana, we will observe the investment of the city in tourism with on-going restorations around the main squares compared to the dilapidated conditions of many of the buildings off the main avenues. These observations will form the basis for a discussion about the housing policy in Cuba since the Revolution, recent changes in regulations around the exchange of property, and the difficulty residents have in getting materials and permits for repairs.
12:00-2:00pm	Lunch in Old Havana.
2:00-3:30pm	Continue to Callejón de Hammel (Hammel's Alley), a community project promoting Afro-Cuban art, music, and culture. Meet and talk with several artists for a personal look at the thriving arts scene.
3:30-5:00pm	Browse the outdoor handicraft market, where we'll have ample opportunities to meet and converse with local artists.
5:00-6:00pm	We'll immerse further into community arts with Proyecto Muraleando.
7:00pm-	Dinner tonight is at La Habanera paladar.

DAY 6: HAVANA	
07:00-08:30am	Breakfast
8:30-10:00am	Visit Convento de Belen, a world-renowned community center and social services facility that serves Havana's poorest neighborhoods, with special focus on the elderly and disabled children. We'll meet some of the seniors and join the center manager for a discussion on the challenges presented by an ageing population.
10:00-11:00am	At Centro Hebreo Sefaradi de Cuba, meet with Dr. Levy, the head of the community, for a conversation about the challenges and rewards of being Jewish in Cuba.
11:00am-12:00pm	We'll trade thoughts about writer Ernest Hemingway's affinity for Cuba with a visit to Cojimar, the fishing village which inspired his novel <i>The Old Man and the Sea</i> (the 1954 Nobel Prize winner).
12:00-1:30pm	Lunch will be in Cojimar at the Ajiaco paladar.
1:30-3:30pm	We'll continue on the theme of Ernest Hemingway with a visit to Finca Vigia, his home on the island for two decades.
3:30-4:30pm	Back in Havana, we'll visit the largest fortress in the Americas: San Carlos de la Cabaña. Discussion of Spanish military and defensive architecture will include an examination of Cuba's enormous colonial value to Spain.
4:30-6:00pm	We'll engage very directly with Cuban music and dance with a private salsa lesson at Bar 1830.
7:00pm-	Dinner tonight is at La Bonita paladar.

DAY 7: HAVANA/PINAR DEL RIO	
07:00-08:30am	Breakfast
08:30-11:00am	As we drive 2.5 hours from Havana to Pinar Del Rio, we'll discuss the tobacco industry in Cuba, its past and current importance in the economy of the island and its place in Cuban culture.
11:00am-12:00pm	We'll meet with a local tobacco farmer for a tour of his property and an open exchange about his operation.
12:00-1:00pm	We will continue our exploration of Cuban tobacco with a visit to the stunning Vinales Valley.
1:00-2:30pm	Lunch at El Paraiso paladar on an organic family farm.
2:30-3:30pm	At the Guayabita del Pinar Rum factory, we'll learn about the history of rum

	making in Cuba and discuss its contributions to the economy and cultural identity of the island.
3:30-6:00pm	As we drive back to Havana, we'll continue our discussion of Pinar del Rio province and its place in Cuban history, culture and economy.
6:00pm -	Dinner is on your own tonight.

DAY 8: DEPARTURE	
	Transfer to Havana Jose Marti airport for your flight back to the U.S.

NOTE:

If it takes less than 30 minutes to travel to a particular activity, the itinerary includes the “transfer time” in the duration of the activity. If, however, it takes 30 minutes or more to travel to an activity, this itinerary includes a separate line denoting the transfer time.

From Miami

Price per person in a Double room: \$5,795

Price per person in a Single room: \$6,595

From Chicago or New York (JFK, Newark)

Price per person in a Double room: \$5,995

Price per person in a Single room: \$6,795

Prices from other US gateways are available on request.

**Prices are subject to change based on
airline availability and class of service.**

TOUR INCLUDES:

- Round trip economy class airfare from Miami or New York.
- 7 nights of accommodations in Cuba with buffet breakfast daily.
- 6 lunches and 4 dinners as per the itinerary.
- Drink package during lunches and dinners (1 Mojito and 1 bottle of water).
- 2 bottles of water per person per touring day.
- All transfers in Cuba.
- 6 days of touring in a **private**, air-conditioned bus with a licensed, English-speaking guide.
- All entrance fees as per itinerary.
- Hotel service fees and taxes.
- **Ya'lla Tours USA** information kit and travel bag.
- Tips for guide and driver and at hotels.
- Tips to bellmen.
- Cuban entry visa
- Cuban departure taxes
- Tips during lunches and dinners

TOUR DOES NOT INCLUDE:

- Personal expenses.
- Meals and drinks other than those specified above on the itinerary.
- Travel insurance (\$447 per person in a double room or \$563 in a single room), highly recommended.

IMPORTANT NOTE:

- You must have a **U.S. passport** to enter Cuba (valid at least 6 months past your scheduled return date).
- A \$1,000 per person deposit is required upon registration. The deposit is refundable up to 60 days prior to departure.
- Final payment is due on **May 23, 2018**.
- **Ya'lla Tours USA** reserves the right to change the hotels to others of similar quality

TERMS AND CONDITIONS

PRICE:

The price is guaranteed but if due to unforeseen circumstances beyond **Ya'lla Tours USA Inc.**'s control, our suppliers increase the price, **Ya'lla USA Inc.** will adjust the price accordingly.

- * Should a single traveler wish to share a room with another traveler, and **Ya'lla Tours USA Inc.** is unable to match him/her with a roommate, the single room supplement will apply.

DEPOSIT AND PAYMENT POLICY:

- * A \$1,000 per person deposit is due upon booking.
- * Final payment is due **May 23, 2018.**

CANCELLATIONS & REFUND:

- * **For cancellation of 59 or fewer days prior to departure, a cancellation fee of 100% of the tour cost will apply.**
- * No refund will be paid for unused services such as: transfers, sight-seeing, meals, hotel accommodations, entrance fees, and others that are listed in the tour program.
- * **Travel insurance is NON-REFUNDABLE.**

LAND ARRANGEMENTS:

The Tour Operator reserves the right to change the itinerary due to unforeseen circumstances. In all cases, **Ya'lla Tours USA Inc.** will do its best to maintain the content of the tour.

The Tour operator reserves the right to change the hotels listed on the tour for others of similar quality.

PASSENGER RESPONSIBILITY:

Passenger has read the above terms and conditions and agrees to each of them. Passenger hereby warrants that he/she fully understand each of them. Specifically passenger understands that should he/she cancel their trip for any reason, passenger will be charged the cancellation fee set out in the 'Cancellations & Refunds' section.

RESPONSIBILITY AND LIABILITY:

Whereas **Ya'lla Tours USA Inc.** and the participating airlines and tour operators operate the land tours offered under this program only as agents of the aircraft, railroads, car rental contractors, steamship lines, hotels, bus operators, sight-seeing contractors and others who provide the actual land arrangements, we are not liable for any act, omission, delay, injury, loss or damage or nonperformance occurring in connection with these tours.

The Passenger contract in use by the airline concerned, when issued, shall constitute the sole contract between the airline and the purchaser of these tours and/or passenger.

Ya'lla Tours USA Inc. reserves the right to bring legal action to collect damages in the event that purchaser fails to pay any fees due and owing for services, including cancellation fees as set out in the section entitled 'Cancellations & Refunds'. The parties agree that should legal action be commenced the prevailing party will be entitled to his/her or its reasonable attorney fees and court costs in addition to the actual damages sustained and proven. Venue for any dispute is Multnomah County Circuit Court, Oregon. This contract shall be governed by the laws of the State of Oregon.

ENTIRE AGREEMENT SEVERABILITY:

This is the entire agreement of the parties and it may be amended only by written agreement signed by both **Ya'lla Tours USA Inc.** and the client. If any part of this agreement is held unenforceable by a court of law, the rest of this agreement will nevertheless remain in force and effect.

TRAVEL INSURANCE:

Each tour participant is responsible for paying any applicable fees for cancellation, medical treatment, medical evacuation, and repatriation of remains. Ya'lla Tours USA highly recommends the purchase of travel insurance for cancellation (for covered reasons), medical treatment, medical evacuation, and repatriation of remains. Travel insurance is not included in your tour price.