



MUSEUM  
TRAVEL  
ALLIANCE



# Cuba

## Art, Culture & History

In Support of the Cuban People

**October 28 – November 3, 2023**





## TRIP HIGHLIGHTS

**ENGAGE** with Cuba's leading creators in exclusive gatherings, with intimate discussions at the homes and studios of artists, access to a private rehearsal at a famous dance company, and a phenomenal evening of art and music at Havana's Fábrica de Arte Cubano

**DELIGHT** in a private, curator-led tour at the National Museum of Fine Arts of Havana, with its impressive collection of Cuban artworks and international masterpieces

**CELEBRATE** and mingle with fellow travelers at exclusive receptions, including a cocktail reception with a sumptuous dinner in the company of the President of The Ludwig Foundation of Cuba and an after-hours tour and reception at the dazzling Museo Nacional de la Cerámica Contemporánea Cubana

**MEET** the thought leaders who are shaping Cuban society, including the former Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs, who will share profound insights on Cuban politics

**TAKE** a private tour of the splendidly renovated Gran Teatro de La Habana Alicia Alonso, the ornately designed, Neo-Baroque-style home to the Cuban National Ballet Company

**ENJOY** behind-the-scenes tours and meetings with workers at privately owned companies, including a local workshop for Havana's classic vehicles

**VENTURE** to the picturesque Cuban countryside for a behind-the-scenes tour of a beautiful tobacco plantation led by its farmers

**DELVE** into the life of Ernest Hemingway at Finca Vigía, the house where he lived for 20 years, with a glimpse of his famous fishing boat *Pilar*





Dear Travelers and Friends,

Just 90 miles from the U.S. lies an island steeped in fascinating history, colorful art, stunning natural beauty, infectiously rhythmic music, and soul-stirring dance. This autumn, join the Museum Travel Alliance and our partners at the National Trust for Historic Preservation in Havana for an exclusive exploration of Cuba's cultural traditions. Over the years, we have introduced approximately ten thousand Americans to our closest island neighbor and are delighted to have the opportunity to introduce you to the people of Cuba.

This behind-the-scenes program offers a rare chance to glimpse a world that few outsiders get to see, all through the eyes of Cuba's warm and welcoming citizens. You'll be invited into the homes of some of the country's most intriguing artists and creators, where you'll gain a firsthand understanding of the communities that make Cuba such a rewarding destination. Delve into the country's rich cultural heritage. Explore Havana's magnificent cathedrals and centuries-old plazas with a historian and go behind the scenes of the city's most acclaimed museums.

In the scenic rural province of Pinar del Río, a local farmer will give you an inside look at the production of Cuba's most cherished crop: tobacco. An exclusive look at Ernest Hemingway's Cuba will be another highlight, with an excursion to the author's longtime home and a visit to the village where *The Old Man and the Sea* was set. Plus, witness the craftsmanship that goes into restoring Havana's iconic vintage cars at a privately owned workshop. Along the way, you'll attend elegant receptions and sample the country's delicious cuisine at paladares, privately owned restaurants located in the proprietors' homes. Your accommodations will be at a charming boutique hotel in central Havana.

You will travel to Cuba under the general license category "In Support of the Cuban People." Join us for an unforgettable journey into the heart of this multifaceted country, where you'll discover the diversity, creativity, and resilience of its people.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Jim".

Jim Friedlander  
President, The Museum Travel Alliance

Plaza de San Francisco de Asís, Havana



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Havana Harbor

### SATURDAY, OCTOBER 28: DEPARTURE / HAVANA, CUBA

Arrive independently in Havana. You will be met upon arrival at the José Martí International Airport and transferred to Paseo 206 boutique hotel. Our welcome dinner this evening is at a *paladar*, a privately owned restaurant that is located in the proprietor's home and largely staffed by family members. D

### SUNDAY, OCTOBER 29: HAVANA

Join a local architectural historian for a lecture on the history of Havana's remarkably well-preserved buildings. Afterwards, depart on a walking tour of Old Havana focusing on the four main squares: the Plaza de Armas, Plaza de San Francisco de Asís, Plaza Vieja, and Plaza de la Catedral. Following lunch at a *paladar*, take a private tour of the splendidly renovated Gran Teatro de La Habana Alicia Alonso. Explore the homes and studios of some of Havana's leading artists, where there may be an opportunity to purchase paintings and drawings. Dinner is at El Cocinero, followed by an evening of entertainment next door at Fábrica de Arte Cubano (FAC), the city's liveliest multidisciplinary performing and visual arts space. B,L,D

### MONDAY, OCTOBER 30: HAVANA / VIÑALES / HAVANA

Take a morning drive through the countryside to the western province of Pinar del Río, known for its lush tobacco plantations. Explore the unique topography and natural beauty of the Viñales Valley, where you'll encounter spectacular caves, underground rivers, and the famous mogotes, the iconic hillocks of the region. Meet with farmers for a private tour of their tobacco plantation to learn about the drying and rolling processes. Lunch is at a privately owned organic farm. Visit a local artists' studio before returning to Havana. Tonight, enjoy dinner on your own. B,L

### TUESDAY, OCTOBER 31: HAVANA

At the National Museum of Fine Arts of Havana, take a private tour with an independent curator and trace Cuba's history through the works of its greatest artists. After lunch, walk down Calle Obispo, Havana's main shopping street; explore a local design shop; and speak to the owners about small business practices in Cuba. In the early evening, drive to The Ludwig Foundation of Cuba, one of only a few Cuban NGOs, for a presentation on Cuban art. The Foundation's President will host a cocktail reception and buffet dinner on the penthouse terrace, where invited guests include local Cuban artists. This evening, you may opt to attend a performance at one of Havana's famed music venues, including the legendary Tropicana. B,L,R,D

### WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 1: HAVANA / SAN FRANCISCO DE PAULA / COJÍMAR / HAVANA

Head outside of the capital to the small, hilltop village of San Francisco de Paula for a visit to Finca Vigía (Lookout Farm), the house where Ernest Hemingway lived for 20 years. View the rooms through open windows from the surrounding terraces; see Hemingway's famous fishing boat *Pilar*; and climb the tower to his study. Our excursion concludes with a brief visit to the village of Cojimar, the setting for *The Old Man and the Sea*. After lunch, return to Havana and gather for a lecture on the island's current realities by a former ambassador who was once Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs. In the early evening, attend a private after-hours tour and reception at the Museo Nacional de la Cerámica Contemporánea Cubana, followed by dinner at a local *paladar*. B,L,D



Rita Longa, *Forma, Espacio y Luz*, National Museum of Fine Arts, Havana





Finca Vigía, San Francisco de Paula

## THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 2: HAVANA

Delight in exclusive access to an informal morning rehearsal of the Rosario Cárdenas contemporary dance company. Afterwards, visit the Colón Cemetery with a local guide. With its ornate tombstones commemorating Cuban heroes, statesmen, and novelists, this cemetery is sometimes called the largest sculpture park in Cuba. Following lunch on your own, this afternoon visit a private classic car workshop, Nostalgicar, where some of the city's finest vintage cars are repaired and refurbished. Explore the history of the renowned Hotel Nacional (1930), which was originally designed by McKim, Mead & White. Enjoy a *mojito* on a terrace overlooking Havana's harbor before dinner. This evening, celebrate with a festive farewell dinner at one of Havana's excellent *paladares*.

B,D

## FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 3: HAVANA / RETURN

Depart the hotel this morning for the flight home.

B

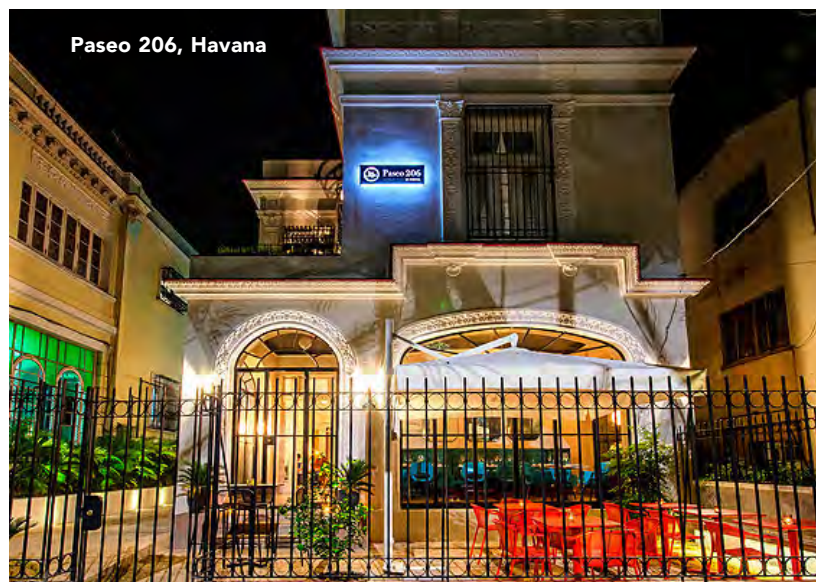
*This itinerary is subject to change at the discretion of The Museum Travel Alliance. For complete details, please carefully read the terms and conditions at <https://museumtravelalliance.com/faq.php>.*

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Cojimar

## ACCOMMODATIONS



Paseo 206, Havana

### PASEO 206, HAVANA

A member of the Small Luxury Hotels of the World collection, this boutique hotel is a romantic jewel nestled among the tree-lined streets of Vedado, the economic and cultural heart of La Havana. This family home dating back to 1933 has undergone a careful restoration that has maintained the soul of the structure, preserving the original architectural elements. The cozy and comfortable rooms and suites all offer free Wi-Fi, 24-hour room service, Hermès bathroom amenities, Marshall speakers, and hypoallergenic king-sized beds with luxurious Frette linens.

### PROGRAM RATES

**\$5,499 per person, double rate in Cozy Room;**  
**\$6,899 single rate**

**\$5,699 per person, double rate in Junior Room;**  
**\$7,199 single rate**

**\$5,999 per person, double rate in Master Suite;**  
**\$7,599 single rate**

**\$6,299 per person, double rate in Rooftop Suite;**  
**\$8,799 single rate**

### RATES INCLUDE

- Six nights hotel accommodations as per itinerary
- Meals as indicated in the itinerary (B=Breakfast, L=Lunch, R-Reception, D=Dinner). Bottled water, soft drinks, juices, and coffee/tea with all meals; house wine at welcome and farewell dinners
- Escorted sightseeing, transportation, and entrance fees for all included visits
- Enrichment program of lectures and talks
- Airport/hotel/airport transfers for all travelers
- Taxes, service, and portage charges; gratuities to local guides and drivers

**NOT INCLUDED IN RATES** International airfare; Cuban visa; Cuban Departure tax; limited Cuban health insurance policy (required for all foreign travelers to Cuba under age 80); passport fees; alcoholic beverages other than noted in inclusions; personal items and expenses; travel insurance; airport transfers other than for those on suggested flights; trip insurance; any other items not specifically mentioned as included.



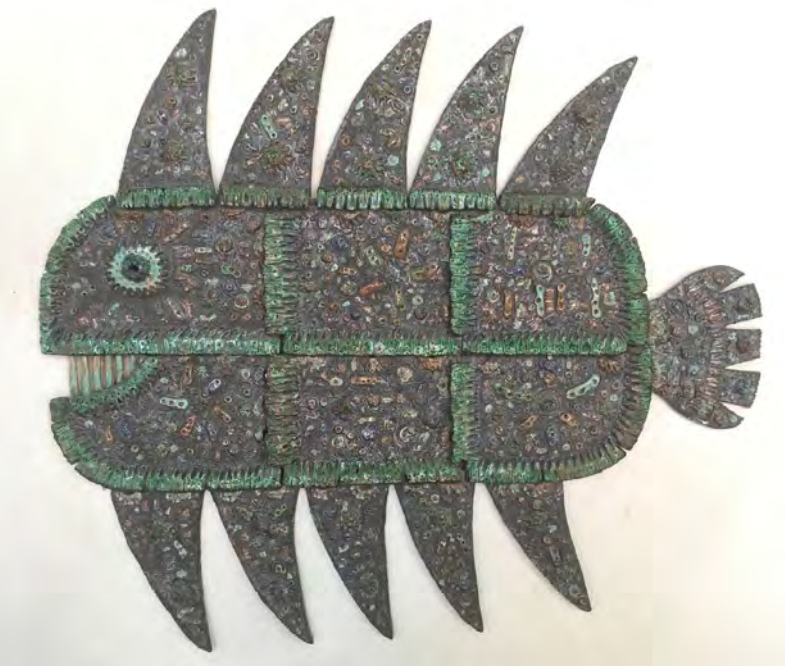


Gran Teatro de La Habana Alicia Alonso, Havana



Old Havana

Museo Nacional de la Cerámica Contemporánea Cubana, Havana



Plaza Vieja, Havana

**CUBA**  
**ART, CULTURE & HISTORY**  
**OCTOBER 28 – NOVEMBER 3, 2023**  
**RESERVATION FORM**

To reserve a place, please call Museum Travel Alliance at 212-324-1893 or 855-533-0033, fax: 212-344-7493; email: [trips@museumtravelalliance.com](mailto:trips@museumtravelalliance.com); or complete and return this form with your deposit of \$1,000 per person (of which \$500 is non-refundable for administrative fees) to *Museum Travel Alliance*. Mail to: Museum Travel Alliance, 260 West 39th Street, 17th Floor, New York, NY 10018-4424.

Name(s) in full as on passport(s). Please print.

Address

City

State

Zip

Telephone (home)

(business)

Fax

E-mail

**ACCOMMODATIONS**

Hotel room preference

☐

One bed

☐

Two beds

☐

Single

I wish to share a room with

**FORM OF PAYMENT**

☐

Check (payable to *Museum Travel Alliance*)

☐

Debit card

☐

Credit card

Name on debit/credit card

Debit/credit card number

3- or 4-digit security code

Expiration date

I/We will be traveling to Cuba and agree to fully participate in this program under the general license category of travel "In Support of the Cuban People."

I/We confirm that I/we have carefully read and agree to the *Terms & Conditions* of this Program (see <https://museumtravelalliance.com/faq.php> to review or call for a copy). I/We agree to full payment by check, wire transfer, or credit card 120 days prior to departure. Each participant must sign below.

Signature (required)

Date

Signature (required)

Date