

Exploring Cuba's Cultural Heritage: Trinidad and Havana

with Professor Tim Murphy

November 14-21, 2015



Dear Johns Hopkins Alumni & Friends:

Join Johns Hopkins Alumni for this unique opportunity to immerse yourself in the rich local culture and rhythms of daily life in Cuba while exploring local landmarks that are significant to Cuba's heritage.

This program has been designed to unravel the richness of Cuban culture while interacting with local residents and professionals to gain a new, in-depth perception of Cuban life. Spend two days exploring Cienfuegos and Trinidad, one of Cuba's oldest colonial cities. This UNESCO World Heritage Site is considered by many as the crown jewel of Cuba. Drive west to spend five days exploring Havana which has the reputation of being the most splendid and the finest example of a Spanish colonial city in the Americas.

We encourage you to join other Johns Hopkins alumni and friends and make your reservation today!

Cordially,



*Marguerite Ingalls Jones, A&S '74, Bus '88
Travel Program Director
Office of Alumni Relations
The Johns Hopkins University*

Exploring Cuba's Cultural Heritage : Trinidad and Havana

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Saturday, November 14

CIENFUEGOS

Arrive in Cienfuegos early afternoon and explore the city's historic center. Enjoy a walking tour of the historic area around the Parque Marti, the central square. Admire the lavish Cathedral and the town theater which was built with materials that craftspeople imported from Europe.

Stop in at the Tomas Terry Theater built in the late 1800s before enjoying lunch at Jardín de los Laureles.

After lunch, visit the Taller Grafico where young Cuban artists can be found working on their lithographs over stone matrices.

Stop at the Museo Historico Provincial to attend a performance of Cantores de Cienfuegos, a 23-member choral group, that sings everything from Renaissance to Japanese fisherman's folk music.

Enjoy a introductory lecture by Tim Murphy followed by drinks and a welcome dinner at the hotel. **L,D.**

Sunday, November 15

CIENFUEGOS

Morning drive to Trinidad. Spend the day exploring this city, the crown jewel of Cuba's colonial cities. Begin the day at the Plaza Mayor which is in the center of town. Around the plaza are the Museo Romantico, the Museo Arqueologia, and the cathedral, Iglesia Parroquial de la Santisima Trinidad which was built between 1817 and 1892. Visit the Palacio Cantero which is housed in a mansion. The view of Trinidad from the top of the tower is wonderful and not to be missed.

Stop in at the home and studio of artist Carlos Mata and his wife, Barbara Calzada and daughter, Amaya Mata, who are also artists. Enjoy lunch at a new private restaurant and engage with the staff of the restaurant before visiting Trinidad's Library where the group will meet with library staff to learn how books are selected and what censorship occurs and discuss how Havana exerts control in more rural areas.

Explore the Valle de Los Ingenios, the sugar industry's living museum. Continue on to the home of horse whisperer, Julio Munoz and his wife Rosa where we will get a chance to chat with his family. End the meeting with an introductory salsa lesson led by Renier Toscano.

Enjoy dinner at a paladar called Sol Y Son. **B,L,D.**

Monday, November 16

HAVANA

Drive to Havana making a stop en route to the Bay of Pigs where in 1962, heavily armed CIA-trained Cuban exiles came ashore equipped to provoke a counter-revolution.

Upon arrival in Havana, enjoy lunch at the historic Nacional Hotel. Its remaining splendor and history serves as a tangible reminder to Cuba's past times.

After lunch, enjoy an orientation tour of the city before checking in to the *Parque Central Hotel*.

Prior to dinner, enjoy a lecture on *Cuba Today* by Dr. Rena Perez, formerly with the Ministry of Agriculture and an advisor to the Ministry of Sugar.

Enjoy a cocktail reception and dinner on the hotel roof-top immediately after the lecture. **B,L,D.**

Tuesday, November 17

HAVANA

Enjoy a lecture this morning by Tim Murphy.

After the lecture, begin exploring Havana by foot. Enjoy the city's many squares, its cathedral, and a scale-model of Old Havana. Stop in at a rehearsal of the Camerata Romeu, an all female orchestra. End the morning at the Plaza Vieja, a stunningly beautiful old square surrounded by mansions and enjoy lunch at Moneda Cubana.



Enjoy a morning briefing at the US Interest Section to learn more about US/Cuban relations. Continue on to a city orientation tour by bus which will be led by an architectural historian. The tour will include an inside visit to the wonderful Riviera Hotel, which was considered a marvel of modern design. Drive along La Rampa to the Parque Copelia, a large, lush park that is an entire block.

Enjoy listening to a wonderful jazz trio during dinner at Café Oriente, located in Old Havana on one of its most beautiful squares. **B,L,D.**

Wednesday, November 18 HAVANA

Depart for a full day excursion to the west part of Cuba, with its jungle covered summits dropping down limestone cliffs to verdant valleys.

Visit an Orchid farm at Soroa, which is maintained by the University of Pinar del Rio and contains over 800 species of plants, including 200 endemic to Cuba.

Stop at a tobacco farm to learn more about this industry so important to Cuba.

Enjoy a lunch at a private farm with beautiful views overlooking the valley. After lunch spend more time exploring the town of Vinales.

Enjoy dinner at leisure this evening.

After dinner, Tim Murphy invites you to join him at the famous jazz club, Zorro y Cuervo (optional/not included). **B,L.**



Thursday, November 19 HAVANA

After breakfast, enjoy a roundtable discussion on US-Cuban Relations by **Professor Raul Rodriquez** from the University of Havana.

Watch a dance rehearsal at the Danza Contemporanea de Cuba, an extraordinary dance group.

Enjoy a private lunch at the home and studio of artist Jose Fuster, who has turned his neighborhood into one enormous piece of mosaic art.

This afternoon, visit the Presidential Palace, now a museum, which illustrates the history of the Cuban political development. Walk to the Granma Memorial which preserves the vessel that brought Fidel Castro, Che Guevara and other revolutionaries to Cuba.

Enjoy dinner this evening at a private restaurant. **B,L,D.**

Friday, November 20 HAVANA

Join Professor Murphy this morning for a wrap-up lecture/discussion.

Continue on to visit the Museo Nacional de Bellas Artes: Arte Cubano (Cuban Collection). This tour will be accompanied by a contemporary art curator.

After lunch at El Ajibe, visit the 7 y 60 studio to view the works of four young and emerging artists— Maria Cienguegos, Adrian Fernandez, Frank Mujica, and Alex Hernandez. End the day at the Santovenia Senior Center and enjoy a chance to meet with staff and residents.

Enjoy your farewell dinner at Havana's most well-know paladars, La Guarida. **B,L,D.**

Saturday, November 21 RETURN

Return flight to Miami.

Tour Leader



Accompanying this trip will be Professor Tim Murphy. Tim Murphy is professor of jazz piano, theory and composition at Peabody Conservatory where he received a BMA and MMA in organ performance. He also conducts and arranges for the Peabody Latin jazz ensemble.

He has performed and recorded with such Grammy winning Latin artists as Dave Samuels and the Afro Bop Alliance ensemble. For 25 years he has been a member of Palmetto recording artists Rumba Club, a group whose guest artists have included Andy Gonzalez, Nestor Torres and Tito Puente.

As a jazz pianist Tim has worked with such artists as Jimmy Heath, Charlie Rouse, Curtis Fuller, Woody Shaw, Pat Metheny and Gary Thomas,

As well as performing and conducting Latin jazz, Tim maintains an active career as an organist. He teaches organ and harpsichord at Towson University and is an active recitalist. Tim has held the position of organist at St. Ignatius church in Baltimore since 1983.

Trip Price: \$4,360

Single room supplement: \$850 (Limited Availability)

Group size is limited to 32 participants

Trip price includes roundtrip airfare on charter flights from Miami to Cuba, accommodations in hotels as outlined in the itinerary based on double occupancy, all meals listed (B-breakfast, L-lunch, D-dinner), one drink with lunch and one with dinner, bottled water kept on the bus, sightseeing and excursions as listed, transportation in a deluxe, air conditioned motor coach, the services of a Distant Horizons tour manager and of a local Cuban guide, a Cuban visa, all gratuities, and mandatory health insurance and evacuation required by the Cuban Government which provides \$25,000 worth of medical coverage and \$7,000 worth of medical transportation.

Trip price does not include domestic airfare to and from Miami, any overnights in Miami, departure tax of 25 CUC's in Cuba, luggage charges, additional drinks at meals, trip cancellation, lost baggage and medical insurance (above a mandatory amount required by the Cuban government), items of a purely personal nature and any items not listed..

Please note that participants must be in good physical condition and be able to walk for long distances over uneven cobblestones and up and down stairs without problems. This is a rigorous, fast-paced program.

To sign up for this trip, please send your application form along with a deposit in the amount of \$500.00 made payable to Distant Horizons. Send to Distant Horizons at 350 Elm Avenue, Long Beach, CA 90802

For additional information or a more detailed itinerary contact Melissa Costa at Distant Horizons at 1-800-333-1240

For Johns Hopkins related questions, please call 800-548-5481 or 410-516-0363.

