

Come to Cuba with IFCO

Come with us to visit long-time friends!

Ever since the first US-Cuba Friendship Caravan in 1992, IFCO/Pastors for Peace has been organizing trips to Cuba. We've made many friends: within the religious community; at ecumenical Centers such as the Martin Luther King Center; within the fields of medicine; education; and arts; and within the various aspects of Cuban society working together to make a better world possible.

These friends, with whom we have a long term working relationships, share our desire for people from the US to know more about Cuba – its history and culture, and most importantly its people. After decades of being exposed to misinformation about Cuba, it is only through travelling to the island that the people of the US can get an accurate first hand picture of Cuba and make up their own minds about our neighboring country. Cuba is not perfect. None of us are. They make mistakes, as we all do. And things are changing there, every day! But only by hearing their stories, by knowing the context for their decisions and actions, can we gain a better understanding of their country – and of our own.

So join one of our delegations. Come to Cuba, not as a tourist or someone on a 'tour', but come to live with and learn from the Cuban people. Come with IFCO to visit old friends!

Here's a list of the delegation being planned:

(In addition to these, IFCO is able to create a custom designed trip for you and nine other of your friends and family (10 people minimum). Decide when and where you want to go, what you want to see and who you want to talk to. We'll do our best to make your wishes come true.)

February 2019

Calling all farmers (and those who care about how their food is produced!). Come to Cuba to see how farming is done there! Rural and urban, small and large. Visit with farmers, farm cooperative workers, the small farmer's union officials to hear about the range of problems and solutions that Cuba is pursuing in their quest to become self-sufficient in food.

March, 2019

Cuba is an African Country. Join us to explore the various ways that Africa has created Cuba. We'll learn more about:

- The music and dance which has so influenced world music.
- The struggle for independence; a struggle against slavery.
How was slavery in Cuba similar and/or different than in other settings? How is it taught today in Cuban schools and society?
- The “Cuban-religion of African-origin” which influences far beyond Cuban borders.
- How Cubans are grappling with race, class and gender issues, inherited from their colonial past.
- How Cuban soldiers fought in Angola against South African based apartheid.
- How Cuba doctors and others repay their debt to Africa with their international work.

April-May 2019

Religion in Cuba. Learn how the diverse religious expressions in Cuba are a vibrant part of the lives of the deeply spiritual people of Cuba. Visit with faith leaders and ordinary folks representing various Christian denominations, Jewish and Islamic faiths and the leaders and practitioners of various Cuban-religions-of -African origin. See how the religious community interacts with the government and the secular culture. How are pastors and lay-leaders trained? Ask your questions and get a whole lot of answers.

Other Details

In Havana, participants stay at the Martin Luther King Center in the Marianao. Just 10 minutes from the heart of Havana, this working class neighborhood gives you a taste of the 'real' Cuba, not the 'tourist'. Accommodations are comfortable with double occupancy and semi-private bath.

Unless otherwise noted, all of the delegations are for 10 days, and cost \$2000, plus travel to and from Cuba. This includes all costs while in Cuba: food, lodging, transportation, services of translator, etc.

For more information: [contact ifco@ifconews.org](mailto:ifco@ifconews.org)